

# THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

Quarterly Journal of the SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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BY ITS 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 Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, at 7 p.m. around the 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 £2 50 (\$7) inclusive of The Scottish Genealogist. This subscription, which is payable on 1st October, entitles members to receive the Magazine during the following 12 months. Inquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, 21 Howard Place, Edinburgh, and subscriptions paid to the Hon. Treasurer, 20 Ravelston Garden, 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 MSS must be fully referenced, signed and previously unpublished.

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# CORRECTIONS TO COUNTY COMPILATIONS OF MI's

Tombstones disappear from time to time; very many instances are known or suspected of flat stones being turfed over in order to leave a smooth surface for the lawn mower (e.g. see the Dunblane case, page 154 of *Monumental Inscriptions—pre-1855—in South Perthshire*, where some fifty flat stones are mentioned); some headstones get in the way of the lawn mower or are unsafe and may be stacked in a way which makes inspection impossible (see mention of "some dozens" stacked against the west wall in Ceres Churchyard—page 50 of *Monumental Inscriptions—pre-1855—in East Fife*); some stones fall and are left lying on their faces and so cannot be read; in Newburgh, where a graveyard was absorbed in a Council housing estate (see page 275 of the same East Fife volume) nearly all the tombstones are said to have been thrown into a deep pool in a quarry; see also page 634 of the North Perthshire volume—438 missing inscriptions in Perth Greyfriars since 1894; some tombstones disintegrate or become so weather-worn as to become illegible and, of course, human error leads in other cases to inscriptions being wrongly recorded or omitted.

For these reasons new information coming to notice may require corrections to the compilations of inscriptions published by the Society for various counties, or parts of counties.

Recently Miss Jean Davidson has found about a hundred or so tombstone inscriptions recorded in a serialised article in the old *Scots Magazine*, volume 78 of 1816 and volume 79 of 1817; the name of the writer of the article is not given nor is any source mentioned; for most of the hundred or so independent corroboration is known; for the remainder note has been taken and corrections prepared where the Society's compilations are affected; these corrections are given below along with some arising from sources other than the old *Scots Magazine*; they are issued with the concurrence of the editors concerned.

## *Monumental Inscriptions (pre-1855) in West Lothian,*

by J. F. and Sheila Mitchell

### *Corrections*

p 100, no. 163, Kirkliston Churchyard; add the following—(this inscription is rendered as follows in *The Scots Magazine*, vol. 78 of 1816, p 588 — Kirkliston, over south door, "On Lord Stair of Newliston—X VIRTUTE DECET NON-I.P. SANGVINE NITI MDCXXIX

If ye wold live and die in peace/Then love mercy and justice/And keep frae guil your conscience clear/As strave the man who lyeth here"

It would appear that the initials ID MD (not quoted in *The Scots Magazine* version) refer to John Dundas of Newliston and his wife Margaret Creichtoun, about whom and the Dundas family of Newliston there is an article by Donald Whyte, "The Dundas family; 2, Dundas of Newliston and Craigton, contd." at pp 47 *et seq* of *The Scottish Genealogist*, vol. V, no. 3 (July 1958). References to Lord Stair (Sir John Dalrymple) and his w Elizabeth Dundas heiress of Newliston, married in 1669, are at pp 49-50 of the article.

- p 102, Index of Surnames, Kirkliston Churchyard, add for Dalrymple and Stair 163, and insert Dundas 165 and Creichtoun 163.

*Monumental Inscriptions (pre-1855) in Peeblesshire,*  
by Sheila A. Scott.

*Corrections*

- p 42, no. 9, Manor Churchyard, remove the brackets indicating uncertain legibility from around Johnston, Kirkton, 1, w Kathren Dalglish, 1 and Marion; add the following — (this inscription is quoted in *The Scots Magazine* vol. 79 of 1817, p 18; see also *Inscription* No. 9 in Note at p 45 *infra*; Rogers is clearly wrong in giving the year as 1732 instead of 1752).
- p 44, Manor Churchyard, add the following as a new inscription after inscription 46 —  
47 John Tate late victualler here bd. 22.1.1752 “in no advanced age” (this inscription was not seen in the survey but is taken from *The Scots Magazine* vol. 79 of 1817, p 18)
- p 45, Notes, Manor Churchyard, *Inscription* No. 28, add the following — (later) the original inscription was evidently that quoted in *The Scots Magazine*, vol. 79 of 1817, p 18; this mentions the children as “John 28.1.1729 28, Wm 6.1.1733 26, Margt 20.11.1723 16, Eliz 6.4.1730 13;” and also adds “And R. late builder Peebles & Edinburgh 22.12.1814 40”.
- p 45, Manor Churchyard, insert the following in the Index of Surnames —  
Tate 47
- p 57, no. 55, Peebles Cemetery, add—(the copy in *The Scots Magazine*, vol. 79 of 1817, p 18, gives her age as 27)
- p 57, no. 56, Peebles Cemetery, add the following — (*The Scots Magazine*, vol. 79 of 1817, p 18 has—John Tweedie bailie here 5.12.1699 76, w Marjory Forbes 9.11.1703 72; John T. late provost here, s John 10.2.1712 15; John T. late provost here 15.8. (no year) age 61; John T. mert here, w Helen Grieve, chn John, Jas, Chr, Anna, Helen, Marion & Janet. *History of Peeblesshire* by J. W. Buchan ii 553, shows John Tueiddy as provost 1703-1707)
- p 63, no. 126, Peebles Cemetery, substitute the following for this inscription —  
126 (TS; emblems mortality, in latin) chn of Mr Wm Wood & w Helen Hamilton, viz. John, Alex, Wm, Anna, Mary & Helen “omnes intra decennium obierunt et Guilielmus alter qui cum 19 annos et 6 dies vixisset pie ac placide in Christo obdormivit pri die) nonas Junii anno 1747 memoriae charissimorum liberorum hoc monumentum sacrum esse voluerunt parentes praedicti” (Note; this stone is now much worn and partly illegible; this rendering is principally based on a copy in *The Scots Magazine* vol. 79 of 1817, p 17.)
- p 73, Peebles Cemetery, add the following as new inscriptions after no. 263—  
(inscriptions 264 to 268 were not seen in the survey; they are from *The Scots Magazine* vol. 78 of 1816, pp 756 & 839, & from vol. 79 of 1817, pp 17 & 18)

- 264 1684 RI MB II KI GI; Robt Inglis burgess here, da Isobel 25 July age 13
- 265 John Gibson bailie here 17.3.1705 32, w Helen Beattie 4.10.1710 36; Alex Lidbuter mert & burgess here 5.5.1715 67 (see *Notes* p.78 infra, *Monuments* . . . )
- 266 (TS) John Muir formerly provost here, w Lillias Ker, da & only ch Helen age 15 (poem); (Notes — also quoted in Rogers i 128 & in *History of Peeblesshire* by Wm Chambers p 292, which mentions this stone as indicating the burial place of the family of Chambers for many generations; *History of Peeblesshire* by J. W. Buchan gives John Mure as provost 1689-91 and 1692-94)
- 267 (on south slope of stone) John Jenkinson & w for 40y married; (1693); (north side) Alex Jonkin'sone burgess here 13.8.1692 68, w Janet Thomson 22.11.1693 64 (Note — part is in Rogers i 269, see *Notes*, p 76 infra)
- 268 Wm Johnston cooper Eddeston 13.2.1799 71; (other side) by John J., w Helen Hall 1760 40 married 10y
- 269 Jas Veitch mert, w Anne Hay (Note—this inscription, not seen in the survey, is taken from Rogers i 269; Chambers in *History of Peeblesshire*, p 293, gives the date 1704)
- p 76, Peebles Cemetery, *Notes, Monuments* . . . by C. Rogers, 4th line, after "survey" insert—(see inscriptions 265, 267, 268 & 269)
- pp 76 to 78, Peebles Cemetery, Index of Surnames, add the following in proper places—Beattie 265, Forbes 56, Gibson 265, Grieve 56, Hall 268, Hay 269, Inglis 264, Jenkinson 267, Johnston 268, Jonkison 267, Ker 266, Lidbuter 265, Muir 266, Thomson 267, Veitch 269
- p 110, Tweedsmuir Churchyard—insert the following after inscription 82—(inscriptions 83 & 84 were not seen but are taken from an article on Tweedsmuir in the *Peeblesshire Monthly Advertiser* 7.7.1846)
- 83 (piece of slate) Walter Henderson 4.1.1701 78
- 84 (piece of slate apparently found near 77 On prepage)  
Thos Thomson 6.8.1766 46

p 111, Tweedsmuir Churchyard, Index of Surnames, insert 83 against Henderson and 84 against Thomson

The modern *Scots Magazine*, August 1976, pp 489-496, has an article "The Jean Key Mystery", with photographs, by A. C. Kerracher. Jean Key heiress of Edinbellie Farm and Estate near Balfron in Stirlingshire, had been ten months married and then widowed by the age of 19 when she was forcibly carried off in the last days of 1750 by Robin Oig, youngest son of Rob Roy. They shortly afterwards went through a marriage ceremony but by the summer of 1751 they had parted and she died in Glasgow in October 1751. Robin Oig was convicted of "flamesucken" and forcible abduction and hanged in the Grassmarket, Edinburgh, for his part in the affair, early in 1754; mention of this is made in the *Scottish Nation* ii 743, which says that an account of the trial is given at length in *Maclaurin's Criminal Trials*.

Jean Key's tombstone is in Kippen Churchyard with the inscription "Here lies interred the dust of Thomas Key of Edinbellie; in remembrance of Jean Key or Wright of Edinbellie, Niece of the above, died in Glasgow 4th October 1751 aged 20 years," (photograph by Mr Kerracher at page 495 of his article). The inscription is quoted in the usual summarised form as no. 16 of Kippen Churchyard at page 178 of the Society's volume of inscriptions in West Stirlingshire, but wrongly gives the forename "Robt" for "Thos"; this mistake is dealt with in the correction below and the opportunity taken to direct attention to the tragic circumstances of the case as narrated by Mr Kerracher and in *The Scottish Nation*.

*Monumental Inscriptions (pre-1855) in West Stirlingshire.*

by J. F. and S. Mitchell.

*Corrections*

p 178, no. 16, Kippen Churchyard, line 1, for Robt put Thos and add to the inscription—(Note—for the abduction of Jean Key and the subsequent hanging of Robin Oig, youngest son of Rob Roy, for the crime, see *The Scots Magazine* of August 1976, *The Scottish Nation* ii 743 and *MacLaurin's Criminal Trials*.)

A correspondent understands that the inscription dealt with in the following correction has existed in the Greyfriars Burial Ground, Perth; it was not found in the 1974 survey or in Sievwright's list of Greyfriars inscriptions—

*Monumental Inscriptions (pre-1855) in North Perthshire*

by J. F. and S. Mitchell

*Corrections*

p 625, Perth, Greyfriars, Block G, add the following as inscription 186—

186 David Garrick town officer here 21.8.1832 66, w Eliz Robertson 1.6.1844 77; Wm Wilson indweller here 30.10.1873 75, w Janet G. 7.8.1856 56, chn David 21.11.1839 2, Agnes 24.11.1838 4, Eliz 9.12.1838 7, Agnes 23.4.1844 2 (Note—not seen by us, from a correspondent; said to be in "Lot 113" but we do know in which block this is)

pp 626 & 627, Perth, Greyfriars, Block G—amend the Index of Surnames to show Garrick 186, Robertson 186 & Wilson 186

In conclusion, thanks are due to Miss Davidson for finding, sifting and copying a mass of material and to Miss Scott for some notes on the Peeblesshire items.

J. F. Mitchell

# ENTAILS AS AN AID TO THE GENEALOGIST

"It would not give you much trouble were you to step into the Register Office, and look at the terms of the original deed of entail . . ."

That remark was made by one of the characters in *The Entail*, John Galt's 'horrific study of greed and mercantile lust for possessions' published 150 years ago, in which Claud Walkinshaw buys back and entails the old estate of Kittlestonheugh on a succession of heirs 'to ensure, not the happiness of his family, but the preservation of the estate' (as Ian A. Gordon puts it in his 1970 edition of the novel).

It is no bad hint for the genealogist, for entails — or Tailzies as they were called in Scotland — can provide a very useful source of family facts not always available elsewhere. Even that mine of information, Hector McKechnie's *Pursuit of Pedigree*, does not suggest the use of the Register of Tailzies, and it is apparently not consulted as often as it deserves to be.

## What is an Entail?

The earliest examples of entails are in the 'destination' clause of some Great Seal and other charters with the familiar 'whom failing' list of inheritors. Presumably at the wish of the grantee, these were actually named by the grantor (often the Crown), and frequently what is known to the heralds as a 'name and arms clause' was included.

In 1685 the Scots Parliament passed a special Act making it lawful for subjects to 'Tailzie their lands and Estates and to substitute aires in their Tailzies with such Provisions and Conditions as they think fitt', in such a way that these heirs could not sell or dispoise the lands or any part thereof, or contract debts, or do anything else whereby the lands might be appraised, adjudged or evicted from the other substitutes in the Tailzie, or the succession frustrated or interrupted; the deeds to be effective were to be registered in a new 'Register Book' (A.P.S. viii.477).

The original Act did not prejudice the Crown as to confiscations and fines, but in 1690 a further Act (A.P.S. ix.225) laid it down that, provided the Tailzie was properly registered, forfeiture was not to apply to heirs of entail. This happy state lasted for only 18 years, for the United Kingdom Parliament in its first year made the English law of treason applicable to Scotland with the 'corruption of the blood' not only of the person attainted but of his descendants.

It is worth noting the names and lands of the first five entails registered:

- (1) Alexander Irvine of Drum, lands and barony of Drum (original charter 1323), executed 4 Sep 1687, registered 1 July 1688.
- (2) David Ross of Balnagowan ..... executed 1685, registered 1691
- (3) Sir William Scott of Harden ..... executed 1686, registered 1691
- (4) Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh ..... executed 1689, registered 1692
- (5) Sir Andrew Aitoun of Kinglassie ..... executed 1668, registered 1693

By 1770 there were some 550 entries in the 'Register Book', and it was reckoned by Adam Smith that 'in Scotland more than one-fifth, perhaps more

than one-third, part of the whole lands of the country are at present supposed to be under strict entail' (*Wealth of Nations*). This had its disadvantages, and in order to encourage the many and various schemes of agricultural improvement the Montgomery Act (named after the Lord Advocate) was passed in 1770, allowing the owner of an entailed estate to grant leases of farms for 19 years and building leases for 99 years, and to burden the estate with a certain portion of the cost of permanent improvements such as enclosure, drainage, plantation etc — until then he had not been allowed to burden the estate with the cost of planting a single tree.

The number of entails now increased very rapidly — the next 500 were entered in the Register between 1770 and 1803, and the process carried on well into the 19th century, with the deeds themselves getting steadily more involved in their provisions. In 1848 came the Rutherford Act, the first of a series of statutes which (in Cockburn's words) 'dissolved the iron fetters by which for about 160 years nearly three-fourths of the whole land in Scotland was made permanently unsaleable'. Complicated machinery was set up by which an estate (or part of it, as was more often required) could be disentailed, the sale providing capital to subsidise the rest. There were some — including the Queen herself, as we learn from Crewe's life of Lord Rosebery — who lamented the change, and feared that many of the old properties in Scotland would now be alienated, as indeed they were.

Finally, entails were prohibited by the Entail Act (Scotland) of 1914, but the Register was still continued to accommodate deeds of disentail.

### The Register of Tailzies

Turning to the actual Register, this is to be found in some 246 volumes in the Scottish Record Office, a volume for the decade 1943-52 ending with an entry relating to Traquair. For the busy genealogist it will be natural to inquire what are the guides in this formidable labyrinth.

A rather curious index covers the years 1688-1833. The list up to February 1784 was printed in that year, with a charmingly modest preface by Samuel Shaw who compiled it. The S.R.O. copy has been continued in MS up to 25 June 1833 (vol. 82), after which the searcher has to rely on the Minute Books. The index, which gives the date of execution and registration and a general description of the property, is based on the name of the entailer but is in chronological order within each initial letter. There is no index of substitutes — as the heirs in their due order are termed — nor of estates. A digest in MS has the same drawback, but is fuller in its list of the lands concerned.

For those who want an easier preliminary guide, there are two pamphlets by James Fergusson, Keeper of the Registers 150 years ago, and a pioneer in making their contents known to the public. His *Observations on Entails* (1830) has a chronological list up to 31 December 1829 (pp. 24-50), and his *Additional Observations* (1831) has an alphabetical index for the same period (pp. 82-148). Dates of execution and registration are given in every case, with the volume and folio numbers of the Register at least in the earlier entails; the first list includes 'name of estate', and the alphabetical list gives rather more fully the 'name of entailed lands or other subjects tailzied'.



## What could be Entailed

By far the greatest number of entails are of lands and estates, but not all. Fergusson's list includes nine pages of intriguing 'extras'—entails of dwelling houses or lodgings or even flats in houses (Edinburgh, Forfar and Lanark); three entails of household furniture (1705, 1788, 1823); an entail of Jedburgh Cross (1675/1788), another of the office of Heritable Usher (Coutts of Redfield/1759), one of money, and one of church patronage. One entail proves the tenor of a marriage contract between Lord Reay and Miss Dalrymple (1757/68)—contracts of marriage often relate to entails, or perhaps *vice versa* — and another apparently includes an inventory of pictures belonging to Viscount Duncan in 1803.

It would be a mistake to imagine that only the great estates and families are to be found in the Register; there must be as many bonnet lairds as belted earls; and more. Take Harry Grahame, for example, merchant in Stromness (ex. 1737, reg. 1773), whose property was made up of a large number of small bits of land in the Mainland parishes of Orkney and in South Ronaldsay — details even include inhabitants of houses, and there is a provision (unusual for the period) allowing the possessors to give liferents to their spouses, incur debts up to 5000 merks, and provide for daughters and younger children. An Argyllshire deed of 1810, entailing quite a small estate on Lochaweside on a family of which other records are scanty, has made it possible to build up a genealogy of an obscure but long-standing family (Munro of Stuckghoy and Barnaline). Nor does the length and number of documents reflect the size of the estate involved, as we may assume from a series of six deeds (1773/91) registered in 1797 in which William Gibson of Fithie settled (and then proceeded to chop and change) the succession to the lands of Little Fithie and Pitgarvie, down to specified houses in Montrose.

Beside these generalisations, it is not easy to give an idea of the kind of information to be found in this Register. For the genealogist the chief value of entails is probably in enabling him to identify comprehensive *family groups*. They will often be found to include possible heirs who never succeeded and were in fact never likely to succeed: how often may it have been the inquiry into a recording of such far-out lines of succession (especially if the entailer had no large family of his own) that gave rise to the stories of a lost inheritance cherished by people who firmly believe that they are descended from the rightful heirs who were wickedly passed over by family machinations?

Moving from the general to the particular, it is worth looking more closely at a few entails chosen almost at random from these 246 volumes to illustrate the variety of circumstance which may be included.

It was often because there was no obvious line of heirs male that an entail was drawn up, and women could usually succeed or at least transmit the succession. Although a 'name and arms' clause might change things, this means that light is often thrown on other names besides that of the entailer. Mrs Mary Munro of Newmore in Ross-shire, who had succeeded her brother under an entail that appears only as part of a sasine, entailed her property in 1761 on a Ross nephew, then a Gray, then another Ross. Alexander Chisholm

of Chisholm made an entail in 1777, when he had five sons, two brothers and an uncle's two sons all living; yet within a century and a decade all the heirs in the male line were exhausted, and though the lands had been disentailed, the undifferenced arms of Chisholm reverted under the entail to the senior heir in the female line and the entailer's family is still represented by his granddaughter's great-grandson.

The Colquhoun/Grant jigsaw puzzle recited in the peerage is probably the best-known example of the strange result of an heiress whose husband was required to take her name, and how it came to be abandoned and re-assumed to meet a sensible provision that two family estates were not to be held by the same person. Another solution was found when Graham of Gartmore succeeded to Ardoch on a Bontine cousin's entail of 1757: in this case the eldest son was called Bontine, while the father was Graham (this according to R. B. Cunningham-Graham, 'gave rise to innumerable family quarrels and helped to fill the pockets of the lawyers'—and every genealogist knows how useful litigation can be in tracing a family).

Ross of Balnagown was a classic case of 'fraud and wrong' where a weak and debt-ridden chief in 1685 entailed his ancestral acres on the brother of one of his principal creditors, who was no relation but was lucky enough to bear the name of Ross. Yet it was not unique to leave family property outwith the legitimate line — in 1771 Campbell of Skerrington, after heirs male and female, named in the succession an illegitimate son by an Ogilvy cousin, followed by that cousin's own legitimate son.

Graham of Drynie's entail specifically excluded his nephew Francis Graham 'now of Jamaica' and his heirs if they were of the Roman Catholic persuasion or not British subjects — otherwise the property went to the next Protestant heir. There is curious provision in the MacLaine of Lochbuie entail of 1776, where young Archibald left his father's lands to his cousin Murdoch (Captain in the Royal Highland Emigrants), next to his own natural brother, then to another cousin, and then to the children of the deceased Allan MacLaine (elder brother of Captain Murdoch) 'if they are in the character of gentlemen' (fortunately the question of just what that meant seems never to have been raised in the law courts!).

One of the most remarkable entail stories is that of how a poor clansman won his rights in a case against his Chief which was taken as far as the House of Lords. By an entail of 1740, Coll Lamont of Monydrain left that estate (including Lochgilphead) to his own heirs and his brother Dugald's, on failure of whom it was to go to the Lamont chief and then to his second son. It duly passed to Dugald's grandson, Captain Coll, who in contravention of the entail (under which he had himself succeeded) settled the lands direct on John Lamont of Lamont in return for favours received. Meantime Dugald had married a second time, and the rightful heir of entail was actually his son James by the second wife. James was a plasterer in Glasgow in poor circumstances, but with the assistance of his incorporation, the wrights of Glasgow, he forced the chief to produce the entail (not yet registered), won his case in the

Court of Session, and after a legal battle which lasted altogether for twelve years the House of Lords upheld the decision based on the entail of 1740.

So, whether you are looking for a peer or a plasterer, it is worth remembering that there is a great deal of family history to be found in the Register of Tailzies.

R. W. MUNRO  
JEAN MUNRO

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## NOTICE

### **NORTH WEST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES ONE-DAY CONFERENCE on SATURDAY, 26th MARCH 1977 at OWENS PARK, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER**

(to be followed on Sunday, 27th March, by the A.G.M. of the Federation of Family History Societies)

There will be an informal gathering over coffee at 10.30 a.m.

Illustrated lectures will be given by F. C. Markwell, BA, FSG, Dr Colin Rogers and H. Ellis Tomlinson, M.A., F.H.S., F.H.G. There will also be an exhibition of Genealogy and Heraldry, bookstalls and a raffle.

There will be an optional dinner in the evening.

Cost for the One Day Conference will be £3.50 to include morning coffee, luncheon and afternoon tea.

Cost of the dinner will be £3.50.

Accommodation can be arranged on Friday and / or Saturday night with members of the Host Societies at Federation Rates or, if anyone prefers, at Owens Park at a cost of £5.00.

Bookings should be made through Mrs P. Litton, 34 Bramley Road, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire SK7, 2DP—cheques payable to North West Family History Societies. Please state accommodation requirements and indicate if you would like Sunday lunch to be provided after the Federation Meeting.

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## LIBRARY PREMISES

The Society has now found Library premises at 9 Union Street, Edinburgh (off Leith Street, nearly opposite *The Playhouse*). Redecoration has been completed, and when the furnishing and shelving arrangements have been made, our Honorary Librarian, Mr Robert M. Strathdee, F.L.A., will advise Council. It is hoped to open for an experimental period, one night per week. More details will be available for the next issue of the magazine.

## QUERIES

· THE REVD. DR. GEORGE LAWSON OF SELKIRK: any information regarding the whereabouts of the registers of births, deaths and marriages of the Associate Congregation, Selkirk, later the United Presbyterian Church, Selkirk, during the period 1771-1858 would be gratefully received. The birth of JANE BRUCE, daughter of MARGARET & ROBERT BRUCE (Margaret's maiden surname being LAWSON) and of the said MARGARET LAWSON is needed to complete links in a genealogy. Any information, or the whereabouts of any information, other than that in National Library of Scotland, the Dictionary of National Biography, MacFarlane's "Memoirs of the Life and Times of George Lawson" and the memoir in "The Christian Repository" of 1820, would be appreciated. JANE BRUCE appears to have been born in about 1829 — The Revd. Edward Baty, The Rectory, Hope Bowdler, Church Stretton, Salop, England, SY6 7DD.

GIFFORD: Jan (John) Gilbertson Gifford, son of Gilbert Gifford, was married on 17th August 1749 in the Reformed Church of Maassluis to Cornelia Stavenis. He was born in Hitland, one of the Shetland Islands. Any information about his parents would be appreciated by F. Kwekel, Wulpstraat 24, Hellevoetsluis, Netherlands.

TOUGH William, a ploughman (b. c1770 Kildrummy d. Marywell 1858) married in 1795 at Inverkeilor. Elizabeth Lunan (b. 1771 Craigpark, Inverkeilor d. c1852. Parents—Thomas Lunan and Elizabeth Miln).

· Query 1. Were William's parents, William Tough and Jean Warrack who married at Kildrummy in 1768?

Query 2. Was William accompanied by relatives when he came South to Farnell, e.g., George Tough (Farnell m. Ann Steven) or Alexander Tough (Boysack, Friockheim, m. Ann Fairweather)?

· William and Elizabeth's family were William (b. 1797 Maryton d. 1877 (Inverkeilor m. Isobella McHardy) James (b. C1796 Maryton d. 1871 Glamis m. Elizabeth Addison).

John (b. 1802 Maryton) Mary (b. 1804 Maryton) Ann (b. possibly Craig 1814 d. Forfar 1860 m. Thomas Moncur) and David (b. C1812 Lunan).

The last-named David (a master shoemaker at Lunan, Forfar, Marywell and Arbroath) married (1) Susan Milne of Craig at Lunan in 1831, (2) Marjorie Ritchie (c1825 to 1868) of Parkhill House, St. Vigeans at Marywell in 1857.

Query 3. Who was Susan Milne?

The children of the first marriage were Mary (b. 1832 Lunan d 1857 Marywell), David (b. 1834 Lunan d. 1910 Forfar m. Isobella Langlands. Master watchmaker at Forfar and Dundee) and James (b. c1836 Master Gardener).

Query 4. Were there any other children?

Query 5. Where was James born and where did he and his wife (Catherine Kirkwood m. 1860 Muthill) go on leaving Ardoch/Orchill Estates, Braco, after the death of their son James Kirkwood Tough (b. 1861 d. 1862)? To England or perhaps Australia?

The Kirkwood family and descendants are buried at Braco.

The children of the second marriage were Alexander Robert Duncan Tough (b. 1859 Marywell), Alice Brown Tough (b. 1861 Marywell d. 1918 Arbroath, unmarried) William Greig Tough (b. 1864 Marywell d. 1865 Arbroath) Isobella Greig Tough (b. 1866 Arbroath).

Query 6. What happened to Alexander R. D. Tough and Isobella G. Tough? The above family are probably descended from William Tough and Janet Gellan of Nether Kildrummy mentioned in the 1696 poll tax records of Kildrummy parish. Any assistance greatly appreciated.—D. Tough, 48 Moyness Park Drive, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

GERRIE/HENDRY: I am tracing my mother's family history and require information as to the birth, marriage and ancestry of ALEXANDER GERRIE and his wife CHRISTINA (nee HENDRY). Both were born in Scotland circa 1809 and were married there. Similarly their two eldest children Christina and Katherine were born there circa 1834/36.

In about 1836/7 the Gerries moved to Liverpool where seven further children (including my mother's grandmother) were born. By occupation Alexander was a fishmonger and fishing boat owner. In Liverpool he became a member of the Session and Session Clerk of the Islington Presbyterian Church. Any information concerning the above would be gratefully received — Anthony Snell. 'Tirion', Fore Street, Polgooth, St. Austell, Cornwall.

CAMERON, MacTavish: Donald Cameron married Elizabeth MacTavish; both had been born in 1770 in Stratherrick, Inverness-shire. How long have families of those names lived there, and what is known of their ancestors? Were there any of the Camerons working for the N.W. Trading Co. of Canada related to Simon MacTavish the company's Chairman?—W. D. Cameron, The Harris Hotel, Harris, Isle of Harris, Western Isles.

McCALLUM: Robert Aitken McCallum and Alexander McCallum (who died aged 5) were twins. They were born in Glasgow in 1854, the children of Daniel McCallum and Christine Harvey who came from Arisaig. Robert was brought up in Glasgow by an aunt (or an adopted aunt), Mrs Margaret Wallace and married Annie Mary More or Dickie, a widow, about 1889 at Muswell Hill, London (she had married Mr Dickie in Hong Kong). They had four children, Mary Temple, who died in 1971, aged 81; Robert More McCallum who died in 1959 at Hitchin, Herts; Ronald McCallum who died in January 1969; and Mrs Christine Shore who died on 31st October 1971 aged 79 at Barnes Hospital, Barnes, SW13.

Robert died at 46 Putney Hill, Putney, London, SW15 and his wife at Kenilworth Court, Putney, in July 1933. He owned a provision merchant's business, R. A. McCallum and Sons, Tooley Street, London, which closed in 1929, and was a director of The Continental Fruit Picking Co. of Italy until 1958.

Relations emigrated to Ontario, to the U.S.A., and South Africa. Information about relatives would be appreciated by Duncan Robert More McCallum, 1 Hereford House, Lauriston Road, Wimbledon Common, London SW19 4TJ.

ALLAN—McBAIN: John Allan married Annie (Milne) McBain on 10th February 1882 in Aberdeen. By the dates on their death certificates John Allan was born between 24th April 1855 and 23rd April 1856 and Annie McBain between 26th March 1854 and 25th March 1855. However no birth certificates have been found for either in the Aberdeen area. When and where were they born?

John Allan's parents were John Allan (farm servant) and Agnes Ruxton. John Allan senior died on 9th August 1902 at Pitmedden, Udney, and Agnes Ruxton died on 8th December 1891 in Aberdeen. John Allan senior was born about 1827 and Agnes Ruxton was born about 1826 in Udney. Where was John Allan senior born and where did he and his wife live? (their son John was apparently not born in the Aberdeen area).

John Allan senior's parents were William Allan (a crofter) and Janet Shearer. When and where were they born and where did they live and die?

Agnes Ruxton's parents were William Ruxton (a crofter) and Elizabeth Littlejohn. Where were they born and where did they live and die?

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Annie McBain's parents were John McBain (a shoemaker) and Margaret Grant. John McBain was born on 24th January 1814 (the birth being registered at Fordyce in Banffshire) and Margaret Grant was probably born in 1816 in Aberdeen. Where did they live and when and where did they die?

John McBain's parents were Donald McBain and Elspet Thomson. Where and when were they born (Donald was a roadmaker in Portsoy at the time of the birth of his sons John and William); when and where did they die?

Margaret Grant's parents are unknown but her daughter Annie took a second name of Milne. Was this Margaret Grant's mother's name? Who were her parents? Where and when were they born, where did they live and when and where did they die?

Any information will be welcome.—R. J. McB. Allan, Nonesuch, Rushmore Hill, Pratts Bottom, Orpington, Kent.

MELVILLE — Janet Melvill, daughter John Melvill (smith) and Janet Millar, born 19 May (baptized 20 May) 1809, St Andrews, Fife Co., recorded New Register House, Edinburgh. She came to Ohio 1819, married there 1826, died LaPorte Co., Indiana, 1889. Was she sister of Andrew Melville, born Scotland ca 1811, living New Durham, LaPorte Co., Indiana, 1850 census with Jennette Melville, age 80, born Scotland ca 1770 (his mother?). A John Melville died 1843 buried Scipio, LaPorte Co. Andrew also married Ohio. New Register House does not have record of Andrew's birth St. Andrews, Fife Co., and no actual proof found here of his parentage and relationship to Janet born 1809 above. Desire any information about these Melvilles. — Mrs Dorothy S. Melville, 36 South Main Street, West Lebanon, New Hampshire 03784 U.S.A.

MILLRINE — Thomas Millrine, probably a farmer or miner from Shettleston, Lanarkshire, married Janet Travers, and had a daughter Catherine. Any information about the family or about the unusual name would be appreciated. (Is the name connected with Milliron or the French name Millerand?)—Mrs Sanna R. Gaffney, 735 Laurel Drive, Lake Park, Florida 33403, U.S.A.

MACFARLANE—At page 41 of the "History of Clan Macfarlane" by James Macfarlane published at Glasgow in 1922, Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair writes, "Duncan's children were: John, Thomas, Duncan Colin, David and a daughter (Duncan 1395-1406 was married to Christian Campbell a daughter of Sir Colin Campbell of Lochow)". It would be much appreciated if any information could be forwarded regarding sources of this statement to H. Nacfaire, 13 Avenue Bonaparte, 1180 Brussels, Belgium.

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## WITHDRAWAL OF OLD PAROCHIAL REGISTERS

### CHAIRMAN'S POSITION

The 'September Circular' regarding the projected withdrawal of the *Old Parochial Registers of Scotland*, at New Register House, Edinburgh, and their replacement for the purposes of research by microfilm copies, was discussed last October by the Council of the Scottish Genealogy Society. Naturally, there was some diversity of opinion, and since the registers of 177 parishes had already been withdrawn, rather than attempt to present a consensus view, we decided to reprint the circular in *The Scottish Genealogist*, and to allow members individual freedom of expression — for or against the project — in the magazine. It was hoped the Registrar General's Department would give reasonable consideration to the views expressed.

As Chairman of Council, I might have been expected to lead with my views, but I did not wish to influence members unduly, and I thought it best to decline *pro tempore* as I had, as an individual, already asked Mr Tam Dalyell, M.P., in whose constituency I reside, to request an Ombudsman's Inquiry. Mrs Sheila Pitcairn and Mr R. W. Munro agreed to express their opinions, and contributions appeared in the December issue. Mrs Pitcairn wrote moreover, to her own M.P., Mr Adam Hunter.

Mr Dalyell's conduct in the whole matter has been quite baffling. I wrote to him on 27th September, requesting an Inquiry, since it is scarcely possible to challenge the statements made in the 'September Circular' in open court, where contrary evidence would be impartially judged. He replied on 1st October, informing me that he was approaching someone prominent in the heraldic field (whom I shall not name as I do not think he should ever have been involved) to find if he would support my views. It was a foregone conclusion he would lean towards the official position.

Although the circular made it plain that registers would be withdrawn in October, *exactly two months passed without any news*. I wrote again to Mr. Dalyell, reminding him of my request, and he replied on 6th December, asking if I would be prepared to meet the person he had named and "talk to him direct". Although his contact with the original registers is virtually non-existent, I replied in the affirmative, suggesting a date during the last ten days of the month, by which time the December issue of *The Scottish Genealogist* would have appeared. However, no meeting was arranged by the 27th, and my

circumstances had so changed as to make a meeting in normal office hours extremely difficult. Since I am already known to the person concerned, I then wrote to him personally, and received a prompt and courteous reply to the effect that "the steps now being taken to preserve [the O.P.R.s] have a merit which transcends the inconvenience of us all". It was not convenience I sought, since the symptoms indicated bureaucratic madness. However, the heraldic expert is entitled to his opinion, and with the reservation that I cannot visualise "inconvenience of us all", I respect it.

In the interim, Mrs Pitcairn received through her M.P. a letter from the Scottish Office, stating that she was the only person objecting to the withdrawal of the registers.

I relayed this information to Mr Dalyell, who asked to see a copy of the letter. He then informed Mrs Pitcairn that he was surprised and that I had much correspondence through him with the Under-Secretary. He seems entirely to have forgotten this was the previous March about search fees. However, he now became aware that Mr Adam Hunter was involved and did two things: wrote around Christmas to the Scottish Office at Whitehall, and indicated to Mr Hunter — who seems not against an Ombudsman's Inquiry — that, as I had not discussed the matter in the manner he had suggested (but never arranged!), he could hardly support the idea. The logic of his argument escapes me.

Mr Dalyell's letter to the Scottish Office must surely have been ambiguous, or read with borrowed spectacles, as a reply was then received from Mr Harry Ewing, Under-Secretary, dated 13th January, 1977, referring to the position of the proposed Scottish Assembly and search fees at New Register House. Interesting, but hardly relevant! I have now written to Mr Ewing, explaining that it was an Inquiry I sought, since in my opinion only 15% of the registers show any signs of deteriorating. I was referring to what in the 'September Circular' was called "fragile record pages", and not to the bindings which should constitute a separate issue.

After the Council meeting in October, our Honorary Secretary received the following letter from the Registrar General's Department, too late for inclusion in our December issue:—

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND  
New Register House, Edinburgh EH1 3YT

Miss Joan P. S. Ferguson, MA, ALA.

Dear Miss Ferguson,

#### THE OLD PAROCHIAL REGISTERS

I should be grateful if you would allow me to comment on the articles by Mrs Pitcairn and Mr and Mrs Munro in the December 1976 issue of the "Scottish Genealogist". I hope that this letter may be published: you may care also to take any earlier opportunity there may be to bring its contents to the notice of your members.

I am sorry that our proposed substitution of microfilm for the originals of the OPRs has given so much concern and I hope I can remove at least some of



it. By way of preface, however, may I make it clear that the responsibility for the substitution rests with me, not with any member of my staff? While general criticism of our deeds or misdeeds is perfectly fair, I greatly regret the tone of Mrs Pitcairn's attack.

The central point is whether withdrawal of the OPRs and open Census Records and substitution of microfilm copies is justified. My view is that conservation of original records which are as valuable as these must take priority over all other interests. According to Sir Hilary Jenkinson, late Keeper of the Public Records, the duties of the archivist are to preserve his records and, subject to that, to make them available; but the priority of these duties must not be reserved. The situation facing us is one of vast increase in demand in recent years for access to the OPRs—searches have increased by a factor of more than ten in the last 20 years, and over 3,750 tickets, many of them for a week, month or quarter, were issued in 1975. It was becoming clear that the handling involved in searches on this scale was having a harmful effect on the records; that the available skilled resources for repairs could not keep pace with the need; that there was no foreseeable prospect of substantial reduction in demand; and that if something was not done sooner or later to safeguard the records we would indeed "hand them on to our successors in a worse condition than that in which we received them".

So when should we take steps to meet the situation? And what steps? One possibility was to do nothing—to continue to produce the original registers, as Mrs Pitcairn has suggested, withdrawing only those whose condition clearly required it, until they are in such a state that the provision of copies can no longer be avoided. I do not regard this as a responsible approach when the primary aim must be to conserve the records. And what quality of copies would result from records which had been allowed so to deteriorate? Nor, for the same reason, could we agree to copy the records now, and to continue to produce the originals while holding the copies in reserve. In any case, this option is not open to us. The majority of the registers are so tightly bound that complete reproduction of them by any photocopying process — including Xerox — cannot be obtained without breaking most of them down. And once they are broken down, some considerable time must elapse before they can all be rebound, thus delaying their return to the search room.

A further suggestion is that we should acquire our own laminating machine to care for the fragile pages, on the grounds that costs would be less than the investment in microfilm readers. But this proposal scarcely bears examination. Before a whole page can be laminated, the volume has to be broken down. Each page then has to have the acid removed to prevent deterioration continuing beneath the laminate seal. The lamination must then be applied and, finally, the volume rebound. All these are skilled, time-consuming and costly tasks. Even if one craftsman book-binder and one document repairer could be allocated full-time to the care of the OPRs, their salaries alone would in about 3 years exceed the capital cost of equipping our search rooms with microfilm readers; and a permanent solution to the long-term conservation of the registers would still have to be found.

In short, instead of a policy of piecemeal repair or replacement by photocopies, which has already failed because it has been unable to keep up with wear and tear, it seems to us that the right course is to withdraw the originals from normal searching while the bulk are still in good condition and good quality copies can be made. Not only will this give them the best chance of surviving indefinitely — so that our heritage will not be lost but preserved — but it will also safeguard their intrinsic value as evidence, a matter on which Mr and Mrs Munro place emphasis. Are we acting prematurely? Are we taking the right decision too early rather than too late? I do not think we are; but, even so, is this a matter for censure when what is at issue is the longterm future of these unique and irreplaceable records? What other records of this kind are as constantly handled and consulted—often by inexperienced searchers—on this scale in the original?

Let me say that I entirely understand and fully share the preference of most researchers for working with the original volumes. Given a real choice, there is no doubt which of the two, registers or microfilm copies, one would rather handle. Even bound photocopies would be preferable to microfilm. We carefully considered this possibility, but the Xerox process, in addition to requiring the volumes to be broken down, would not have coped adequately with the very wide range and condition of the script and colours of ink, some of it stained and faded. Other photocopying methods were ruled out on cost grounds. So we chose 35 mm microfilm, which is generally regarded in archive circles as the best medium for dealing with such varied and difficult material. Moreover microfilm does not have the other disadvantages of photocopies: the fact that photocopies of these records could be taken on one side of a page only, doubling storage requirements; that continued use of volumes would produce the same difficulties of repair and rebinding as at present; and that when replacement pages became necessary they could only be taken from the original records, with renewed risk of wear and tear.

Your contributors raised a number of other main issues:

*Is it necessary to break down the volumes?* Most of the volumes do have to be broken down in order that the camera can get good reproductions. But where good reproductions can be obtained from the volumes as they stand, they are not being broken down. It gives us no pleasure to break down the registers—we too care about them. But there was no real alternative in their own best long term interests. The decision to break them down, however, was taken in the knowledge that this could do nothing to lessen their existing value as record evidence. The evidence of the original bindings in which the volumes were received from the various session clerks was lost when the whole series was rebound to a standard size a century ago. Consequently, what is important now is to ensure that the pages themselves are not disordered or damaged in the process of breaking the volumes down.

May I assure you that the work is being undertaken carefully and under close control. Every volume is being foliated and a separate record kept to enable every folio to be accounted for. The breaking down process itself is being carried out by professional bookbinding staff who are accustomed to dealing with historical manuscripts from the National Library. Wherever possible,

the existing volume cases (i.e. end covers plus spine cover) are being removed in one piece for re-use later, thus saving expense.

*Will the volumes be rebound?* After microfilming, it is intended to transmit the volumes to the Scottish Record Office for preservation. They will be rebound as resources permit, though obviously it will take considerable time to complete this process. The foliation of each volume will ensure that, at the least, they will be rebound in their present order. If some folios are thought to be incorrectly arranged at present, we should be glad to know about them. We can then consider whether, at rebinding, their arrangement should be altered (though some may feel that there is no strong reason to disturb an arrangement which has lasted for about a hundred years).

*Will the volumes be available for consultation in any circumstances?* The originals will not be produced for general searching but where there is a genuine need to examine an original register because the film, for whatever reason, cannot answer the problem, it will be possible to recall the original from the SRO at short notice and without great formality. Where a volume is still unbound, however, a higher degree of supervision will be required, for obvious reasons, while it is being consulted.

Unwelcome as the introduction of microfilm may be to some, there will also be certain benefits. Apart from the main point that the original records will be conserved indefinitely in secure archival conditions, we now have the prospect of a comprehensive index to the births and marriages in the OPRs becoming progressively available from the Mormons. Preparation of such an index has for many years been beyond the resources of the department, and its acquisition should be a great help to searchers. We hope, moreover, to be able to provide copies of the records for sale to the public once they are available on a microfilm base.

Finally, might I perhaps mention that Parliament has already provided authority for transmission of the OPRs to the Scottish Record Office; and that we consulted the Church of Scotland about our proposals and received their approval. We do have a very real regard for the welfare of our regular visitors and, if we were remiss on this occasion in not giving them sufficient advance notice of what we intended, I apologise for it and we shall try to do better in future. Meanwhile if there are any other points which your members would like to have clarified, I hope they will not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely,  
W. BAIRD, Register General

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Dear Miss Ferguson;

The statement that the registers will be rebound should probably have been qualified with the words "when funds are available". Ostensibly, the idea of breaking down the registers is to allow the microfilm camera to capture data hidden on innermost margins by tight bindings. Personally, I would have preferred an explanation of why expensively bound volumes (chiefly those for country parishes, with small pages mounted on larger ones, more or less of a

standard size), with no inner margins, should have been broken down at all. However, since this is now being denied, the next batch may be dealt with more selectively. I would, moreover, have wished for some real evidence that the volumes for the Scottish towns have "fragile record pages". Of course the main difficulty facing objectors is that the word "preservation", or rather the theory, is in itself morally impeccable, like some other hackneyed modern words and phrases. Take for example "industrial democracy". Who after all, wants industrial dictatorship? The central argument for preservation would have been equally valid a century ago (if quick copying had been possible), and indeed is being applied to census records not yet 100-years-old. This, if followed to a logical conclusion, would mean that the 1901 census will never ever be available for consultation in its original form: the authorities having opted for a 100-year closure.

When the Records Officer came into his new position, volumes were withdrawn on the slightest pretext to accommodate his preconceived ideas, and shelf positions marked "WITHDRAWN FOR REPAIR". Of course it was obvious he (and ultimately the Registrar General himself, with whom responsibility rests) did not intend they should be repaired; for if they had, the *status quo* would have been preserved (another use for the word!), and his appointment seen to be unnecessary. It is hoped the Ombudsman will yet be called in to investigate the matter.

Finally, although the acquisition by the Mormon Church of microfilm copies of Scottish records is detrimental to professional genealogists here (and invisible exports), I am not against duplicates being made, nor introduced *where requisite* for the purposes of research.

DONALD WHYTE

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## LETTER

7 Thornbury Close,  
Crowthorne,  
Berks RG11 6PE

Dear Sir,

I came across the following out of area items recently. Perhaps they will be of some interest.

Shustoke Churchyard, Warks

In loving memory of James McAlpine STEUART of Steuart Hall  
Stirlingshire died 18th Oct 1946 aged 78 years.

1871 Census, Chideock, Dorset

David Morrison Unmar. 24 drapers servant Scotland.

George Ingram drapers servant Scotland

I would appreciate hearing of any FRYs that may be found in Scottish records, particularly if they come from Dorset.

Yours sincerely,  
G. R. Fry

# COUNT VON MOLTKE AND SCOTLAND

By JAMES N. M. MACLEAN, Yr. of Glensanda, B.Litt., Ph.D.

In 1968 an article came to light which asserted that the great Prussian Field Marshal, Count Helmuth von Moltke, the architect of his country's victories in the Danish, Austrian and Franco-Prussian Wars, was the maternal grandson of one of the sons of a Maclean chieftain of Coll. The article by Mary Mackellar was first published in *The Scotsman* on 3rd January 1887,<sup>(1)</sup> four years before the Count's death, and was supplemented with a short letter by the same author two weeks later, which claimed that the Count's grandfather was at one time a Professor in the University of Copenhagen, and that this Maclean scholar and his brother, who had also settled in Denmark, had left several descendants in Copenhagen. The article in full, with an introduction, but without the details in the short supplementary letter, was reprinted in *The Scotsman* on 14th November 1914 (which was an odd thing to do when the B.E.F. were fighting their first great battles against Germany in the First World War). The 1914 article,<sup>(2)</sup> with the introduction, stated:

"A correspondent has sent us the following article, extracted from 'The Scotsman' of January 3, 1887. As will be seen, the writer, who signed the article 'Mary Mackellar', traces to a Highland family the descent of the distinguished German General, Count von Moltke, who conducted the Prussian campaign against France in 1870. At the time when the article appeared, Colonel Sir Fitzroy D. Maclean, Bart., K.C.B., wrote to Count von Moltke, drawing his attention to it. The Count replied, expressing his satisfaction at being connected with such a distinguished Highland family. It will be seen that Hobart Pasha, who distinguished himself in the Turkish naval service in the 'eighties, is also claimed as a descendant. [The article states] 'Having travelled one day lately from Inverness to Banavie by steamer, I heard two gentlemen discuss the warlike policy of the so-called Dane, Count von Moltke. We were at that time passing the farmhouse of Strone, situated on the Caledonian Canal, on Lochiel's estate; and the conversation referred to recalled to me that this was the very spot which might be called the cradle of Count von Moltke's race. After the battle of Inverlochy, fought in 1431 between the Royal forces and the followers of the Lord of the Isles, Donald Dubh, the Chief of Lochiel was so oppressed that he had to flee for his life to Ireland, and the Lord of the Isles gave his lands to John Garve Maclean, first laird of Coll, and brother to the fourth laird of Duart. The Camerons fought bravely to keep possession of their lands, and their chief returned to defend them; but still the Macleans claimed Lochaber, or at least the extensive parts of it granted to them by the Lord of the Isles. John Garve died, and his son, the second laird of Coll, entered into possession, and he carried on the feud more bitterly than his father. At last they fought a decisive battle at Corpach, to which place they had recently come to reside, with the intention of keeping possession of the place. The Macleans were sorely defeated and slain, and among the fallen was their chieftain John, the second laird of Coll. The Macgillories of Strone seem at this time to have acted against the interest of their Chief, Lochiel, and to have secured the favour of

the Lord of the Isles, for the names of their lands are not in the charter that was given to John Garve for the other places in Lochaber. On this occasion, then, when the Macleans were defeated, the young widow fled with her child to Strone, and placed him under the protection of the Macgillories, who acted a most friendly part to him, and reared him carefully until in the course of time he was restored to his kinsmen. He became a stalwart man in the course of years, and was known as John of Lochaber, Iain Abrach, which term continued as the patronymic of the lairds of Coll<sup>(3)</sup>. Count von Moltke is the direct descendant of this child so kindly sheltered in Strone; in fact, he is a Maclean of the house of Mac Iain Abrach, his grandfather having been a son of one of the lairds of Coll. The grandfather and one of his brothers went as young men to Copenhagen, where they were successful in pushing on to good positions, and the Count has proved true to the warlike proclivities of his race. The Count is not the only distinguished son of Iain Abrach whose name has been known to this generation, for the late Hobart Pasha was a great grandson of the laird of Coll, whose daughter was married to the Earl of Buckinghamshire. The present excellent chief of the Clan Cameron, the late M.P. for Inverness-shire, is also the great grandson of this descendant of the ancient foe of his house, through his mother Lady Vere Hobart; and among the others we may mention the name of Commander Cameron of African fame, who is the great-grandson of a lady of the house of Coll. This lady's husband was the son of Dr Archibald Cameron, the brother of the gentle Lochiel of the '45, and their son Hector, the grandfather of Commander Cameron, was born in Oban. This Hector was a distinguished soldier, and was Mayor of Paris during the occupation of the Allies after the capture of Napoleon Buonaparte'."

Concentrating on the statements about Count von Moltke, and ignoring the accuracy or otherwise of the historical information, it is necessary to give a brief outline<sup>(4)</sup> of the Count's family, as follows:

*Graf Friedrich Philip Victor von Moltke*, born 12 July 1768 at Samow, married, in May 1797, Henriette Sophie Paschen (born 5 February 1777) only daughter of Geheimer Finanzrat Karl Paschen of Lübeck, and had a son and a daughter:

- 1 *Feldmarschall Graf Helmuth Karl Bernhard von Moltke*, born 26 October 1800 at Parchim, Mecklenburg who married, 20 April 1842 (at Itzehoe, Schleswig-Holstein) Marie Burt, younger daughter of John Heyliger Burt, of COLTON HOUSE, near Lichfield, Staffordshire, by his 1st wife, Marie Johanna Ernestine von Staffeldt; and he died in 1891.
- 2 *Grafin Augusta von Moltke*, who married, in 1834, as his 2nd wife, John Heyliger Burt, of Colton House, near Lichfield, Staffordshire, and became in 1842 her famous brother's step-mother-in-law.

If the Count had a Maclean grandfather it must have been his mother's father, as his paternal grandfather was obviously a Von Moltke, but the brief pedigree above shows that his maternal grandfather was the finance minister from Lübeck, Karl Paschen. It seems clear that the flimsy story of the Count having Maclean of Coll blood is based on the coincidence of the first syllable of Colton, the estate of the Count's father-in-law (who was also his brother-in-law) John Heyliger Burt. What is not so clear is why the Count, in replying

to Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Duart, expressed his satisfaction "at being connected with such a distinguished Highland family". All the major biographers of Count von Moltke indicate that he was very knowledgeable about his ancestors<sup>(5)</sup>. As an aristocrat in a society where nobility was of paramount importance he could scarcely have been unaware of his paternal ancestry, but his father was a weak and unstable character, and he reserved his deep respect for his strong-willed and able mother, and her equally able father, whom he regarded as the major influence on his early development. This being so, the Count was showing considerable courtesy in not correcting Sir Fitzroy Maclean's wrongful assumption that they shared a common ancestry. Few other Prussian aristocrats of the time would have felt that even a genuine blood relationship with the Macleans was any reason to express satisfaction or pride, because most Junkers were arrogant enough to believe that noble Prussian lilies needed no gilding. There can be no doubt that the story of the Count's Scottish ancestry is erroneous, but, to ensure that every aspect of the claim had been tested a full enquiry about Macleans who had taken Danish nationality or any Maclean who had held a chair in a Danish university, was sent by the present writer to Dr Edit Rasmussen, keeper in the Historical Division of the Rigsarkivet (National Archives) at Copenhagen. In his reply, dated 29th October 1969, Dr Rasmussen wrote: "Concerning your enquiry of October 6, 1969, about a possible emigration to Denmark of any member of the clan of the Macleans, the National Archives are able to inform you that this name is neither found in the registers of groups of records worked out by these archives, nor have we been able to trace any professor of this or kindred names".

So, although many Macleans had existed in Sweden<sup>(6)</sup>, none had been recorded at any time in Denmark. In any case all the sons of every Maclean chieftain of Coll since the middle of the 17th century are known, and fully documented, and not one of these sons ever lived in Denmark. The only Maclean known to have had any connection with Mecklenburg, where the Count was born, was Wilmina Douglas-Clephane-Maclean<sup>(7)</sup>, born in 1803, the 3rd and youngest daughter of Major-General William Douglas-Clephane (later Douglas-Clephane - Maclean) by his wife Marian, only daughter and heir of Captain Lachlan Maclean, 7th of Torloisk in the north east of Mull. Wilmina, who was a ward of Sir Walter Scott during her parents' absence in Grenada, married in 1831, Baron Wilhelm de Normann of the Prussian Diplomatic Corps, and had one son, Baron Wilhelm Friedrich Karl Helmuth de Normann, who was murdered by the Chinese at Peking during the Boxer Rising. After her husband's death, Wilmina was appointed (in 1838) Lady-in-Waiting to the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. In Prussia and throughout Germany there were (and still are) many genuine Macleans, all descended from Archibald Maclean, born in 1736 and emigrated to Danzig on 22 July 1753, the second son of John Maclean, 3rd Tacksman of Grishipol in Coll, but the pedigree of these German cadets of Coll is known in the greatest detail down to the present day, both male and female lines, and not one of them was connected with Count von Moltke<sup>(8)</sup>.

Having dismissed the story of Von Moltke's Scottish ancestry, it is fascinating to note that in the current Edinburgh Area Telephone Directory there is

listed a Pharmaceutical Chemist named Moltke McLean, who lives at 63 High Street, Kinghorn, Fife. It would be interesting to learn why he was given a Prussian Count's surname as a Christian name.

#### NOTES—

- <sup>(1)</sup> 'Count von Moltke's Cradle', by Mary Mackellar, *The Scotsman*, 3 January 1887; and *ibid.*, 17 January 1887. Mary Mackellar (1834-1899), Bardess of the Camerons, has a fine Celtic monument in Kilmallie Churchyard, Corpach. See: Somerled Macmillan, *Bygone Lochaber*, (Glasgow, 1971), p. 186.
- <sup>(2)</sup> 'An Old Tale of Lochaber: Distinguished Descendants of a Highland Family', unsigned, *The Scotsman*; 14 November 1914 (reprinted same day in *The Evening Times*).
- <sup>(3)</sup> John Maclean, 3rd of Coll, was the only chieftain styled Iain MacIain Abrach (John son of John of Lochaber). From his son onwards the patronymic of Coll Heirs Male was Mac Mhic Iain Abraich (with Abrach changing to Abraich by the rules of Gaelic grammar).
- <sup>(4)</sup> The family details are taken from Adolph Kohut's *Von Moltke*, Wolfgang Simon Verlag, Berlin, 1900.
- <sup>(5)</sup> *Memoirs of Von Moltke*, by the Field Marshal's nephew Helmuth Johannes Ludwig von Moltke, edited by Eliza von Moltke, Berlin (1892 ?); *Moltke's Life*, edited and translated by Mary Herms, London, 1892; *Gesammelte Schriften und Denkwürdigkeiten des Generalfeldmarschall Graf Helmuth von Moltke*, E. S. Mittler & Sohn, Berlin, n.d.; and F. E. Whitton's *Moltke*, London, 1921.
- <sup>(6)</sup> See James N. M. Maclean, *The Macleans of Sweden*, Edinburgh, 1971.
- <sup>(7)</sup> See Torloisk MSS, for details of Wilmina Madian Douglas-Clephane-Maclean, whose father, Major General William Douglas-Clephane-Maclean of Carslogie in Fife (who took the additional surname Maclean when he married Marian Maclean of Torloisk on 14 September 1790) died as Governor of Grenada in 1803, the year in which his youngest daughter was born. Arrangements had been made for Sir Walter Scott to be guardian of his children for as long as he was absent in Grenada or in the event of his death there. He was succeeded as Governor of Grenada by The Hon. George Vere Hobart (2nd son of the Earl of Buckinghamshire), who married, 26 April 1802, Janet, eldest daughter of Lt. Colonel Alexander Maclean, 15th of Coll (1754-1835). Their daughter, Vere Catherine Louisa Hobart (d. 15 November 1888) married Donald Cameron of Lochiel on 31 July 1832. The nephew of The Hon. George Vere Hobart was Admiral the Hon. Augustus Charles Hobart-Hampden, called Hobart Pasha (1822-1886), and he did not have, as *The Scotsman* article asserts, Maclean of Coll ancestry. It was his uncle's wife who was Maclean of Coll's daughter. Hobart Pasha did have Maclean connections through his first wife Mary Anne, daughter of Colquhoun Grant, whom he married in 1848. Mary Anne's aunt, Lillias Grant, married Donald Maclean, 7th of Drimnin and 8th of Kinlochbaline, W.S., who lived at Kinlochscridain in the Ross of Mull, and was the grandfather of The Kaid Sir Harry Aubrey de Vere Maclean (1848-1920), the Commander-in-Chief of the Sultan of Morocco's Army.
- <sup>(8)</sup> The full details of the German cadets of Maclean of Coll, from 1736 to 1912, were recorded by Dr Hugo MacLean in *Die Familie MacLean in Deutschland* (private TS., Berlin, 1912), and have been added to, for the period 1912 to 1978, by Herr Angus William MacLean of Berlin, and his brothers and cousins. I am grateful to Herr MacLean for giving me a copy of his family history and for sending me, on 14 April 1974, details of German biographies concerning Von Moltke, with extracts relating to his pedigree.



# A FORTUNE UNFOLDED

by MARGARET D. W. THOMPSON and ALEXANDER MACKIE

## INTRODUCTION

The surname of Cochrane, derived from the Barony of Cochrane, with variations in spelling, has been known in the County of Renfrew since the 14th Century. The first record of the name of Cochrane was that of Waldeve of Coueran, who witnessed a charter granted in 1292, and several others of the family of Coughran, Coweran, Cowran, Cochran and Cochrane also witnessed charters. Black<sup>1</sup> gives several different spellings of the name, which have been in use since 1292.

The armorial bearings of Cochrane consist of argent, a chevron gules betwixt three boars' heads erased, azure; supported by two greyhounds (white); for crest a horse (white); and with the motto

VIRTUTE ET LABORE  
(Fortitude and Labour)

The present piece of historical research was suggested by one of us (M.D.W.T.) who is a great granddaughter of a certain Agnes Wallace. From the family papers it would appear that the said Agnes Wallace, spouse of Robert Wilson, Jr., ironmonger and postmaster, residing in Beith, Ayrshire, petitioned the Right Honourable, The Master of the Rolls, Chancery, London, in or about 1859, as a Claimant as one of the next of kin to the late Dr Peter Cochrane of Clippens in the County of Renfrew.

## PART 1

### THE COCHRANES OF CLIPPENS

#### The Lands of Clippens

The lands of Clippens or Clippings, in the Parish of Kilbarchan near Paisley, Renfrewshire, had been in the possession of Cochrans or Cochranes for nearly 400 years<sup>2</sup>.

It would appear that the earliest mention of these lands was in 1602, and in December 1631, Stephen (Stein) Cochrane of Linwood, a farm in the Parish of Kilbarchan at that time, became proprietor of Clippens. Stephen was a cousin of William Cochrane of Cowdoun, Cowdon, Coldoun or Coldown who ultimately became the First Earl of Dundonald (v. p. 61).

The traditional origin of the name "Clippens" is interesting. Stephen apparently sold himself to the Devil for a peck of gold. He was on the roof of his house, and he heard the Devil's voice from a magpie. The Devil requested Stephen to relieve him from the magpie. "Stein made a sicker paction (bargain) before he consented. The Deil kechtèd to fill his bonat up to the brim with yellow gowd. Stein rave a hole in his bonat and sat it in the lumheid. The Deil turned gowd into it. The hole let it fall. The Deil was obliged to supply another supply without end"<sup>3</sup>. Whilst the Devil was filling the receptacle

Stephen clipped a piece of his tail, hence the name "Clippens" or "Clippings". Stephen consequently acquired the nickname "Cheat the Deil". Stephen was apprehended for witchcraft in May, 1650. "Declaration being made by the minister of Kilbarchane of Steven Cochrane of Linwood for diverse presumptions of witchcraft; it is seriouslie recommended to the session yt he be apprehended and ye session of Kilbarchane to proceed with the tryell yrof" He was arrested for witchcraft and held prisoner in Paisley Abbey. His cell was an arched room over the Porch and was called Stein's Room or Steeny's Chamber. William Cochrane of Cowdoun visited him in the Abbey and used his influence to get Stephen liberated, otherwise he would have been tried for dealing in the Black Art. Stephen was very wealthy and acknowledged this service which William Cochrane had rendered by presenting him with a large sum of money, it is said "a skinful"<sup>5</sup>. Incidentally there have been psychic appearances in Clippens from time to time, as indicated later (v. p. 8).

It has been suggested<sup>6</sup> that Clippens may stand for Clippinghouse, just as Clavers stands for Claverhouse and Slates for Slatehouse.

Stephen was a shrewd, intelligent man, far superior to his illiterate neighbours, but neither he nor his wife could write. He was a great smuggler and built a special carriage to convey the smuggled goods. "He was like a great quyle (haycock) moving in the mirk"<sup>7</sup>.

Stephen married Elizabeth Cochrane of Burnsyde, a relative in 1631. He made a disposition in favour of himself and his wife in liferent, and their two sons William and Robert in fee, equally between them and both were infeft. Stephen had also two daughters. William resigned his share of the property in June 1647, thus making Robert the sole proprietor of the Clippens estate.

Robert was married twice, firstly to Jean Ers'dene about 1640, and secondly to Lillieus Flemyng in June, 1654. He had five sons and six daughters, viz., (1) Hugh (born before 1641), (2) Stephen, (3) Rabie, (4) Bryce, (5) John, (6) Agnes, (7) Esther (born January, 1653), (8) Janet (born March, 1655), (9) Helene (born August, 1656), (10) Elizabeth (born April, 1658), (11) Grizel (born July, 1660).

Robert lived at Ryewraes farm on the Clippens estate. This is still a farm, but its name has had a variety of spellings, viz., Ryewraiths, Rywraiths, Rywraithis, Wrawraes, Ryvirrayes, Riverrees as well as Ryewraes.

Robert could write well, but William could not write at all. Hugh *primus*, Robert's eldest son, married his cousin Margaret, only daughter of William Cochrane, Robert's brother, in November, 1673. William owned Burnsyde and Auchingeous or Auchengown Farm in the Parish of Lochwinnoch. Hugh succeeded to his father's property by Precept of Clare Constat in 1679, when his father died.

Hugh and Margaret had four sons and four daughters, viz., (1) Hugh *secundus* (born September, 1674), (2) Jean (born March 1677), (3) Ann, (4) Elizabeth (born April, 1679), (5) Robert (born April, 1682), (6) John (born February 1690), (7) Alexander (born September, 1692), (8) Mary (born after 1695).

Alexander was a sergeant in the Scots Greys and saw service at the Battle of Sheriffmuir (1715), in Flanders and in the Battles of Dettingen (1743) and of

Fontenoy (1745). He retired in 1747, lived in Paisley and died unmarried at Clippens in 1775. He was tall and handsome and possessed a great sense of humour. Mary married John Ferrier. They had a son, John, who married his cousin Mary, a daughter of Hugh *secundus* (v. p. 39).

Hugh *secundus* lived at Ryewraes, and married Mary, daughter of John Brown of Fulton or Fultown about the year 1712. He succeeded his father by disposition in July of that year. The year of his father's death could not be ascertained, but it was certainly before 1723. Hugh *secundus* died in 1748. There were four sons and two daughters of the marriage, (1) Margaret (born September, 1712), (2) John (born March, 1715), (3) Alexander (born November, 1717), (4) Robert (born March, 1721), (5) Mary (born August, 1722), (6) Hugh (born March, 1725):

The lands of Burnsyde did not descend to Hugh *secundus*, since his mother Margaret, left them in trust to her second son, Robert, with all her "goods and gear" for behoof of her grandson, Hugh, son of John. Hugh was left an orphan when he was only seven years of age, and was brought up by his grandmother. His cousin, John Cochrane of Clippens, served himself heir to his grandfather, and this resulted in a tedious lawsuit. The Court of Session determined in favour of the Will of the testator.

John, the eldest son of Hugh *secundus*, was born in March, 1715, and succeeded to the estate of Clippens in 1748. He married Mary, daughter of Henry Wilson of Bowfield in the Parish of Lochwinnoch in August, 1751, by whom he had two sons and three daughters, *viz.*, (1) Hugh (born May, 1752), (2) Peter (born September, 1755), (3) Mary (born July, 1757), (4) Joanna (born April, 1759), (5) Janet (born December, 1761). Hugh was a merchant in Dublin and died unmarried in 1803, but he had two illegitimate children, Hugh and Catherine. The former was sent to India under the patronage of Hugh's brother, Peter. Catherine or Marion married Allan Tarbet, weaver at Bridge of Weir and received an annuity of £10 from Peter. Mary and Janet died unmarried, but Joanna married George Mcfarlane, a merchant in Paisley and received a wedding present of £300 from her brother, Peter. George Mcfarlane lived at Clippens, originally as a workman and became Peter Cochrane's factor or grieve<sup>s</sup>. Mcfarlane had two or three sisters, and belonged to Kilbarchan. He had lived abroad and was apparently well-off. When he died in 1816 there were many legatees. His money was left *liferented*, his wife, Joanna, getting half and the fee of the other half. According to his will the half so *liferented* was to be divided equally amongst 19 nephews and nieces after Joanna's death. There was no issue from the marriage and Joanna died in November, 1820. She was familiarly called Jackie and as she was a tall woman, was sometime referred to as "lang Jackie". She was a very regular attender at the Parish Church of Kilbarchan, and on her way home, was accustomed to visit the houses of two relatives, one of whom was her aunt, Mary Cochrane. On these visits it was her habit to "shift her shoes".

John Cochrane's younger son, Peter, became a medical doctor, and married Margaret Fearon, by whom he had two sons, Peter and John.

John Cochrane was building the mansion house at Clippens in the summer of 1744, with a slate roof and outer buildings, surrounding a courtyard. The remains of this house can still be seen. It bears the date 1744, although John did not inherit the property until 1748. Trees were planted on his estate, which he enclosed<sup>2</sup>. There had been a previous house on the site, built in 1641. John died in 1789.

The present mansion, larger than the 1744 house, was built by John's son, Peter, between 1818 and 1820. He authorised his sister, Joanna, and her husband George Mcfarlane to supervise the building of it, the work being carried out by James Logan of Lochwinnoch. Since that time the house has been extended. It consists of a basement, ground floor and first floor, the main entrance being approached by a stone stairway. The house is not without character, and is situated almost adjoining the previous edifice. A coach house was built with stables, and apartments for the coachmen and the grooms, as Peter, was very interested in horses. Clippens estate was not extensive, 20 Scots acres ploughable and 40 Scots acres woodland and unclaimed moss, with an old small house. A Scots acre was a little more than the English acre. However, later in the century mining operations on the estate and shale oil works on the adjoining lands increased its value<sup>3</sup>.

After Peter's death in 1831, the estate passed to his elder son, Peter, and later to a certain Hugh Ferrier of Porto Rico, who claimed to be the next of kin (v. p. 39). The estate was afterwards sold to Mr James Scott of Kelly, and after a succession of owners, Clippens House is now a Class A building. The Coach House has been skilfully converted into a very attractive private dwelling.

Clippins House, Coach House, other small buildings, and the gardens are all that remain of the estate today. A large housing area is now in the vicinity, but in spite of that, Clippens House and grounds still present a peaceful retreat. However, Clippens House, as previously mentioned, is not without its unusual 'happenings', and several local people and employees can give personal accounts of 'sightings' and 'hearings' (v. p. 2). A little girl has been seen to play with her ball in the back garden, and the 'laughing lady' has been heard and seen coming from a room on the first floor opposite the head of the staircase; also a sewing-machine has been heard, when there was not one in the building. Two recent occurrences have been reported. A workman thought he saw a lady, whom he knew, in the grounds, and approached to speak to her, but before he could get within speaking distance, the vision had disappeared. Two of the employees, one of whom had been a jockey, were working in different parts of the grounds and simultaneously heard the sound of horses' hooves! Stephen Cochrane and his transactions with the Devil may have paved the way for occult phenomena!

#### *Dr. Peter Cochrane — Early Days and Career in India*

Before giving an account of Dr Peter Cochrane's early days, it might not be inappropriate to give a brief account of the environment in which Peter and his brother and sisters were brought up.

Some idea of the character of John Cochrane, the father, can be gained from remarks passed at the examination of witnesses during the protracted litigation to establish the next of kin after Dr. Peter's death.

John did not keep up any style of living, and was a tall, plain country-looking man with strong features, and with much hair on his whiskers! He had a sturdy chestnut pony, with a beard like a goat. The pony was lent to neighbours to bring home their peats. He and his wife were regular attenders at Kilbarchan Parish Church, when John could be seen wearing a long, lightish brown coat with ruffles at his knuckles, which was usual amongst people of his class. He seemed to be a friendly man, and would come out and talk to those casting peats at Clippens Moss, and it would appear that he and his wife had good relationships with their servants. One servant, Margaret White, employed in the house in spinning and general household duties, was married out of Clippens House, and John's wife, and their daughter, Joanna, were bridesmaids.

In 1785 John's affairs were in a most unsatisfactory state, and his son, Peter, advanced money on the security of the Clippens estate, which he bought in 1789 from the trustees of his father's creditors, but it would appear, from his letters, with some reluctance. John was a great promoter of the Kilbarchan Farmers' Society, and received alimant from it, when he became bankrupt.

Peter Cochrane was apprenticed at the age of 15 to a surgeon, Dr Howe, in Kilbarchan. During his apprenticeship, Peter lodged in New Row, Kilbarchan, with a widow, Mrs Jean Speirs, née Cochrane, no relation of his, who kept a small public house, and then with Mrs Mary Ferrier, a widowed sister of his father.

In 1780, after completion of his training as a surgeon, he went out to India as an assistant surgeon in the service of the East India Company on their Bengal medical military establishment.

A certain James Houston, one of Peter's school-fellows, used to walk out with Peter to Clippens every Sunday evening, when Peter collected a clean shirt! On the eve of his departure for India, a social evening was held at the inn at Kilbarchan, and during the proceedings a gentleman, who was raising recruits, with the object of gaining a commission, placed a guinea on the table, and said he could wrestle with any man present and throw him. Peter laid down another guinea and said that his friend James Houston would throw him. This he did and Peter picked up the two guineas! James gave Peter a convoy the next morning, and the latter said on parting, "James, if I live I'll make money in India, and should I do so, and chance to return, I'll build a house for you at Clippens, where you will breed cocks for me". They were both keen on cock-fighting. Peter also said that, "he'd make a spoon or spoil the horn", probably meaning that he would either make a name for himself or be a complete failure. According to James Houston, Peter had previously left for India, but returned soon afterwards. It is presumed that he had been shipwrecked.

Dr. Peter ultimately attained a position of authority with the Company, and as a surgeon enjoyed a status equivalent to the rank of General in the army. He was the first President of the Bengal Medical Board.

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<sup>2</sup>Crawfurd, G. and Semple, W., "The History of the Shire of Renfrew", Weir, Paisley, 1782 p. 135.  
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<sup>6</sup>Mackenzie, R. D., *ibid.*, p. 253.  
<sup>7</sup>Crawfurd, A., *ibid.*, Vol. XX, p. 226.  
<sup>8</sup>*idem.*, *ibid.*, Vol. XXVI, p. 357.  
<sup>9</sup>Millar, A. H. "The Castles and Mansions of Renfrewshire and Buteshire", Annan and Sons, Glasgow, 1889, No. 18.

*(to be continued)*

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## REVIEW

Scottish Capital on the American Credit Frontiers by W. G. Kerr, Texas State Historical Association — \$13.00.

Dr. Kerr, who has degrees both at Dartmouth College and Cambridge University, devoted 13 years into researching how Scotland provided capital for ranching in America, particularly in Texas and the West. He has searched the records of companies in Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen and shows how the Scottish investor was lured by the glamour of the mid-West, after South America declined in attractiveness—sometimes losing his money but often earning a good profit despite all the risk. "Drawing rooms buzzed with the stories of the latest bonanza; Staid old Gentlemen who scarcely knew the difference between a steer and a heifer discussed it over their port and nuts".

The book is of great interest to those at either end—both to the American who wishes to know how the development of his country was financed and the Scot who is keen to find out the early history of investment trusts and from what the modern investment trust company developed. The Alliance Trust Co. was merely the biggest of a host of such speculations. It is amazing how the shrewd Scot was prepared to invest in the Western cattle craze—sometimes buying herds of cattle without the cattle even being counted. More amazing still is the energy of the directors, often well advanced in middle age, who made journeys of inspection when travel was slow and far from easy. Photographs of jute manufacturers from Broughty Ferry exploring the distant Matador pastures or of landowners from Kincardine carrying out an inspection of a ranch in the Panhandle make it a fascinating record.

Well-documented and authoritative, this history of the venturesome use of Scottish capital in the last quarter of the nineteenth century can be highly recommended. Perhaps our ancestors were not as staid and stuffy as we thought...

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