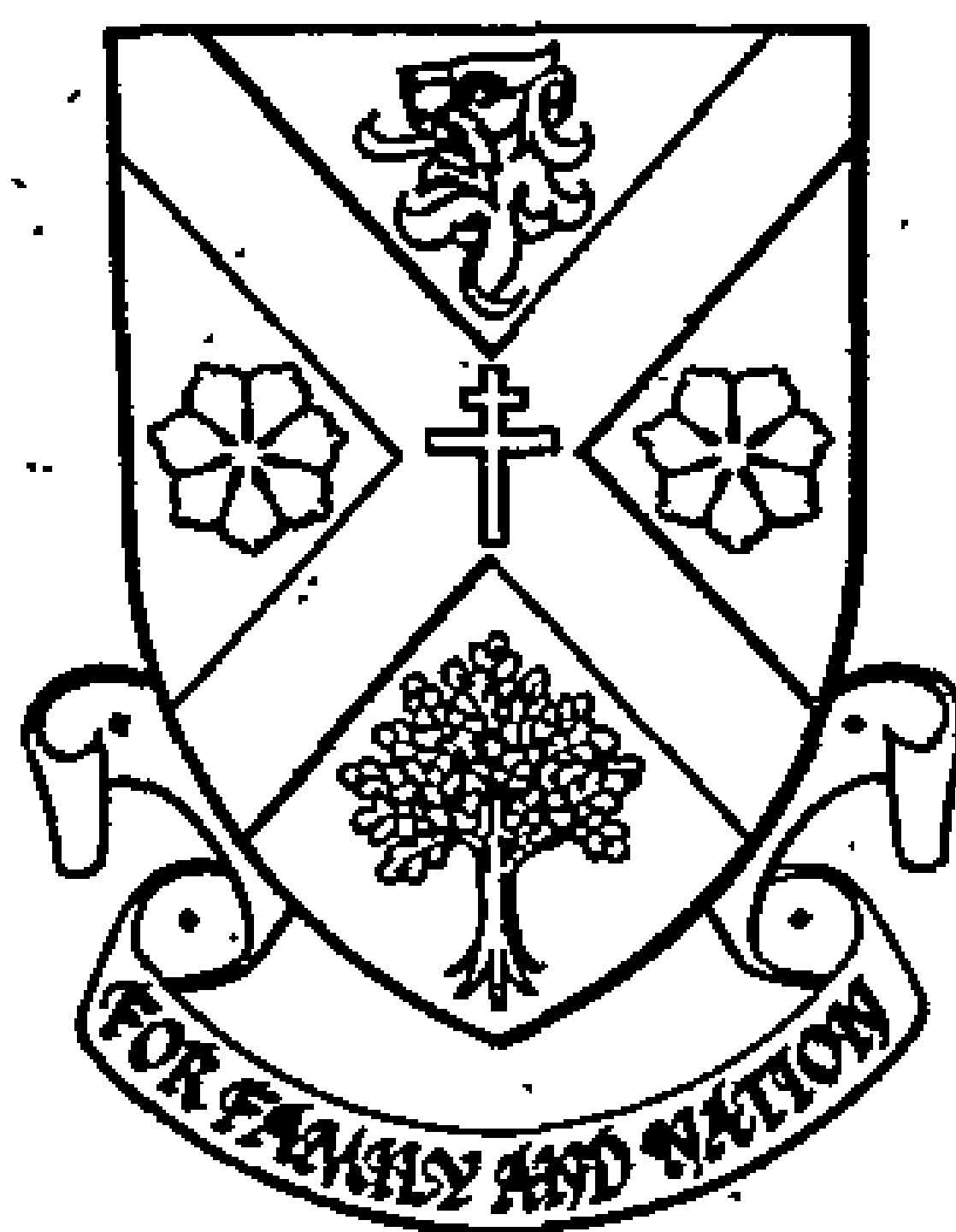


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The subscription for the forthcoming year shall be £6.50. Family membership will be £7.50 and affiliate membership £8.00. The subscription for U.S. members will be \$15.

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ROBERT WILSON ('THE GALLANT WEAVER') AND BURNS

By Dr. Konrad Hopkins

Until now the story of Robert Wilson, with whom Jean Armour kept company in Paisley, and who was the subject of two songs by Burns, 'The Gallant Weaver' and 'To the Weaver's gin ye go', has never been told. However, his great-great-great-great grandson, Mr. John G. Wilson of Colmonell, Ayrshire, has for the past seven years conducted researches into Robert Wilson's life and family, and in this chapter we shall draw upon his notes on his findings and on the documents (including a selection of rare photographs) he has uncovered, which he has kindly released, and present the first biographical sketch of Robert Wilson, his wife, children and descendants.

Towards the end of April each year, a race was held in Mauchline at a site between the plot of ground called the race course, where the Monument now stands, and the Skeoch Brae. The custom was for the young men of the village (population then about 2,000) to invite local girls to Hugh Morton's ballroom during Race Week. The ballroom occupied the second floor of a public house neighbouring the castle, now part of the churchyard, where Robert Wilson and his wife, Margaret Thomson Wilson, and other of Burns's contemporaries are buried.

The following story of the first meeting between Burns and Jean Armour may have no basis in verifiable fact, but it does introduce Robert Wilson at the beginning of the poet's romance with the Mauchline belle. In April 1784, Burns, accompanied by his collie dog, went to the ballroom. As the dog trotted around the floor after his master, Burns remarked to his dancing partner that he wished some lassie would like him as much as his dog did. His remark was overheard by Jean Armour, who was dancing along side him. We cannot know, of course, whether Jean's partner on this occasion was Robert Wilson, but it has been said that he was one of her partners at the Mauchline dancing-school balls. It has also been said that he was her childhood sweetheart, and James Barke, in *The Song in the Green Thorn Tree*, says that Robert 'had gone to school with Jean', but this statement may be only a novelist's invention.

Some days later, while Jean was bleaching clothes on Mauchline Green, Burns and his collie were passing through the village, and the dog ran all over the clothes. Jean asked Burns to call off his dog. Conversation ensued, and Jean, remembering Burns's remark at the ball, asked whether he had found any lassies to like him as much as his dog did.

From this point their acquaintanceship blossomed into a love affair, and by the end of 1785, or in early 1786, Jean was pregnant by Burns with their first set of twins, Robert and Jean, who were born at Mossgiel on 3rd September 1786, and in her possession she 'also had a paper signed by Burns which, under the Scots law of the day, probably constituted a marriage contract', says Lindsay. In March 1786, Mrs. Armour broke the news to her husband, whereupon he fainted from the shock. Mrs. Armour revived him with a cordial, and when she told him that Burns was the father, he fainted again. In May (some authorities claim it was in March), Mrs. Armour, hoping to conceal the fact of her daughter's condition, sent Jean to stay with a relation of hers, Andrew Purdie, a wright, who lived in New Sneddon, Paisley. (James Barke has Andrew Purdie a 'weaver'

in 'Backsneddon', but in the List of Subscribers to Crawford's and Semple's *A General Description of the Shire of Renfrew*, Andrew Purdie is named among the Paisley subscribers, with his domicile placed in New Sneddon.) Purdie was the husband of Mrs. Armour's sister Meg Smith Purdie, and so was Jean's uncle by marriage.

The Armours may have had another motive in sending Jean to Paisley, for at this time, Robert Wilson, a native of Mauchline, as was Jean herself, was working there. He is always described as a 'handsome' or 'good-looking young weaver', and he was prosperous, realising wages perhaps to the sum of three pounds a week from his trade. Jean's parents probably hoped that their daughter might find a husband in Robert Wilson, although in later years Jean Burns assured a female friend that she had never encouraged Wilson in any way. Barke says that Wilson was 'much thought of in the community', and was so successful a weaver 'that he now had a shed of his own with eight looms clanking busily in it'.

Currie, in his *Life of Burns*, writes: 'Being in much need of a small supply of money, (Jean) found it necessary to apply to Mr. Wilson, who received her kindly, although he did not conceal that he had a suspicion of the reason for her visit to Paisley.' This is delicately put, for by this time, in May/June 1786, Jean was five/six months' pregnant. 'When the reader is reminded that village life is not the sphere in which high-wrought and romantic feelings are most apt to flourish, he will be prepared in some measure to learn that Robert Wilson not only relieved the necessities of the fair applicant, but formed the wish to possess himself of her hand. He called for her several times at Purdie's, and informed her, that, if she should not become the wife of Burns, he would engage himself to none while she remained unmarried.' And if we believe James Barke, Jean 'agreed to take a turn up the High Street with him and to pay a visit to his weaving shed'.

Wilson's 'visits occasioned some gossip, which soon found its way to Mauchline, and entered the soul of the poet like a demoniac possession Long afterwards, he became convinced that Jean, by no part of her conduct with respect to Wilson, had given him just cause for jealousy'. He may have written the first rough draft of 'To the Weaver's gin ye go' when he heard the report, in 1786, that Jean was about to marry Robert Wilson, and 'the fancied singer' of the verses has been identified with Jean herself. The final version of the song is dated 1788.

My heart was ance as blythe and free,
As simmer days were lang,
But bonie, westlin weaver lad
Has gart me change my sang.

Chorus

To the weaver's gin ye go, fair maids,
To the weaver's gin ye go,
I rede you right, gang ne'er at night,
To the weaver's gin ye go.

My mither sent me to the town
To warp a plaiden wab;
But the weary, weary warpin o't

Has gart me sigh and sab.
To the weaver's &c.

A bonie, westlin weaver lad
Sat working at his loom;
He took my heart as wi' a net
In every knot and thrum.
To the weaver's &c.

I sat beside my warpin-wheel,
And ay I ca'd it roun';
But every shot and every knock,
My heart is gae a stoun.
To the weaver's &c.

The moon was sinking in the west
Wi' visage pale and wan,
As my bonie, westlin weaver lad
Convoy'd me thro' the glen.
To the weaver's &c.

But what was said, or what was done,
Shame fa' me gin I tell;
But Oh ! I fear the kintra soon
Will ken as weel's mysel !
To the weaver's &c.

In a note written to James Johnson, publisher of the *Scots Musical Museum*, Burns said, 'The Chorus of this song is old, the rest of it is mine.' The words '... a bonie, westlin weaver lad' mean a handsome (or fine, splendid) west-country weaver boy or youth. Mauchline is in the West of Scotland, south-west of Paisley. Is this the origin of the traditional image of Robert Wilson as a handsome or good-looking young man ? Was Burns altogether serious, or was he being ironic ? James Thomson in his article, 'Robert Burns and Paisley' (*Burns Chronicle*, Vol. 32, 1923, p. 8), comments, 'To suggest that (this song) could refer to Jean in her position is mere baseness.'

Currie goes on: '... it is not improbable that (Burns) learned in time to make (the Wilson—Armour relationship) the subject of sport, and wrote the song, 'Where Cart rins rowin' to the sea' ('The Gallant Weaver'), in jocular allusion to it', although a later authority, Charles Annandale, disagrees, saying, '... the supposition seems very doubtful, and the words of the song give no countenance to it', while James Thomson feels that it 'might not possibly refer to the incident'. The song was written in 1792 and published that year in volume four of Johnson's *Scots Musical Museum* :

Where Cart rins rowing to the sea,
By mony a flower and spreading tree,
There lives a lad, the lad for me,
He is a gallant Weaver.

Oh I had wooers aught or nine,
They gied me rings and ribbons fine;
And I was fear'd my heart wad tine
And I gied it to the Weaver.

My daddie sign'd my tocher-band
To gie the lad that has the land,
But to my heart I'll add my hand
And give it to the Weaver.

While birds rejoice in leafy bowers,
While bees belight in opening flowers,
While corn grows green in simmer showers
I love my gallant Weaver.

This was a critical period in Burns's life. He apparently believed that he was losing Jean to Robert Wilson, and, because of his mounting personal problems, he was making arrangements to emigrate to Jamaica. He was, moreover, engaged in 'the last foolish action' that he intended to do, as he wrote to David Brice, a Mauchline man who was then a shoemaker in Glasgow, in a letter from Mossgiel, dated 12th June 1786: 'You will have learned that I am going to commence poet in print; and tomorrow my works go to press. I expect it will be a volume of about 200 pages — it is just the last foolish action I intend to do; and then turn a wise man as fast as possible.' This 'foolish action' was the publication of the Kilmarnock Edition on 31st July 1786. It made Burns famous overnight, changing his life and the course and character of Scottish poetry.

This momentous event occurred less than two months after the close of the Paisley episode involving Jean Armour and Robert Wilson: for in the same letter to Brice, Burns says: 'Poor ill-advised ungrateful Armour came home (from Paisley) on Friday last (9th June 1786). You have heard all the particulars of that affair, and a black affair it is. What she thinks of her conduct now I don't know: one thing I do know — she has made me completely miserable. Never man loved, or rather adored, a woman more than I did her; and, to confess a truth between you and me, I do still love her to distraction after all, though I wont tell her so if I were to see her, which I don't want to do. My poor unfortunate Jean! how happy have I been in thy arms! It is not the losing her that makes me so unhappy, but for her sake I feel most severely. I foresee she is in the road to, I am afraid, eternal ruin.'

But what happened to Robert Wilson, 'The Gallant Weaver'? He was a real person, and had a life before and after the Paisley episode for which he is remembered in the history of Robert Burns. One can try to reconstruct his life from the evidence compiled by John G. Wilson, and though some of it is fragmentary and conjectural, there is enough of verifiable substance to flesh out the shape of the man who was a significant figure in the early lives of Robert Burns and Jean Armour.

His origins are obscure, and may never be clarified. Most writers say that he was a native of Mauchline, but there is no positive proof of this. One source, Mrs. Jessie Robertson of Grahamston, Scotland, declared in a letter dated 17th July 1890, that

Robert's father 'was of Paisley'. John G. Wilson notes, 'This is the only document that gives a mention of Robert's father being of Paisley,' Robert may have been born somewhere else (Paisley ?) and taken to Mauchline as an infant.

In Mauchline, the Parish register between the years 1749 and 1770 records the births of 'only about two Robert Wilsons, and one of these could be the entry of the Gallant Weaver's birth:

- (1) Robert Wilson
Son of John Wilson, Mauchline,
Baptised 1st Feb. 1761.
- (2) (name illegible: Robert ?) and John (?),
Twins to John Wilson, Mauchline.
Baptised 8th of Jan. 1753.
- (3) Robert and John,
Twin sons to John Wilson,
Weaver in Mauchline,
Baptised 27th March, 1749.

Of these three, (1) and (3) are possible entries of Robert's birth. In 1754 two children were noticed in 'Burials': '2 children Wilson died December, 1754, Mauchline', and these were probably the twins born in 1753 (2).

As for Robert's parents, one of the following entries from the Parish register in Mauchline may identify his father and mother:

- (1) John Wilson
and
Margaret Finlay
Both in this Parish were Contracted and married
December 31st 1747.
- (2) John Wilson, Mauchline
and
Jean Dunlop Craigie
Married 1760;

or possibly this couple noticed in the Mauchline Kirk Session Records was his parents:

- (3) 27th June 1779.
John Wilson, weaver, witness. Spouse is
Margaret Richard;
Robert Wilson is His Son.

Jean Armour was born on 27th February 1767, and was 17 in 1784, when she knew Robert in Mauchline. The Robert born in 1761 would have been of an age (23) to be Jean's 'childhood sweetheart' and dancing partner (Burns was 25 in 1784); whereas the Robert born in 1749 would have been 18 in the year of Jean's birth, and 35 in 1784. Writers have always said that the Gallant Weaver was a 'young man', unless romantic tradition has reduced his age to make him a more acceptable companion for Jean, when

in fact he may have been more than twice Jean's age. Anyway, in 1786, in Paisley, the Robert born in 1761 would have been 25, not exactly a 'lad' as he is called in Burns's songs. Did Burns simply alter the weaver's age for the sake of his poems?

Another bit of evidence is the first entry in Robert's family Bible which reads: 'Robert Wilson His Bible 1770'. The Robert born in 1761 would have been only 9 years old in 1770,

The other Robert, born in 1749, would have been 21 in 1770, a more suitable age than 9 to receive the family Bible. The Bible may have been presented to Robert on his 21st birthday,' suggests John G. Wilson, 'but this is only a possibility,' And the handwriting is clearly not that of a nine-year-old boy, but of a more mature person, seeming to indicate the earlier birth-year of 1749.

'At this time,' John G. Wilson comments, 'the custom of naming only the father in birth entries makes it hard to connect births with marriages. The most likely parents and birth of Robert are John Wilson and Margaret Finlay of 1747 and the twin birth of Robert and John Wilson in 1749, according to the Scottish name system explained below:

1. The eldest son after the paternal grandfather;
2. The second son after the maternal grandfather;
3. The third son after the father;
4. The eldest daughter after the maternal grandmother;
5. The second daughter after the paternal grandmother;
6. The third daughter after the mother.

Mr. Wilson adds: 'Younger children would be named after earlier forbears, but the pattern in this case was less settled. One variation on the above was for the mother's father and the eldest son to be named the same and the eldest daughter after the father's mother. Still on the subject of names, the Scots seem to have been masters of name husbandry. To take one example, John becomes not only the usual Joan, Jean and Jane, but also Janet, etc., for Scottish parents and the Wilsons.'

Applying the naming custom to the Wilsons, with our knowledge of the names of his wife and her parents and of Robert Wilson's children, we can devise this scheme:

According to the above naming-scheme, the Gallant Weaver's parents' Christian names would have been John and Margaret, and the likeliest dates of his parents' marriage and his birth are 1747 and 1749, respectively. 'Unfortunately', remarks John G. Wilson, 'there is a complete blank in the register of baptisms for Mauchline Parish from 1707 to 1731, making a search for the birth of John Wilson, husband of Margaret Finlay, impossible, as he would have been born some time between those dates.' In short, the information regarding the date of Robert Wilson's birth is inconclusive, although 1759 seems to be the most probable year. We must recall, too, that it was a twin birth, and of Robert's twin brother, John, there is not the slightest trace. What became of him?

If Mr. Wilson's surmise is correct, and Robert was born in 1749, he would have been 37 years old when he again encountered Jean Armour, aged 19, in Paisley, in 1786, when Burns himself was 27. The Gallant Weaver was supposed to be 'young', but how young is 'young'? People in the 18th century were perhaps not so age-conscious as we are today, nor so obsessed with youth. After all, Burns was eight years older than Jean, which circumstance didn't seem to bother anyone, or cause any adverse comment. Wil-

son's wife, Margaret Thomson, born in 1769, was twenty years her husband's junior, it he was born in 1749.

Nonetheless, if Robert Wilson was 37 at the time he was in Paisley, a new image of the 'young' Gallant Weaver emerges. And was he 'handsome'? We are fortunate in having a photograph said to be of Wilson in his old age, taken by 'P.W.'. (Mr. Wilson has not been able to identify P.W., nor does he know when the picture was made.) Wilson's face reveals a kindly, calm, benign disposition.

That he was a weaver there seems to be no doubt. But where did he learn his trade? John Wilson (married in 1747), and probably Robert's father, was a weaver, and Robert may have been apprenticed to him, as Robert Tannahill was apprenticed to his weaver-father for a period of five years. About Wilson's education we know nothing, but he must have had some schooling. He was literate: his writing is definite and firm, the letters carefully, perhaps laboriously formed; and he was capable of correcting his own errors, as when he amends 'writen' to 'written' in one Bible entry. It is also interesting to note that he used the modern spelling of 'Mauchline', rather than the older 'Machlin'. Finally, there was at least one book in the family library — the Holy Bible — and presumably it was read.

Another entry in Robert's hand in the Wilson family Bible places him in Mauchline on 'the 6th Sept. 1771'. This is the second, and last, dated entry in the Bible.

We do not know when Robert moved to Paisley, but, as we have seen, he was here during the months of May and June 1786. A member of the staff of the Paisley Museum informed Mr. Wilson that 'it is believed that Robert Wilson lived and worked at Sneddon'; if so, he may have been a neighbour of the Purdies, with whom Jean was staying.

In the 1800s, a Mrs. Rhind, whose grandmother was a Wilson (her married name was Bell), was in her young years a maid to Lady Coats, wife of Sir James Coats, and went to Boat of Garten, Inverness, with her. An American family connected with the Bell branch of the Wilsons have in their possession a shawl woven by Robert Wilson. Made of satin, it is divided into four colours, blue, red, green, and yellow, and has embroidered corners. Whether this shawl was produced by the Gallant Weaver in Paisley or in Mauchline is not known.

On public view, Exhibit No. 146, at the National Burns Memorial Tower and Cottage Homes, Mauchline, is a salt cellar made of soap stone, donated by the family of Robert Wilson's grand-daughter Mrs. William Bell (nee Janet Wilson), Mauchline, 1921. The accompanying card reads: 'A present from Burns to Robert Wilson, "The Gallant Weaver".' This statement may not be true. A member of the Bell family said that it was given by Jean Armour's mother to Robert Wilson's mother in remembrance of her loss of Robert Wilson as a son-in-law.

We do not know the reason why Robert Wilson returned to Mauchline, but he was there again in early 1788, the year of his marriage. Mr. Wilson says, '... he may have been forced home ... after the serious recession in the Scottish cotton industry in 1786, or he may have decided to settle down to married life after a successful work period in Paisley around the mid-1780s, which was known as "The Golden Age" of weaving'.

In dealing with Robert's wife we are on more solid ground. She was Margaret Thomson, born in Maybole on 24th June 1769, to James Thomson, a weaver in Maybole,

and Janet Watt. In spite of what he is reputed to have told Jean Armour, that 'if she should not become the wife of Burns, he would engage himself to none while she remained unmarried', Robert Wilson and Margaret Thomson were contracted on 7th February and married in Maybole on 20th February 1788, as noted in the Mauchline Parish Records. Ironically, the entry on their marriage appears on a page bound side by side with the one recording the marriage of Robert Burns to Jean Armour in April 1788. The interest Robert Wilson had in Jean Armour evidently extended to her wedding. The letter signed by Mrs. Jessie Robertson referred to earlier concerned a black shawl on display in the Tam o' Shanter Museum, Ayr. The letter, dated 17th July 1890, makes this declaration:

'I hereby certify that this is the shawl worn by Jean Armour on the occasion of her marriage to Robert Burns.

This shawl was presented by Mr. Wilson, of Paisley, whose son was an admirer of Jean, although this feeling was not returned by her.

'It led to jealousy on the part of the poet which caused the shawl to be returned to the Wilson family from whom it descended to the last representative of the family, Miss Jane Ewing who died at my house aged 85 years on the 4th October 1883 and bequeathed it to me. This I solemnly (sic) declare to be the truth.

'Signed Mrs. Jessie Robertson, 2 Grahams Road, Grahamston, Scotland.'

Mr. Wilson's search for confirmation of Miss Ewing's death was fruitless. Thinking that Mrs. Robertson may have been mistaken about the lady's name, and that it may have been McEwen (another branch-by-marriage of the Wilson family), he searched in the General Index of Deaths of Scotland, 1880-1885, for the death of a Jane or Jean McEwen in the Falkirk area, but found nothing. This, then, is another mystery in the story of Robert Wilson.

After their marriage in Maybole, Robert and Margaret Wilson (in the Wilson family Bible she signed herself 'Margret (sic) Thomson') returned to Mauchline, and Robert resumed his work at the loom.

What was Burns doing during this period? On 19th February 1788, he arrived in Paisley, and the next day, Robert Wilson's wedding day in Maybole, he travelled on to Kilmarnock and Mossgiel, eventually returning to Mauchline. In a letter from Mauchline, 3rd March 1788, he wrote to William Cruikshank: 'I have fought my way severely through the savage hospitality of this country, (the object of all hosts being) to send every guest drunk to bed if they can ...', and he refers to himself as 'a poor wayfaring bard, who was spent and almost overpowered fighting with prosaic wickedness in high places ...'.

And Jean was in Mauchline with him. On the day of her second confinement, 3rd March 1788, Burns penned an extraordinary letter to Robert Ainslie, describing the situation in which he and Jean found themselves: 'Jean I found banished like a martyr — forlorn, destitute and friendless all for the good old cause: I have reconciled her to her fate: I have reconciled her to her mother: I have taken her a room: I have taken her to my arms: I have given her a mahogany bed: I have given her a guinea; and I have f - - - d her till she rejoiced with joy unspeakable and full of glory. But — as I always am on every occasion — I have been prudent and cautious to an astounding degree; I swore her,

privately and solemnly, never to attempt any claim on me as a husband, even though anybody should persuade her she had such a claim, which she has not, neither during my life nor after my death. She did all this like a good girl, and I took the opportunity of some dry horse-litter, and gave her such a thundering scalade that electrified the very marrow of her bones.'

Jean, under the care of Dr. McLaren in Mauchline, and staying in his home, had her second set of twins, both girls, on 3rd March 1788, one of whom died on 10th March, the other on 22nd March. By the latter date, Robert and Margaret Wilson had been married about a month, and were probably back in Mauchline themselves. Burns was then Scotland's most celebrated son and poet, and it is unlikely that the Wilsons would not have been aware of these sad events in Burns's tempestuous private life. He reconciled himself to marrying Jean, and a note in the Train manuscript states: 'Jean Armour and Rob Burns were privately married in the writing office of Gavin Hamilton, Mauchline, by John Farquhar, Esq., of Gilmilnscroft, J.P.' This was in April, 1788.

Was there any direct contact between Robert Wilson and Burns or Jean at this time? We have no knowledge of any, but the Wilson black shawl was worn by Jean at her wedding, so there must have been some sort of communication between the Wilsons and the Burnses, although for all the reconciliations going on, there was apparently none among the three principals of the Paisley episode.

The Wilsons had nine children, as did Robert and Jean Burns. The first mention of the street where the Wilson family lived and worked was in the Parish register noticing the birth of their fifth child, Margaret, on 27th February (Jean Armour's birthday) 1798, 'daughter of Robert Wilson and Margaret Thomson, the father being a weaver in Loudon (Loudoun is the modern spelling) Street.' As John G. Wilson describes the street, 'When the visitor approaches Mauchline today by the Ayr Road, on the right he passes St. David's, a villa, at the start of Loudoun Street. Next to the villa stand the terraced houses which dominated much of Loudoun Street during the last century. Next is the last low cottage of what Loudoun Street looked like in the Gallant Weaver's time. Moving up the street the visitor passes council houses, now occupying the most conclusive site of Robert's cottage.'

The typical way of life of the weavers in Mauchline is summarised by the Rev. William Auld (Burns's 'Daddy Auld', who is buried in the Mauchline Kirk churchyard) in his *Statistical Account of Mauchline, 1791*. There were twenty weavers at work in the Parish, and, he says, 'In general, they are sober industrious people, charitably disposed: Careful and even punctual in attending the church on Sunday. At least one half of the Parish use tea daily. Fifty years ago good two-penny strong-ale, and home-made spirits were in vogue. But now even people in the middling and lower stations of life deal in foreign spirits, rum-punch and wine. The Scots dialect is the language spoken, but is gradually improving, and approaches nearer to the English.' There is no reason to suppose that Robert Wilson's manner of living was any different from that sketched by Auld for the generality of Mauchline's twenty weavers. Indeed, one of them was Robert Wilson himself, married, with (in 1791) two young children, Janet (1789-1824) and John (1790-1833), and it would be interesting to know whether 'Daddy Auld' had interviewed Robert in collecting his data.

In addition to Janet, John and Margaret, the Wilson's children were: James (1792–1876), Robert (1793–1813), Helen (1802–1821), Hugh (1803 or 1805–1861), William (born on Burns's birthday, 25th January 1809–1891; he is the great-great-great grand-father of John G. Wilson), and Thomas (died aged 44 years). In 1809, the year of William's birth, Margaret Thomson Wilson was 40, and nearing the end of her child-bearing days. Since her marriage in 1788, she had borne a child on an average of every two years, seven months. Therefore, Thomas might have been born between 1810 and, say, 1812, when his mother was 41 to 43 years old, but probably not much after 1812. We know, too, from these dates that Robert Wilson was alive at least as late as 1809, or possible 1810–12.

In July 1796, Robert Burns died at Dumfries.

The Royal National Commercial Directory, 1837, tells us that in Mauchline, 'The weaving of cotton goods in this, as in all the towns of the neighbourhood, forms the principal support of the inhabitants.' But in the early 1840s, the handloom weaving trade in Mauchline was declining, causing a depression in other local trades as well.

With the falling off of the weaving trade, the making of wooden snuff boxes and fancy goods from sycamore eventually replaced it as the principal industry in Mauchline. Some time in the 1820s, two Mauchline brothers, William and Andrew Smith, introduced this new industry into Mauchline, and this family were to continue longest in the manufacture of this type of woodware. The brothers' partnership lasted until 1843, when they dissolved their partnership and set up business separately as W. Smith and A. Smith. After William's death in 1847, Andrew brought his son, William, into the firm, retaining the name of W. & A. Smith. Young William died, and the firm was managed by David McQueen (1824–1905), a grandson of the Gallant Weaver, until William's four-year-old son, also named William, came of age and could run the firm himself.

The first member of the Wilson family to become involved in this industry was John Wilson, eldest son of Robert Wilson. John married Anne Smith (of Loudon Street) on 21st March 1817. At that time he was a weaver. Their first child, Robert, was born on 9th June 1817 (these dates speak for themselves). Around 1827, John gave up the old family trade of weaving and turned to snuff-box making.

William Wilson, second youngest son of Robert Wilson, was married in 1833 to Margaret Duncan, and is mentioned as being a weaver in Mauchline. In 1845, at the time of the birth of his son Hugh, he was still a weaver. By 1851, however, he had changed his means of livelihood, being identified in the census of Loudon Street as a snuff-box finisher.

John Wilson, William's oldest son, having taken over the family trade, was noted as a handloom weaver of cotton. Between the years 1851 and 1861, he left home and married. After his first wife's death, he married, in 1862, Agnes Watt, sewed muslin worker, Failford, Tarbolton, daughter of Andrew Watt, farmer. The marriage certificate mentions John Wilson as a boxmaker.

We have come at last to the end of the weaving era in the Wilson family: from Robert Wilson, 'The Gallant Weaver' of Burns's song, to his grandson, John, the last Wilson at the loom.

Robert Wilson (born 1817, the son of John Wilson and Anne Smith), followed his father's trade of boxmaking, and lived in a house in Loudon Street owned by Andrew Smith, the snuff-box manufacturer, suggesting that Robert worked for Andrew. Around the mid-1800s, Robert Wilson started up in partnership with a local man, John Davidson. Then a third man, Samuel Amphlet, from Birmingham, joined the partnership. The addition of Amphlet to the Mauchline firm was advantageous because he already had a foothold in Birmingham in competition with their local rivals, W. & A. Smith. Davidson, Wilson and Amphlet had a workforce of about 47 men, 31 women, 211 boys, and 10 girls; and Robert also employed a domestic servant at home. Like his grandfather, 'The Gallant Weaver', this Robert Wilson also enjoyed a period of prosperity. By 1865, however, John Davidson had withdrawn from the partnership and set up a firm of his own.

Robert, a bachelor, retired from the firm in 1868. He was replaced by Edward McEwen, who had married Robert's youngest sister, Joan, the Gallant Weaver's granddaughter. Joan's father, John, died in 1833 before her birth on 3rd September of that year. (3rd September is also a date in the Burns chronology: the birthday of his and Jean's first set of twins, Robert and Jean, born at Mossgiel in 1786.) The firm's name of Wilson and Amphlet was retained in spite of the change in management.

David McQueen, acting manager for the trustees of the late William Smith, was the cousin of Robert Wilson, the son of the Gallant Weaver's daughter, Janet Wilson, and Thomas McQueen, who were married on 8th August 1823. David was born on 8th June 1824, and his mother died at his birth or shortly afterwards; for we learn that he spent his early years living with his grandmother, Margaret Wilson, in her home in Loudon Street.

David started working for Davidson, Wilson and Amphlet as a box-checker, eventually rising to the position of clerk, but in 1868 he transferred to W. & A. Smith. As one who had seen the birth of the snuff-box industry, he was for many years the manager of W. & A. Smith's boxworks during the height of their fame and commercial success. In 1888, when he was 64 years old, he married Margaret (Maggie) Lambie in Mauchline. They had no children. He died on 11th January 1905, and his obituary (in the Ayr Advertiser, 19th January 1905) noted that 'On the history of Mauchline, since the passing of the Reform Bill, he was no mean authority and as one who knew many of the contemporaries of our national poet and his wife, Jean Armour, it was no ordinary treat to listen to what he had heard from their lips'. His widow survived him until 1920.

But the prosperity of the boxmakers in Mauchline waned as the demand for their products declined, and they turned to the manufacture of Tartan souvenir woodware, although the demand for these goods was never strong enough to equal the snuff-box market of the earlier years of the 19th century.

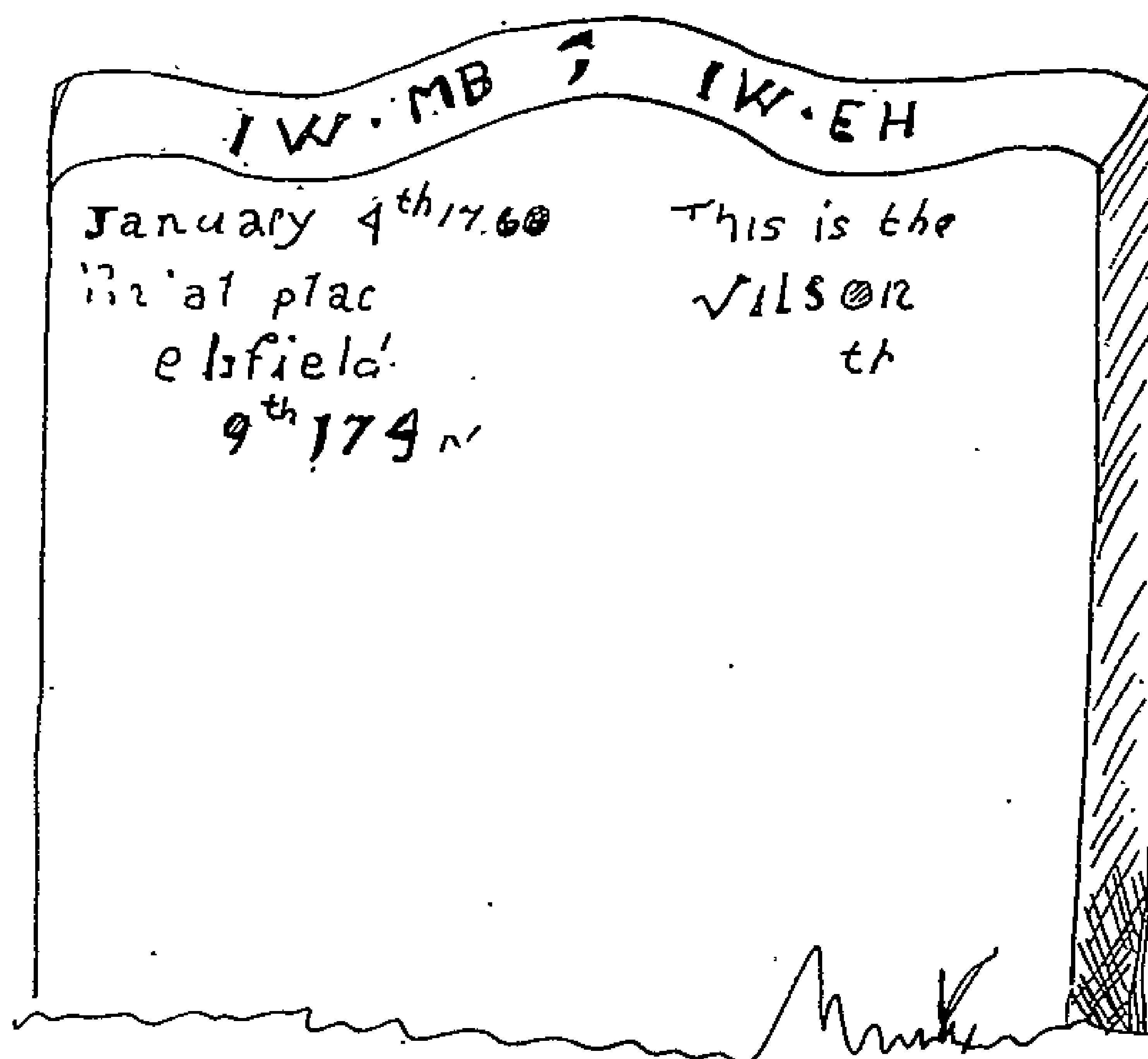
However, Burns again re-entered the history of the Wilsons in the exalted form of national idol and tourist attraction, which circumstance may have given a boost to the souvenir industry in the town. A *New Guide Book to Ayr and the Land of Burns*, published in the 1870s, advised tourists that 'the Mauchline boxwork manufactories of Messrs. Smith and Messrs. Wilson & Co., are well worthy of a visit for the sake of obtaining some memorials of Burns and Ayrshire, and very exquisite are the specimens of all kinds of more or less useful knick-knacks which, at moderate cost, may be procured'.

The Gallant Weaver was not alive at that time to appreciate this ironic turn in the Wilson family fortunes. When did Robert Wilson die? The question is as problematic

as that of his birth. There is no record of his death. The photograph of him shows a man of ripe old age, probably in his late 70s or early 80s. We know that he fathered a son, Thomas around 1810–11–12, when Robert (if he was born in 1749) would have been in his early 60s. The census of Loudoun Street in 1841 lists only Margaret Wilson and her grandsons, David McQueen and John McHoul, and in the 1851 census of the street Margaret Wilson is mentioned as a widow. These dates lead us to conclude that Robert Wilson died no later than 1841 and some time between that year and about 1810–11–12. It is impossible to be more exact than this on the basis of the data now available to us. In contrast, as with her birth, we have precise facts on Margaret Wilson's death. She died in Mauchline (where she had lived for 67 years) on 28th September 1855, aged 86, of 'climacteric decay' from which she had suffered for several years, and was buried in the Mauchline Kirk churchyard.

Robert Wilson was buried there, too, on the Loudoun Street side of the Kirk, opposite the site of The Whitefoord Arms (the inn whose keeper in Burns's day was John Dove of Paisley), now a co-operative store.

The Gallant Weaver's gravestone is still to be seen in the churchyard, but it is disappointingly unrevealing. It has been badly eroded by time and the weather, and yields up very little meaningful information. A tracing of the still-legible letters and dates, made by John G. Wilson, is reproduced below:



The letters across the top are cryptic. The date 'January 4th 1760' seems irrelevant. Could this, however, be a double grave? If it is, perhaps this date refers to the death of Robert's forgotten twin brother John. The work ending in 'field' is probably a place-name but does not relate to anything we know about the Gallant Weaver. 'This is the (Buri)al plac(e)' can be deciphered, and 'Wilson' is legible; and '174-' is suggestive of Robert's putative birth-year of 1749.

As a record, the gravestone is in many respects as indistinct or as blank as the outline of Robert Wilson's life that has come down to us in documents, photographs, tradition — and Burns's two songs. The Gallant Weaver touched the lives of Burns and Jean Armour in Mauchline and in Paisley, and left his mark upon them, and then slipped into the shadows of history. John G. Wilson's researches have cast some light into the shadows, picking out his face in an old picture, his signature, and a few stray specimens of his handwriting, his wife, his children, and his descendants, and now the Gallant Weaver is a more definite presence and a more real personality to us than he ever was before.

Robert Wilson's son, William, was born on 25th January, Burns's birthday. The researcher into the life of Robert Wilson, John G. Wilson, is William's great-great-great grandson. The final irony of the romantic Burns-Armour-Wilson triangle in Paisley, 1786, is that, in our own time, John G. Wilson married a young lady whose maiden name was Armour, and she maybe of Jean's family-descendants.

Mrs. Betty A. Brack. F.S.A. Scot.

It is with sadness that we report the death of Mrs. Betty Brack. Not only will her accurate and painstaking research be missed by her clients all over the world, but her many kindnesses and her bright and happy personality will be greatly missed by her friends and fellow genealogists in New Register House.

McNeills in and around Bute

By Rev. Donald J. McNeill

John Blain held public office in Bute from 1761 to 1819. Out of this long specialised knowledge he wrote his valuable "History of Bute", edited 1880 by the Rev. William Ross. He gives not just particularized knowledge of Bute, but an excellent compact history of the 13th Century conflict between Scots and Norwegians, in which Bute was a focal point.

Blain tells how King Haco of Norway gave the Kingdom of the Isles to a nobleman named Husbec (elsewhere Uspak), who died in 1226 besieging Rothesay while seeking to add Bute to his dominions. Haco made Olave king in Husbec's place, providing him with fleet and army to recover and secure his territories.

Near Mull, Olave seized one Dungad who had killed a kinsman Somerled and assumed regal title (Kings of the Isles tended to be multiple at this period).

Proceeding to Bute, Olave won a costly victory at Rothesay, killing the commander, an Earl who was Steward of Scotland. Olave garrisoned Rothesay, fortified Bute, departing for the Isle of Man, where he reigned 11 years.

The Scots must have reconquered Bute and adjoining islands, for in 1263 the aged Haco concentrated on their recapture. William Buchanan (1723) says Haco claimed that Macbeth had promised Bute and Arran to his ancestors. The Norwegian captured the islands, but was outwitted by the Scottish King and savaged by the weather at Largs.

The initial Scottish attack was made by Alexander Stewart, proprietor of the islands just reduced by Haco. The Peace Treaty of 1266 left only Orkney and Shetland in Norwegian hands.

Blain gives reports from both sides, including "We find that Rudri, a bold sea officer, joined the banners of Norway. He claimed Bute, as his patrimonial inheritance, but had been deprived of it and committed atrocities before renewing allegiance to King Haco." Initial victory restored Bute to Rudri, but Largs and Haco's death reversed and ended his success. (Attempts to identify Rudri have not been conclusive).

Blain tells how Bute was often a haven for men obnoxious to the English in the dangerous Baliol, Wallace, Bruce, Edward I period.

Brandanes (men of Bute) supported Sir William Wallace in his siege of Perth, garrisoned by the English, in 1297 and in subsequent battles, defeating the English at Stirling. Unhappily they suffered great losses with him at Falkirk in 1298. When Sir John Stewart was thrown from his horse, his Brandane archers crowded round his body and perished with him.

"The men of Bute before their lord they stood
Defending him in streams of their own blood"

The merits of Sir John Stewart and his faithful Brandanes were universally acknowledged.

In 1307 the men of Bute drove the English out of Castle Brodrick on Arran. At Bannockburn they also bore their part, under the then 20 year old Lord High Steward of Scotland. In the next reign they were also with the Lord High Steward at another siege of Perth in 1339.

Our study of Brandane names strongly suggests that men of Clan McNéill, including patronymics, were involved in the above battles. Below we give miscellaneous McNeills who appear in official records. Here we deal with landowners as far as remaining records permit.

In 1498 James IV added 78 landowners. Feuars prior to that date included Neil Jameson of Barnald, Robert Jameson of Kilmore, Finlay Makneill (sic) of Danallerd and Ferquard Makneill of Lepinquail.

Cromwell's list in 1657 included Donald Macneil of Kilmore, Robert Macneil of Lenihall and Jamieson of Lenihulline.

In 1707, landowners were fewer and the only MacNeil recorded was of Kilmore.

A note of Blain's tells how, ca 1400, the Lamonts of Cowall were troubled by licentious visits from Bute, possibly by young men prompted in their behaviour by Prince David, son of poor Robert III. In a challenge combat the Lamonts inflicted much the greater damage, apparently without legal action being taken. The Lamonts of Castle Toward were almost certainly the first group of Anrothan's Niall families to establish themselves in Argyle.

Source books include "History of Bute" (John Blain, ca 1800), "History of the County of Bute" (J. E. Reid, 1864), "Bute in Olden Time" (J. K. Hewison, 1895), Exchequer Rolls (ER), Accounts of the Treasurer of Scotland (ATS), Register of the Great Seal (RMS), Register of the Privy Council (PRC), also of the Privy Seal (RSS). (Macneil 45th Chief of Barra - Quotes Hewison but apparently fails to notice the disharmony between "MacNeils" in Bute well before 1295 and his theory that Macneils from Barra, ca 1350, inherited lands in Kintyre and founded all other MacNeill septs).

Recorded Bute history suffers from Cromwell's destruction of documents ca 1657.

On a gravestone in Rothesay Churchyard (1895) is a variant of Macneill armorial bearings (see chap. 44) and an inscription —

"This is the Buryial place of thee McNilles" (Superimposed Nealls) "of Kilmore". The stone is old, but its date not known to this writer.

Blain (p. 288) records that Bute was part of Dalriada and it is locally believed that ancestors of these Macneills came with the Dalriads (note the similar belief in Tearfargus, Kintyre). The researches of J. Bannerman (e. g. "Studies in the History of Dalriada", p. 111, 1974) give reasonable grounds for the belief. Cenel n Gabrain, 6th Century, occupied both Kintyre and Bute and evidence of Ui Neill accompanying Dalriads occurs quite often.

Hewison refers to Ferchard and Duncan, sons of Nigel (Neil) of Bute, who attest charters of Angus, son of Dovenald, to Paisley Monastery before 1295 (OPS ii p. 222). Likely dates 1253 and 1261. (Angus was the first MacDonald).

Blain (p. 31) mentions a prevalent disposition in Bute to exchange patronymical names, sometimes for fashionable reasons. E. g. Makneills, Jamiesons and Neilsons seem at times interchangeable.

At an ancient date the office of Crowner in Bute was held by Nigel or Neill of Kil-

morie — cf inscription above. His descendants came to be called Jamiesons and the family lived in Crowner's Castle in Meikle Kilmore. MacNeills of Kilmore appear as landowners in Cromwell's 1657 list and again in 1707.

In 1314 Angus Og brought men from Bute, Argyll and Kintyre to Bannockburn, so that other groups of Macneills, besides those from Galloway, may have been present.

1445–50 The Accounts of the Crowner, Neil Jamieson (Nigil, son of James), include Royal Household expenses, incurred while the King was in Bute. Neil Jamieson was Chamberlain 1436–62. Fergus McNeil (Jamieson) succeeded him. Blain mentions Neil Jamieson as at 1449.

1453 (PCR VIII lxiv) John, Lord of the Isles invaded Bute.

1461–62 The Lord of the Isles, in league with the English, attacked, with Islesmen, from Inverness to Bute, where Macneills could have been on opposite sides.

1489 (ATS) Downe McNeyll sent to King from Linlithgow with an account.

1496–98 (ATS) Finlaw Macneill, courier to the King and to the Exchequer.

1501 Fergus, son of James, Crowner of Bute.

1506 Robert Jamesoun (or Neilson) of Kilmore, Nigello Jamesoun and Ferquardho Makneill of Lepinquail were landholders. (RMS Lib. XIV No. 300).

1506 (ATS) Finlaw Makneill supplies badgers and foxes to the King.

1512 Rothesay charter to Donaldo Maknele.

1531 Charter to Ferquardho (above) confirmed. A son, Andrew Maknele, is a witness.

1532 (ER) Sasine of Kilmeal etc to John McNeill etc.

1534 Robert Neilsoun — Crowner.

1541 (RMS III 2489/90) Donaldo McKneill and Donaldo McKneill de Leffinyecayll witness charters to Willelmo and Niniano Stewart.

1549 (RSS) Remission at Edinburgh to Donaldí McGillespik McNeill of Bute, with others in respect of action with the English against Dumbarton Castle.

1552–3 (ER) Confirming RMS IV 766. At Linlithgow the above Donaldí McGillespik McNeill's purchase of land at Birgadilnok confirmed by the Queen.

1553–55 (ER) Two Sasines at Laiffynchael to Ferquhardo McNele.

1557 The Queen granted lands in Kilmore to Donald Gillepeck McNeil and his wife.

1579 (ER) Edward Makneill tried with others for crimes in Cardorane

1573–74 (ER) Edward Makneill tried with others for crimes in Cardorane.

1580–81 (ER) Sasine of Nether Kilmore to John McNeill.

1588–92 (RPC IV 317, 764, 771) In 1588 Johnne McNeill, who appears to be a chairman of magistrates, and John Stewart of Rosland are cautioned. In 1592 they are cautioned again, in 500 marks, for the protection of one John McNeving, who, later that year is himself cautioned in 500 marks not to harm Johnne McNeill of Kilmore. It must have been an interesting story !

1592 (RPC) Finla McNeill and his sons, with others, charged with cattle stealing. An ancestor (see 1498 and 1506 above) may have been courier and "gamekeeper". Perhaps hard times or common custom had changed them into "poachers".

1603 (RPC) Johnne Stewart of Ardmoleis, Sheriff of Bute, complains against the Earl of Argyll and other Campbells for not keeping peaceful agreement and for entering Bute with considerable forces, which included Neill McNeill of Taynish, three of his brothers and one Eachan Bradoch McNeill. Actual violence between Taynish and Bute McNeills seems possible.

In 1602 (RPC) McNeills had been involved in violence. Robert McNeill in Lenacheill (variously spelt above) and Johnne McNeill in Kilmorie were among thirty people required by the Sheriff not to harm Marie McCloyd, widow of Duncane Campbell, captain of Castle Sween, and born a McNeill, nor Malcolme McChattane, blind man, burgess of Rosey, nor Lauchlane Over McNeill, who was also protected from Robert Stewart in a caution of 500 marks.

In 1603 (PRC) Cuthbert McNeill and his son were among those subject to complaint by Janet Kennedy, Lady Pinkhill.

During the 17th Century we find several other legal references to McNeills, including a somewhat obscure land reference to "in Clan Neill a rood".

McNeills clearly played a considerable part in the life of Bute, both in government and at times in disturbances. The loyalty of Taynish McNeills to the Campbells from 1607 must have created more difficulties for two parts of the Clan, when the Campbells gave trouble to Bute at that period.

(The Earl of Argyll acquired feudal title to Kintyre in 1607).

Blain incidentally mentions that a Donald McNeil of Kilmorie was a member of an Assize in Rothesay which tried and condemned a woman for witchcraft in 1673.

Also in 1775 James McNeil was a Justice of the Peace in Rothesay.

In 1689 Macneil of Barra paid the Bishopric £20 tack duty of the teinds of Barra and Macneil of Callichalzie £100 for the tack duty of the island of Gigha.

MacDonald historians often identify Rudri (or Ruadri) of the Norse sagas, a captain of King Hakon who in 1263 thought he had a claim on Bute, with the MacRuairi eponym son of Reginald, grandson of Somerled. On this basis it is possible to believe that Mac Ruairis and Macneils (whose later history entwines) departed together from Bute and Kintyre after Hakon's failure (1263).

However, Duncan and Brown (PSAS 1956/57, p. 200) find the claim of this Roderick (Ruairi, or Rudri) to Bute a mystery, with no evidence of MacDonald identification. The Mac Ruairis of that family never held Bute and seem to have disappeared from Kintyre early in the 13th Century.

The captain Rudri might have been son of Uspak (Husbec — Blain), a descendant of Somerled, outstandingly loyal to Hakon (Haco) who honoured him in 1229. Uspak died of wounds while fighting for Hakon at Rothesay, which may have made Rudri feel he had a claim to Bute. See also W. Buchanan — 1723.

The Donald line Mac Ruairi/Macneil idea is still interesting, but hard to sustain.

A note on the Isle of Arran

Despite sharing much history with Bute, Arran does not seem to have shared its McNeills.

A note on the Isle of Man

We have done no substantial work on this area, but have noted a Gilchrist McNeille on the Isle of Man ca. 1400.

Macneil (45th Chief of Barra) makes no clan connections with this Isle.

Speculatively, migrating Ui Neill could have landed on Man and, later, O'Neills. Macneill ancestors could have been among Somerled's naval forces which overwhelmed the Island in 1158.

More information would be welcomed.

NOTICE

The Fourth Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry will be held in Canberra from 8th to 11th May 1986, with Speakers from Britain, America and New Zealand as well as from Australia. Facilities for research include the Australian War Memorial and the National Library.

Anyone wanting further information should contact the Convenor, Doug Blair, G.P.O. Box 666, Canberra, A. C. T. 2601.

REPLIES

(Query 890). **MACARTHUR** — John MacArthur, first piper to the Highland Society of Scotland (founded 1784), died in 1792, according to Alexander Ramsay, *History of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*, 1879, p. 49. He was a grocer in Edinburgh, and was styled 'professor' presumably just as some piping families who taught pupils were said to have 'colleges'. I do not know where he was buried. It has been said that John's father Neil was brother of Charles MacArthur, piper to Sir Alexander MacDonald in Skye, whose tombstone with uncompleted inscription is at Kilmuir in Trotternish; some particulars of this family will be found in *The Martial Music of the Clans* (1904), by 'Fionn' (Henry Whyte), and other books. There was a MacArthur family living at Herbusta in 1948, one of whom was a piper, not far from the place where the traveller Thomas Pennant 'took a repast' with his predecessor (possibly also his ancestor) in 1772. — R. W. MUNRO.

TERRITORIAL DESIGNATIONS — A CASE FOR RE-APPRAISAL AND A REGISTER

By Andrew Pearson

Quarter of a century of reading about medieval and later Scottish history has firmly convinced me of the need for a computer register of the secular, heritable and territorial designations in Scotland, to show the families which bear these designations. Stewart of Castlemilk, Elphinston of Blythwood, Hamilton of Aitkenhead, Crawford of Jordanhill — these are merely a few which have been submerged in the expansion of Glasgow. The diversity of such designations embraces bonnet lairds, peers, minor barons, daoine uasail of a Highland clan, and even lawyers and merchants who have become rich enough to acquire estates.

Scots usage of designations both in the Highlands and Lowlands is almost unique in the world in that even non-peerage titles possess legal recognition. The system of naming Scottish families after estate or house — estimated at 10,000 by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney — should not be underestimated in its influence.

No compilation of designations appears ever to have been undertaken, but such a daunting task is now more practicable as a result of the invention of the computer. I have been working on such a task and believe that it will be possible to show, using graphics, the construction of a family-tree "on screen". As the drawing area must be large, a main frame system would be needed, such as a I.B.M. C.A.D.A.M., which provides 20,000 inches square. Tabular reports would be produced through an I.B.M. visual display terminal, interconnected with the C.A.D.A.M. equipment. Programming would be written in computer language FORTRAN and processing carried out at Computer Aided Technical Services, Clydebank.

There would be shown the founders of the family and their descendants, with details (still undecided) of landholding, location of seat, etc. It could be reproduced in "family-tree" form or tabular format. The advantage of computerisation is that additional information can be added and data co-related for analytical purposes. A genealogist could operate the system after very little training, and it could be programmed to show spouses, cross-relationships, and consanguinity.

The potential is boundless. Funding, however, is required for such a project and the assistance of those trained in genealogy, history and heraldry. I shall be pleased to hear from anyone interested in such an instrument of research and information.

NOTE

Genealogical and Piping Notes from "Squire" John Mackay's Reminiscences of a Long Life

It is regretted that the author of these notes was not indicated. He is John G. Gibson of R.R.1., West Bay Road, Inverness County, Nova Scotia B0E 3L0

CARGILL FAMILY GATHERING IN DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND IN FEBRUARY, 1984

A successful three day gathering of his descendants was held in Dunedin, New Zealand in February to celebrate the 200th birthday of Captain William Cargill.

Captain Cargill was born in Edinburgh in 1784. He joined the Army and fought in India and the Peninsular where he met and married Mary Ann Yates, an English girl, in Spain with her parents. They had 17 children, 9 surviving to marry and to produce 76 grandchildren. At the age of 63 he led a Free Church of Scotland settlement to Otago, New Zealand in 1848, helped by the Reverend Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet. He was elected to be Superintendent of the province of Otago and later a member of the New Zealand parliament.

Since that time the progeny of his 76 grandchildren have spread to many parts of the world. However, with the help of the editors of twenty foreign and local newspapers including "The Scottish Genealogist", who printed letters in 1982 asking that Captain Cargill's descendants write to the secretary, many of them were contacted and supplied helpful information.

The gathering up of this family was also helped tremendously by coincidence. Though Dr. Featherston Cargill did some research into the past history of the Cargills during the 1940's with Mr. David Cargill, Honorary Treasurer of the Scottish Genealogy Society, in Edinburgh, he left no record of any of his descendants. It was only when one of his grandsons, a doctor in France, happened to write last year to the Mayor of Invercargill (a city named after his great great grandfather), asking if anything was known about his antecedents, that contact was made with this branch of the family.

We had also been looking for the descendants of another branch last heard of in the 1890's in Seattle. By chance one of their number happened to see a report in the Otago Early Settlers magazine about the gathering, just six weeks before it happened, and they flew out, bringing priceless family portraits with them.

One section of the family, the descendants of Colonel Spencer Cargill, last heard of in the 1890's in Bengal seemed to have abandoned all contact with their cousins. However, when both the Scotsman and the Glasgow Herald printed a description of the gathering, Mr. D.A. Smith in Edinburgh, wrote to a descendant, Mrs. Angus in Helensburgh, saying that his great uncle, a botanist in the Imperial Agricultural Service, had married one of Spencer Cargill's daughters in India. Perhaps this clue will lead to others.

Of course some coincidences were not productive. There was a man from Scotland now living in Liverpool, who found our letter in an Australian paper under the seat in the Liverpool to Glasgow train. He wrote — unfortunately as a stamp collector rather than a relation, but we did supply him with some stamps.

Eventually about 200 people came to Dunedin for this February week end.

We used a computer to list names and interests, but largely the documentation was based on a large circular family tree, copied many times. Each of the nine sections of this tree was given a colour, and those colours were repeated on name tags, panels of fam-

ily photographs, and on place cards for a large dinner ball. Between people with similar coloured name tags the ice was quickly broken.

It was a busy week end. Tom Brooking's book about Captain Cargill was launched, (Dr. Brooking has a fellowship for six months to the University of Edinburgh which he is taking up during 1985), and a small history of the family since the time of the Captain, published by ourselves, was distributed. We had family photographs taken, and every afternoon several buses took off, each with a commentator, visiting houses which had once belonged to the family, and a tunnel cut 100 years ago down through the cliffs to a bathing beach below. One morning we listened to talks, two longer ones describing the characters of Captain and Mrs. Cargill, then eight five-minute chats from one descendant of each branch speaking about the inherited characteristics noticed in their more immediate family. These were so interesting that people cut their lunch short to hear more. There was an impressive interdenominational church service, an art show in which 11 descendants, most of them professional artists, exhibited and were identified by coloured pins on the circular family tree; and constantly there was excited talk, meetings and reunions, culminating in a final farewell barbecue.

For those who live in Europe and couldn't manage to come to New Zealand, Tom Attwood in London organised an entertaining "Poor Relations" dinner, which was held in the House of Lords on April 6th.

Now we are thinking of gathering in facts and articles and sending out an annual newsletter. With this continuing communication the future documentation of the family tree may be less tenuous.

NOTE

The Clan Gregor Society

This Society was instituted in 1822 to extend "to the Poor of the Clan the benefits of a sound and Christian education". It has an ambitious programme for the summer, and holds its Annual General Meeting on September 2nd at Dunblane Hydro at 6.00 p.m.

Anyone interested in the Clan or its Septs should contact its Secretary, John Gregor MacAdam, at 14 Lockharton Avenue, Edinburgh, EH11.

NOTE

Pallots' Marriage Index

The rates for searches in this index since 1982 have been:—

£7.50 for a single search

£12.00 for extractions up to 25 of a single name

£25.00 for extractions up to 50 of a single name

This information does not seem to be generally known.

THE EDINBURGH COUNTY MILITIA OF 1799

By David Dobson

Early newspapers contain a wealth of information of relevance to the historian and genealogist. Throughout Scotland in libraries, both public and academic, there are collections of newspapers and magazines dating from the eighteenth century. As an example of the type of data that can be located I have selected an item from the Edinburgh Advertiser of 11 January 1799 — the Edinburgh Militia Lists. These identify the men who were selected by ballot to serve in the Militia for the various parishes of Midlothian.

Cramond: Andrew Wishart, servant to Hugh Millar, tenant in Sourhall; John Hunter, servant to Mrs. Allan, Greycrook; John Niven, servant to Thomas Veitch, tenant, Wester Pilton; Alexander Binnie, grazier, Upper Cramond. Part of South Leitch without liberties: Charles Johnston, gardener's servant, Quarryholes; Robert Toward, shoemaker, Calton. **St. Cuthbert:** Robert Thomson, miller at Saughtonhall mill; Adam Hogg, wright Craigleith; Mr. Watson, student of medicine, at Mr. Caple's, tailor, Drummond Street; Robert Bruce, at Mrs. Carron's, head of the Pleasance; Henry Samuel, carter at Briggs of Braid; Alexander Fergusson, carter, Causeyside; Adam Richmond, son to James Richmond, nurseryman, Tollcross; James Pearson, writer, head of Pleasance; Duncan Robertson, writer, Hay's Court; John Gilchrist, carter at Mr. Haig's, Lochrin; George McLaggan, clerk to Mr. Haig, Lochrin; Mr. Anderson, at Mr. Creary's, Buccleuch Place; David Hodge, with Mr. Robertson; William Brown, servant at Comelybank; George Duncan, writer Bellfield; George Melross, baker, at Mr. Peat's; David Wilson, servant to Mr. Davidson, Blackford; Mr. Hunter, at Crearie's, Buccleuch Place. **Corstorphine:** James Aitkenhead, weaver, Claywells; John Anderson, son to Mr. Anderson, baker, Corstorphine. **Collinton:** Henry Millis, servant to John Finnie, Bowbridge; Robert Porteous, mason, Colinton. **Currie:** Thomas Eckford, servant, Newmilns; James Hannah, wright, Hermiston; William Russell, paper maker, Kinleith paper-mill. **Kirknewton and East Calder:** William Rule, servant to William Forrest, tenant, Leyden; George Muir, servant to Joseph Calder, tenant Burnhouse; John Lowden, servant to John Hastings, wright in Kirknewton. **Ratho:** William Binnie, wright in Ratho; James Alexander, servant to Lord Cullen at Hatton. **Glen-corse:** Archibald Kidd, wright at Bush. **Pennycuik:** James Aiken, carter, Fullerton; Alexander Brown, farmer, Tower; James Walker, weaver, Milkhaugh; William Henderson, smith, Kirkhill. **Lasswade:** William Inglis, day labourer, Loanhead; John Johnston servant to Dr. A. Drummond, Hawthorndean; David Steel, carter, Loanhead; George Stobie, son to Mathew Stobie, Roslin; Peter Simpson, servant to Mr. Lees at Polton; James Bain, servant to Mr. Walker, Mid Miln. **Inveresk:** Thomas Cunningham, collier, Craighall Colliery; Adam Gill, indweller, Fishes-row; Alexander Howison, carter at Smeaton; Peter Wilson, cooper, Fisher-row; Robert Robertson, at Mr. Emely's gate; James Paterson, carter in Musselburgh; James Harkas, carter at Wantonwalls. **Newton:** Adam Farm, carter at Bankfield; John Baxter, Collier at Squaretown. **Libberton:** Robert Dickson, servant to D. Ewart, smith, Niddry; Archibald Marshall, servant to Mr. Cunningham, Upper Liberton; Andrew Goodlett, servant to Robert Muirhead, wright, North Liberton; Robert Haigs weaver, Burdiehouse; William Shaw, carter at Brokbridge; Robert Kinlay, collier, Huntershall; David Lamb, servant to Mr. Robb at Muirhouse. **Duddingston:** Mathew Fogo, servant to Mr. Thomson, East Duddingston. **Dalkeith:** John Wilson, smith, Dalkeith; Benjamin Robertson, miller, Cornmills, Dalkeith; James Campbell, day labourer, Dalkeith;

Henry Cribbs, gardener, Dalkeith; Thomas Laidlaw, shoemaker, Dalkeith. Borthwick: Thomas Dickson, wright at Mossend; William Ainslie, servant to David Tinto at Harvie-ston Mains. Carrington: Alexander Wilson, servant to James Abernethy, tenant in Cold-hall. Newbattle: David Patterson, tailor in Lingerwood; John Thomson, servant to Mr. Carfrae at Lawfield. Cockpen: William Neil, collier at Banneridge; Thomas Johnston, servant to Mr. Thomson, Dalhousie; Andrew Spiers, indweller at Milneholme; John Thor-burn at Butterfield; Charles Wilson, tenant in Milneholme. Herriot: John Johnston, founder in Edinburgh Rouchswire. Stow: Andrew Scott, servant, Bowshank; James Smibert, smith in Stow; James Graham, herd in Bowe; George Clapperton jr. Laidlaw-field; Thomas Turnbull jr. tenant, Blackhaugh. Fala: Robert Mitchell, servant, Fala South Mains. Crichton: Jasper Knowles, servant to Mr. Anderson, Turniedykes; James Baillie, tailor, Gardenershall; Gilbert Sinclair, student, Langsaugh. Cranston: David Cornwall, collier, Over Cranston; Alexander Scott, ploughman, Muttonhole. Midcalder: Alexander Wilson, labourer at Murdieston; Hugh Gardner, servant, Contentibus; James Brown, journeyman wright, Mid-Calder. West Calder: Robert Black, labourer, Bust-dyke; John Dunlop, shoemaker, West Calder; Walter Mossman, labourer, Crosswoodhill.

NOTE

Computer Studies in Heraldry

Dr. Christopher Green, of Dundee University, and Colin Forrester, of Blackhorn Assoc-iates, are anxious to contact other people who might be interested in the application of computer techniques to problems in heraldry. It is hoped that a study group might be formed, to correspond and exchange ideas, techniques and plans, and if possible co-ordi-nate their research efforts. It might be that a newsletter could be produced regularly to distribute to those interested. Initially, correspondence on this proposal should be sent to Colin Forrester at 5 Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8TH, (Tel. Epsom 27963).

REVIEW

Medieval Flags by Colin Campbell

This is a valuable booklet of 33 pages examining both British and Continental material. The author quotes a wealth of authority from all parts of Europe, but warns that the medieval ensigns do not fit neatly into the classifications of the modern manuals.

The learned author deals with each flag in turn, first the gonfanon, then the pavon, the pennon, the banner, the schwenkel, and then the standard. For each he gives shape, measurements and achievements likely to be displayed on it. He also explains who is entitled to each, with the differences to be expected in the various countries. The end of a pennon could be cut off to turn it into a banner,, but the mutilated remains, despite this well-documented custom, are difficult to imagine. More easily understood was the ceremony of creating a banneret by the general in the field through severing the points of a pennon to leave a square banner to the promoted Knight.

The booklet is illustrated with excellent plates, which greatly assist in portraying the differences between the flags. The author points out that the significance is not a piece of outworn learning as standards are still granted by English Kings of Arms, and in Scotland Chiefs of Clans receive standards with the fly parted per fess, while lairds of non-baronial tenure may only sport guidons. As lately as in 1943 the Hereditary Captain of Dunstaffnage was granted a galley pennon in his matriculation. But a modern pennon resembles a yacht flag rather than that depicted in medieval times, and one can no longer assume that the person flying it can necessarily field 50 to 100 Knights at his King's command.

REVIEW

La Descendance de Pierre le Grand, Tsar de Russie by Nicolas Enache (Forward by Nicolas Romanovitch Romanov and Preface by Joseph Valynseele.)
432 pages Sedopols, Paris

This book in French about the lineage of Peter the Great is made up of 1,333 people. The lineage is scattered all over the world, with many of them commoners.

The most compact group is of Germans who compose roughly 50% with the Russians and Slav people forming only 25%, and Anglo Saxons 12%.

The author poses the question whether the progeny really and genetically come from Peter the Great, and to this question there is no clear answer. The book shows, however, how many people can claim descent from a single remote ancestor.

The book is richly illustrated and can be obtained for 336 francs from the Publisher (or a de luxe edition at 500 francs).

REVIEW

That Important and Necessary Article — The Salt Industry and Its Trade in Fife and Tayside C. 1570—1850. 68 pages.

C. A. Whatley, Abertay Historical Society Publication No. 22

The salters have disappeared into the recesses of Scottish History, and this is an attempt to rescue from oblivion an activity which was most essential to life in Scotland.

Fife, with its cheap coal, had a strong connection with the trade, and it made a deep imprint on the region's appearance, economy and urban life. There was a large number of salt pans along its coast from Tulliallan to Kincable, though the majority were in the area of the coal fields, around Kirkcaldy, Dysart, West Wemyss and Methil.

The trade was both internal and foreign, and in the second decade of the 18th century Fife was responsible for 83% of Scotland's salt exports. It was the increased availability of cheap rock salt from Cheshire that finally forced the Fifers out of the European market place, just as it was the abolition of all salt duties in January 1823 on salt entering the country from England which put out of business the makers of the expensive Scottish product.

The penultimate chapter of this most interesting essay is on Salter Serfs and the way in which salters, like their collier brethren, were tied to their employers. It would appear that, while salters' wages were paid "in the commodity they produced" at one time, in times of boom their pay could be considerable; not only could they retain, to sell for themselves, any salt over the prescribed minimum produced from the coal supplied to them, but "theft was a socially acceptable occupation" and there were many ways of pilfering salt. Of these the most popular was "Sunday Salt" — the salt produced by evaporation of water left in the pans over the Sabbath.

This learned essay throws light on a facet of a Scottish industry now forgotten, but which was in its day of great importance. It makes fascinating reading.

REVIEW

The Finest Place for a-lasting Colliery — Coal Mining Enterprise in Ayrshire 1600—1840. C. A. Whatley (70 pages) Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Volume 14 (No. 2)

It had been known for long that Ayr rested on coal, but it was not until the 1720's that the mining industry started to expand. Expansion was slow and patchy, with the main market being Ireland, so that mines near the coast had great advantage. Only in the 19th century, with the working of iron in Lanarkshire and the gradual replacement by coal of the peat and turf which was the common fuel of the county, did the industry grow, until it employed 14,000 miners and produced 4,000,000 tons of coal a year.

Transport and labour difficulties were two causes of its slow growth. Not only was the cost of transport high and the regularity of carters uncertain, but the soft coal could not stand the punishment which long road transport inflicted on it. In the course of the

period covered by the booklet many ventures failed and many entrepreneurs went bankrupt. Inadequate supply of labour, water problems in the deeper seams and geological faults combined to ruin those lured by Irish gold into sinking a mine and trying to found a business. "Enterprise, vigour and an open attitude to technical change" were the characteristics required to operate successfully.

This booklet deals with a period about which little had been written concerning coal mining in Ayrshire, and it is a most interesting record of the reasons why so many attempts to mine coal met with such little success until after 1840.

BOOK REVIEW

The Bell family of Dumfriesshire, by James Stewart, W.S. (Dumfries, 1932) Reprinted Huffman, Texas, 1984. Size A4 x + 100pp. Available from the editor and publisher, Molly Bateman Reigard, 1321 Gum Tree Lane, Huffman, TX 77336, USA, at \$17.00 (postage paid).

Only 100 copies of the valuable work were published in 1932, under the auspices of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society. The book was becoming rare, and a xerox copy was obtained from the National Library of Scotland to facilitate reproduction. It was typed with an electric typewriter and appears in soft covers (open flat binding). There is a foreward by Getha Gina Bell, author of *The Bells in U.S.A.*, and *Allied Families* (Bulford, GA, 1977), and a Glossary explaining some Scottish legal expressions.

The author states that for centuries the Bells were classed among the other Border clans as raiders, thieves and broken men, and "it might be thought unlikely" that respectable citizens of the present day (1932) would be desirous to include in their pedigree such notorious criminals. It must however, he says, be remembered that these "rude forefathers" were the victims of circumstances. They were trained in a school of adversity, and their deeds of daring, sung in the Border Minstrelsy, and now surrounded with a romantic halo, were essential elements in forming and moulding the characters for which the Borderers are celebrated.

Much information from the public records is embedded in the book, and Bells in parishes such as Pennessax, Wamphrey and Middlebie are listed. There is a particularly good account of the Bells of Blackethouse, recognised as leaders of the clan in the late 16th and early 17th centuries, and this is of interest to Bells in America at the present time, who would like to see a chief recognised by the Lord Lyon King of Arms. Some members of the International Bell Society hope to visit Scotland this year, and to seek the views of Lord Lyon Malcolm R. Innes of Edingight.

This is a well produced book and the price is reasonable.

SENNACHIE

DUNFERMLINE PEERAGE

In *The Peerage of Scotland*, by Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie, revised by John Philip Wood (Edinburgh, 2 vols., 1813), it is stated, vol. i, p. 482, that James, 4th Earl of Dunfermline, had no issue by Lady Jean Gordon. George Seton, in his account of the family in *The Scots Peerage*, edited by Sir James Balfour Paul (Edinburgh, 1904—14), repeats this statement, but says in a footnote, vol. iii, p. 375, that a claim had been made for this peerage by James Seton, styling himself Baron of Andria. The latter alleged that the 4th Earl left a daughter Grizel, from whom he descended, and that the destination of the peerage was altered from heirs-male to heirs-general by a Royal letter of 1620.

The fact that the 4th Earl did have issue is proved by an entry in the Old Parochial Register of Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, No. 197/1 (in the custody of the Registrar General for Scotland), recording the baptism on 9th August, 1685, of Lady Elizabeth Seton, daughter of James, Earl of Dunfermline. The marriage contract of Lord James and Lady Jean Gordon was dated 6th July, 1682 (*The Scots Peerage, Addenda et Corrigenda*, vol. ix, p. 78), and the Fyvie register does not commence until 1685. At the time of his death in 1694, the Jacobite Earl was under forfeiture, and the estates reverted to the Crown.

Does anyone know if this child survived infancy or childhood? And what became of the claim of "Baron Seton of Andria," otherwise James Seton?

REVIEW

D. W.

The Covenanters and the Western Association 1684—1650 by David Stevenson
40 pages. Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Vol. 13, No. 4 —£1.00

The West of Scotland was the area which contained the largest body of men who were opposed to the alliance of moderate covenanters and royalists who planned to assist Charles I by invading England. These Engagers succeeded in raising an army, but were defeated at Preston by Cromwell, and the Western Association was formed to denounce the Engagement while resisting the advance of the English. The Reverend George Gillespie, with the assistance of Sir Archibald Johnston of Wariston, drafted an Oath of Association in pursuance of the ends of the Solemn League and Covenant and to end tolerance of popery, prelacy and sectarianism.

In October 1650, after the execution of Charles I and the defeat of the Kirk party's Army at Dunbar by Cromwell in September 1650, the Western Association gained renewed support, but the Committee of Estates was keen to restrict its influence to the West. The failure of the Royalist Coup d'Etat led to the issuing of the Western Remonstrance denouncing as the greatest sin the signing of a Treaty with Charles II without evidence of a change of heart in him, and the extremists of the Kirk Party set up, in effect, regional government; but the defeat at Hamilton was "the end of the remonstrating army, that acted nothing worthy of themselves"; and on 28th December Parliament declared the Association in the west to be "voyd and discharges any suche associtione in tyme coming".

This account of the failure of the Western Association — failure both to delay significantly the English conquest of Scotland and to prevent the Kirk party being replaced by a regime of moderate covenanters — illustrates an interesting facet of Scotland's turbulent political history.

REVIEW

The mid — 1984 Genealogical Research Dictionary covers research undertaken in 58 countries and is an important international research tool. It is larger in size than the first two Directories published in 1981, and runs to 454 pages.

The names are arranged in alphabetical order, preceded by an explanation of abbreviations and a note on Chapman County Codes for English place names. There is also a four-page article on "Poor Law in England" by Elizabeth Simpson, F.S.G.

Anyone in Britain interested in acquiring a copy of this Australian publication (edited by Keith A. Johnson and Malcolm R. Santy) should contact Mrs. Elizabeth Simpson, 2 Stella Grove, Tollerton, Nottingham NG12 4EY.

REVIEW

Review of Scottish Culture (ROSC) Number 1 — 1984
Published by National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland
Price £5.00

This is a new journal, to be published annually, planned to throw fresh light on the inward and outward movements of Scottish culture and influence. It will concentrate on the material aspects of the country's social and economic history and ethnology, and will cover rural and urban, maritime and land-based, topics alike.

The Editors are Dr. Alexander Fenton, the Director of the National Museum of Antiquities, Hugh Cheape from the same Museum, and Dr. Rosalind Marshall of the National Portrait Gallery. The contents of the first number include articles on such subjects as:—

Wooden Tumbler Locks in Scotland and Beyond
Lewis Sheilings
The Clay Tobacco Pipe Collection in the National Museum
Tenements: a pre-industrial urban tradition
Box-beds and Bannocks; and
Scottish Agricultural Improvement Societies

The opening article is "The Wreck of the Lastdrager", the story of an East Indiaman wrecked off Shetland.

It is hoped that the high standard of this first issue can be maintained. The wide range of subjects and the authority of the authors makes this a fine contribution to filling the gap seen by the editors in the study of material culture in Scotland.

REVIEW

West of Scotland Census Returns and Old Parochial Registers
Compiled by Anne Escott - Glasgow District Libraries 1983
47 pages — 75p

This booklet, which is available from any Public Library in Glasgow, is a directory of public library holdings in the West of Scotland and includes a parish atlas prepared by J. Scott Fairie.

It lists Census returns on microfilm and where they are located, and also the parish register transcripts (for which indexes are being prepared). It records that the Mitchell Library holds the Scottish section of the International Genealogical Index under surnames found in the computer of the Genealogical Department of the Latter Day Saints Church, and the booklet ends with maps of counties in the West of Scotland showing the relative positions of parishes and other boundaries. The text accompanying each map gives a list of parishes with the year of commencement for christenings, deaths and marriages. A good bargain for 75p.

IG/MM

REVIEW

Rails to Ayr — 18th and 19th Century Coal Waggon Ways
Harry Broad - Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society
£1.25

They have disappeared almost without trace, the early and extensive system of waggonways, mostly centred round coal fields. The author has identified four which led from mines to Ayr harbour.

At a time when roads were bad and little more than farm tracks it was an expensive and difficult business to transport coal from where it was mined to the wharf for export; in addition the coal was reduced to dross by the bumping and vibration of the carts over pot holes. These waggonways saved man and horse-power, and tolls were avoided. Cuttings, embankments and the remains of bridges helped the author to trace where these ways led; mines they served have long since disappeared.

For those interested in the area around Ayr and its development — indeed for anyone interested in the development of transport — this booklet will add a store of little known information.

REVIEW

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c. 1570—1850. 68 pages.
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This learned essay throws light on a facet of a Scottish industry now forgotten, but which was in its day of great importance. It makes fascinating reading.

QUERIES

- 935 **CAMPBELL** — James Campbell was born in 1739, was living in Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1764, and died there in 1809. Rumour has it that he escaped from some danger in the hills of Argyll riding a white horse, his wife on a pillion behind him and his children in panniers, to meet the Duke; the Duke wanted to buy the horse because of its performance. Has anyone heard of this rumour and does anyone know the place of birth of James? D. W. Smith, Simonburn, 7 Crow Lane, Middle Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3TE, Tyne & Wear.
- 936 **HATALIE** — Will pay \$10 for the first person to identify the parents and grandparents of George Hatalie and his wife Allison and to provide proof. George Hatalie was born in Scotland 1800–1801, married in Scotland in 1831 Allison (b. in Scotland 1802–1803); the children were John (b. 1832), Helen (b. 1833–34) and Isabella (b. 1836 at Doune). Father may be William and brother Adam. Mrs Virginia Glendening, 4122 Palo Verde, Lakewood Ca 90713, U.S.A.
- 937 **SKINNER** — John Skinner (died at Leysmill, Arbroath, on 18th April 1884, aged 67) married Jane Lawrie (died on 15th October 1886, aged 73) and had four children. Tom remained in Scotland, while James, Robert (b. 1844 in Perthshire), and Peter emigrated to New Zealand between 1860 and 1870's. Robert emigrated in 1868 and married Jane Blue. Any information about family welcomed by Ian R. Love, 16 James Street, Ashburton, Mid Canterbury, New Zealand.
- 938 **WILLIAMSON** — Thomas Logan Williamson, Master Mariner, possibly of Shetland first recorded in New Zealand in 1846; married Elizabeth McKenzie (daughter of James McKenzie and arriving in New Zealand on the 'Jane Gifford' in 1842 from Greenock). When and from where did Thomas come? Allan Logan Williamson, Mairi Waiki Road, R.D.6 Tauranga, New Zealand.
- 939 **McGAW/CARSON** — Charles McGaw (b. c. 1807) and Janet Carson (b. c. 1804), both in the Parish of Girthon, Kirkcudbright, married on 12th December 1828 at Gatehouse in Girthon; seven children were born before the parents moved to Lancashire around 1842. Information on birth and parentage of Charles and Janet wanted. Mr. S. G. Dimmick, 'Kiama', 18 Denham Place, Toorak, 3142 Victoria, Australia.
- 940 **MOONEY/STEVENSON** — William Mooney, b. c. 1802 in Strabane, County Tyrone, Ireland, to William Mooney and Margaret Stewart, married in Scotland Mary Stevenson (b. c. 1804 in Donaghadee, County Down, Ireland, to William Stevenson and Jeanie Wachop) possibly in Aitkenhead Church, Cathcart, about 1828. Information on birth and ancestry of William and Mary wanted. S. G. Dimmick, 'Kiama', 17 Denham Place, Toorak, 3142 Victoria, Australia.
- 941 **FETTERESSO ACCIDENT** — Newspaper account of train accident at Fetteresso, one mile from Stonehaven, 13th January 1867 in which Driver John Meffan died, wanted.
942. **REID** — In the Kirk Session Record from Bervie, Kincardineshire, January 1865, 'John Reid, blacksmith, of the parish of Govan' was named as the father of Mar-

- garet Robertson's illegitimate baby. The Clerk was instructed to send a copy of the minute to the Kirk Session of Govan, Glasgow, but no record found there. Has anyone come across James Reid'.
- 943 RAE/McLELLAN — Matthew Beattie Rae, born c. 1820 in Dunscore, and Jane McLellan, born c. 1813 in Lochmaben, lived in East Anglia and seemed connected with drapers/tea-dealers from Scotland. Information on families of Scottish tea-dealers (particularly from Dumfriesshire) much appreciated.
- 944 GOW — John Gow, born c. 1810, son of Duncan Gow and Christian Taylor. No record of marriage or children found. They may have been Morisonians. Any help appreciated. Mrs. Margaret Sutton, 89 Giblehirst Road, Auckland 3, New Zealand.
- 945 MAHAN — James and William, said to be born around 1730 in Ulster of Scottish parents, emigrated to Pennsylvania or Maryland; one was a teacher, the other a weaver; one was crippled. Information about their ancestors (possibly McMahon) wanted by Jane Knight Shassere, 4491 Washington Blvd, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205, U.S.A.
- 946 MOWAT — James - Pitsligo, Aberdeenshire, Kirk Session January 1724 says formerly in Pittulie now resides in Leith. Names son as John Mowat. Was James in the service of the Laird of Pittulie. Was Patrick Mowat, servant to the Laird of Pittulie, December 25th 1726, also a son of James. Patrick (Peter) Mowat married Helen Lorimar June 10, 1733, Pitsligo. and had 4 children bapt. at Pittulie and 2 in Knowhead, Pitsligo..
- 947 LORIMER — William and William Lorimer the younger in Knowhead, Pitsligo December 15th, 1728. Was William, the elder, the father of Helen Lorimer m. 1733 Peter Mowat.
- 948 MURRAY — George m. 1811 Alvah, Banff, Ann Ruddiman. Had daughter Jean baptised in Balnamoon, Tyrie, Aberdeenshire, 1813 witnessed by George Murray Sr., there. Want parents of George Murray and Ann Ruddiman.
- 949 MURRAY — Isobel m. 1746 July 23rd George Geddes, Parish of New Deer, Aberdeenshire. George Geddes baptised 1720 New Deer, son of Patrick Geddes. Was this Patrick Geddes m. 1711 Isabel Hederwick in Tyrie, Aberdeenshire. Want parents of Isobel Murray. Woodruff G. Leel, 3 Russell Drive, Tolland, Conn. 06084 U.S.A.
- 950 SYM/McNAB — Robert Sym (Sim), seaman and river pilot, married 1814 in Dumbarton Margaret McNab. Son, Duncan (b. 1818) emigrated to Australia c. 1842. Youngest son, Peter (b. 1832) emigrated to Peabody, Mass., USA c. 1849, where he married Mary Jane Steele, Children: Robert J. (b. 1854), Margaret Emma (m. W. A. Baker), Duncan Francis, Arthur W. (b. 1859), Charlotte Elizabeth (b. 1863 m. Leslie Goldthwaite), Peter A. (b. 1863), Charles E. (b. 1872). Any information on the family in Dumbarton or descendants of Peter in USA, please. Mrs. Judith MacLeod, 20 Canford Court, 6 King Street, Turramurra, NSW 2074, Australia.

- 951 **TRAIL/TREEL FAMILY** — Robert Trails or Triels, believed to be born in Bo'ness was made a Burgess in Rotterdam, Holland, in September, 1705. He married there in 1706. Jan Treel from Glasgow, was also made a Burgess in Rotterdam in 1705. He was probably a relation of the above Robert. John Trails and Margaret Craig, married on 7th July, 1695, had four children, namely, Robert, Anna, Marie and John. Thomas Traill was a sailor on the ship 'The Elisabeth' of London in May, 1713. Jacob or James Treel was a merchant of plates in Edinburgh, July, 1696. Thos. Trail, 45 Abercromby Street, Glasgow, was born on 19th November, 1858, to Thos. Trail, journeyman, and Janet Adam. Any information about the above or on the Trail family would be welcomed by Mr. Wm. Treels, Gr. Willem 11, LN1, 2645 AG, Delfgauw, Near Delft, Holland.
- 952 **THOMAS** — Moses, M.D., Medical Supt. of Glasgow Royal Infirmary 1867—1902, married 1867 in Edinburgh Margaret Brown, daughter of Robert Brown, (Architect) and Margaret Henderson of 9 Clarence Street Edinburgh. Two sons: (1) William, L.R.C.P., & L.R.C.S., (Edinburgh) and L.F.P.S. (Glasgow), born 1868, died Glasgow 1899; married Elizabeth Stephen and had one son William Bain Thomas born 11th May 1898 at 86 Stevenson Drive, Shawlands, Glasgow; (2) James Edward, born Glasgow 1874, became engineer in South Africa, and in 1911 employed as Reduction Works Manager by Simmer Deep Ltd., Germiston, Transvaal. Descendants of either Thomas brother wanted by Neil Thomas, 'Blantyre', 14 Agnes Street, Mount Gambier 5290 South Australia.
- 953 **WALLS** — Alexander Williamson ('Sandy') born at Blairlogie, County of Perth, son of Robert Walls and Mary Foggo. Chief Engineer, principally in the Dominion Line. Died at Liverpool early August 1893. Family of eight — Alexander, Robert, Mary, Peter, John, William, Agnes and Jimmy. All sons believed to have been Marine Chief Engineers. Robert, his son, had six children — one daughter's daughter believed to be married and living in Canada. Mary, his daughter, married to a man named Parry and had five children. John, his fourth son, lived at Southampton — four children. Information sought as to descendants of A. W. Walls, particularly of Robert's and Mary's children and John (Southampton) and his family.
- 954 **WALLS** — Robert born in Clackmannan, 28th May 1835, seventh child of Robert Walls and Mary Foggo. Lived with his parents in Alloa at age 15 in 1851 Census but not with them in the 1861 Census. Is said to have migrated to New South Wales, Australia in late 1850's. (His eldest brother John had migrated to Victoria in 1852.) Would appreciate information about him and his descendants. Andrew N. Walls, 22 Marulda St., Aranda, A.C.T., 2614, Australia.
- 955 **WHITTON** — Robert Whitton, Brewer, Dundee, married Helen Rattray (who died 7th December 1854). In her Will she mentions her children, Marjory Rattray Whitton, wife of John Glass Jnr., manufacturer of Dundee; Susan, widow of Joseph Swankie, Shipmaster, Dundee; George, Brewer, Dundee (b. c. 1812) who married Helen ? and in 1851 was living at 28 King Street, Dundee (having children Mary (b. c. 1845), Marjory (b. c. 1846) and James (b. c. 1848); William, baker, at one time in Murraygate, Dundee and by 1832 in Edinburgh; and Mary, wife of Alex Deuchars, Shipmaster, Dundee, whose son, William, married in 1893 Isabella

- Ireland. Information wanted by Mrs. Madeline Moreton, Aniseed Valley, Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand.
- 956 FORD — William Ford, Marine Engineer, married 12th March 1883 Agnes Thomson Forbes. About 1933 he lived in a house called 'Wilderhurst'. Information welcomed by Mrs. Madeline Moreton, Aniseed Valley, Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand.
- 957 IRELAND — Andrew Ireland, Seaman in the Merchant Service, married Ann Wilson and lived at Rogers Close, Dundee in 1841. He died on 3rd March 1865 at Union Court, Thorter Row, Dundee. Their children were James (b. 21st September 1822), Ann (b. 17 October 1830 and married Joseph Routledge on 21st May 1852 in Dundee), Tine (b. 12th February 1833), Andrew (b. 26th July 1836) and David (b. c. 1840). Information welcomed by Mrs. Madeline Moreton, Aniseed Valley, Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand.
- 958 JOHNSTON — Alex Johnston, Tailor and Woollen Draper, Dundee, married Margaret Sutherland at Lossie Wynd, Elgin, on 3rd December 1856. Their children were William H. (b. 1859, who married Betsy Forbes in 1881), Lewis Alex (b. 1860, a shipmaster who lived at 10 Whitehall Street, Dundee and married on 21st December 1891 Jemima J. Keith), Robert Stewart (b. 1863, a Mercantile Clerk of 19 Wellington Street, Dundee who married Minnie Kerwick), and Christian Clementina (b. 1866). Wish to contact their descendants. Mrs. Madeline Moreton, Aniseed Valley, Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand.
- 959 GLENDINNING — James Glendinning, born 1776, third son of Robert Glendinning and Janet Gray, married Janet Gibson. Seek his ancestry and details of his son John (b. Kelso 1812) who emigrated to Magill, Australia, between 1860 and 1870. Mrs. Virginia Glendening, 4122 Palo Verde, Lakewood, Ca 90713.
- 960 ROY — George Hatalie, married in 1830 Allison (b. 1802—1804) and had a daughter Isabella (b. 1836 at Doune). Was Allison a Roy?
- 961 TINDALE — Was there a branch of this family in Perthshire? Mrs. Virginia Glendening, 4122 Palo Verde, Lakewood, Ca 90713.
- 962 CLINDENING — G. T. Clindening of Adelaide published a book 'House of Glendonwyn' in Adelaide about 1942. Who was he and did he publish a second volume? Mrs. Virginia Glendening, 4122 Palo Verde, Lakewood, Ca 90713.
- 963 NICOL(L) — William married 1795 to Elizabeth Brown in Kinross. They lived in Aldie, Fossoway parish, until their deaths in 1848 and 1853 respectively. Family: Andrew (b. 1797, m. Margaret George), Mary (b. 1799), Elizabeth (b. 1801), Alexander (b. 1803, m. Anne Curror), Jean (b. 1805), James (b. 1807, m. Elizabeth Ritchie), Christian (b. 1811, m. John Boss), Ann (b. 1815), David (b. 1817), John (b. 1819), Janet (b. 1821). Would appreciate information about family, and particularly William's birthplace, parents, etc. Mrs. M. Neill, 31 Mavin Road, Christchurch 2, New Zealand.
- 964 GUILD — Andrew Guild (b. 1804) married Christina (Constance) Pearson (b. 1810) and had five children:— Andrew, b. 1836, William, b. 1837, Catherine Dempster b. 8th March 1841 in Kinross, Sarah, b. 1842, and John, b. 1844. In

the late 1840's they emigrated to Ontario, where Catherine married William John Simmons. Information about ancestors wanted by Mrs. Marjorie Simmons, 280 Regent Street, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 4K6.

- 965 THOMSON — John Thomson (1800—1855) married Grizzel Sheerar, and lived with her at Chigh Farm, Wilsontown, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, where there son William was born on 24th March 1831. They sailed for Australia in 1838. Information wanted about their ancestors.
- 966 TURNER — John Dhu Turner (b. 1820/1830) in Kilmarnock married Elizabeth Craddock of Chester and had a daughter, Margaret Jane. They emigrated to Australia. Information wanted about them.
- 967 HIDDLE — John Hiddle (b. c. 1800) married Rachel Smith of Cupar. Their daughter married Mr. Walker (in the shipping business) of Wemyss Bay, Firth of Clyde, and had three sons (one called David) and two daughters. Further information wanted.
- 968 FORREST — Richard Forrest (1779—1859) born in Scotland, married Maryon Waldie at Canongate, Edinburgh, 18th March 1800 and died at Georgeham, Barnstaple, North Devon. Who were his parents?
- 969 LEVER — William Lever, b. 22nd April 1857 at Spalding, Lincolnshire, to Benjamin and Jane Lever, was organist at Helensburgh Church. What is known of his family?
- 970 SANDILANDS — Information wanted about this Dundee family. Mrs. Rosie Ritchie, Otard House, Otard Close, East Street, Selsey, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 0DD.
- 971 McKENZIE/MacDONALD — John McKenzie, born 1775 at Brahan, Ross-shire, married Anne MacDonald (b. 1777 in Isle of Skye to James MacDonald of Knockowe and Margaret McLeod of Ballymeanoch). John trained as an Architect with his two uncles of the surname, Douglass, in Inverness, and emigrated with his wife to Glengarry County, Ontario, in 1831. Any information would be appreciated by Glen W. MacKenzie, Box 1767, Swan River, Manitoba, Canada R0L 1Z0.
- 972 GORDON/NOBLE — James Gordon, son of John Gordon of Kinnellar and Henrietta Fraser, had a son James Noble b. c. 1700, the mother being Miss Noble. Proof wanted that they married in England. Whom did James Noble marry?
- 973 NOBLE — Margaret Noble of Cairnbulg married James May around 1770. Barbara Noble married Andrew Taylor around 1774 in Fraserburgh. The parents of both Nobles are sought by Mrs. Estella Pryor, 306 Cinnamon Lane, Evless, Texas, 76039, U.S.A.
- 974 CHALMERS — Robert Chalmers, farmer of Berriellaw, married Jean Brimmer at Torryburn, Dunfermline, in February 1812. Information wanted.
- 975 ROBERT CHALMERS — Labourer, North Urquhart, married Euphemia Herron, in Dunfermline Abbey in 1835 and both sailed from Greenock to Dunedin in the 'Robert Henderson'. Information about either of the Chalmers wanted by Mrs. P. Frater, P.O. Box 173, Nyaruawahia, Waikato, New Zealand.

- 976 RUSSELL — Information is sought about Russell families in the Parish of Kettle, Fife, from at least mid 17th Century onwards. Earliest tracing so far is James Russell of Holekettle, one of the executioners of Archbishope Sharp (1679). Information on families intermarrying with Russells sought also, inter alia Adamson, Black, Beatson, Haxton, Mackie, Cassell, Lawson, Smart Christison, Watson, Wilson, Williamson, Wishart. George M. Russell, 26 Clifford Road, North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4PP.
- 977 MAXTON — Robert Maxton married Margaret Buchan ? Children: James (b. 1801), Mary (b. 1806), Mary (b. 1808), John (b.), William (married Catherine Buchan 22nd February 1816), James (1818—1899), Margaret (b. 1818), Marjory (b. 1820), Robert (b. 1824), Mary (b. 1827), Catherine (b. 1836). Possibly they all originated from FOWLIS WESTER, Near Crieff. Information appreciated by Andrew Maxton, 16 Penny Street, Semaphore, SO 19, South Australia.
- 978 GILCHRIST/HUNTER/PATERSON/McCORMICK — William Gilchrist, shoemaker, and Margaret Hunter married 1760 — son James Gilchrist, born 22nd July 1763 Dalry Parish, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland married Margaret Drummond. Known children of James and Margaret: Elizabeth married John McCormick (1814); Mary married James Paterson, a mason from Aberdeen (1824). Known children of Mary and James Paterson born in Creetown: Alexander B. born 27th January 1834 and Charles born 12th December 1836. Alexander and Charles living in the West End of Glasgow in 1893. Alexander was married and had a daughter Mary and son Charles. Information regarding any of the above families greatly appreciated. Mrs. Rosetta McCormick, 5819 Hinckley Court, Huber Heights, Ohio 45424, USA.
- 979 STEWART/McNAUGHTON (McNAUGHTEN) — Archibald Stewart (shepherd), born c. 1801 Carnban, Kilbrandon, Argyll, married Catherine McNaughton, (b. 18th June 1810, Parish of St. Enoch, Glasgow, to Malcolm and Grisel Campbell) 7th August 1832 at Kilninver and lived at Braeglenbeg, Kilninver, Argyll. Children: Agnes (b. 1835, government nurse in Japan), John (b. 1837), Mary (b. 1839) Colin (b. 1841), Peter (b. 1843), Archibald (b. 1845), Anne (b. 1847), Margaret (b. 1850), William (b. 22nd March 1855 and married Jane (Dickie Dougall) Muir 7th March 1882 in Glasgow and died 17th September 1930 in Havre, Montana), Nancy (married John Orr and died 1928 in Vancouver, B.C.), and Catherine, Archibald Sr. had a brother Dugald (shoemaker) and a sister Janet McIntyre (dairymaid). Any information about ancestors wanted by Laurie Stewart, Upstairs, 531-14 Street South, Lethbridge, Alberta, T1J 2X6, Canada.
- 980 ADAMS/ADAM — John married Elizabet Gillespie 29th November 1806 at Echt, 11 miles west of Aberdeen. They came to Canada with their four sons: John b. 29th March, 1807, William b. 18th December 1808, Alexander b. 29th December 1810, Peter b. 13th June 1813, and settled in the Kempt Road Area, Canada. Wish to know about their ancestors and descendants, Miss Eileen Powell, C.P. 1103, 19 Chantal, St. Constant, Quebec, Canada, J0L 1X0.
- 981 GOLLOGLY — Anyone interested in the the name Gollogly should contact Michael Gollogly, 48 Montrose Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. The objects of the Scottish Genealogy Society are:—
To promote research into Scottish Family History.
To undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish Genealogy, by means of meetings, lectures, etc.
2. The Society consists of all duly elected Members whose subscriptions are fully paid. An Honorary President and up to four Honorary Vice-Presidents (who will be *ex officio* members of Council) 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, *ex officio* Members, and not more than ten ordinary Members. A non-Council Member of the Society shall be appointed annually to audit the accounts.
4. Office-Bearers shall be elected annually. Three ordinary Members of Council shall retire annually by 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. The Council may elect a Deputy Chairman.
5. An Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held 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 those whose subscriptions are in arrears.
7. Institutions may be elected to affiliate membership of the Society. The subscription payable by such affiliate members shall be fixed from time to time by the Council. Affiliate members shall be entitled to receive 2 copies of each issue of the *Scottish Genealogist*, and to have suitable queries inserted therein free of charge. Their members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society and to borrow books from the Society's Library (but not to send such books overseas). They shall not, however, have any vote at meetings of the Society, nor shall they be eligible for election to membership of the Council.
8. 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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