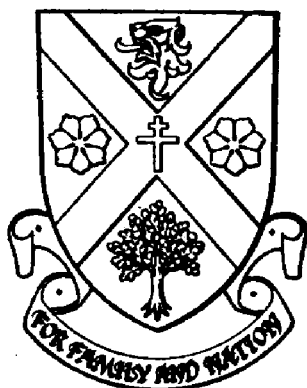


# THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

ISSN 0300-337X

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY



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The Society is an academic and consultative body. It does not carry out professional record searching, but will supply members, on request, with a list of professional searchers who are also members of the Society.

## Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Society are held from September to April in the Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, at 7.30 p.m. around the 15th of the month. In the event of the 15th falling on Saturday or Sunday, the meeting is held on the following Monday.

## Membership

The current subscription is £12.00 Family membership will be £15.00 and affiliate membership £18.00. The subscription for U.S. members will be \$24.

The Society is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a charity. Members who pay UK income tax are therefore encouraged to pay their subscriptions under Deed of Covenant so that the Society may recover the tax paid on these sums. Details of arrangements for making a Deed of Covenant can be obtained from the Honorary Treasurer.

## Correspondence, Magazines, etc.

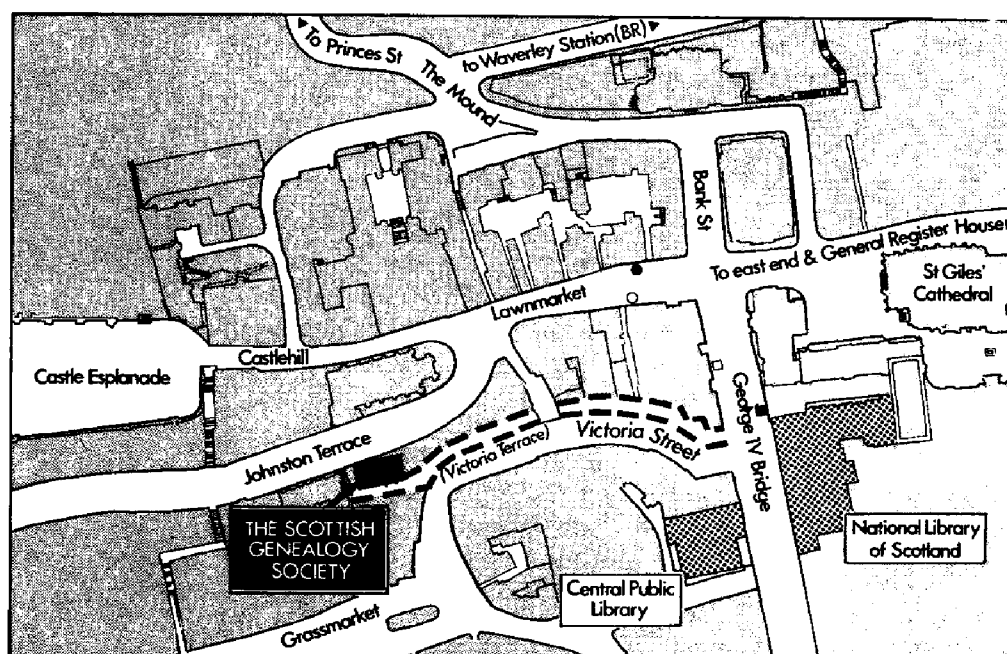
General correspondence should be sent to the Secretary and subscriptions to the appropriate Membership Secretary; queries and articles for The Scottish Genealogist to the Editor, at the address shown on the back cover. A charge of £2 is made for queries to non-members. Back numbers of The Scottish Genealogist and information about the Society's publications can be obtained from the Sales Secretary, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL, Scotland.

## Library & Family History Centre,

15 Victoria Terrace, EDINBURGH EH1 2JL, Scotland. Telephone: 031-220-3677

## LIBRARY OPENING HOURS:

|           |                        |
|-----------|------------------------|
| Tuesday   | 10.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. |
| Wednesday | 2.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.  |
| Saturday  | 10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. |



BUSES: ● 1,35,70. ○ 6,34,70. ■ East Scot. 23,45. Fife Scot. X52,X60. Lothian 23,24,27,28,29,40,41,41A,42,45,47,89.  
□ East Scot. 23,46. Fife Scot. X52,X60. Lothian 23,24,27,28,29,40,41,41A,45,46,47,72,89,106.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 15 April 1993      | Ordinary meeting at the Royal College of Physicians, 'The Swansons: My approach'.   |
| May 1993           | The Scottish Genealogy Society 40 years old.  |
| 5 May 1993         | Trip to the Court of the Lord Lyon.   |
| Sunday 16 May 1993 | The S.G.S. will have two stalls at the Family History Fair, Royal Horticultural Society, Old Hall, 10 Vincent Square, Westminster, London, SW1. |
| 21-31 May 1993     | 'Roots 93' Being held in Dumfries and Galloway. (Details below).  |
| 22-27 August 1993  | S.G.S. Summer School. (Details below).  |
| 25 September 1993  | 5th Annual Conference of the S.A.F.H.S. (Details below).  |
| 9 November 1993    | S.G.S. 40th Anniversary Dinner (Details below).   |

## 40th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The Scottish Genealogy Society is holding a dinner at the City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh on Tuesday, 9 November 1993 at 7.30pm. The tickets are £20 each and can be reserved by sending your payment to: Anniversary Dinner, The Scottish Genealogy Society, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL. Further details will appear in the June and September issues of the Scottish Genealogist.

## SUMMER SCHOOL 1993

A six day Summer School will be held at the Society's Library from Sunday, 22 August - Friday, 27 August 1993: course fees £100. Those wishing to obtain further details should write to: Summer School, The Scottish Genealogy Society, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

Scottish Personal and Place Names - a bibliography, enlarged second edition. (See sale sheet).

Speyside Monumental Inscriptions - enlarged second edition. (See sales sheet).

## DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

"Roots '93" is being held in Dumfries & Galloway from 21 - 31 May 1993. Many events have been arranged from pageants to tours, exhibitions to dances, regatta to a grand clan ball. Those interested can obtain more information from: Roots '93, Magdalen House, Lochmaben, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, DG11 1PD.

### **JULY ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE S.A.F.H.S.**

This conference will be hosted by the Highland Family History Society on Saturday 25 September 1993. The venue is the new Culloden Academy which is four miles outside Inverness, overlooking the Moray Firth and Black Isle. It is hoped that transport will be provided from the city centre to the conference centre for those who do not have their own transport. Lunch will be provided.

The title of the conference is: 'My Heart's in the Highlands - Soldier, Crofter, Fisherman, Wife', and a distinguished panel of speakers will enlarge on these subjects.

Further details may be obtained from: The Highland F.H.S., c/o The Reference Room, Public Library, Farraline Park, Inverness IV1 1NH. (Please enclose a S.A.E.).

### **HONORARY GRADUATES OF EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Diana Henderson is in the process of compiling a register of Honorary Graduates of Edinburgh University and is seeking assistance from anyone who would be willing to help research the biographies of these people. Ideally any volunteer should be a graduate of Edinburgh University and be able to do the work at the University. For further information write to: Dr. Diana Henderson, Development Office, The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH8 9YL.

### **COMPUTERS IN GENEALOGY**

Much interest has been expressed about computers in genealogy. It is hoped that in the near future an issue of the Scottish Genealogist might be given over to this subject, but the editor requires articles on various aspects of the subject. If you feel able to write about some aspect of computing, whether it is about a specific genealogical program, drawing up family trees, incorporating pictures into your text, using a word-processing package or data base, or desktop publishing, please let the editor have the article. If it is feasible, incorporate examples of your work into your article.

### **ANNUAL EXCURSION**

The annual excursion this year will be to the court of the Lord Lyon at Register House at 6.45pm on the evening of 5th May. If anyone would like to add their names to the list of those going, could they please get in touch with David Macadam at the Library at 15 Victoria Terrace or alternatively by phone at 031-664 2083 (there is an answering machine on which to leave a message if he is not available).

# **JOHN McDOWALL - A CANADIAN EMIGRANT**

by M.G. McDowall

Exactly one hundred and fifty years ago John McDowall left his family and friends in Stoneykirk, Wigtonshire and emigrated to Canada. Ten letters, kept by his family at home, have survived to this day. As well as being unique in their own right, the letters contain 36 different family names of people either in Canada or at home in Scotland.

John's writing, and particularly his spelling, have provided me with some amusing and many puzzling moments. I have purposely left the spelling as written, as its contribution to the character of the letters is invaluable.

I am sure you will not fail to be moved, as I was, after reading all ten letters, by the circumstances and underlying emotions which are encapsulated in this short record of personal family history.

## **Letter 1**

The postmark is dated July 5th in Greenock, which was a Monday. (June 5th was a Saturday.) It is understandable why John would tell of a sermon in the evening if he had written the letter on a Monday. The day for sailing would be unlikely to be a Sunday, so it is almost certain that he wrote the wrong month on the letter by mistake.

It is unclear whether "Peter" is a reference to the McCulloch family or to Patrick Maitland.

The Elephanta was a 339 ton Barque <sup>1</sup>built in 1836 for trade between London and China, and later, Liverpool and Manila. The owners were Glass & Co. and she was registered in Glasgow. Her master was named as Ross.

## **Letter 2**

A passage of 7 weeks, 3 days would mean that they sailed from Greenock on Thursday 8th July, only two days later than expected.

It appears that John found employment as the grieve or head workman on Mr Hannah's farm in Lachien.

The name Wiher is also written Willen, Withen, Wither

## **Letter 3**

One can speculate that there may have been some family disagreement over religious matters (the Paisley judas). The split between the established church of Scotland and the Free Church took place in this year.

## **Letter 4**

John's apparently favoured treatment by the Captain and Mate of the

Elephanta, out of a total of 130 passengers, may be accounted for by his family's friendship with Capt and Mrs Adair of Stranraer. John does not refer to the Elephanta's captain by name, but should it have been Captain Ross, the link with Stranraer and the famous Arctic explorer of that name is remarkable.

Interesting to note that the Galloway Advertiser/Wigtonshire Free Press started in this year. The Scotsman was only 25 years old.

### **Letter 5**

This is John's second inquiry concerning the lease on the croft which was due for renewal in 1843.

A tack executed in 1786 between Isabel McNarrie, widow of Andrew McDowall and Hon. Patrick Maitland of Freugh, came into my possession along with these letters. It has to be more than coincidental that this 19-year lease was agreed exactly 3x19 years before.

### **Letter 6**

The McDowalls of Freugh<sup>2</sup> had been the landowners since at least mid 15th C. About 1775 the estate was sold to Capt. Hon. Patrick Maitland, who was the 7th son of Charles, 6th Earl of Lauderdale.

Patrick Maitland was a sea captain and master of an Indiaman. On his death in 1797 he was succeeded by his son John.

John died in 1811 leaving his wife Jane and three sons Patrick, William and John. Patrick appears not to have inherited the estate until 1844, when he married Matilda Buchanan, and William rose to the rank of Commander RN, but died in 1846. John died in 1881, after achieving the rank of Lt. General with the Madras Artillery.

It is a matter of speculation who it was that was being referred to as the Capten but it appears that John McDowall knew of Patrick's arrival in 1844, and feared for the family's prospects of retaining the croft.

The Patrick or Peter Maitland who was a contemporary of John's was obviously a member of that family, and a close friend.

### **Conclusion**

I do not know what age John was when he died, and therefore how old he was when he emigrated, but he was probably still a young man.

I must assume earlier letters had given details of his marriage to Rosann Stevenson, and it is fortunate that this last letter from her survives to record the birth of her son and daughter.

It is also interesting to see how the family name spelt "McDowall" so easily became "McDouell", and perhaps remains so to this day?

### **References:**

1. Lloyd's Register of Ships 1842
2. McKerlie, P H. History of the lands and their owners in Galloway

### **June 5th 1842**

Dear Mother

and frends I writ you these fue lines to let you know that I ame in good health at present hoping thes fue lines will find you in the same we left Glasgow upon sabeth morning and we came into Grenick in the evening we had pleasent sail coming down to Grenock we have got our sails all bent now we are getting our water on bord to day and we have about 90 or A 100 passengers on bord and A number of them are hailanders and there is but A fue of them that can speak English but we have desent like people two the Capten told me we ware going to get A Sermon preacht on bord in the evening and to give Bibles to thes that had none I have not cocked aney on bord yet but gowes A shoer when I think proper and I get whatever I call for I ame living as hapey as A King the Capten and the mate are very kind to me and gives me A Gles of Brand and Genn now and then I have too Joniers in the birth with me but the mait is going to give me a hamock to make me more comfortabel at see we will sail tomorrow if wid and wather permit as we are all loking long for it.

Dear Brother and sister I was hapey to hear that you ware all well I would have wrot you soner but we did not get on as we expected you ware thinking my stoers would be geting scarce but I have plenty yet I resicved a leter frome Patrick Maitland which I was very hapey to see and Mr McCulloch and Mrs McCulloch Complements be so kind and tell Peter that I will write him all the purticklers when I land in munreall Give my complements to all inquiring friends and tell them I am hapey and well and you may tell that we have a fue prettey young leddeys on bord but I have very litle to say to them yet as I ame only wachen theair anticks but the mait sais that I will se som for when we go to see if I be not seek my self I will writ you more particular when I land if God spairs me to Get the lenth know more at present but remains your brother Good Day

Elephanta Grenock John McDowall

### **September 3th 1842**

Dear Mother and frends

I write you these fue lines to let you know that I ame in good health at present hoping these fue lines will find you in the same I landed on the 28th of August at Muntral we had a fine pashed but reeather loang it was 7 weeks and 3 days We had 130 passhenders we had wan Death of a child on the pashed it was kept wan night and then put over board thay wear mostely all from the hillands and strangers to me there was wan young man from the Litle Ginoch

that was all that was from Wigton shaire but the ware mostly all see seek but myself I was not sek at tall

I am agreed with wan Mr Hannah in Lashen at 30s permonth x I have the offer x bedd bord and washing of that through the winter if I like A stope with him the harvest is mest scattered hear now I shore wan Day and that was the finish of his harvest the are all creying dull times hear as well as at home but I think it is beter than at home I ame happy and well and I hope you are all the same there is thre Daughters and a cook the sing to me every night when I com in from the plough thay are very chiary to have so much trouble so lately his father Died in the month of Mey last aged 99 year and wan son and Doughter in the month of June he has an ounkle in Stranraer which was in the west indes But I can not writ you aney particulars give my Compliments to all inquiring friends be shuer and write me soon as pofsible as I wish to hear from you now more at present but remains

*John McDowall*

Write me the particulars abbot the place Give the direction to Patrick Matting and Robert Wiher and lett them to wirte me the I may know how Treat is getting on I would have wret you sonner but I had not an opertunity Direct to the Cair of Mr William Hannah Lachien by Montreal canada East

**Lecudie H't Grand Line  
the 18 September 1843**

Dear Mother and friendes

I write you these fue lines to let you know that I ame in good health at present and I hope these will find you in the same I received your letter Dated March 16th on the first of Jun and wan Dated July 19th 1842 which you sent by William Niell but I think he has stoped in Glasgow or went to the States for the letter was posted in New York I have been looking for Robert Willen and Wulliam Niell as I heard the were to start in the month of May give Robert Willen my Cumpliments and tell him I would have wrote before this time but I thought he was on his pasige I ame thinking of gowing to opercanida on the 15 of October and I shall write him a full letter you need not write me now till I write you as I ame going farther up. Give my complements to Mr Moore and his family and tell them I have wrote John Torens twice but never got an anser I wrte Alexander Gibsen but never got an answer give my complements to Mr and Mrs Withen and Mr Prinell and Mrs Douglas and tell hir I get none of the Paisley Judas heair John McDowall Brother in Law mest be like himself not to be Depended upon the Conterey all about hear is level there is some mountanes land dowan about Que Beck but there is now such mountanies land as is in Scotland To my vow but I shall see A little mare of it in A short time now if I be spairt in health I have the offer of Different masters around heare and in the States I ame onely 15 miles of the States I have the offer of 2 masters in the States but the never offered me goods for my work more yet store pay My pay is All in Cash but if you have a wife and A family the will give



you goods or store pay if you will tak it but times are dull here as well as in Scotland but there is now rents to pay here worth speaking of we have the harvest all scithed but 8 Ackeres of otes and 2 of buck wheat to put in and we have a very good Croke and very good harvest wather we had a fine wat Day yesterday to sofen the land fore the plough we have had 2 night frost which hath stoped the growth of the potatos and hath ripned the leat owates about hear. Dear Mother you say you would like to be with me I should like very well war all heare if you wair all as content as I ame if your thinking you can all be ready again the Spring and I shall have good Cask of Brandey purchd for you before you com. now more at present but remains your son

*John McDowall*

give my complements to all inquiring friends and tell them I never was better than I am at present

### **Kingston December 17th 1843**

Dear Mother and frends

I now write you a fue lines to let you know that I ame in good health at present hoping this will find you in the same I have Arrived at Kingston with P Maitland and W Niell and I have injoied my self well with them as the ware beter than A nues paper to me the have told me of Births Mirriges and Deaths and maney A thing that has taken pleace since I left home - William Neill has got a letter from John Torrens and he is going to John in Lowel I have met with Sandey Gibson in Kingston and we have some foney stories when we are all the gither and A we spig of Brandy I ame going to Torontey to a Gentelman their for wane yere to I se the conterey there A bouts The all say is beter than I have sen yet

I would have wret you soner but I had not time since I came heur for smocking and cracking and laffing but I had A plesend night with Capten Adaire from Stranraer and Mrs Adaire in Abinaser McWilliams in Lachein the Capten and the Mistres offered me a free pashed home if I would go with them and the ware going to set sail the nixt Day from Montrail to Liverpoll I have nothing perticular to writ you at present but wan thing that is Iff you have got a liesh of the farm and what rent by the year and what improvements and how you are thinking to get on be sure and let me know how you stand At present and Margret you must write me A fue lines your self give my complements to all inquiring friends and let John Moore know of Torrance be shure and writ son as posible I will look long for your letter now more at present but yours truly *John McDowall*

I sent you A Mountrel Nues paper and I hope you will send me A Stranraer Nues paper and write me all the perticulars About the part = I sent A fue Nues paper to some of my owald acquaintances = I hope you will write me buy the first post and send me A the sure account how you are geting one = give my Compliments to all inquiring friends = I have not my Masters adress coreck but this is a friend of his and he will forward it to me now more at present but remians *John McDowall*

Direct to the Care of Mr Angus McVicar Grocer Kingston Canada west

**May 19th 1844**

Dear Mother and friends

I write you thes fue lines to let you know that I ame in good health at present hoping you are in the same I have wrot three Letters and never got aney anser I hope you will be so kind as write me as soon as you receive this I have ben looking long for A letter from you or A Nuespaper I wrot too letters to Robert Wither and never an answer I think you are all growing laisey = however I spent A week or too with Peter Maitland and William Niel and Sandey Gibson in Kingston on my way up I have stoped hear at Cobourg as it is A very plesent part about ware I ame I have about ten minets wack to the church or to the stem boat harbor I had the pleasuer of hearing the Revrent Docter Burns on the poor Decenting Church of Scotland he towald what he wanted before he went A way = I am gowing out to Peterborrey to se James McKey as son as I have the Croke in the ground he is ceping store their and if you se aney of the frsels tell them there brother Gorge and his wife is in good health ther is nothing particler at present

I hope you will write me as son as you receive this and I hope you will writ all particulars how you are coming on and if you have taken the farm and be sure and write son and send me A Stranraer Nuespaper as I have sent some to you and some to old frends about you give my Complements to all inquiring be sure and writ Dereck I shall write you a full letter the next now more at present but remains yours *John McDowall*

Direct to me

John McDowall Care of William Leacher inn Ceper Cobourg Upper Cannedy

**Coburg Agust 13th 1844**

Dear Mother

I received your leter deated the 1st of Jualey on 11th August and I was sorey to hear of you being so poreley in health but I hope befor this comes to your hand you will be in good health but if you wish to se me I will go home to se you aney time but I would wish you could come and se me I will send you as much cash as will pay all your expences hear as I think if we ware all hear you could be much beter than whear you are = I think James you are fare rong in not having the bargan finished with the Capten you must wake on prity cases foting at the present time but if you could be as happy as I am hear I think you should not humbug with the Capten aney longer = Margret you will tell me the nixt letter what you think about as I hope you will be all in good health as I ame in at present I ame now in Mr Laders with William Irvin he is gowing home and I ame taking the opertunity of sending thes fue lines with him to you, as he (does ) not like the conterey however diferent men diferent minds = Sandey Gibson of the Two Marke is hear and in good health and George Frifsel of porbespilbe and Archey Miller of Stranraer and I hope you will delever thise Gentelmen complements to ther frends and the are all in good health but Archey Miller wishes me to write you to tell his father and Robert that he wrote them from Montral there at four times and he niver received aney anser and his adres to the Cair of Mr Patrick Nuten vitereny sergan Coburg uper

Canedy = I was hapey t hear from Charles Reid and I had a letter from Patrick a fue days agow and the are all in good health I had a letter from Andrew McBride and he was powarely in health but he is well now I have not time to write you a full letter at this time = but I hope you will be all in good health when William and this reaches you as it leaves me in the best of health Dear Mother if you are not abel to come to se me I will goe and see you at aney time if you have aney disier to se me now more at present but remains

your son

*John McDowall*

write as son as this comes to hand as I will think long to hear of you all wirte twice a month until she be in good health be sure and do this be sure.

**Cobourg June 7th 1845**

Dear Mother And frends

I was hapey to hear the contents of your letter deated October 2th 1844 = Dear Mother I was happy to hear that you ware gotten beter in health which we ought all to be thankful for it is A great blifsing this leaves me in good health hoping it will find you in the same I ame on the same farm that I was but not with the same master. I left Mr Dentery in the month of October and went to wan Mr Covert he has three farmes this wan he set to Mr Dentery for there years but but he thought it was two much to pay wan pound per acker so he gave it up and then I was sent back to it again which I was not very sorrey at = Mr Covert is a young an married man - he is talking of gowing home to London this summer for his health for he is A very dealickat man he sayes he is gowing to take a trip through Scotland and Ireland before he comes back if he gowes he will give you A call as he gowes through - I have got all the croses in we have A very cold spring this year but you would think it A very pleasent wan with you = you say you have not got aney bargan finished with hte Capten yet I would be of or on with him for if you improve the land you may come to the lofs of it but you are dowing it for the best but you say you had a very good crop the last year which I ame very happy to hear and you say Dimond is in very good health if you give me plenty of corn I think their is very little fear of him for I allwies found him faithful and true and readey to go and stop when I wanted him

Margrat if you are thinking of coming Ches making is very well paied hear and we have a firstreat farm for Cowes hear but we cannot get A Derry maid if you com I can get you apart aney Day be shure and write me if you are coming but I think you would be much beter and all com to gither and I shall suport you as fare as I can but I shall not adives you but I know that I stopped two long at home I would not go home to stopp if I should get the Croft for the gowing but you can pleas your selves I ame gowing down to Kingston on Friday wick to se Patrick Maitland and to get some Nues papers for you niver send me wan I sopose thier is non a printing in Stranraer but Sandy Gibson is jest come in and he says that he has got a letter from home I am hapey to hear that you are all well he says that his brother William is got married to Marrey Care Sandey is up at the part the call Hamilton you can tell his mother that he is in good

health at present and Daniel McCaige of Cilldonien is hear he is stoping A bout two mills of me and you can let his people now the first oportunity that he is in good health at present and George Frisell is A bout half A mile for me he is in good health at present let his people now the first oportunity - I have got A letter from Peter Maitland he says the ar all well at present

Our markets hear are prety brisk at present Wheat is from four and sixpence to five shillings per bushel and corn two shillings per bushel and potatos is from 18 pence to 2 shiling per bushel and beff is from 4 pence to 6 per pound and pork from 2 pence to 5 pence per pound and butter is from 6 pence to 9 per pound and ches is from 6 pence to 8 per pound and shuger is from 6 pence to 8 per pound and tea is from 2 shilings to 6 per pound and Tobackey is from 6 pence to 2 shilings per pound and pipes is from 3 pence to 6 per dus(en) we have a preatey good market to be in a wood or bush conterey we had a pretey motherat winter and we have had a pretey good spring and our fall wheat and our medows are loking very well our spring wheat and our corn are but young yet we have som fine (spours) of beaf - be sure and writ the first operatunity as I ame happy to hear form you and if you can get A nues paper you might send me wan now and then as I would get me the nues of the contery give my complements to all inquiring friendes Dear Mother if you were hear I would give you a fine feed of strawberes and Creame and suger and that would anser your bad health but as you are not hear I will take them my self now more at present

but remains your afecknot son

*John McDowall*

### **June 5th 1847**

Dear Mother Brother and Sister

I have been looking this twelve months past for a letter and has received none I ame left Cobourg A year A go and when I left I toweld the post master to send my letters after me to Kingston but I have heard since that there was letters at Cobourg for me and that the are sent to the head post office at Quebec this was all through the bad management of the postmaster in Cobourg and so my leters was all lost I ame thinking long to hear from you and I hope you will write the day you receive this letter as I ame anxious to know if you have got aney settement A bout the farm and let me know if you are making aney beter of it and if last year was A good year with you and I sepose none of you hase ane thought of coming to America if you have you can let me know. I hope you will let me know about all my old neighbours and be shure to tell me About Robert Wither how he gets on in the merret life and let me know how Peter Niell and Mrs Ewing gets along and Charles Reid also and James McCoullock in Stranraer how he is coming on and John Corering and John Ewing Blair and Abrham McWilliam Cildrochat and John Henery and John Emslie and Arter Gordon and how the Kilbreen famely and whear William Niell was when he died and let me know all the alterations that has taken place since I left I hope Mr Moore and famely in Galdnoch are well I saw by the newspapers that he soweld a larg Tup to Mr Boil be sure and send me A newspaper as regular as

you can and I will return you wan for every wan I receive but be sure and answer all that is in this letter The flower here is therty shilens per barel and cannot get hous rome for it as it is coming so plenty from the west to be shipped home I ame now employed as foreman on government work at five shillings per day and Patrick Maitland and family is but a small distance from me and has one hundred pounds per year in an Academy be sure and answer this direct Mrs McDowall and son Andrew joins me with best respects to you all

*John McDowall*

plese direct your letters to me

John McDowall

Care of Mr Linzie letter carrier, Kingston, Upper Canada

**Kingston Sept 24th 1848**

Dear Sir

I am sorry to inform you that your Dear Brother John is no more!!! He departed this life on the 31st Augt last about eight o'clock in the morning at a place called Tuttle-Hill, about four miles from Kingston. His illnefs was of a very short duration he only lived eleven days from he took it. He had two Doctors attending him but all to no affect. I happened to be there the day he took his trouble = my miftress and me went down to stop a day at his place = however I believe his mistrefs seemed glade that we went down, as she was confined that night and has got a fine little daughter The next day after he complained of his eyes being painful and the sickly. We went back again when we heard of him being worse = which happened to be the day before he died = he was quite sensible and had on his trousers & shoes and was able to get up and thought himself a great deal better - but alas it was only for a short duration = the next morning the minister had been down with him and had seen death approaching = The minister immediatly came back as fast as he could and called on me with the bad tidings of his being worse I went direct to the Doctor to come along = but he gave me a refusall saying it was fever was the matter with John

turn over

and a very bad Kind = so he would not come, then my Mistrefs and me preceeded as fast as we could with a span of horses and I can assure you we lost no time, sorry I am to say, John had breath his last before we arrived Mrs McDowall's two brothers war there, but not a neighbour would come near the house for fear of the fever = so we considered the best way was for to lock up the house and carry away Mrs McDowall to her brother's house which was quite convenient as she was very bad at the same time, and I am afraid of her recovery yet = The funeral took place next day at two o'clock in the afternoon in the Scotch Churchyard in the township of Kingston and provence of Upper Canada. I can assure you John had great prospects had he lived the situation that he had the grant of was vacant just four days ago - which John was to have got had he lived but that was not to be - it was under Government. I am sorry my Dear friend that this melancholy event has fallen upon me to communicate to you = many happy nights and days John and me spent in Canada, however

I hope we will take it as a warning to be prepared to meet the same event that has happened to him as it is sure to us all. I will be glad to receive your answer and when you write adrefs (P Maitland) Kingston Canada West

My wife joins me with best respects to your Mother, sister and yourself. I am  
Sir Yours truly *Peter Maitland*

P.S. perhaps you would go up till Kilbreen and say we received their letter and will answer it on the 10th of Oct if health permit = you may that we are all well  
Peter Maitland

Would you be so good as send me (John's age - what year he was born in - month and day of the month)

### **Port Hope June 17th 1849**

My Dear friends

I think it my duty to wright you a fue lines to let your mother know all the particulars of my dear John's Death he was 12 days complaing he was about But the last 2 days he was not able to get up So I Sent for the minister and doctor thinking He might like to See them So the Shaud him And looked quiet refreshed So he got up and put on his trousers thinking he could go out but he Was two weak he could use nothing but drinking cold water the next morning he dyed we had the oppinion of 2 doctors and the Said it was the vomiting fever and deadly I suppose Mr McLin has informed you before this as I told Him to do So as I was in my confinement at the time of my dear husband's death and had the Same Sicknefs he had I was not well for 4 months then I took the fever and ague I have 2 small children Andrew was 2 years And one month and Margret was 11 days old whin thear Dear Father Died i have noting to seport them but the worke of my one hands if the Lord will give me health to worke to seport them We ar living at my Fathers at the present Time 100 miles from where he deyed you wish to know what country woman I was I am from

I am from the centre of Ireland 12 years in Kinnada my dear friends there is nothing But trouble in this world we must take it all with patiance my dear John called for his mother 2 nights before he dyed my Brothers wated on him from the time he took his Sicknefs both day and night till the last moment as everybody was afraid ofthe Sicknefs Mr McClan lived about 4 miles from us he called to see John the day before he dyed I do not know what I should have done only my brothers was near me for no one would Come in to the house on account of his Sicknefs the night my dear John was dead there was No one in the house but my 2 brothers and their wives You may think it was a lonely place My dear friend do right to me and do not forget me or the childrin as i shuld be glad to hear from aniy of my Dear husband frends this is to leters i rote you but got no answer i have been down in Kingston and seen a sister of Mif Mateland that came out i read a leter that came from you i have no more to Say at the present time

But remains you ever loving friend and well wisher till death

Rosann McDouell

when you rite to me Direct to Andrew Stevenson port Hope my father

# Appendix

| <i>Letter</i> | <i>Name</i>                           | <i>Location</i> |                              |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 4             | Capt & Mrs Adair                      | of Stranraer    |                              |
| 8             | Mr Boil                               |                 |                              |
| 5             | Rev. Dr Burns                         |                 | Cobourg                      |
| 7             | Mr Covert                             |                 | Cobourg                      |
| 8             | John Corering                         |                 |                              |
| 7             | Mr Dentery                            |                 | Cobourg                      |
| 3             | Mrs Douglas                           |                 |                              |
| 8             | John Emslie                           |                 |                              |
| 8             | John Ewing                            | of Blair        | Cobourg                      |
| 8             | Mrs Ewing                             |                 |                              |
| 5,6,7         | George Frissel                        | of Por.?        | Cobourg                      |
|               | his wife                              |                 | do.                          |
| 3,4,5,6,7     | Alexander (Sandey) Gibson             | of Two Mark     | Kingston, Cobourg & Hamilton |
| 7             | William Gibson                        |                 |                              |
| 7             | Mary, his wife                        |                 |                              |
| 8             | Arthur Gordon                         |                 |                              |
| 2             | William Hannah                        |                 | Lachien, by Montreal         |
| 8             | John Henry                            |                 |                              |
| 6             | William Irvine                        |                 | Cobourg                      |
| 6             | Mr Landers                            |                 | Cobourg                      |
| 5             | William Leacher                       | Innkeeper       | Cobourg                      |
| 8             | Mr Linzie                             | letter carrier  |                              |
| 1,4,7,8       | Patrick Maitland                      |                 | Kingston                     |
| 5,7,9         | Peter Maitland                        |                 |                              |
| 6             | Patrick?                              |                 |                              |
| 1             | Peter?                                |                 |                              |
| 2             | Patrick Matting                       |                 |                              |
| 6             | Archey Miller                         | of Stranraer    | Cobourg                      |
| 6             | Robert Miller                         | do.             |                              |
| 6             | (father) Miller                       | do.             |                              |
| 4             | John Moore                            |                 |                              |
| 3,8           | Mr Moore                              | of Galdenoch    |                              |
|               | and family                            |                 |                              |
| 6             | Andrew McBride                        |                 |                              |
| 7             | Daniel McCaig                         | of Kildonan     | Cobourg                      |
| 1             | Mr and Mrs McCulloch                  |                 |                              |
| 8             | James McCulloch                       | in Stranraer    |                              |
| 5             | James McKay                           | Storekeeper     | Peterburgh                   |
| 10            | Mr McLean                             |                 |                              |
| 4             | Angus McVicar                         | Grocer          | Kingston                     |
| 4             | Abinezer McWilliam                    |                 | Lachien                      |
| 8             | Abraham McWilliam                     | of Kildrochat   |                              |
| 3,4,5,8       | William Niell                         |                 | New York? Kingston           |
| 8             | Peter Niell                           |                 |                              |
| 6             | Mr Patrick Nuten                      | Vet. Surgeon    | Cobourg                      |
| 3             | Mr Pringel                            |                 |                              |
| 6,8           | Charles Reid                          |                 |                              |
| 10            | Andrew Stevenson                      |                 | Port Hope                    |
| 3,4           | John Torrens                          |                 | Lowel                        |
| 2,3,5         | Robert Wiher/Willen/Mr and Mrs Withen |                 |                              |
| 8             | Robert Wither                         |                 |                              |
| 5             | Dereck?                               |                 |                              |

## **Some Recent Additions to the Library**

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Or and Sable   | - L.G. Graeme               |
| A History of Ann Street                                      | - A. Kerr                   |
| Calendar of The Laing Charters Ad854-1837                    | - ed. Rev. J. Anderson      |
| The Edinburgh Almanack, 1820                                 |                             |
| Yetholm M.Is.  |                             |
| Surnames of the Manks  | - L. Quilliam               |
| History of the Cowans of Newton-on-Ayr & Nithsdale           | - R.J. Cowan                |
| History of the University of Edinburgh, 1883-1933            | - ed. A. Logan Turner       |
| Edinburgh Institution, 1832-1932                             | - ed. J.R.S. Young          |
| Burke's Landed Gentry 18th ed. vol. 1                        | - ed. P. Townend            |
| Genealogical Research in England & Wales, vol. 3             | - D.E. Gardner & F. Smith   |
| Comments on the Keir Performance                             | - J. Riddell                |
| Scots on the Chesapeake 1607-1830                            | - Comp. D. Dobson           |
| Scottish American Court Records 1733-1783                    | - D. Dobson                 |
| Scottish American Wills 1750-1900                            | - D. Dobson                 |
| The Mariners of Kirkcaldy & W. Fife 1600-1700                | - D. Dobson                 |
| Newsbitt/Nisbet Bibliography                                 | - M. Nesbitt                |
| The Frasers of Castle Fraser                                 | - L. Smiley                 |
| Memoirs of Clan Fingon                                       | - Rev. D.D. Mackinnon       |
| Book of the Old Edinburgh Club Vols. XIII, XV, XVI           |                             |
| The Edinburgh University Calendar 1877-78                    |                             |
| Scottish Architects Abroad                                   |                             |
| The Kirk of St Ternan, Arbuthnott                            | - G.A. Henderson            |
| The Life of Alexander Stewart                                | - Sir P.M. Stewart          |
| Divinity Professors in the Univ. of Glasgow 1640-1903        | - Rev. H.M.B. Reid          |
| Genealogical Microform Holdings in Scottish Libraries        | - M. Nikolic                |
| Arbroath Past & Present                                      | - J.M. McBain               |
| Border Battles & Battlefields                                | - J. Robson                 |
| Orkney, the Magnetic North                                   | - J. Gunn                   |
| The Presbytery of Perth                                      | - Rev. J. Wilson            |
| Allars of Hawick, 1810-1949                                  | - ed. A.M. Aitken           |
| Scottish Castles   | - W.D. Simpson              |
| The Scottish Decorators' Quarterly Review Sep 1937-June 1938 |                             |
| An Old Border Kirk 1810-1910                                 | - J. Wotherspoon            |
| Scottish Costume 1550-1850                                   | - S. Maxwell & R. Hutchison |



- Kelly's Handbook to the Titled, Landed & Official Classes, 1965
- The Darbys of Coalbrookdale - B. Trinder
- Galloway Family Names - J.A. Russell
- Book of the Old Edinburgh Club, Vols. IX, XIV, XVII, XIX, XX
- Scots Recruits to the Lancs (County) Constabulary 1869-1900  
- comp. Mrs F. Thomas
- Well Wrocht & Cunyeit (Edin. Mint & Coinage) - N.M. McQ. Holmes
- Pypis & Tabaca (Edin. Pipemakers & Pipes) - D.B. Gallagher & A. Sharp
- Ednam M.Is.
- The Incorporation of Bonnetmakers & Dyers of Glasgow
- The Glasgow Academy Roll of Service 1939-45
- Old Irish & Highland Dress - H.F. McClintock
- East Lothian Gravestones - I. Donaldson
- The Inventory of Chisholm Writs, 1456-1810 - J. Munro
- Glimpses into the Past in the Lammermuirs - J.H. Browne
- Calendar of Fearn 1471-1667 - R.J. Adam
- Index to the Australian Dictionary of Biography vols 1&2, 1788-1850  
- M.R. Sainty & M.C. Flynn
- Genealogical Research Directory - 1992 - K.A. Johnson & M.R. Sainty
- Court Book of Shetland 1615-1629 - G. Donaldson
- Living in Atholl, 1685-1785 - L. Leneman
- Coll & Tiree, Handbook to the Islands - H. Macdougall & H. Cameron
- A Cockburn Family in Berwickshire - A. Cockburn
- The Ancestry of Anthony Morris Johnson - supplement - R.L. Johnson
- A Dictionary of Scottish History - G. Donaldson, R.S. Morpeth
- Heriot-Watt College - Calendar for 1901-1902
- George Watson's College 1724-1970 - H.L. Waugh
- Royal College of Surgeons, Edin. 1505-1905 - C.H. Creswell
- Iona through the Ages - A. Macquarrie & E.M. Macarthur
- Glasgow Academical Club 1866-1966
- History of the Burgh of Canongate - J. Mackay
- The Pont Manuscript Maps of Scotland - J.C. Stone
- The Statistical Account of Scotland, vol. 16 - D.J. Withrington, I.R. Grant
- Street Index - 1861 Census  
- Kirkcaldy & Dysart Fife Local Studies Workshop
- Auchtermuchty M.Is - M.A. Bonthron
- Auchtermuchty Deaths - M.A. Bonthron

# **Division of Soldiers' Records between the Public Record Office, Ministry of Defence and Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

by Captain (Retd) Erik Gray

If you are fortunate and possess a soldier ancestor in your pedigree, you may be able to discover more about him and his life and travels in the British Army than you could ever hope to achieve in the case of a civilian forbear. This applies particularly to soldiers who served in the ranks. And, if your ancestor served more than 100 years ago, the extent of the details that may be found about him may be greater than if, for example, he served during the First World War.

Every day I receive several letters from family historians in different parts of the world. Many of their queries illustrate that there is considerable misunderstanding and confusion regarding the whereabouts of the principal holdings of British Army records. The purpose of this article, therefore, is to try to clarify the position by pointing my readers in the right direction. If its content is of interest to you but you find yourself insufficiently 'pointed', then you are welcome to write to me, but do beware that I have a tendency to snap at people who fail to send return postage. Don't we all?

The records of soldiers who served in the British Army on regular engagements between its birth in 1660 and 1913 are housed at the Public Record Office (PRO) at Kew, together with other old War Office records of various kinds. So, too, are those of men of the British and Irish militias, although some may occasionally be found in county record offices. The collection occupies approaching 7 miles of shelf space and may be seen and researched by anyone. Contrary to what seems to be a popular belief, records relating to individual soldiers are not folded away in named, neat little bundles to be easily picked from a shelf. In many instances, they require detailed and often informed research. Unfortunately, for the distanced UK and overseas family historian, the PRO does not undertake research for members of the public; so you will need either to visit Kew yourself or engage a professional researcher to act on your behalf. It should go without saying that it is advisable to engage someone on personal recommendation or to ask one of the large genealogical or family history societies whether they can suggest a reliable individual.

As a postscript to the previous paragraph, it may be helpful to mention for the few to whom it may apply that the regimental records at Kew include many of those of the three ancient regiments of foot Guards; namely, the Grenadier, Coldstream and Scots Guards. It is not generally known, however, that, unlike others of the British Army today, these three regiments possess some very good records of their own. So, if you know that your ancestor was a guardsman who served at, for examples, the battle of Waterloo or during the Crimean War, and you have been unable to find any personal information about him at Kew, you should try asking the appropriate regiment whether it

has some record of him and his service. The officer to write to is the Regimental Adjutant, RHQ Grenadier/Coldstream/Scots Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ.

If your ancestor served during the First World War or later, then, no matter where you live, there is no need to seek professional help. You can pursue your enquiries from your armchair by requesting an application form from the Ministry of Defence CS(R)2b, Bourne Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1RF. It has custody of all surviving service records of WW1, together with those of men who served in WW2.

The WW1 records at Hayes include those of (a) men who enlisted before 1914 and were serving when war was declared, (b) those of reservists who were recalled to the Colours at the outbreak of war; and (c) those of men who had completed their engagements before 1914, but who, after war was declared, voluntarily re-enlisted. In regard to men in category (c), it appears to have been the War Office practice to amalgamate documents relating to their earlier service with those raised at the time of re-enlistment. But there are exceptions to every rule; and, exceptionally, the discharge documents for the first periods of service of soldiers who re-enlisted of their own free will in 1914 may sometimes be found in the collection at the PRO.

It is an unhappy fact that any application that you may make to the MoD may fail. It may be unsuccessful because your ancestor's service papers were among the very large number of WW1 records which were destroyed in 1940, when an army records store in Southwark, London, was hit by enemy bombs. Equally, it may fail if you cannot comply with certain conditions. The MoD will only release information from a soldier's records where you are his next-of-kin and have his written consent; or, if he is deceased, you are his next-of-kin or have the written approval of that person. Documentary evidence of relationship will almost certainly be requested.

Aside from the MoD, the quite separate Commonwealth War Graves Commission (2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 7DX) maintains records of WW1 and WW2 war dead. It will respond to written applications for information. Casualties are listed in an overall index in alphabetical order of surname and initials. Entries include the deceased soldier's number, rank and the location of his grave; or, where no known grave exists, the memorial on which his name appears. From its other sources, the CWGC may be able to provide information which may include your deceased ancestor's place of birth, home town, next-of-kin and place of enlistment. The Commission does not operate the same very strict rules used by the MoD. In making an application you should provide as much factual detail as possible in order to assist in the identification of the casualty concerned.

# TITULAR TOSH!

by Helen Hinchliff

Can one really join the ranks of royalty or aristocracy by purchasing a title? Or, is this yet another scheme to separate gullible genealogists from their money? The notice of a book entitled *Upward Nobility! The Guide to How, How Much and Where*, carried in the March 1991 issue, suggests that for the rather considerable sum of £42.10 one can send off to Rotterdam for a book containing inside information from the Holy See of Antioch on how "to acquire legitimate titles of nobility" and to make one's "dreams come true". Anyone harbouring hopes of a noble title in his address should realise two important points: (1) a title purchased from the Holy See of Antioch will be very expensive and (2) it will have been fraudulently acquired and used.

## **£42.10 is only the Start**

The Holy See of Antioch has been active in the United States promoting the idea of rehabilitating and conferring titles on descendants who can provide "a reasonable demonstration of descent" from the last legitimate title holder.<sup>1</sup> An American named Wayne B. Yeager, who now styles himself the Baron of Montfort, based on the claim that Simon de Montfort was his 17th great grandfather, has written about the ease with which he acquired this title from the Holy See of Antioch. He provided a pedigree of several generations linking an ancestor with one mentioned in a genealogy of Simon de Montfort's descendants and paid a fee of \$2000 (about £1000).

Ordinarily, titles that are heritable descend through a direct line of male heirs, but Mr Yeager reported that the Holy See of Antioch awards them to the "first legitimate heir who comes forward" and that women are also welcome to apply to rehabilitate the titles of their male ancestors. He encouraged his readers to search for titled ancestors in their pedigrees and to join in the "fun of being introduced as the Duke of This-and-that everywhere you go."

The lax standards in conferring abeyant titles employed by the Holy See of Antioch suggest that it is in the business of "selling" titles to those gullible enough to pay for them; but would it also confer a title to a person who made a patently phony claim? To test its willingness to do so, I devised a letter containing the known facts about my German ancestry which I can trace back to a stonemason who was born in 1620 in a small village called Hechlingen, near the town of Ansbach. I also reported that a Dutchman who had a similar surname, had been granted a Coat of Arms by the Dutch government in 1659.

I concluded my letter by saying that I had never been able to establish a link between the two families but had always wondered whether I was entitled to use the Hollander's Coat of Arms.

When the representative of the Holy See of Antioch repounded to my query, he neglected to point out that having a pedigree dating back to a German who was born in 1620 would make it difficult for me to claim descent from a Hollander granted a Coat of Arms in 1659. Instead, he informed me that

Our title search service is performed by a team of very able genealogical and heraldic researchers in Europe. You receive an extensive report on all available titles, histories, and how they may be reclaimed. The cost for this program \$480 [about £240] per surname and the process requires about two months' work.<sup>2</sup>

My correspondent further informed me that "The Patriarch himself bestows such honors [reclaimable titles] and we ask for donations in exchange for this conference." I have decided not to put the Holy See of Antioch to a further test. Learning whether its team of researchers would somehow discover that, after all, I am entitled to a Dutch Coat of Arms based on my German ancestry is not worth \$480. Moreover, the report mentioned in his letter sounds very like *Upward Nobility!*, which the notice informs me Queensgate Press sells for £42.10.

### **Fraudulently Acquired Titles are Not "Legitimate"**

The notice begins with the statement that *Upward Nobility!* is "about how to acquire legitimate titles of nobility". This is a misleading statement. Titles conferred long ago were no doubt legitimate; that is, the monarch who granted them had the right to do so and presumably made no mistake as to the identity of the would-be title holder. Such titles resurrected today by the Holy See of Antioch are not legitimate because that entity has no right to confer them on anyone, let alone to the first person who comes forward "providing reasonable demonstration of descent". Anthony J. Camp, the director of the London-based Society of Genealogists, has recently commented on the illegitimacy of the titles conferred by the Holy See of Antioch:

The Holy Roman Empire was dissolved in 1806 when all the rights

formerly belonging to the Emperors were vested in the Sovereigns of the various principalities into which Germany was then divided. Titles conferred since 1806 are not those of the Holy Roman Empire, but of Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, etc., as the case may be. To pretend that the rights of the Holy Roman Empire are somehow collectively represented by an organisation calling itself the "Patriarchate of Antioch" is absurd.

However titles were created in the past, and it was much the same throughout Europe, whether for service or on payment of fees, those titles were granted with specific remainders, i.e. the manner in which the title was to descend was fixed at the time of its creation. "A reasonable demonstration of descent," despite what the message from Antioch says, is not sufficient. One has to prove that one is the direct male heir. To prove that you are "the most worthy heir" is rubbish. If the heir is in prison or a lunatic asylum he is still the heir.

To assume a title illegally is, like the use of the Arms of [a] family of the same surname, merely theft. It does no honour to the ancestor, it brings ridicule upon the descendant, and it debases the whole honours system.<sup>3</sup>

The notice asserts that "human nature does not change" and argues that there have always been those - whether kings or politicians - who "have taken advantage" of the desire to acquire a title. The review quotes the final sentence of the opening chapter: "Life doesn't give something for nothing - why should sovereigns?" The implication of this question is that the Holy See of Antioch is comparable to a sovereign and that it has something of value to confer. In fact, it is not comparable to a sovereign; nor is it conferring anything of real value. Do not let the Holy See of Antioch take advantage of you.

1. "Reclaiming Your Ancestors' Ancient Titles," *The International Society for British Genealogy and Family History Newsletter*, January-March 1991, 11-12.
2. Holy See of Antioch, letter to Helen Hinchliff, 27 March 1991.
3. Anthony J. Camp. F.S.G. (Hon), letter to the Co-Editors of the *ISBGFH Newsletter*, April-June 1991, 27.

# **The McTurks of the Glenkens**

by Major C.W. Ellis, OBE, LLD

In her article <sup>1</sup>'Carsphairn - 350 Years', Anna Campbell drew attention to the prevalence of certain names on the Carsphairn tombstones. One of those mentioned is McTurk. What follows is an attempt to trace some of the McTurk generations and to relate them to the changing economic and society fortunes of the Glenkens.

The origins of the name and its variants, such as MacGurk, must remain hidden in Gaelic antiquity: the ties between Dalriada and Ulster suggest an early medieval sept and surname link. Documentation, however, is rare until the sixteenth century. By then the name is to be found not only in Kirkcudbright but also in Wigton, Dumfries and Ayrshire. An example, from Mochrum in Wigtonshire for 1539, is in respect of a charter reference to John Makturk, tenant of Alrig and of Mekle Arieuwlend.

Positive evidence of the presence of the McTurks in Carsphairn comes from the Will, dated 1674, of John McTurk, in East Mark; four years later a further Will for a John McTurk shows his residence as Castlemaddie.

From the Register of the Privy Council <sup>2</sup> we learn that, in 1784, 'several persons of this name [are] charged with being disorderly in the parish of Carsfern'. Disorderly in the context of the time meant being non-conforming. One may assume that the McTurks were not free of covenanting zeal; support for this assumption is provided from the presence in Castlemaddy of a branch of the McAdam family whose allegiance to the covenant is more generally known.

Another testament. of Euphemia McTurk, registered in 1703, reveals the family as present in Mylnmark, Dalry. A near-contemporary, although the exact relationship cannot be established, was 'Janet Gordon, relict of John McTurk, in Little Auchrae, afterwards relict of Alex Hislop of Glenhould, parish of Dalry, and thereafter spouse to John Ferguson in Upper Woodhead of Carsphairn'<sup>3</sup>.

The Carsphairn Kirkyard is generous in providing evidence which, when read with the Old Parish Register, reveals some of the kinship patterns of the eighteenth century.

From inscriptions we learn that Alexander McTurk, his wife Jean Milligan and Janet, wife of Robert McTurk, die in Half-Mark of Castlemaddie, in the years respectively, 1756, 1758 and 1759. Robert himself died in 1771, aged 51, in Shiel of Castlemaddie. From another stone it is clear that Alex and Jean had at least one son, John, born in 1730 and who died at Glenlee, Kells, in 1782.

The OPR for Kells reveals that a son, William, is born to an Alex McTurk at Nether Glenrie in 1743. Further evidence regarding this William has not been located. However, also from the Kells register, we know of the presence over the period 1776-1813 of three other McTurk households. In 1776 Robert fathers a child, not named, in Tannoch; in 1785 a son, Robert, is born to David and wife Mary (Ewart) also at Glenrie, to be followed in 1792 by a daughter, Isabella; between 1809-1813 Agnes, Mary and James are born to James and wife Grizzel (Cannon) at Barnton. So far any direct relationship between Alex (c1690-1756), Robert (dob c 1750), David (dob c 1760) and James (dob c 1785) is still to be established.

Some connection may be deduced from the re-appearance of certain Christian names. In particular the Carsphairn OPR records the birth of James, in 1758, at Shiel of Castlemaddy, to our Robert and Janet McTurk already detected from the churchyard evidence. Between 1768-1775 first at Drumjohn and then at Knockingarroch a Robert McTurk and wife Agnes (Wilson) have three children, Jean, James and then Elspie. To go further back there is a testament, dated 1736, of a James McTurk of Marskeig, Dalry.

Although, conventionally, lineage follows the male line, it is also instructive to study what happens to daughters. In 1761 Jean McTurk, married to James McGovern, now has a son John baptised in Carsphairn Kirk. No record of her own birth has been traced, but since it is likely to have been c.1740, then Alex and Jean (Milligan) are the probable parents. For Grizel who, as the wife of Will McAdam, starts a family of five at Meadowshead in 1773, it is more difficult to assign parentage. In 1776 a 'spurious' birth of a daughter, Mary, to Jean McTurk is recorded at Lamford. Is this Jean a daughter of Alex, Robert or James?

Another alternative is that McTurks in the parish of Glencairn, to the east, had maintained links with Carsphairn, Dalry or Kells. The OPR for Glencairn reveals that a daughter, Jean, is born in 1748 to an Alex McTurk and Jean (Kirk), which makes her a possible candidate as mother for the 1776 birth entry in Carsphairn. Between 1740 and 1758 five other births are registered in Glencairn to McTurks carrying Andrew, Alex, Robert and James as Christian names. The mid-century accumulation of Robert McTurks is further enhanced by the existence in Tynron of another Robert, who married Mary Johnston in 1754. One further entry of illegitimacy in the Carsphairn register remains to be noted: on 18 March 1781 a daughter, Jannet, is born to Catherine McTurk.

The McTurks are also to be found, in addition to Glencairn and Tynron, in Wigtonshire at Stenhouse. James, born as we have seen at Shiel of Castlemaddy in 1758, marries Isabella Hunter c.1790 and the birth of seven children is registered at Stenhouse between 1793 and 1804.



Hence by the end of the eighteenth century McTurks were widely spread across Kirkcudbright, Dumfries and Wigtonshire. Our concern here, however, is more narrowly with the Glenkens. It is possible there to concentrate on John (1752-1801) and his descendants. By 1785 John is married to Helen MacMillan because on 2 June that year their first child Robert is born at Waterside, Kells. Between 1785 and 1801 seven other children are born, but so far details of only four have been confirmed: William was born in 1787, Alex in 1797 and Mary in 1801, all registered in Carsphairn.

At a time in Scotland when, as elsewhere in Britain, there was economic and population growth, it is appropriate to consider what role the family McTurk might have been playing. It is important to recognise that the topography and the economy of the district were quite different from those of today. The sweeps of afforestation did not dominate, water sources were not controlled for power. The relatively uncluttered hill sides gave scope for sheep-raising and for pockets of population in the glens. Cattle raising and arable farming become more viable in the lower-lying lands of the south.

To locate the homes of the early McTurks on a modern map of the Glenkens is to identify their dispersal over areas of marginal land, some of which are now swallowed within present-day forest - e.g. Shiel of Castlemaddie and Muirdrichwood. Given the then existing economy and the lack of evidence indicating landownership it is likely that those early McTurks were shepherds and cattle-drovers, or in a few cases, small tenant farmers.

It may be significant, however, that among land holders is the MacMillan family. Further indication of social and economic position may be deduced from testamentary records. Among these the names of MacMillan and MacAdam are prominent. In the limited population of this rural area the linking by marriage of the McTurks with the MacAdams and MacMillans may not be unimportant for the future of the McTurks.

In any case the Scotland of the 1780s, when John married Helen MacMillan, was rapidly changing country. The appearance of industrial areas with growing urban populations provided markets for agriculture. Given the drive for rural 'improvement' and the inflationary impact of the Napoleonic Wars the turn of the century was a time of prosperity and opportunity. This particular region of Scotland had earlier been known for resources or ore promising valuable yields of iron, lead and even of gold. The exploitation of Dalmellington and Wanlochhead was indeed followed, in 1838, by the opening up of lead mines in the Woodhead area of Carsphairn. Within a generation there would exist a new settlement within the parish which would house a population of about 300.

Against that background one can detect a shift also in the centre of gravity and perhaps the material position of the McTurks. There is evidence from the

"Dumfries Standard"<sup>4</sup> that John McTurk traded as a merchant in Carsphairn where at least four of his children were born. He was sufficiently affluent or patriotic to make voluntary contributions totalling £2.5s. in 1798 "in aid of the exertions of the Government against the enemies of the country". Even more positive information is available regarding the marriage and offspring of two of the children, William (1787-1840) and Alexander (1797-1876).

William marries Marian McAdam and their first child is born at Carnavel in April 1807. Four other children follow. Of these, John, the older son, married Elizabeth Alexander and twin boys, John and David, were born in 1827 at Milnmark, Dalry parish. Five boys of whom four carried the characteristic McTurk Christian names of James, Robert, William and Alexander, also appear in the Dalry record. This move from Carsphairn is confirmed by the 1841 and subsequent Census records. Later ownership of land returns (1873) confirm that John owned 775 acres based on Knocksting and Glenhoul, although both he and his wife Elizabeth were resident at Ulloch, Balmaghie, near Castle Douglas.

An interesting note in the Dalry OPR recording the birth of John's son, Alexander, in December 1836, shows another Alexander McTurk, John's uncle, as witness. Alexander is also noted as 'of Barlae'. By this date Alexander is married: the register for Kells shows that he married Jean Hyslop in Glenlee in February 1835. Residence at Barlae, Dalry is confirmed by the birth there of their nine children, eight of whom survive to adulthood. Again, confirmation comes from the Census records for 1841 and 1851. The latter reveals a land holding of 3600 acres with 6 shepherds, 4 agricultural labourers, 2 house servants and 1 dairy-maid.

At this level of enquiry the reasons for John and Alexander McTurk being able to take over such extensive farm-land are not readily apparent. What can be established is that in addition to the family at Milnmark there was an equally strong presence at Barlae: between 1839 and 1850 five boys and three girls were born.

From a County Directory for the years 1882-85 it is evident, following his father's death in 1876, that the third surviving son, William Ackroyd McTurk, took over at Barlae. There he remained until his death in 1921.

The end of the nineteenth century, with considerable economic pressure on farming communities was not such as to ensure the integrity of family units. Without delving deeply it is possible to see the dispersal of the McTurks both within and furth of Scotland.

Both John (1808-1887) and two of his sons appear to have developed business interests in Leicestershire and the name McTurk is to be found there at the beginning of this century. Two further sons take up sheep farming at

Sennybridge in Breconshire and establish a McTurk line in South Wales. Another son, Alexander (1836-1905), becomes a stuff merchant in Bradford, although retiring to die at Glenhoul. Of the brothers of William Ackroyd (1848-1921) we find that Robert (1845-1870) dies while in Bradford - presumably while working with his cousin Alexander. Robert's youngest brother, Alexander (1855-1890), is shown on the gravestone as dying at Bournemouth. An elder brother James (1843-1917), while also initially appearing as a stuff manufacturer in Bradford, eventually dies in Anglesey, North Wales.<sup>5</sup>

While family dispersal has thus begun, the Valuation Rolls for 1859-60 and the County Directory of Scotland for 1902 both show that the Glenkens still have their representation of McTurks. In Dalry, in addition to William Ackroyd at Barlae we find his cousins John (dob 1831) at Glenhoul and Thomas (dob 1838) at Auchenshinnoch. Furthermore the commitment to Carsphairn is still in evidence from the presence of James (dob 1843) at Moorbroch. Furmiston, which is not far distant from Moorbroch, is also shown as in the hands of a James McTurk.

Such commitment to the parish is underwritten by the gravestone which Alexander (1798-1876) had erected at Carsphairn and by the later inscriptions relating to his sons and daughters. On the other hand, there is found at Dalry, in addition to a prominent stone commemorating William Ackroyd and his wife and children, the stones relating to John of Knocksting and his sons. The 1859-60 Valuation rolls also confirm holdings by Robert McTurk at Corlae, Stroanpatrick, Stroanfreggan and Fingland, all of which testify to the family's dispersal.

To follow the later fortunes of the McTurks of Galloway is to track subsequent generations furth of Scotland and beyond the scope of this study.

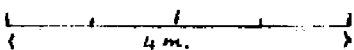
### Notes

1. Dumfries & Galloway FHS newsletter November 1990; the advice of Mrs Campbell has been most helpful.
2. RPC 3 ser. IX p.574.
3. Testament dated 1733.
4. Dumfries Standard dated 11 May 1802.
5. Information from Iain E Kerr; his confirmatory records have been invaluable.

1 page family history follows  
and 1 page map



## LOCATIONS



by Grant Howard

*(with thanks to the New Zealand Herald for permission to re-print)*

Scotland in the 1840s was in the iron grip of a depression. The only practical way to provide relief from what was known as the "hungry forties" was by emigration to the far corners of Britain's empire. The main aim of the Paisley New Zealand Emigration Society, as set out in the New Zealand Journal of August 15, 1840, was "to procure from government free passages for its members, with a grant of land for their location, with a view to founding a Scotch colony in New Zealand." Eighteen months passed before the British Treasury authorised the venture. When granted the use of two vessels to travel to New Zealand, the society advertised for suitable migrants. An advertisement in the Greenock Advertiser shows the society was interested mainly in "mechanics accustomed to country work - such as cartwrights, sawyers, bricklayers ... and especially good farm servants and labourers.", and also interested in recruiting single women to work as domestic servants in the colony. By April 23, 350 applications had been received. On June 9, the Duchess of Argyll (only 41m long) sailed for New Zealand with "305 souls on board". She was followed 9 days later by the Jane Gifford (40m long) with about 280. From the moment they stepped on board, steerage passengers, who made up the bulk of the migrants, found themselves in cramped quarters. Author Jean Bartlett made this plain in her book, *The Emigrants*. "On some ships," she wrote, "the berths were 6.5 feet by 3.5 feet for married couples or they were just bunks running in double tiers, end to end, with partitions separating them. The lack of privacy must have been trying." Conditions for children were worse. Three under-sevens were expected to share one bunk, while the 7 - 14 year-olds were to 'top and tail'. Each ship was divided into three sections for accommodation. Married couples and their children were in the middle, single men at the front and single women at the rear of the ship.

Crowded steerage spaces demanded that the ships be kept clean. Unless sick, all passengers had to rise by 7am. Once up, passengers rolled up their bedding and decks were swept before breakfast, with all dirt being thrown over the side. Bedding was aired each week on the upper deck, washing days appointed twice a week. On Sundays all passengers attended a church service. Then, providing the weather was favourable, the hold would be opened and the emigrants could go below to their baggage and get a change of clothes.

In theory, the plans to keep shipboard life running smoothly were great but the sea had opposing ideas. Robert Graham, a cabin passenger on board the Jane Gifford, recorded in his diary for Monday, June 20: "The vessel is rocking a good deal today and the doctor says there are about 200 sick people on board." Years later another Jane Gifford passenger, Peter McDonald, recalled in his memoirs: "It is dreadful even at this distant date to think about the seasickness - children sick, their mothers ditto and their fathers little better."

The emigrants' woes did not end with the weather. Sickness and death

stalked both ships throughout the voyage and there were 17 deaths and eight births in each. As Graham wrote: "... it is a sorry sight to see a funeral on board a ship. No fewer than three children died today and a good many more are ill." Reports from the ships' doctors make grim reading. There are several entries for children who were born one day and died the next. Their tiny bodies were sewn in canvas and their feet weighted before they were committed to the deep.

For all their troubles the emigrants still managed to smile. On calm evenings they often "got up to dance" on the upper deck or organised a concert. Some of the men would fish in the hope of augmenting the monotonous diet, while other passengers buried their noses in books from the ships' libraries. All longed for a first sight of New Zealand and it came for the Jane Gifford on Thursday October 6th. At 5am the lookout spotted the Three Kings Islands. By 1pm the North Island was in clear view. Two days later, at mid-morning, the Jane Gifford sighted another ship ahead and gradually overhauled her - it was the Duchess of Argyle. The tiny town of Auckland was seen around 5pm and two hours later a pilot came on board with bad news: Governor Hobson had died about a month earlier and, like Scotland, the young colony was in a depression. The Jane Gifford, was able to enter harbour and anchor, leaving the Duchess of Argyle aground on a sandbank! She anchored next day.

Any ideas of landing the migrants next morning were ruled out by stormy weather. There was no wharf in Auckland and, according to Graham "no proper landing place." The main landing was not made until October 11, and even then the weather was not good. Graham's diary noted: "The passengers are to be landed today and the goods are to be landed tomorrow. The expense of landing the goods is six shillings a ton beside the risk of getting them wet." The first off landed in high water, with only a short walk to the shore. For those who followed, when the tide had ebbed, it was a miserable walk, carrying children, boxes and bundles through mud and water up to their knees from the low to high water mark. The young men of the town soon made their way to the landing places and carried many of the women and children ashore. The immigrants were shattered by what they found - a rough, muddy town. To make matters worse the arrival of the 539 new settlers not only increased the population to about 2500 but also sent unemployment to new heights. The acting-Governor, Willoughby Shortland, embarrassed by the influx of so many labourers, put most of the men to work building roads, paying the married men 2/6d a day and the single fellows 1/9d. Most of the single women were luckier, finding work as domestic servants. The wages paid to the men were not in keeping with the high cost of living, where butter, for example, was four shillings and sixpence a pound, or nearly two days' wages for a married man.

That most of the immigrants were disappointed with Auckland is beyond question. With little chance of returning to Scotland they set about making the best they could of what one called "a queer wee town."

In the years that followed their sheer hard work did much to set in place the foundations of New Zealand.

## Reviews

### **Of Monks and Ministers** - the story of the church in Dalgety by Robin G.K. Arnott

A papal bull of 1178 contains the first reference to a church at Dalgety in Fife. Why it came to be dedicated to St Bridget is not known, but in its early years it was greatly influenced by the canons from the monastery on Inchcolm. The first church building was consecrated in 1244 and remained unaltered for 300 years. After the introduction of coal-mining into the area the community gradually moved north and with it the church building, until once more, with the creation of the new town of Dalgety Bay after the last war, a new church was built not far from the site of the original church.

The church is not unique in having from early days a tradition of disagreeing with Church authorities. There was such neglect at the time of the Reformation that it is recorded that within the parish, the mill at Aberdour was working on Sundays and girls were playing games in the fields. All was changed in 1644 with the induction of Andrew Donaldson, who was given to preaching for an hour and a half at the morning service on a Sunday, though the afternoon service was unlikely to exceed two hours in length. For this dedication the minister in 1650 received 67 bolls, 2 firloths, 3 pecks and 1 lippie of grain along with cash of £37. 6s. 5d. and the tenancy of the glebe for his annual stipend. Sadly, despite all his hard work, there was abuse of drunkenness in the parish, witchcraft and flyteing and tulzeing. After the Disruption in 1843 the charge was vacant for a time, the minister having transferred to the Church of England, but order was restored by 1899 when Donald Stewart Ross started a ministry which lasted to 1940.

The history of this church is not dissimilar to that of many other churches, disputes and disharmony have broken out from time to time, the congregation waxing and waning. It is, however, an interesting record, and the booklet is made more attractive by many photographs and illustrations. Copies can be obtained from Dalgety Parish Church, Regents Way, Dalgety Bay, Fife at a cost of £5.95 including postage.

### **East Lothian Gravestones** by Dr Islay Donaldson (published by East Lothian District Library, 1992, £8.95)

Many family historians have searched for the graves of their ancestors, and will have had great satisfaction if they were lucky enough to find what they sought. Even if their searches were in vain, however, they may have been fascinated by the wealth of social history available in old graveyards, the emblems of trade and mortality, the piety of the epitaphs and the changing styles of vernacular sculpture. Graveyards are a neglected corner of our national heritage: this book rightly reminds us that "it is up to us to see that they are cared for and preserved, before it is too late."



The rich variety of monuments in East Lothian is well portrayed by Dr Donaldson, both in illustrations and in the text. Magnificent tablestones, harvesters, cherubs, a butcher's tools, green men and memorial verses are all described with affection and placed in their historical context. The author shows how, during the eighteenth century, the traditional emblems of mortality gradually gave way to sowers, fruit and other carvings "to show a feel of gratitude for the gifts of life and an assertion that death is not the end."

This delightful book mentions the names and occupations of a few of the men, women and children buried in East Lothian, but the book is not intended to provide a full list of the kind published by the Society for many other counties. Unpublished lists of inscriptions in some graveyards in East Lothian can be seen in the Society's library, but at least 9 parishes have yet to be recorded; how long will it be until volunteers come forward to complete this work?

*Angus Mitchell*

**The Third Statistical Account of Scotland,**

volume XXI, the County of West Lothian, edited by Patrick Cadell.

xii +300pp ISBN 0 7073 0704 X. Edinburgh:

The Scottish Academic Press, 1992 £37.50p.

Genealogists, and family historians in particular, have often - for background information - had recourse to the statistical accounts of the 1790's and 1840's. The Third Statistical Account, mooted around the close of World War II (1939-45), has had a chequered history, but is an equally valuable source of information.

The first volume of the "Third" account was Ayrshire, published as long ago as 1951. Succeeding volumes appeared sporadically, and for a time changes of publishers brought about doubts of completion. The West Lothian volume - covering Scotland's third smallest county - brings the splendid venture nearer an end. Even in the post-war years the parish was considered the basic geographic unit, and it was natural that the organisers should ask parish ministers to contribute, as their predecessors had done for the previous accounts. Some did, but 20th century ministers have less leisure than those of earlier times, and in many cases the work was passed to others.

The West Lothian volume, now published by the Scottish Academic Press, was sponsored by the Scottish Council for Community Voluntary Organisations, with generous support from Lothian Regional Council, West Lothian District Council, The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, Livingston Development Corporation, and British Petroleum Co, plc. It covers the original thirteen parishes of Abercorn, Bathgate, Borrowstouness (Bo'ness), Carriden, Dalmeny, Ecclesmachan, Kirkliston, Linlithgow, Livingston, Queensferry, Torphichen, Uphall and Whitburn. Here, Uphall and Ecclesmachan, and Bo'ness and Carriden, have been joined.

When Patrick Cadell, himself a West Lothian man, and now Keeper of the Records of Scotland, took up work on this volume, he inherited accounts of some of the parishes compiled in the mid-1960's. These he wisely retained, although some contributors, perhaps disappointed that certain aspects of local history were neglected in the previous statistical accounts, have been tempted to elaborate on pre-1845 history. The editor managed to find continuators worthy of the tasks imposed upon them. Indeed for Livingston, there are three parts, the first penned about 1950 by an anonymous writer, the second by Rev. David W. Torrance, and an account of the New Town compiled by Thomas T.L. Inglis. These cover the most changed part of the county and are fascinating. Similarly, there was an account of Bo'ness and Carriden, written in 1964 by Rev. John Bayne, and there is a good update by William F. Hendrie, a schoolmaster and the author of several books. Kirkliston is another parish where many changes have taken place, not least the enlargement of Edinburgh Airport, and an account written in 1964 by the then parish minister, has an appendage by a local historian covering the years 1964-1989. Accounts for the parishes of Bathgate, Dalmeny, Linlithgow (by the father of the editor) and Queensferry also existed and have been continued to 1989-90.

Apart from readers of this journal, planners, administrators, educators, social historians and many business-men, will find the volume a mine of information on the parishes which made up the old county of West Lothian, currently part of Lothian Region. In time the work will become a standard basic source of information on the localities. There are eighteen good illustrations, and our only criticism is that the inclusion of three for Whitburn creates an imbalance. Inclusion of an illustration of part of the M9 Newbridge to Lathallan Motorway, opened in 1972, and running right through the county, would have enhanced the book. There is no large folding map, as in the earlier volumes published by Oliver & Boyd, of Edinburgh, and by Collins, of Glasgow, but a useful line map of the county and parishes appears. The book is stoutly bound and has an attractive dust jacket.

*Donald Whyte*

### **Historic Corstorphine and Round About - Part 2**

A S Cowper £4.95 and p&p £1.50

This book continues the researches of Miss Cowper into the lands west of Edinburgh - Coltbridge, Roseburn, Murrayfield and Ravelston. It is less structured than Part 1, but equally fascinating, and a mine of historic information about the past and the way the present scene developed.

Historic houses and their owners are first dealt with, particularly Sir John Foulis and the Keiths. Then the land itself - roads, inns, farms and the particular characteristic of the Corstorphine area, the lochs of Corstorphine and Gogar and the ditches and stanks which led to their drainage. Quarries

and bridges are not neglected, and one is reminded that, until the introduction of turnpike roads, and even after that, the going was indeed poor.

Each of the major farms and farm towns are described, and a section is given to all relevant farming matters, be it farming implements, agricultural wages, or fair rents, with a catalogue of field names. Even marketing and horticulture, as an important aspect of agricultural life, are not neglected. Specific houses such as Belmont and Beechmount are given special attention, and the owners and occupants of Corstorphine Hill itself have been searched out. More recent additions have been Edinburgh Zoo and Corstorphine Hospital. Only the gastronomic delight of Corstorphine Cream, which merited a reference in the Statistical Account of 1791, cream, sweetened with sugar and seasoned with spices, has totally disappeared, possibly because of its cholesterol content. Like Part 1, the book is strongly recommended to anyone interested in the history of Scotland and to this area of Midlothian in particular. The range of knowledge and the extent of research are a matter of admiration.

The book can be obtained either from the author at 32 Balgreen Avenue, Edinburgh EH12 5SU, or at The Village Home Brew Shop, 24 Corstorphine High Street, Edinburgh EH12 7ST.

### **Genealogical Microform Holdings in Scottish Libraries**

by Margaret Nikolic

Kirkcaldy District Libraries £6 plus p&p

For all researchers wanting to consult census returns and old parochial registers, this publication is essential. It lists all these in public libraries and assists the researcher by indicating where the library is, the hours of opening and any restrictions on the accessibility and use of collections. It also shows whether searches are carried out.

It can be thoroughly recommended - a single use of it may more than recompense the researcher for its modest price.

It can be obtained at Kirkcaldy District Libraries, Library Headquarters, East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy KY1 1XT.

### **The Griers, Pioneers in America & Canada 1816-1991**

by William M. Grier

Grier & Co.

This work of piety is described as a succession of biographies and is founded on the belief that history is the essence of innumerable biographies.

James Grier, a Scot of the Macgregor clan, was born in Northern Ireland in 1818 and emigrated to Upper Canada in the late 1830s where he worked as a

carriage-maker. He met in 1844 and married Eliza Anne Patterson, whose father came from Perth and her mother from Worcestershire. Biographical details of their descendants including those of the author are then given along with photographs of them such as survive in any family (though it should be noted that there is no such thing as a Grier Coat of Arms, since Arms belong to an individual, and not to a family).

The sixth part of the book lists other Griers in North America with biographical details of them.

The book, beautifully produced, with a helpful Name Index, with cross references, is a fine example to be followed by those with the enthusiasm, time, and money to trace back their family history and publish the result of their meticulous research.

### **The House of Dewar 1296-1991**

**The Fortunes of Clan Dewar by Peter Beauclerk Dewar**

After a foreword by the Earl of Erroll and a copy of the Letters Patent confirming Lt Malcolm Dewar of that Ilk and Vogrie as Chief of the Arms and Name of Dewar the book is split into short chapters of the various branches of the family.

Two pages describe the House of Dewar, and a chapter on the Dewars of that Ilk takes precedence over the other branches. Photographs and maps add to the attractiveness of the book with each chapter followed by the lineage of the branch set out in the formal way and the Arms of the head of the branch. The chapter on the Forteviot includes a copy of an advertisement for the product and details of the successful promotions.

After dealing with the various branches the author adds a chapter on "Other Prominent Dewars, Living and Dead" (including Donald Dewar), and in an appendix describes the Grants and Matriculations of Dewar Arms.

Altogether a scholarly work by a former Falkland Pursuivant Extraordinary who can write with authority on the subject he has researched so conscientiously. His own name proclaims his connection with the family of the Duke of St Albans.

Copies of the book can be obtained from him at 45 Airedale Avenue, Chiswick, London W4 2NW.

# NOTES

## **Aberdour OPR 401/3 - Proclamations**

July 5th 1844 contracted Alexander Forbes, jun., Smith in this Parish and Elizabeth Cumming in the Parish of Dunfermline and after regular Proclamation/Note - The Parties were not married, A. Forbes having withdrawn, and the Bride died 3 months thereafter in childbed.

## **The Trails' Immigration to Canada**

In the 1850's John Davidson, who drove a four-horsed stage, and was accustomed to water his horses at a particular trough, met Isabella Trail there. The meeting led to marriage, and they then emigrated to Canada, settling at Southampton, New Brunswick. In the 1860's they lived at Rossville Road, better known as Dog Street.

Isabella was very homesick and persuaded her sister Helen and brother Thomas Duff, aged 21, to come to Canada to join her. They sailed from Aberdeen in the ship "Thomas Hargrove" on a journey of 6 weeks, and landed at Portland, Maine, from where they went to Quebec City.

Helen married John Culliton, a widower with grown children, and Thomas at the age of 28 married his eldest daughter, Lettice Elizabeth aged 16. Thomas was a lumberer and bought land along the St John river with a magnificent view up and down the river. In 1890, as his farming activities expanded, he built a new and larger house of 2 1/2 storeys with dormer window and a good barn. He had 3 workhorses and 2 driving horses and a herd of Ayrshire cows. Thomas and Lettice had 16 children of whom one, Alexander, had 11 children. Patricia Trail.

## **Russian Genealogical Society**

This Society, which was founded in 1901, has recently been re-established, and Erick M Gernet (of Russia 197136, St Petersburg, Lenin str.34-12) has written about his family.

His ancestry goes back to Peter Gernet (1525-1584), a burgomaster in the town of Gollnow, Pomerania, who is believed to have come from Britain, probably Scotland. His Arms in the Patent of Nobility of 1761 were azure, an anchor argent.

The family name originally was Garnett, and a Jesuit, Henry Garnett, was hanged in 1606 for the Gunpowder Plot. Mr Gernet has now compiled a tree of 13 generations containing nearly 500 people, and he wonders whether there were Garnetts (or Gernets) living in Scotland in the 16th Century and if there is any member of the family who would like to correspond with him.

### **Research in Ontario**

Mr James MacPherson of 8 Lavinia Street, Smiths Falls, Ontario, K7A 4P2, is offering to assist any member who has enquiries in the Lanark County area of Ontario. Members should write to him direct at his address with an SAE.

### **County Wexford - Griffiths 1853 Valuation of Tenements**

Mr A.O. McGuire of 54 Standard Road, Enfield, Middlesex, London EN3 6DP, who is disabled, is indexing the above Valuation. He is willing to provide information to any member researching Irish ancestry with copies of the Index in return for a donation to cover his expenses. He is researching his own family history.

### **Stirling University Family History Research Course 1-6 August 1993**

The University of Stirling is running this course for all those interested in tracing their family history, under the direction of Arnold Morrison, formerly professor of Education at the University. It is designed to give practical assistance to all, both beginners and those with some knowledge.

Visits will be made to Archives locally and in Edinburgh, and there will be opportunities to carry out practical searching. Source material will be explored which can be used to build up family history-statutory registers, census returns, Old Parish Registers, as well as testaments, land, local, and legal records. A Handbook covering all topics included in the course will be available to course members - price £6.00.

Information can be obtained from Jo Dalglish, Educational Policy and Development, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA (Tel 0786 467951)

### **British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia**

This Charity was formed in October 1976 with the object of advancing education in the history in all places in South Asia and elsewhere in Asia associated with European residence, and in particular the territories formerly administered by the Honourable East India Company and the British Government

of India. It aims also to conduct research into the history of such places and to preserve or beautify cemeteries having graves of European persons.

The Association has a growing membership of over 1,400 people, but more members are needed to support its rapidly expanding activities. It also produces its own newspaper, which is distributed free to all members twice a year. The newspaper contains a section for queries on any matters relating to family history or condition of a relative's grave.

Information about the Association can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Mr T.C. Wilkinson, MBE, 761/2 Chartfield Avenue, London SW15 6HQ.

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### **How Are We Going to Write February 3, 2001?**

That date is only eight years away, and if we do nothing, there will be some misunderstanding. Consider:

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Those with computers will write | 010203  |
| Our American friends will write | 2/3/1   |
| Our English friends will write  | 3/2/1   |
| LDS will call it                | 03FEB2001   |
| NATO may call it                | 03FE01  |
| Our relatives will write        | Feb.3/01  |
| Legal documents may have:       | On the third day of February in the<br>year two thousand and one. |

Or some other arrangement.

Of all the arrangements, the LDS one seems most useful to genealogists, for it can only be interpreted one way, and is reasonably short. However, will it permit computers to record various items in chronological order? And does FEB offend genealogists using other languages?

During this decade, we should try to standardize this matter, at least for genealogists. What is needed is a method that is acceptable in all countries where genealogy is an active hobby. Think it over, and then compose a letter to the Editor of FAMILIES, expressing your preference.

Would other genealogical magazines and newsletters in Canada and other countries please copy this article, requesting that letters be sent to: Editor of FAMILIES, Ontario Genealogical Society, Suite 251, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Toronto, Ontario M4R 1B9 Canada. He will evaluate the suggestions, and perhaps be able to announce a standard.

*Patrick Boulton*

## QUERIES

- 2224 **BAILLIE** Charles Baillie, b.c. 1775, m. Agnes Hamilton 1804 in the Parish of Hamilton, Lanarkshire, emigrated 1820 to Canada with six children. Information on his birthplace and ancestry appreciated. **Mrs Pearl Bailey, PO Box 479, Englehart, Ontario, Canada, P0J 1H0**
- 2225 **WILSON** Alice Wilson, b. 23 Feb 1910 in Glasgow, emigrated to Canada and m. Alfred L Young from Manitoba. Their children were Marjorie and Donald. Who were her parents and are there living relatives? **Carole Sprickerhoff, 308 Hillsdale Avenue E, Toronto, Ontario M4S 1T8, Canada.**
- 2226 **BARKER** Dr Norman Barker, b. Edinburgh emigrated to Canada and m. Sarah Shell. Their child, Sheldon, b. 11 May 1891 in Welland Co, Ontario. Who were Norman's parents and when was he born? Where did he get his doctorate? **Carole Sprickerhoff, 308 Hillsdale Avenue E, Toronto, Ontario M4S 1T8, Canada.**
- 2227 **DEES, RARISCH, SCHIEFER, LIPPERT** A Scottish family in the 19th and 20th Century in Dresden married into these families. Information on the family wanted. **Mr Gills Gabrielli-Dees, "Notre Dame de Graces" A4, 64 Chemin du Merlan, F-13014, Marseille, France.**
- 2228 **TRAIL** Isabella C Trail, b. in Scotland August 1832, d. in Canada 14 Nov 1888, m. in Scotland John Davidson (b. 1825 in Scotland, d. 1 Mar 1908 in Canada); they emigrated to Southampton, New Brunswick, in 1850's. Isabella's brother, Thomas Duff Trail, b.c. 1839, and sister, Helen, b.c. May 1841, emigrated to Portland, Maine, on 'Thomas Hargrove' in 1850's. Where were they all born and who were their parents and relatives. **Mrs Patricia Trail. Ols Springhill Road, RR #3, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 4X3, Canada.**
- 2229 **BUTLER** David Butler and Mary Tait had two sons - William (b. 1824 m. Helen Heriot Montgomery and emigrated to New Zealand in 1856) and Robert (b. 5 June 1834 at Borthwick, d. 8 Aug 1891), m. Janet Leeds; their children, all born at Liberton, were Margaret (b. 1863, m. John Wilson), Mary (b. 1866 m? Neilson), Robert John (b. 1868 m. Elizabeth Deans), and Alexander (m. Christina Chisholm). Their descendants were Maie, Daisy and Jessica Neilson, Elizabeth and Jessica Butler, and Robert Butler and relatives in Australia. Wish to establish links. **Mrs Stephanie E. Cullen, 90 Cook Street, Howick, Auckland 1705, New Zealand.**
- 2230 **ADAM** James Adam, son of James Adam, and grandson of James Adam, the "Portioner of Hurlford" in Riccarton Parish, Ayrshire, m. Catherine Carlew in 1804 in Paisley, before emigrating to Illinois c. 1845. Information on the family appreciated and willing to exchange information on the family in America. **Mrs Lynn S Watts, 18 Byard Lane, Westborough, MA 01581-2638 USA.**



- 2231 **EASTON/McKENZIE** George Easton, m. Margaret McKenzie and had two children, Elizabeth b. 1 Apr 1810 in Gorbals, and Sarah b. Sept 1811 in Barony Parish of Glasgow. In 1819, when Margaret died, George is listed as "Town Officer in Glasgow". Any information about the family appreciated. **Mrs Lynn S Watts, 18 Byard Lane, Westborough, MA01581-2638, USA.**
- 2232 **LEGERWOOD** John Legerwood, b.c. 1784, probably in Aberdeen/Buchan area, emigrated to Canada c. 1812. Need to know his parents' names. **Alice L. Hooks, 138 West 6th, No 10 Port Angeles, WA98362, USA**
- 2233 **WRIGHT** Robert Wright, b 2 July 1796 at Dunipace, Stirling, to John Wright and Christian Douglas (s), d. 27 June 1861 at Cadder, Glasgow; married (1) c. 1818 Jean Mickeljohn and had issue - Ann, b. 28 Dec 1819, John, b. 4 Mar 1822, Helen Mitchell, d. 13 Apr 1891 in New Zealand, Jean, b.c. 1824, Christiana, b 27 June 1826, Barbara (b.4 Aug 1828, m. Thomas Wallace 5 May 1853 at Tillicoultry), (2) c. 1832 Ann (e) McEwan and had issue - William, chr 29 Mar 1834, d. before 1841, Robert, b.c. 1836, Thomas (b.c. 1838, m. Janet Bowes 13 Jan 1865 at New Plymouth, New Zealand), William b.c. 1840 (was living in Bishopbriggs, Cadder, in 1861), Christina, b.c. 1842, Bruce (a girl), b.c. 1845, Alexander Bruce, b.c. 1847 (was with his brother in Bishopbriggs 1861); (3) 11 Nov 1859 Janet Connal at Bannockburn, St Ninians, Stirling. Information wanted about the family and wish to contact descendants. **Mrs JA Thompson, 15 Constance Street, New Plymouth, New Zealand.**
- 2234 **BOWES** Robert Bowes, b.c. 1806 in Glasgow to John and Janet Bowes, d. 31 Dec 1872 at Merryston, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, m. Elisabeth/Isabella Gray and had issue - Thomas, b. 1832 in Barony, Glasgow, John (b. 1834 at Old Monkland m. Agnes Sinclair 17 June 1859 at Thornliebank, Renfrewshire), Margaret (b. 1836, m. Alexander Dalrymple 30 Dec 1864), Janet (chr 19 May 1839, m. Thomas Wright 13 Jan 1865) Isabella (chr 17 Oct 1841, m. David McLaren 6 Mar 1866), Anne Gordon (b. 1844, m. George Hebbington 19 Sept 1871), Jane (Jean) (chr 5 Sept 1847, m. Alexander Sneddin 23 June 1874). Information wanted about the family and wish to contact descendants. **Mrs J A. Thompson, 15 Constance Street, New Plymouth, New Zealand.**
- 2235 **DUFFUS** James Stewart Duffus (otherwise Stewart Duffus) b.c. 1850 probably in Dundee, m. Ellen Moyes and emigrated to Australia towards the end of the century, dying there in 1907. Information on his family in Scotland sought. **Victor Sutherland, 10132 Pleasant Street, Sidney, British Columbia, Canada, V8L 3P4**
- 2236 **McKEAN** Sarah McKean, daughter of James McKean and Jean Allison, Was injured in an explosion at Nobel's Explosive works, Stevenston, Ayrshire, on 8 May 1884 and died aged 23 on 21 April 1886. Her sister,

Agnes, died aged 20 on 16 May 1886. Information about the accident and the McKean family welcomed. **Ian A. Campbell, 121 Hamilton Street, Bittern 3918, Victoria, Australia.**

2237 GORDON William Gordon, a seaman, of Merchant Street, Peterhead, Aberdeen, b.c. 1818, d. 24 Nov 1864, m. (1) Ann Sangster on 12 Dec 1839; their children were Ann, b. 1 Nov 1840, William, b. 15 July 1844, and Helen, b. 19 Aug 1846; (2) Elizabeth Gibb on 28 June 1849; their children were John, b. 14 Dec 1850, Elizabeth, b. 12 June 1852, Barbara, b. 26 Oct 1853, Alexander Bruce, b. 29 May 1855, Christian, b. 26 Sept 1860, and James, b. 17 July 1864. Wish information about the family, especially Alexander Bruce, (?), also a seaman who immigrated to USA. **Albert Raye Gordon, 2428 South Blackman Road, Springfield, MO 65809, USA.**

### **Correction**

#### **Queries 2205, 2206, 2207**

The correct address of the submitter of these queries is Juanita H Nobles, 299 N Illinois Avenue # C, Oak Ridge, TN37830, USA.

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### **Service for Family History Research**

In the notice on Page 152 of Volume XXXIX No. 4 it should be noted that ITV, not BBC, controlled Oracle on Channel 4 until 1 January 1993. A similar service is being provided by the new owners of Teletext under the headings of "Service Pals", "Family Tree", and "Long Lost". The relevant index to the pages on Teletext is on Page 680 and the address to write to is:  
Teletext Ltd, PO Box 297, London SW6 1XT.

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### **Correspondence**

Dear Sir,

I was grateful to Mr Donald Whyte for his additional information on those who attended the inaugural meeting which founded the Scottish Genealogy Society.

I find it difficult to understand his comment on our distinguished sponsors which I had mentioned. All of them did take an interest in our fledgling venture: they were not mere figureheads. Much practical help was provided by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney and particularly by Sir Iain Moncreiffe of Easter Moncreiffe, who were always ready with advice on Scottish heraldic details, assisting us to find speakers from month to month, or himself filling a vacancy at short notice.

In my article there is one mistaken date. The date of the First Annual General meeting under Sir Thomas Innes was 1954, not 1955 as stated later in the article.

*Duncan McNaughton*

# 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 the 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. Ordinary Members shall be elected for a period of three years and may be re-elected for a further three years, after which they shall not be re-elected until the lapse of one year. At meetings of the Council a quorum shall consist of not less than six members. The Council may appoint a Deputy Chairman from their members.
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. Nominations for new Office Bearers and Members of Council shall be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary at least one calendar month before the meeting, a nomination being signed by the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee.
6. Members shall receive one copy of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist, but these shall not be supplied to those subscribers who 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 two copies of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist and their members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society. 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. The Council shall have power (in brief) to employ persons to carry on the work of the Society, to publish magazines and pamphlets, to appeal for funds, to hold property and raise money on security of it.
9. **Property**  
The title to all property, heritable and moveable, which may be acquired by or on behalf of the Society shall be vested in the names of the convener, Vice convener (where appointed), the Secretary and Treasurer for the time being ex officio or in the names of the Trustees of a Trust established for that purpose.
10. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of the Society when a two-thirds majority of members present and voting will be required for an alteration to be passed.
11. **Dissolution**  
If the management of the Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Society, it shall call a special general meeting of the Society, of which meeting not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed thereat) shall be given. If such decision shall be confirmed by a two-third majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting at such meeting, the management committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of the Society. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Society, as the management committee may determine.

## THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

|                             |   |
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