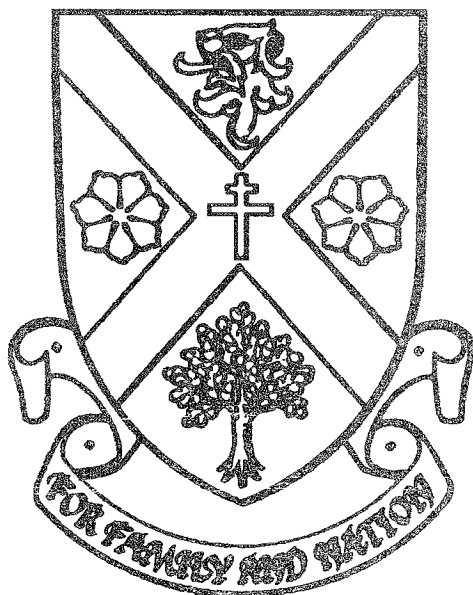


THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY



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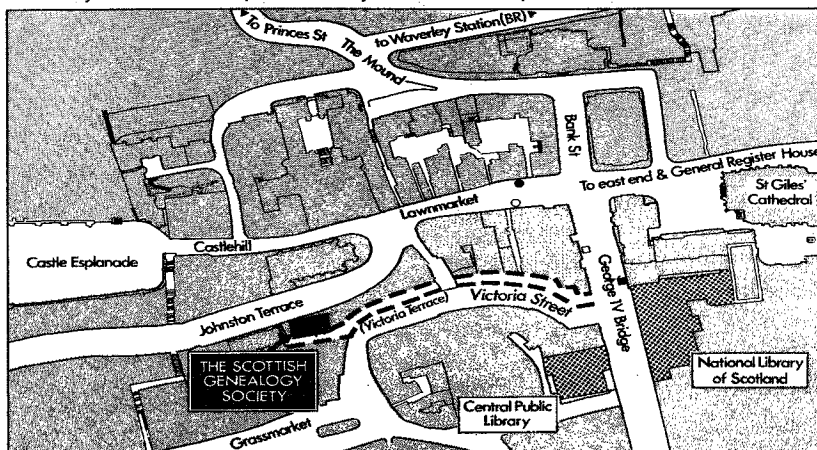
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THE STORY of a MUG

by Ian Melville

This story starts on a sunny summer afternoon in York. I was sitting listening (or half-listening) to the radio when I heard that someone was offering a mug described as “*a Golden Wedding Mug for a Mr and Mrs Melville 1858 to 1908*”, for disposal to a descendant of the family.

As a keen Melville researcher, I tend to accumulate any information with Melville connections that comes my way, and at times I had a “*spare*” ancestor whose brothers married in 1857 and 1859. I therefore wrote to the BBC offering to give the mug a new home, and if it did not belong to my family, to see if I could trace the rightful owner.

In due course the mug arrived, together with information about its origins², from Mrs. Janet Cook, of Thame, Oxon. She told me that the mug had come from her grandparents, who lived at Whitehall Farm, Bracebridge Heath, near Lincoln³ in 1908. This immediately made it most unlikely that it belonged to my own family, who come from East Lothian, in Scotland.

The mug is made of fine bone china and measures just under 3 inches high by 2¾ inches wide. It has an inscription in gold, surrounded by an oval, which reads:

SEP. 30
MR. & MRS. MELVILLE'S
GOLDEN WEDDING.
1858-1908

The registers at St. Catherine's House revealed a possible marriage of an Alexander Leslie Melville to Albinia Brodrick in the September quarter of 1858. I already had this marriage in my database together with additional details: Alexander Samuel Leslie Melville had married the Hon. Albinia Frances Brodrick on September 30th 1858, and they were both still alive in 1908, in fact not dying until 1919 and 1918 respectively.

Alexander Samuel Leslie Melville (1829-1919) was the eldest son of the twelve children of the Hon. Alexander Leslie Melville (1800-1881), a younger son of the 7th Earl of Leven and 6th of Melville (1749-1820). The Hon. Alexander had also celebrated his Golden Wedding in 1875! The Hon. Albinia Frances Broderick was the youngest daughter of the 6th Viscount Midleton, and the wedding had taken place at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, London. The notice of the Golden Wedding published in *The Times* on 30th September 1908 was an exact copy of the entry of the marriage published in *The Times* on 1st October 1858.

The British Newspaper Library at Colindale⁴ provided a long account of the Golden Wedding Festivities at Branston and Branston Hall⁵. It certainly appears that the rejoicings, which lasted from the previous Saturday to the Wednesday, 30th September, were of a scale no longer seen, and brought the normal life both of Branston and indeed part of Lincoln itself to a halt. The account also lists a most impressive collection of Golden Wedding gifts. It must also have been a source of great pleasure to the couple that all seven of their children and their seventeen grandchildren were alive on the occasion of the Golden Wedding.

Two of the children were male. The eldest was Alexander Broderick Leslie Melville, d.1941, who had one son, Alexander Ronald Leslie Melville, born in 1906, who died unmarried in 1942. The second son was Charles Le Despenser Leslie Melville, who had seen active service in South Africa, but I have been unable to trace him after 1922⁶, or his descendants. Perhaps he emigrated.

The origin of the mug itself remains obscure. Possibly the Melvilles had the mugs made to give

to their employees, or an early entrepreneur may even have had the mugs made to sell to the local people. Whatever the origin, it has somehow survived for nearly ninety years, and now has an honoured place in the home of a Melville, albeit I am not a direct descendant of this family.

If anyone reading this article has any information which would fill any of the gaps, I would be pleased to hear from them.

Extract from The Gentleman's Magazine 1783, page 271 (March 1783)

Obituary

"Margaret Melvill, wife of Robt. Forbes, Brewer, at Kettle, Fifeshire, aged 117. She was married at 35, and had one son and five daughters - the eldest is now aged 77; she had 17 grandchildren, and 37 gr. grandchildren; she renewed her teeth about the hundreth year of her age, never had a headache or pain in her life and walked, saw, and heard, till the day before her death".

Note: According to the IGI Margaret Melvill married Robert Forbes at Kettle on 14 June 1717, which would make her birthdate about 1682, if she married at age 35, and therefore her age at death about 100. The only child listed in the current IGI is Catherine, born 1729 in Kettle.

Sources

- ¹ Charlie Chester's "Soapbox" 10 July 1994.
- ² Private communications with Mrs. Janet Cook of Thame, Oxon.
- ³ William (Bill) and Annie Simpson.
- ⁴ The British Library Newspaper Library, Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE.
- ⁵ *The Lincoln Gazette*, October 3rd 1908.
- ⁶ Mentioned in the Will of Arthur Henry Leslie Melville, his Uncle (Probate granted June 1922).

DR. ANSTRUTHER DAVIDSON

by David B. Macadam

Dr. Anstruther is not nowadays a noted Scottish pioneer. Indeed he remains largely unknown and unremembered in his home country. He is, however, a worthy example of a particular type of formidable Victorian Scot born to the croft or small farm who, by dint of native intellect and sheer drive, achieved the highest honours that his adopted country could give.

The Dr. Davidson, who appears in the American edition of *Who's Who* is in many ways a remarkable figure and very typical of Scottish Victorian men of science. His interests and achievements were varied and he would not have been content confined to one type of research alone. He was by profession a medical doctor, and an Associate Professor of Dermatology at the University of Southern California but his chief claim to fame in the scientific world lay not with Medicine but in Botany and Entomology.

For a period of thirty-six years Dr. Davidson contributed regular scientific papers on the flora of Southern California and wrote two of the standard texts on the botany of this region becoming in the process a botanist renowned across America.



The background of Anstruther Davidson's birth does not immediately give one to think that he was destined for such renown.

Anstruther Davidson was born the second son of three sons and one daughter to Charles Davidson and his wife Ann Macadam on Cogle Farm in the remote (well from London and Edinburgh perhaps!) parish of Watten in the centre of Caithness. Watten lies beside the loch of that name on the A882 some seven miles from Wick and fourteen from Thurso.

Despite the diligent searching of several individuals over the years the origin of the Davidsons is not entirely clear. Anstruther's brother Charles who remained in Watten and took over the farm wrote a letter in 1904¹, where he says:

"Charles Davidson [Anstruther's grandfather] came from near Findhorn as a young man in connection with the fisheries. He was settled at Loch of Wester probably in the house of his sister-in-law who was a Mowat. All were ejected about 1820. For this illegality they recovered £5,200 which his brother John (the elder) used in building Kirkhall House, Wick. Charles was given a farm at Killimster and in 1822 moved to Cogle..."

Whilst the Scottish Ancestry Research Society claim that the Davidsons were a local family and suggest three alternative possibilities as to Charles Davidson's ancestry,

- (1) September 12th 1731. Alexander Davidson (sic) in Keiss had a child baptised named George.
- (2) 5th February 1744. Same day William Davidson in Thrumster had a child baptised named George.
- (3) 7th April 1745. Same day John Davidson in Keiss had a child named George.²

There seems no reason to choose these, other than a simple coincidence of name, since neither George nor Davidson is unusual. At this point the Society decided to conclude their researches.

However James Johnston of Arkansas, a Davidson family member, took up the search and makes the following conclusions.

Mr Johnston has shown that Anstruther's father George Davidson was born at Reiss near Wick in 1803. George's father Charles Davidson was born in February 1777 in Wick. He married Isobel Mowat in 1800 also in Wick and died at the farm in Cogle, Watten in 1846. Charles's parents are George Davidson of Keiss and Isobel Mowat. Finally George Davidson is shown as being born in Thrumster on 5th February 1744 to William Davidson and Margaret Sutherland. William and Margaret had been married in 1738 in Wick.³

Anstruther's mother Ann Macadam was from a family of millers which originated in Anstruther, Fife. This is the origin of Anstruther's curious Christian name, which was probably pronounced "Eeenster" by the family. The Macadams and other skilled workers, came up to Caithness from Fife when the estates of Watten were bought by Sir Ralph Anstruther of Balcaskie, Fife, in the late eighteenth century and Sir Ralph Anstruther wished to bring an injection of various skills to the area.⁴

Educated at the local school Anstruther achieved a place to study medicine at Glasgow University.

His brother was also a medical doctor graduating the year before and studied at the same university as Anstruther. For one child of a remote rural croft to be able to get to university in those days would have been surprise enough but two must have been extraordinary. How a farm in those days, no matter how well managed, could provide the surplus living for two students to be sent to Glasgow is regrettably now unknown but we do know that their sister Jean came south at this time and found work. Maybe she was a support to her brothers and maybe her earnings helped pay some of the bills.

Graduating in 1881 Anstruther worked first as house surgeon in Glasgow's Western Infirmary and was house surgeon in the skin diseases unit for Glasgow before he left at some time for Sanquhar, Dumfriesshire. Here we find that he made time to write his first articles on botany for the "*Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society*" a local natural history journal, establishing an interest that would last the rest of his life. He wrote on local birds and the local botany.⁵ He was a noted contributor to J. Brown's *History of Sanquhar*, 1891.

The family story as to why the brothers left Scotland for California is that they went for the sake of their health since they had contracted TB and needed to recuperate in a dry warm climate. I have a certain difficulty with this line of story, as I cannot see any hospital allowing even recovered TB patients access to others. Also, the American immigration authorities would have been unlikely to admit entry to the doctors if there was even the chance that they carried TB.

The brothers arrived in California in 1897 where they worked in mining towns before moving to Los Angeles. Anstruther was specialising in dermatology, which may also at that time have been a speciality covering venereal diseases, rife in these mining towns.

Anstruther and Tom set up a practice in Los Angeles and one or other would take on work as company doctor for several of the mining companies. This was a great assistance to the finances of the young firm. Both brothers looked very alike and many of their patients could not tell the difference between them!

The business evidently prospered and whilst Tom devoted time outside the surgery to a successful sideline in real estate buying up land for "*citrus ranching*", Anstruther devoted more of his time to academic interests.

He met and married his wife Alice Merritt, a school teacher, that year. They were to have two sons, Ronald Anstruther and Merritt Thomas. The family home was a green painted wooden house in a quiet tree lined street of South Alvarado.

He was to work as a doctor in the Hollywood district of Los Angeles for the rest of his life and became in time an Associate Professor of Dermatology at the University of Southern California.

Very shortly after his arrival Anstruther started making expeditions out to the countryside, noting the various plants and taking specimens. It is remarkable that his type of work had to wait until the late 19th century to be done, since California is one of the first places found by the Spanish.

Steadily from 1892 through to 1931 Anstruther contributed his articles to learned societies and drew together his standard work on the flora of southern California. He was a founding member of the Southern California Academy of Sciences and served as its second President from 1892 to 1894, having been re-elected for a second term. His principal field of interest being systematic botany. In total his botanical papers published in the United States alone are nearly seventy in number.⁶ These were to lead to his inclusion in *Who's Who in America*.

It was entirely characteristic that he should become involved with various emerging conservationist groups who were lead by that other charismatic Scotsman John Muir, with whom he seems to have disagreed!

His entomological studies too were widely reported and his contributions listed in Essig's *Insects of Western North America* show his wide contribution.

Not content with botany, Anstruther even made a credible archaeologist. On one visit home in 1902 he spent his time digging up a brooch which had been found on the family farm. Typically he arranged that the finds should not be sent to Edinburgh but should be kept on display at the local school, so that the children should know more of their heritage. Thus we read in the *Northern Ensign*.⁷

"...Recognising that museums in the south have abundance of specimens, Dr Davidson arranged that the finds in the Cogle brooch would be available for educational purposes in Gersa Public School."

He even found the time to become the President of the Clan Dhal Association in the United States.

In January 1932 whilst crossing the street he was struck by a car and thrown to the road. He appeared relatively unhurt by the accident but in a curious irony, both he and his colleagues did not appreciate the internal damage done and he died from these injuries some two months later on April 3rd 1932.

He was buried at Hollywood Cemetery and obituaries appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Examiner* and *Herald-Express*.

His Herbarium was split up after his death and material from it is now to be found at the University of California, the United States National Herbarium and some selected items at the Gray Herbarium.

Many of his colleagues felt moved to name plants for his work. Greene named an *Eriogonum* and *Lotus* for him, Abrams an *Acroasia* and *Calochortus*, Parish called a little known *Collinsia* after him and Robertson named the endemic *Malvastrum* of San Fernando for him.

Sources

1. From a letter with Mary Gunn, Berriedale.
2. Scottish Ancestry Research Society Report, Number B/8159, 4th April 1973.
3. James J Johnston, 2333 East Oakes Drive, Fayetteville, Arkansas.
4. "A History of the Macadams of Watten Mills", 1997 by D B Macadam.
5. "Index to the Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, 1862-1912", pub. Dumfries 1968.
6. These papers are listed in "Madrono" 1934, Vol. 2, pages 124 through 128.
7. "Northern Ensign", Nov. 7 1905.

MEMBERS INTERESTS

The under noted members are researching the surnames listed and wish to contact anyone with the same interests.

McMurdo, Worldwide all dates; **Peacock**, Neilston, Renfrewshire, all dates; **Grierson**, Ruthwell, Dumfriesshire, all dates. *Mrs. I. MacLeod, 10 Warwick Road, Bishop Auckland DL14 6LT, England*
e-mail MrsIMacLeod@aol.com

Fraser/ Crawford, Inverness, Inverness-shire, 1800s; **Munro**, Markinch, Fife, 1800s; **Hood**, Rosemarkie, Inverness-shire, 1800s; **Innes**, Tomintoul, Morayshire, 1800s; **McGregor**, Morayshire, 1800s; **Paterson**, Straiton, Stair, Tarbolton, Ayrshire, 1800s; **Bunyan**, Monkton, Tarbolton, Straiton & Patna, Ayrshire, 1800s; **Dougan**, Straiton & Patna, Ayrshire, 1800s; **Matheson & McKenzie**, Golspie, Sutherland and Tain, Ross & Cromarty, 1800s. *Mary Harvey, Tesano, Aveland Road, Callander, Perthshire FK17 8EN, Scotland Tel: 01877 331 292*

WILLIAM STEWART ROBERTSON, M.C. BLACK WATCH

by Patrick W. Anderson

William Stewart Robertson was born on 29 November, 1892, the youngest son of the Rev. Dr. D.R. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson. The family resided at 'Elmslea', 2 Seafield Road, Broughty Ferry, Angus, then in the County of Forfarshire. The Rev. Dr. Robertson was Minister for the Clepington Church in Dundee. An elder son, James Whittingehame Robertson, born 11 June 1887, was a student in Arts and Divinity at St. Andrews University from 1906 and a member of the University Officer Training Corps. During the new year of 1910 his young brother, William Stewart Robertson, joined the University as an Arts Student. He too joined the University O.T.C. In the summer of 1913 James Whittingehame Robertson completed his University course and joined the Ministry becoming an assistant Minister in the Selkirk Parish. During the new University year of 1911, Patrick Wright Anderson from Arbroath became a Science Student at the University College, Dundee, then part of St Andrews University and he too joined the University O.T.C. The summer camp of the O.T.C. was held at Ilkley, in Yorkshire, in 1913 and then the following year it was held at Stobs Camp.

During 1914 everyone realised that war was imminent, so on the outbreak of the Great War, James Whittingehame Robertson volunteered for military service, serving initially as a Private in the 15 (Service) Bn., Princess Louise's (Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders). Just after the outbreak of the war both William Stewart Robertson and Patrick Wright Anderson were commissioned 2nd Lieutenants in the 8 (Service) Bn., The Black Watch and posted to Aldershot. The St. Andrews newspaper *The Citizen* reported, in their Saturday 5th September 1914 edition, that Cadets and former Cadets from the St. Andrews University Officer Training Corps had been accepted for Commissions as Second Lieutenants for the period of the War in the New Army Battalions. Two of the Cadets named were Lance Corporal W.S. Robertson and Corporal P.W. Anderson. Soon afterwards they were joined by Capt. The Hon. Fergus Bowes-Lyon, a brother of the present Queen Mother. Private James W. Robertson was soon after promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. During the early months of 1915, 2nd Lts. William S. Robertson and Patrick W. Anderson were transferred to the newly formed 10 (Service) Bn., Black Watch, then in training at Bristol. Both 2nd Lts. W.S. Robertson and P.W. Anderson were appointed Lieutenants within that Battalion (1 March, 1915). Around the middle part of April that year the Battalion moved to Sutton Veny, Wiltshire to join other Regiments that made up the 26th Division (77th, 78th, 79th Infantry Brigades). In September 1915 the Battalion and the Division, as a whole, were given orders to move to France as reinforcements for the Battle of Loos. Some of the Officers of the 10 (Service) Bn., Black Watch, did not go overseas to France with the Battalion, these officers were sent to other Battalions of the Black Watch. It would appear that whilst in France Lt. William S. Robertson was posted on attachment to the 4th City of Dundee Bn., Black Watch on 14 November 1915. The 26 Division including the 10 (Service) Bn., Black Watch was moved to active service in Salonika. Lt. William S. Robertson was killed in action on 3 September 1916 at the Schwaben Redoubt, near Hamel. He was buried in Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel.

Lt. William S. Robertson was awarded the Military Cross, 22 September 1916 for conspicuous gallantry during operations. When posting a standing patrol close to the enemy's line, machine gun fire wounded two of his party. After getting the wounded men to safety, he returned and brought in his telephone, which had been left behind, although he was being closely watched. He displayed great coolness and courage throughout.

James W. Robertson, during January 1917, was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant into the 7th (Fife) Bn., Black Watch but on 23 April 1917 he was killed in action at Fampoux, Arras at the Battle of Arras.

The Scottish National Memorial

The Scottish National Memorial was the outcome of an idea first brought forward in 1917. The Secretary of State for Scotland appointed a Committee, who reported that a Scottish National War Memorial was feasible and that the Castle Rock of Edinburgh was the appropriate site. The Prince of Wales, as President, and the Duke of Atholl, as Chairman, were empowered to raise funds. The Memorial was opened on 14 July 1927 by His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. The first visitors after the opening were their Majesties, King George V and Queen Mary. A Roll of Honour listing the Officers and Other Ranks of the Black Watch (The Royal Highlanders) in the Great War is on display in the Scottish National War Memorial, The Castle, Edinburgh and one of the Rolls lists 2nd Lieutenant James Whittingehame Robertson: *Killed in Action 23 April, 1917, 7th Bn. (Territorial Force), The Black Watch*. This Officer's younger brother, Lieutenant William Stewart Robertson, M.C., 10 (Service) Bn., Black Watch, attached 4/5 Bn., Black Watch, was not included in that Roll. The writer of this article made the necessary enquiries and with the assistance of Lt. Colonel H.D.R. Mackay, Secretary of the Scottish National War Memorial, the name of Lieutenant William Stewart Robertson, M.C. has been included in the Roll of Honour. The writer also contacted Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the Black Watch and she informed him that she was pleased that the name of Lt. W.S. Robertson, M.C. had been added to the Regiment's Roll of Honour.

The Roll of Honour of St Andrews University Officer Training Corps at their present Tayforth Universities O.T.C. premises in St Andrews, Fife includes Lt. William Stewart Robertson, M.C. and his elder brother, 2nd Lt. James Whittingehame Robertson and eighty four others. An additional Roll of Honour at these premises includes the writer's uncle, Lt. Patrick Wright Anderson, Black Watch and 18 Sqn. RFC/RAF, who died from wounds after the completion of the University Roll in 1919.

NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT : *No one provokes me with impunity*. The motto of the Black Watch, of which these fine young Officers were proud.

Acknowledgements

Major R. Proctor, M. B. E, Regimental Secretary, Black Watch RHQ, Perth.

Mr. T. B. Smyth, Archivist, Black Watch Museum, Perth.

Lt. Col. H. D. R. Mackay, Secretary, Scottish National War Memorial, Edinburgh.

Lt. Col. A. R. Cram, T. D. Tayforth Universities Officer Training Corps, Dundee.

The Courier & Advertiser, Forfar.

Sources

Officers of the Black Watch. Volume 2, compiled by Major N. McMicking.

History of the Black Watch in the Great War, 1914-1918

edited by Major General A. G. Wauchope, C.B. (volumes 1 to 3).

The O.T.C. and the Great War, by Captain Alan R. Haig-Brown.

Sons of the Manse: Final Edition, 1914-1919, edited by Rev. Duncan Cameron.

University of St Andrews - Roll of Honour & Roll of Service, 1914-1919 for King and Country.

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From COUSLAND, SCOTLAND to BLIDAH, ALGERIA

by Neil M. Reid

"That looks interesting". Probably the three most frustrating words in genealogy. There you are, happily going back through the family tree, when something turns up that seems slightly unusual. "That looks interesting - I wonder if I could find out more?", you say to yourself. More than likely, you have now embarked on a voyage full of frustrations, tantalising hints that lead to dead-ends and records that no longer exist.

Take, for instance, this history of a border farmer, George Stirling. A couple from New England had been researching their family tree, which involved the Stirling family from the villages of Stow and Heriot in the Scottish Borders. Helping them with the Scottish end of their research occasionally, it eventually transpired that we were more than likely distantly related through this family, their ancestors, Stirling, eventually became tenant farmers at Southfield Farm, Cousland, just south of Dalkeith in Midlothian. My ancestors, Reid, were farm labourers in a neighbouring farm, Northfield.

Mention was made of a large Stirling family headstone in the churchyard of Heriot. It is a large imposing headstone, a good seven or eight feet tall. On it are listed various members of the Stirling family, dating back to 1771. Then at the bottom of the headstone is an inscription that, unfortunately, starts the "that looks interesting" train in motion.

*George Stirling, farmer, Southfield
died 30th October 1867
Hotel d'Orient, Blidah, Algeria*

Just what exactly was a border farmer doing in Algeria in 1867? A search in the computerised indexes in the GRO in Edinburgh failed to find any sign of a death certificate for George, nor was any trace found in the register of overseas deaths. I checked the 1861 census for Cranston Parish, Midlothian, for details of Southfield Farm and George Stirling, age thirty seven, was there, running the farm with his unmarried sister, Jean, age thirty five. Going back further through the census records, George took over the tenancy of the farm in 1858 after the death of his father, John Stirling. The 1867-1868 Valuation Roll for Cranston Parish still showed that the tenant of Southfield Farm was George Stirling.

A short trip to the Edinburgh Central Library at George IV Bridge to search through microfilmed copies of local newspapers found an obituary in *The Scotsman* newspaper, dated Friday 12 November 1867, basically repeating the date and place as inscribed on the gravestone in Heriot. Unfortunately, copies of the local newspaper, *The Dalkeith Advertiser*, are only available from 1869, previous copies having been lost. I would imagine that had they been available, details of a border farmer dying in a hotel in Algeria would have made very interesting reading. Details of George Stirling at Southfield were also listed in the *Edinburgh & Leith Post Office Directories for the years 1865, 1866 and 1867*. It was beginning to look like George had only recently, i.e. within the last year or so, arrived in Algeria.

Perhaps some history of Algeria may provide some clues? The reference section of the Edinburgh Central Library was the beginning of this search and an "Algeria - Description" by John Morell, published in 1854 provided some background to Blidah.

Chapter VII, Interior of the Province, describes Blidah as:

"Blidah, (the colony of Ptolemy), is situated at the foot of the Little Atlas, at the entrance of a deep valley, twenty nine miles south of Algiers. The environs of this

town are rendered beautiful by the numerous orange groves that fill the air with their delicious perfume, while fruitful cornfields cover the side of adjacent mountains. At the entrance to this city you can find a cemetery with peculiar sepulchral stones. Aerial minarets, cupolas, tile covered roofs enclosed in groves of trees and a beautiful vegetation account for the love entertained by its inhabitants for their native place, which they used to call the second Damascus”.

Chapter XVIII, European Population and General Statistics, states that:

“The French do not constitute more than three fifths of the European population and are considered to be bad settlers, the only good agriculturists being foreigners. But, for a considerable period after the conquest (1830), the only French civilians attracted to Algeria were dealers in spirituous liquors and men of bad lives - in short, the usual trail of any army”.

Another volume, “Murray’s Handbook of Algeria and Tunis”, provided quite an interesting description of the area in and around Blidah a few years later. In this, it states that:

“...the period 1866-1867 was the most disastrous since the French conquest. A prolonged and excessive drought produced a failure of crops all over the country; dried up the sources of the springs; whole tribes were deprived of their means of subsistence, while the stagnant and polluted water, which alone they could procure for drinking purposes, induced a visitation of cholera which carried off tens of thousands. One of the severest invasions of locusts ever known, which occurred in 1866, caused the destruction of much of what the drought had spared and in January 1867, an earthquake destroyed several villages in the Metidja and seriously injured many more. Not less than two hundred thousand perished during these two years from the effects of pestilence and famine”.

A short visit to London also gave me the opportunity of paying an all too brief visit to the Public Records Office at Kew. In the time available I only managed to come up with one document, which could perhaps provide the cause of George’s death:

To: The Lord Stanley, M.P.

29 October 1867, British Consulate, Algiers

My Lord,

I have the honour to report that cholera has ceased in the city and throughout the province of Algiers and that clean bills of health are now issued.

It has also very considerably decreased in the province of Oran and Constantine and it is confidently expected that the cool season which has set in unusually early may cause the epidemic to disappear.

I have the honour to be your Lordship’s most obedient servant.

(signed) R. L. Playfair

Having so far failed to find any actual record of George’s death, and cause, nor any documented reason for his presence in Algiers, I decided to turn my attentions back to Edinburgh to see if any other information existed that related to George Stirling. The first obvious thing to do was to see if George had left a will.

George had indeed left a will and the information, especially the dates, added even more to the puzzle, rather than answer any questions.

In his will, I came across George’s wife, Mrs. Jane Blair or Stirling. I’d been assuming, due to

the lack of any mention of "*beloved husband of....*" on his gravestone, that George was still a bachelor when he died. Another interesting legacy listed in his will is to the Evangelical Union Church:

"Third I direct my said Trustees at the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas which shall happen six months after my decease to assign and convey to the Treasurer Secretary and President for the time being of the Evangelical Union, Glasgow, for behoof thereof, ten shares of the Capital Stock of the Glasgow and South Western Railway Company held by and belonging to me together with all dividends thereafter to fall due thereon the annual proceed of which Ten Shares of Stock, I direct to be applied by the said office bearers of the said Evangelical Union for the time being for the support and aid of the congregation in Dalkeith in conjunction with the said Evangelical Union, but if at the end of five years from and after the time of my death, the members of said congregation do not exceed in number one hundred, then I direct said proceeds thereafter to be applied to the said office bearers for the time being, in such way and manner as they may think best for helping and aiding weak congregations in connection with the said Evangelical Union".

But the really interesting item in George's will is actually the date on which it was signed:

*"In witness whereof I have subscribed these presents written on this and the three preceding pages of paper by Thomas Lawson, Clerk to Henry Moffat, Solicitor before the Supreme Courts of Scotland, Edinburgh, at Edinburgh the tenth day of **October Eighteen hundred and sixty seven years** before these witnesses the said Henry Moffat and James Dawson, Waiter in the Waverley Temperance Hotel, Princes Street, Edinburgh".*

(signed) George Stirling:

Henry Moffat, witness

James Dawson, witness

I then searched for the date of George's marriage to Jane Blair. The computerised cross indexing in the GRO in Edinburgh made this a relatively quick process.

On the third day of October 1866 at 40 Hill Street, Arbroath, after banns according to the forms of the United Presbyterian Church, George Stirling, forty one years old of Southfield, Cranston, married Jane Blair, twenty nine years old of 40 Hill Street, Arbroath. The minister conducting the ceremony was Alex Sorley, minister of Erskine Church and the two witnesses at the wedding were Samuel Blair and George W. Chisolm, Jane's parents were Thomas Blair and Jane Chisolm.

So, in a nutshell - George Stirling marries Jane Blair on the 3 October 1866, then almost exactly one year later, on the 10 October 1867, in a hotel in Princes Street, Edinburgh, George is signing his last will and testament. Thirty days later, he is dead in a hotel in Blidah, Algeria.

Why was George in Algeria? The letter from the British Consulate describing the cholera outbreak and the description in *Murray's Handbook* would seem to suggest that 1867 wasn't a particularly good time to visit as a tourist. How did he get there? Who sent the information of his death back to Scotland?

All these questions, still awaiting answers - just because I thought - "that looks interesting...."

The ARDCHOIRK COLQUHOUNS: a COLQUHOUN ENCLAVE near DUART CASTLE in MULL

by Jo Currie

In the rentals of the Earls of Argyll in the 17th century, when they had already collected rents from the Maclean of Duart lands to compensate them for debts owed by the Macleans, Ardchoirk is not mentioned but must have been included in the tack called "*Achanacrosh and Barnafrian*" (Achnacroish). In 1750, the setts of the lands of Duart, now well and truly wrested from the Macleans and supervised by the Duke of Argyll's chamberlain in Mull, include "*Duart and Ardchoirk sett to Small Tenants*". When the 5th Duke of Argyll, in 1779, caused a census to be taken of his lands in Torosay, Ardchoirk was a "*township*" with eighty three people in it, headed by one John Roy Colquhoun, tenant, aged sixty. John Roy had a son Donald, eighteen; a son Malcolm, sixteen; a wife and a maid. Following him in the list of inhabitants is Donald Colquhoun, tenant, aged fifty, with his sons Dugald, fourteen; John, twelve; Malcolm, ten; a wife and a daughter. Again there was a tenant called Duncan Colquhoun, aged fifty also, with a son John, seventeen; Duncan, three; a wife and a daughter. These were all the Colquhoun families in Ardchoirk but they were not the only tenants in the township. Among the other tenants names were McYeil or McGhiel, a form of McGregor, McKillop, Buchanan (of whom there were ten, including those who were called McPhananich), McArthur, McFarlane, McPhail and McDonald.

Why should this little corner of the Duke's lands be inhabited by people who bore such different, even "*foreign*" surnames? In the case of the Colquhouns, there is a theory that they were rewarded for helping the government cause in the Jacobite uprisings. Another theory is that native Mull people found it expedient to change their names because they had been Jacobites and that the name of Colquhoun was plucked out of the air. Whatever the explanation might be, there must be many Colquhouns looking for forebears today, who look in vain around Loch Lomondside and might be surprised to find their roots in Mull.

Unfortunately the baptismal records of the parish of Torosay before 1793 have been lost. It is not until July 1794 that the first Colquhoun infant from Ardchoirk makes its appearance for a christening and this is a girl called Jane Colquhoun, daughter to Donald Colquhoun and Peggy Stuart. She is followed by a Marion, daughter to Dugald Colquhoun and Catharine Campbell and eleven days later another Marion is baptised although "*begotten in fornication*" by a Duncan Colquhoun and a Colquhoun mother. The first boy to appear in Ardchoirk after the beginning of the new baptismal register begun in 1793, was a baby Duncan and he too was a child conceived in fornication by one Malcolm Colquhoun, possibly John Roy's son now aged thirty three, and Julia Fletcher, "*both in Ardchoirk*". The Colquhoun men did not venture far afield to sow their wild oats or if they did, we do not know where.

Donald Colquhoun, perhaps the son of John Roy, born circa 1760 and his wife, Peggy Stuart, and Duncan Colquhoun, born circa 1776, and his wife, Effy McPhail, became the most regular contributors to population growth in Ardchoirk. They were soon to be joined by Angus Colquhoun, whose own parenthood remains unknown, and who married a girl by the name of McLachlan. The son they had baptised in September 1797 was named Hugh and was possibly named after the McLachlan side of the family. Hugh was not a very current Colquhoun name. This is fortunate, for it is very difficult to enunciate the name Hugh Colquhoun.

We now have four principal Colquhoun couples in Ardchoirk, headed by Donald, Dugald, Duncan and Angus, as we approach the beginning of the 19th century. In spite of an intense campaign

to enlist men in the militia in those years, there was, as we know from letters in the Lochbuie Collection (the Maclaines of Lochbuie being the neighbouring lairds), in this part of the world, great reluctance to serve. The main commercial activities on Mull were the manufacture of kelp and the breeding of black cattle. It was to the latter that Colquhoun men would have been attached. In the 1790s, the Lussa Market, near Ardchoirk, was an important mart for the exchange and barter of cattle, before the drovers bore the animals off to the Lowland markets.

Malcolm Colquhoun, who had had some neighbourly fornication with Julia Fletcher back in 1795, must have married her later, the official Torosay marriage records do not begin until 1807. They have a son in 1802, baptised John but after the birth of Angus in 1806, this couple disappear from the records. Did they emigrate or did Malcolm die? We still do not know if Julia's Malcolm was John Roy's son or Donald's son.

Coming up in the fast lane of procreation was Duncan Colquhoun who, after his early peccadillo, began, with his wife Effy McPhail, to produce, between 1796 and 1819, the most remarkable number of sons: John; Angus; Duncan; Malcolm; Neil; Ewan; Dugald; Donald; Robert; Lachlan and James, and only one daughter, Mary. Eleven sons and one daughter is a fearless flaunting of the theory of probability. But it must also have established a kind of sub-clan of Colquhouns and the Colquhoun population in Ardchoirk must have been prodigious. But there was no census of Ardchoirk between 1779 and 1841 so there is a sixty year gap when we have little idea of what was happening there, on a personal level at least.

But we do know what happened in terms of the Argyll or Duart estate, of which Ardchoirk was part. In about 1816, the sixth Duke of Argyll, George William, had so many debts that he was forced to sell most of his Mull estates. At this time the castle of Duart was a sad ruin. It had been used as a garrison through the 18th century but by the 19th it had become a shell. When the Duart lot was sold in 1819 it went to Colonel Charles Macquarie, who became proprietor of lands which had their centre, not at the castle, but at Ardnacroish, or Torgormaig, across the bay from Duart. Today it is Torosay Castle. From Colonel Macquarie's house Ardchoirk was not visible. It was probably just as well, as the spreading population had possibly made the houses unsightly. The people were by now mostly cottars, who possessed their cottages for little or no rent at the will of the principal tenant, and not at the will of the proprietor. Colonel Macquarie was proprietor for only seven years and in 1826 the estate of Duart passed to Colonel Alexander Campbell of Possil. We know little of his estate policy, except that he combined a charitable regard for the poor with a conflicting interest in "improvement" which meant that he was opposed to overcrowding and eyesores. No documentation survives of his improvements and his rental lists have disappeared. So we see the light at the end of the tunnel, only at the end of the sixty year gap in records, with the census of 1841.

We have been speaking only of Colquhouns but Buchanans, McGhiels and other Ardchoirk families had also continued to live there and if we add up the natural increase, we find hundreds of people in this township by 1820. What had happened by 1841? There were one hundred and three people in Ardchoirk - only twelve of them actual Colquhouns but many more descended from Colquhouns through the female line. The other old names were similarly represented. Six families were tenants, others were cottars or crofters or labourers. Duncan Colquhoun was still there, in his seventies. A tenant Angus Colquhoun, in his thirties, might have been Duncan's son. Donald Colquhoun was in his eighties and it was his daughter, Anne, who continued the race but as MacKinnons. In other words, the great male race of Colquhouns was largely gone. But gone where? And when? And why?

Compared with other surnames in Mull, about which one can always find oblique anecdotal references in letters and diaries, Colquhouns are strangely without a presence in the annals. Their

neighbours in Ardchoirk, the McGhiels and Buchanans, are richly observed, so this is not due to their being retired in a ghetto. The only Colquhoun who gets any press coverage is Robert, who became the schoolmaster in Iona circa 1775. If Robert, who was born in 1725, was related to John Roy Colquhoun in Ardchoirk, there is no evidence of it. Robert, such an un-Mull name, is prevalent among the "real" Colquhouns of Luss but we have noticed one among the eleven sons of Duncan in Ardchoirk. If the Colquhouns in Mull were English speaking and not assimilated to Gaelic culture, they may have had to keep themselves to themselves. And families who were very clannish emigrated together in large numbers. It is my guess that somewhere between the leisurely voluntary emigrations from Mull of the 18th century and the heartless forced emigrations of the 1840s and 1850s - perhaps around the beginning of Colonel Campbell of Possil's reign at Duart (1826) - a very large number of fine upstanding Colquhouns slipped off to Canada unnoticed, leaving behind two old patriarch widowers in Ardchoirk. By 1861 there were ten houses left in the township. Today, you can make a quiet spiritual pilgrimage there, after the wordly one to Duart Castle, if you go down to Lochdonhead, bear left at Barr nam Friar, on foot of course, and seek out the half dozen ruins which remain.

LYING on the WIND

by Dr. Jean Lindsay

Sometimes my father would reminisce about his childhood at tea on a Sunday. My brother, sister and I listened politely, not particularly interested or willing to concede that his life could have any relevance to our own modern times.

"Yes", he would say, "*I used to lie on the wind on Tinto Hill*".

The name meant nothing to us, brought up in Derby the heart of the English Midlands, with names like Dovedale and Thorpe Cloud more familiar ones. Privately, we thought our father had made up the name. There was a mention too, of his grandfather who kept the lodge at Lamington, where he'd stayed on holidays from school in Glasgow. He recalled the bantam hens and a musical box belonging to his granny. I knew that he grew up in Glasgow, in a family of seven children and that his father, a telegraph clerk on the railway, had died at the age of thirty five years in 1896 in Lamington. Poverty, including going bare foot, had been his background from the age of ten with his father's death. I listened, but seldom questioned him, fearing perhaps boring outpourings from the past.

It was, unfortunately, only after his comparatively early death that I began to wonder about William Forrest, my father, and about the origin of the Forrest family. Marriage to a Scot helped, as David, my husband, didn't fall about laughing when I tentatively mentioned Tinto Hill. He said, calmly, that it was in Lanarkshire. As we lived for some years in north Wales, it didn't seem possible to do any family research in Scotland. There were other priorities but I did get help from the Scots Ancestry Research Society which researched my paternal ancestry to circa 1740. With this information and the help of older relatives, I compiled a family tree which showed that three generations of Forrests, from circa 1740 to circa 1794, had lived in Biggar: John senior; John junior and James. It was James who made the move to Lamington on his marriage circa 1814 to Margaret Telfer who was born in Lamington. James worked as a surface-man, probably in the lead mines, and

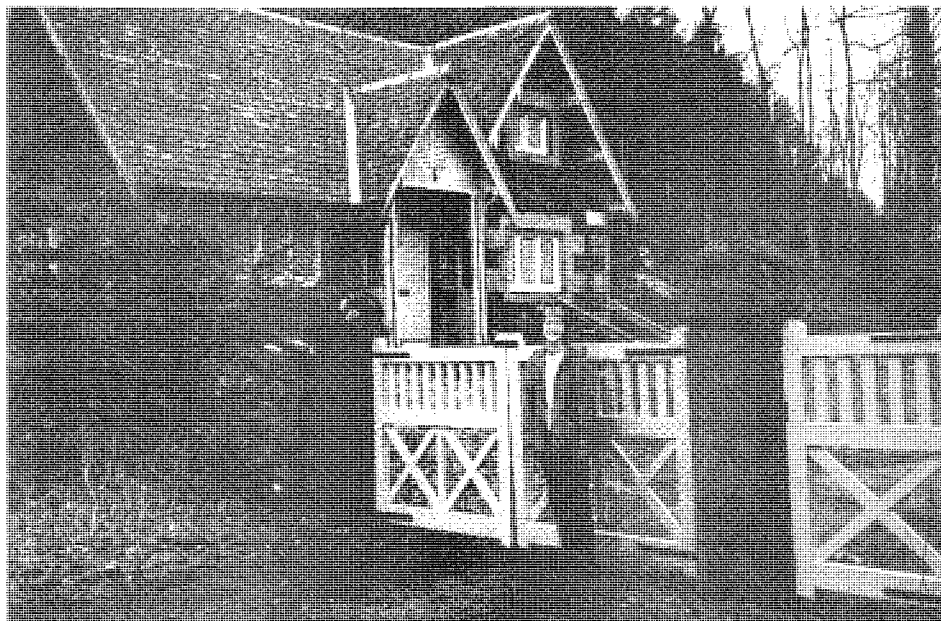
had retired by 1871. The couple had twelve children, eight boys and four girls, and James died in 1875 at Braidwood in Carluke. One of the twelve children was William, my great grandfather, who was born in 1835. He was a farm servant and in 1857 he married Janet Brown who was born in Carnwath. Janet's father was a cooper. They were married in Carnwath "*according to the Forms of the Free Church of Scotland*". The couple lived at East Lodge on the Lamington Estate and in 1861 William Forrest's occupation was given as gamekeeper. In the 1871 Census, however, and on his death certificate, he is described as gardener. William died in 1882 but his wife Janet continued to live at East Lodge until her death at the age of eighty one, in 1912. William and Janet had eight children, including George, born in 1861, who was my grandfather.

Once many years ago, I was travelling by train to Edinburgh when we stopped at a small station, now closed. I could hardly believe my eyes but the name was Lamington and I saw a gentle landscape with a wide, clear river, the Clyde, flowing by. Another close encounter with Lamington was a chance meeting with a group of Scots who knew the village and Lamington House, which, they said, was now demolished but the lodge still existed.

Unexpectedly, as family mementoes are jealously guarded, my sister sent me a copy of a merit certificate awarded to my father in July 1899 by "*The Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education in Scotland*". The original had a green leather cover and in gold lettering the words, "*Scotch Education Department*". It stated that William Forrest, a pupil in the Glasgow Grove Street Public School, had shown proficiency in "*Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and English, according to the requirements for the Merit Certificate*" and that he had received "*efficient instruction in an approved curriculum of studies embracing Geography and British History*". Robert Alexander, M.A., the Headmaster, certified that William Forrest's conduct had been "*entirely satisfactory*". He was twelve years old and at that age he left school.

The ever helpful Mitchell Library provided me with a photocopy of several pages of Grove Street School Logbook, which they possessed, for the years of my father's schooling. Individual names of pupils were rarely mentioned but the Headmaster's record powerfully evoked the atmosphere of a Victorian city school. The report of the H.M.I. for the year ending 30th September 1898 was particularly illuminating. It stated that the general appearance made by the school was "*particularly good*", although there was "*room for improvement*" in the lower sections of the infant department. In Standard I the "*beautiful writing of the girls and the proficiency of the boys in Geography*" were "*specially mentioned*" but the boys "*might spell and recite better*". My father was probably in Standard IV at the time of the inspection and these pupils were described as "*very active and intelligent*"; their written work was "*praiseworthy*". The school had "*excellent singing*". It was evidently a fairly large institution with seven male teachers and eight female teachers, fourteen pupil teachers and visiting teachers for music, drill, cookery and laundry. It was also a school where some of the pupils, like my father, came from impoverished families; on 2nd December 1898, fifty six pupils applied for free books from the Educational Endowment Board. The holidays in Lamington must have seemed like paradise to the Glasgow boy.

Just over a year ago, having moved to East Lothian, I decided to make a pilgrimage to Biggar and Lamington to see these places for myself. My daughter, Cora, nobly agreed to come with me and we boarded the Dumfries bus in Edinburgh bus station. It was a bleak, cold day in January but the bus was warm and cosy. We arrived in Biggar's busy main street and we picked up leaflets in the tourist information office. One, entitled "*Historic Biggar*", reported that Stone Age settlements had been discovered on Biggar Common and that the town was given burgh status by the charter of 1451. It also claimed that William Wallace had defeated an English army here in 1297, this claim was based on the account given by Blind Harry in the sixth book of his *Actis and Deedis of the Illusters and*



Cora at the gates of East Lodge



Lamington Kirkyard, showing the Forrest plot in the foreground.

Vailzeand Campioun, Schir William Wallace, Knicht of Ellerslie. As the local historian, the Rev. W. S. Crockett, wrote in 1900, it is highly unlikely that any battle took place in Biggar. Blind Harry was probably giving an exaggerated account of the Battle of Roslin, 1306, when Sir Simon Fraser and Sir John Comyn marched out from Biggar during the night. There is a local tradition that William Wallace disguised himself as a cadger or beggar after the alleged battle and beat off the English on a narrow bridge, known as "*Cadger's Brig*" but this seems to be another of Blind Harry's romantic stories. More acceptable is Biggar's claim to be an ancient Cambro-British settlement once inhabited by warlike tribes who made human sacrifices.

W. S. Crockett, who was minister at Tweedsmuir, praised Biggar's atmosphere as "*one of the purest and most bracing*". It is seven hundred feet above sea level and we had a good view from St. Ninian's Church where we went to look for Forrest graves. Notable families of Biggar included the Gladstones, whom Crockett describes as "*simple, unaffected country folk*" with lairds, farmers, shopkeepers, weavers and day-labourers in their ranks. The star of the family, of course, was William Ewart Gladstone, the nineteenth century Liberal Prime Minister. John Buchan's father was minister of a local church and Biggar was home to Hugh MacDiarmid, who lived in a cottage at Brownsbank from 1951 until his death in 1978.

The Biggar Museum Trust is responsible for the town's museums, including MacDiarmid's cottage. We liked the Gladstone Court Museum which had a variety of Victorian shops and services: the dressmaker's; the watchmaker's; the ironmonger's and the schoolroom among others. In 1815 a very young William Ewart Gladstone visited Andrew Reid's watchmaker's shop as his cousin John worked there as a clockmaker. The collection of over twenty thousand local photographs, once housed in the grandly named "*Metropolitan Photographic Art Studio*", is now in Moat Park Heritage Centre where there's also information about Thomas Blackwood Murray, 1871-1929, Biggar's pioneer of motoring and founder of Albion motor works.

Lamington was only a few miles away by bus and we nearly missed the village despite a large noticeboard proclaiming the name. We admired the bridge over the clean and sparkling Clyde but found no sign of the "*beautiful village after the English model*" mentioned by Crockett. The Rev. Charles Hope, in the *Statistical Account* of 1845, claimed that few situations surpassed the "*beauty of Lamington with its clean burn rippling by to mingle with the Clyde*" and its "*smooth, grassy hills forming the background*". As we looked across at these hills we at last saw Tinto which dominated the others. The name means Hill of Fire and may reflect the site's connections with sun worship and what Crockett calls "*heathenish orgies*". From the "*blackened cairn*" on the hilltop the view extends on a clear day to Skiddaw in the Lake District but we hadn't time for the climb and it certainly wasn't a clear day. There was a gale blowing and we might indeed have been able to lie on the wind, if we had managed to reach the summit.

Lamington Kirk, which is owned by the Biggar Museum Trust, was locked but we explored the kirkyard. The wind was by then truly arctic and the verse supposedly written by Robert Burns on a slip of paper and left in a pew struck a chord with us:

*"As could a wind as ever blew;
A caulder kirk, an in't but few;
As could a minister's ever spak;
Ye'se a' be het or I come back"*

I recalled my father quoting the verse with feeling. T. Ross Forrest, no relation but an inhabitant of the area, had told me about the village and had said there was a tombstone belonging to John Forrest with the right dates, 1833-1874, for my family. John was my great grandfather's brother and we found

the grave easily, near the entrance, but the lettering was difficult to read because of the lichen covering it. Cora headed off into the wind round the back of the kirk, while I spotted, next to John's grave, a horizontal gravestone covered with the names of numerous Forrests; in fact there were seven members of my family. Cora, out of sight, had a sudden fear that my ancestors has spirited her mother away - awesome thought, but in reality we met up again as she returned to the entrance. We brushed the lichen away and deciphered the inscription:

"Erected by his family in loving memory of William Forrest their father who died at East Lodge, Lamington 17 February 1882 aged 48 years"

Then followed the names and dates of five of his children: Jessie; George (my grandfather); William; Margaret and Marion. The last name was that of his wife Janet, my father's granny, who died in November 1912 aged 81 years. This was an exhilarating moment and the weather joined in the excitement with heavy, pounding rain but it soon stopped and we returned to the quiet road in search of East Lodge. We found Lamington burn flowing through a muddy wood and followed it to a small house which we hoped was our goal. The place looked deserted but we knocked on the front door and a rather startled looking gentleman appeared. I told him we were looking for East Lodge and of course he said, "*No, this is West Lodge, East Lodge is at the other end of the lane*". We set off again on the muddy path with no house in sight. We spotted two ladies bravely playing tennis on a grass court and we asked them for help. They assured us we were on the right path for East Lodge, emphasising the fact that we should follow the "*avenue*" not the muddy lane. We soon came upon a neat little house, prettier than West Lodge, painted yellow, not far from the main Edinburgh to Dumfries road. There was a gate across the "*avenue*" and although this was now an ordinary farm gate, Janet Forrest and my father would no doubt have opened a grander version to let the carriages pass through to Lamington House. No one was at home in East Lodge, nor was there any sign of bantam hens, so we emerged from the wood and walked past the church, the Free Church of Scotland, and to the village, a small collection of very neat houses. We soon caught our bus back to Edinburgh, having been in a different world where the air had been cold but pure and fresh, the atmosphere pleasantly bracing and where I felt strangely at home.

The Rev. Charles Hope in his account of Lamington, noted that the estate had been neglected in the eighteenth century because of the lack of male heirs. In Hope's time the new Lord Lamington was Alexander Cochrane Baillie, who was expected to restore the fortunes of the estate. My father had played with the son of Lord Lamington in the 1890s as they were of similar age and it was a family legend that they had gone shooting together on the estate. Despite the Forrests, population of the village declined: in 1831 it was three hundred and eighty two but according to the *Third Statistical Account* it was only two hundred and seventeen in 1951. Lord Lamington, my father's childhood friend, was wounded in World War I and died in 1960. He had been well liked in the village but there were no male heirs and the title is no longer in use. The estate was sold after his death and Lamington House is no more. The estate became part of Baitlaw's property, owned by Mr and Mrs Maxwell Stuart. The wished for restoration to former glory has not been achieved but the East and West Lodges survive, the village is carefully tended and Tinto Hill still broods over the landscape.

The ZULU WAR MEDAL - a CIVILIAN ENTITLEMENT

by Donald S. McLean



Researching the life history of his great, great uncle, the Reverend. Doctor James Dalzell, MA, MB, BD, CM, FPSG, led to Donald McLean discovering that he had been awarded the Zulu War Medal. How, as a civilian, did he come to qualify for his medal?

Born in Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire in 1841, James Dalzell was the son of Gavin Dalzell, who around 1840 built what is now the world's oldest existing bicycle; it is now believed that he copied the idea of the blacksmith MacMillan and saw an ideal way to transport his goods of tea and cloth around the country villages of Lanarkshire and the borders of Ayrshire. James was to have joined his father's business and started his merchant career by training in Hamilton. At the same time, he joined the Lesmahagow Company of the Lanarkshire Volunteers, as a Rifleman, thus getting a good military training which would see him to good use later in his life.

By the time James was eighteen, the great religious revival was taking place in Scotland. With the help of the church minister he studied Latin and Greek, thus gaining admission to the University of Glasgow. First studying for his Master of Arts, he went on to study medicine, acting as assistant at the Glasgow Medical Mission before going on to study divinity, having gained the license of faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. By 1870 he had been selected by the Free Church of Scotland to open the Gordon Memorial Mission, in memory of the second son of the Earl of Aberdeen. He travelled to Natal, selecting Boer Farm at Umsinga, leading down to the banks of the Tugela River, to the south of a Swedish Mission station, which in less than ten years would become part of the British military folklore - Rorke's Drift! Having established his mission on the banks of the Tugela River, he went on to build a mission station with over thirty out-stations amongst the Zulus. His medical skills brought Zulus from far and wide to his mission hospital.

From the 1850s onwards small Volunteer Units of mounted rifles and border guards had begun to be formed in Natal, once it had become clear that the colony could not always rely entirely on a garrison of British or Imperial troops. Such units provided their own horses and equipment and clothed themselves at their own expense. The Government provided arms, ammunition and paid a small annual capitation grant for running the corps. In the area of the Buffalo River, we find units raised from Boer, Dutch, German and British stock, the levies consisting of, among others, the Buffalo Mounted Rifles and the Buffalo Volunteer Rifles, of Boer, Dutch and German origin. At Newcastle, the Newcastle Division had the Newcastle Mounted Rifles and the Buffalo Border Rifles.

The Buffalo Border Rifles, formed in October 1873, during the Langalibalele crisis, comprised mainly farmers of British stock from the eastern part of the district. Their uniform was a black pillbox cap, with a band of black braid; the badge of a buffalo's head in silver metal mounted on a laurel wreath; black Bedford cord tunic, with black velvet facings; white metal buttons; black breeches of Bedford cord; black leather fieldboots. No shoulder badges were worn. They were issued with .450 Martini-Henry rifles and a Webley revolver. In 1878, their number stood at twenty three, which was considerable for such a sparsely populated district.

The Captain was John Robson, Field Cornet of Ward Number Two in the Newcastle Division. Many of the others were of the Smith connection at Dundee. First Lieutenant was William Craighead Smith, the Quartermaster was Ian McPhail. Amongst the Troopers were John Gutridge, blacksmith of Dundee and George Eary, a wagonmaker. The Surgeon and Chaplain was the Reverend Dr. James Dalzell, district surgeon of Umsinga.

The Newcastle Mounted Rifles were formed in October 1875, captained by Charles Robert Bradstreet. At the beginning of 1878 the official strength stood at forty, drawn mainly from the town of Newcastle. Amongst its members and serving as Quartermaster, was the landlord of the Newcastle Hotel, Edward Hitchcock. The Surgeon was the District Surgeon C. Ward

A British garrison was at this time stationed in Newcastle, which was troubled with regular brawls in the town canteens. This force was strategically positioned to intervene if necessary in the affairs of the recently annexed Transvaal. British troops had arrived in June 1876 but it was only at the end of June 1877 that Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Durnford, R.E., had begun to lay out a fortified camp across the Neando River to the north of Newcastle.

By 1879, The Number One district had twenty one Levy Commanders under the command of the Colonel Commander, Captain Montgomery. The Levy Leaders were:

<i>H. F. Fynn, R.M. Umsinga</i>	<i>- Gregory</i>
<i>R. du Bois</i>	<i>R. H. Know</i>
<i>J. Frankeish</i>	<i>- Maxwell</i>
<i>J. S. Allison</i>	<i>- Jackson</i>
<i>J. Robson</i>	<i>N. Robinson</i>
<i>R. Beachcroft</i>	<i>- Bailey</i>
<i>T. Reynolds</i>	<i>- King</i>
<i>T. Wheeler</i>	<i>- Morrell</i>
<i>H. E. Kirby</i>	<i>Mr. Conductor Mostert</i>
<i>A. G. B. Warner, N.M. Police</i>	<i>Medical Officer Dr. J. Dalzell</i>
<i>T. Wright</i>	

The above list, showing the Levy Commanders, was found in the medal rolls WO 100/47 & 48 of "non regular groups" at the Public Record Office.

The medal rolls, almost always take the form of hand written (late type) lists, by battalions, troops, batteries, hospitals etc. This printed copy is most unusual! From the annotations against some of the names, it was apparently intended to be a War Office working document. The annotations concern medals which were returned, presumably because the recipient could not be traced.

Other local Commanders were Major, later Colonel, John G. Dartnell, Natal Mounted Police Commandant of Colonial Defensive District No. 1; Captain John Sutcliffe Robson, Field Commandant Ward No. 2 Newcastle Division and Border Agent, presumably the same as the above J. Robson; Mr. H. F. Fynn, Resident Magistrate of Umsinga, the son of a well known pioneer of 1824, who had been a friend of the great Shaka. He was responsible for holding the line at Umsinga, like Robson at

Rorke's Drift. Umsinga faced the Mangeni Valley in Zululand, a point from which the Zulu invasion could be launched. He lived at the Umsinga Magistracy, that boasted two cells, a sizeable court and four rooms for their house, with his wife and three young daughters. Although he had an excellent command of the Zulu language, he had the services of an interpreter, Jackson, who lived nearby in a thatched cottage. A mile away the Brickhill brothers lived at Knox's Store. Dr. Dalzell, his wife, her two sisters and Mr. Black, the Mission carpenter were at the Gordon Memorial Mission.

In December 1878 and January of the following year, this backwater was transformed as columns marched into Helpmakaar. New stretches of road were built by large labour gangs through the "wilderness of slime" on the Biggarsbeg. Not only soldiers but thousands of natives poured into this remote valley. One morning Fynn addressed two thousand natives. Umkongo, Cetshwayo's refugee brother, had brought them to join the Natal native Contingent. Unfortunately, Umkongo was too stout to serve himself!

By late 1878, Fynn, who had been involved with talks between the Zulu and the British, was sensitive to changes in the atmosphere; he was certain that the Zulus would not accept the terms of the ultimatum and the New Year would bring war. He made a lightning tour of the front and returned full of Napoleonic schemes for border defences :

"A cannon posted as soon as possible on the prominent peak of Umsinga Mountain, overlooking this valley, would be advisable, either as a check or for driving back the enemy when fighting begins".

On January 16 1879, Fynn rode off to war. He handed over to William Beaumont, who, as the new Colonial Commander of District Number One, had now established his headquarters at Umsinga.

The New Year of 1879, saw the local volunteers at the Post of Honour - in the van of Lord Chelmsford's central column.

"They were settled in a trim camp on the sharp rim of the Biggarsbeg overlooking the Buffalo River and put up with the tiresome duties of a trooper's life cheerfully enough".

Indeed the correspondent of the *Natal Mercury* thought that they had made a creditable beginning and over optimistically prophesied:

"This Army could not be beaten the world over".

The massacre of Islandlwana on January 22 1879 was a grim shock to Northern Natal. The Newcastle Mounted Rifles were decimated. The remnants of the Buffalo Border Guard retreated into Fort Pine. In Newcastle, Maud Bradstreet had just helped her friend Mrs Hitchcock through the difficult birth of her daughter, Georgina, at the Newcastle Hotel. Two days later they heard that their husbands, Captain Charles Robert Bradstreet and Quartermaster Edward Hitchcock, had died heroically alongside Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Durnford, RE, with the Natal Colonial Volunteers.

James Dalzell had sent everyone away from the Gordon Memorial Mission, with the exception of Charles Black, the carpenter and wagon maker. The nearest the enemy came to the Mission was six miles. European houses eight or nine miles distant and huts of natives still nearer were burnt. The two men kept guard over the mission, except for the four nights of the 3rd to the 6th following the disastrous battle at Islandlwana. When fatigued with keeping watch night and day, they retired, once to Helpmakaar, once to the Magistrate's office (Umsinga?), the third time to a hill top among the native levies, who were deserting in large numbers, and on the fourth night to a hut in the shelter of the levies. The discomfort, want of sleep and the inconvenience decided them to stay at the Mission,

sleeping with windows open, loaded revolver and rifle to hand and horses standing ready saddled close by! Their coolness staying at their Mission when all armed men were in a laager, standing guard at night, instilled the local natives with confidence. Comparisons were made to the relative size of their livers compared to the soldiers and armed colonial forces in the rear (the liver is the seat of courage in the native's mind).

Besides the Zulu they had another enemy to contend with: the mounted private European and non commissioned officers of the native contingents in Imperial pay. Everything was fair game to these men. Anything edible was carried off if the owners were not there to protect it. Windows were smashed, doors broken, dishes, tables, chairs, pots and pans destroyed. Food that could not be carried away was wasted or spoilt. Books were torn up. One missionary informed Dalzell of his loss of over three hundred pounds, another of sixty pounds damage. After the war was over, the mission people returned to their homes. Dr. Dalzell tells of a friendly visit he had from the nearest Zulu chief, who promised to send two of his sons to stay at the Manse and attend the school, the Chief having repeatedly had the benefit of Dr. Dalzell's medical aid for himself and his family.

In 1881, on return from leave in Scotland, Dalzell was responsible for forming the first company of the Boys Brigade in Africa.

During the Boer War of 1899 Dr. Dalzell's mission was the only one in the area not to be scattered to the wind, as the others were, because of the humane way in which he had dealt with the Boer farmers. At his funeral in January 1901, Boer, German, British and Zulu were gathered at his grave. His obituary tells us that after the battles of Rorke's Drift and Islandlwana, he treated the wounded of both sides.

If anyone should know the whereabouts of this remarkable man's South Africa Medal, 1879 (MY1270), the author would be delighted to hear.



SCOTTISH GENEALOGICAL RECORDS ON-LINE

by David G. C. Burns

It was my pleasure to accept an invitation from the Registrar General for Scotland to attend the launch of "Digital Images of the 1891 Census Records for Scotland" and Cecil Sinclair's "Jock Tamson's Bairns" in the Library, New Register House on Thursday 6 July 2000. The 1891 Census will be on-line in 2001 but equally interesting, Bruno Longmore presented "Digital Images of the 1891 Death Records". This venture is still at an early stage but reflects the forward thinking of archivists and officials in the National Archives of Scotland and the General Register Office.

Scotland is fortunate that many years ago our officials allowed the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints to microfilm Parish and Census records. Since then with the installation of camera and diazo-fiche duplicator the Statutory records became available on fiche. They have served us well and will continue to do so for some time. The introduction of computer facilities and CD-Rom discs, with all the ensuing benefits, ensures that Scotland is one of the leading lights in records conservation, presentation and availability. It has taken foresight, time and shrewd capital investment to attain these goals. With the advent of the New Millennium we are now reaching out to the dizzy heights of images of original records becoming available on-line.

For some time now the general public have been able to surf the Net to view computer indexes of records held in New Register House and, at a price, order up pages of these indexes and, the availability of acquiring copies of particular records. But there are problems. Late last year I was researching in New Register House and faced two computer index problems within one week. Unable to find a female birth, the exact date was listed on her death record, I was able through the goodwill of a member of staff to locate her birth on the Paper index - not available on computer and, presumably not on the Net? Later that week I was not able to locate the death of a male person who had died within a certain timescale. His exact date and place of death was found in the Confirmations and Inventories in the Old Register House. Aware that the family lived in a certain district of Glasgow, a search of the Index of deaths for that district revealed the required record. These errors and omissions were promptly reported to Register House staff. Over the years, researchers have reported similar problems to an ever grateful staff - to the benefit of all. The human factor and, perhaps, the computer factor come into the compiling of indexes.

Without going into details, I found a male person that I was looking for named William, living with his mother and grandmother, aged one month born Gladsmuir Parish in the 1891 Census for Gladsmuir. On checking the Birth Index for Gladsmuir in 1891 there was only one person with that surname, a child named Mary, the same name as the mother. Interestingly, in the column marked Sex was found (M) Male. I realise there may be legal difficulties in making an amendment in this case but I can supply further documentary proof that the name should be William not Mary. Unfortunately, this record is under the female name in the computer index.

We are fortunate that Scottish records are among the best in the English speaking world for content and, despite our chequered history, that so much has survived. We realise that our Parish records do not reveal the whole story. Occasionally we come across a lament from Parish Ministers or Session Clerks that many children, to save the dues, have not been registered. There are compensating factors at work. Some Ministers and Session Clerks, at the end of the Old Book in 1819 and at the end of the New Book in 1854, alerted their parishioners to this opportunity to record family events. This occasionally happened after the repeal of the Tax in 1793.

In one family in the 1841 Census in Irvine in Ayrshire, half the children listed in the census were

registered and the other half not registered. At least the census revealed the names of all members of that family. The 1821 census of the Parishes of Deerness and South Ronaldsay in Orkney, photocopies held in New Register House, reveal certain details of my ancestors who died prior to the 1841 Census.

If we are fortunate to locate Death records in Statutory records of persons whose Births/Baptisms were not recorded in Parish records, then these Death records should reveal parents names and names of spouses. Of course, we rely heavily on the information supplied by the informants - not always accurate.

A widow aged 120 years died in Harris in 1863. Her grandson, who was illiterate, the informant. It is to be hoped that oral tradition revealed the facts on this person as Parish records do not go far enough back in time to confirm.

We remain indebted to archivists, officials, librarians and volunteers in local family history societies and the Scottish Genealogy Society who labour diligently to preserve our family records.

I digress. In the early 1900s in a remote Parish in County Argyll a male child was born. After the Christian name of this child the words "*Coire-an-t-sith*" appear. Interestingly, part of these Gaelic words appear on the computer index and, presumably, on the International Network. I am confident officials have not deliberately left these Gaelic words in the computer index as a legal safeguard against errors and omissions: the rough translation "*Fault of the fairies*".

Many years ago I met a charming lady from Chile. She informed me that her mother had been born in 1891 in Santiago but her grandparents came from Scotland. When I was able to produce her grandparents' marriage record in the 1870s in Perth, this tiny lady stood up and declared to all and sundry "*Now I know that I have Scottish blood running through my veins!*".

Surely a sentiment echoed by people with Scots ancestry both at home and abroad who, as time goes on, will get access to their family records on the Internet.

REVIEW

Roxburghshire Monumental Inscriptions, XVIII, Ancrum & Longnewton. Edited by Elspeth Ewan. vi + 76pp. Illus. ISBN-1-87-874232-05-2. Available from Miss Jean Sanderson, 12 Woodside Park, Kelso, Roxburghshire TD5 7RE. £7 + 65p postage (UK). Air mail postage £2.80

The Borders Family History Society are to be congratulated on their eighteenth volume of Roxburghshire Monumental Inscriptions; like its predecessors, tastefully produced. The parish of Ancrum, to which Longnewton was annexed in 1684, lies to the west of the A68, roughly midway between St. Boswells and Jedburgh. In Ancrum parish that highway crosses the A698 Kelso to Selkirk road and the A699 Kelso to Hawick road.

Some five hundred and thirty one stones have been recorded for Ancrum and twenty eight for the old burial ground at Longnewton. Scott is the most prolific surname, appearing on stones sixty five times. Next comes Turnbull, showing thirty two times, Davidson twenty four times, Douglas fifteen times and many other surnames occur as often as twelve or fourteen times. Some inscriptions are quite lengthy, frequently recording information not found in written records.

There is a parish location map and a place name location map. The Hearth Tax List, 1691-95, is reproduced, also a Militia List dated 1801. The ministers of the various churches are noted, as well as the names on the local War Memorial. The old ruined church of Ancrum is pictured on the front cover and the War Memorial on the rear cover.

Donald Whyte

SOME RECENT ADDITIONS to the LIBRARY

Shaw Family History	Charles Seaman
Ships from Ireland to Early America; 1623-150	David Dobson
Ratho Parish Church: A Short History of the Church and Parish	
Post Office Greenock Directory for 1859-60	
Dundee Post Office Directory, 1861-62	
Dundee Post Office Directory, 1862-63	
Prestonkirk: The People of 1851	Diane D. McNicoll
Surnames of East Lothian	Diane D. McNicoll
Mining the Lothians	Guthrie Hutton
1841 Census Index, Parish of Ardchattan, District of Lorn	
Jones's Directory or Useful Pocket Companion for the Year 1787	"Rambling Reporter"
Pieces in the Jigsaw: A Family History Case	Anne Rodwell
Roll of Eminent Burgesses of Dundee, 1513-1886	
Scots in Georgia and the Deep South, 1735-1845	David Dobson
Poor Relief in Scotland	National Archives of Scotland
Basic Heraldry	Stephen Friar & John Ferguson
Heraldry: An Introduction to a Noble Tradition	Michel Pastoureau
Heraldic Alphabet	J. P. Brook-Little
Art of Heraldry	Peter Gwynn-Jones
Scotland's Historic Shipwrecks	Colin Martin
Orkney: Anthology Selected Works of Ernest Walker Marwick	John D. M. Robertson
Oxford Guide to Heraldry	J. M. Robinson & Thos. Woodcock
Meritorious Service Medal: Immediate Awards 1916-1928	Ian McInnes
Return of the Names of the Officers in the Army, 30 April 1818	War Office
Punjab Campaign, 1848-9, Casualty Roll	
Casualties Sustained by the British Army in the Korean War, 1950-53	
Tyneside Scottish	John Sheen & Graham Stewart
Orkney - A Photographic History, 1870-1930, vol. 1	Noel Hill
Orkney - A Photographic History, 1870-1930, vol. 2	Noel Hill
F. A. N. Y. Invicta	Irene Ward
Far Off in Sunlit Places	Jim Hewitson
All These Fine Fellows Hawick and District and the Great War 1914-18	Derek Robertson
Meritorious Service Medal to Aerial Forces	Ian McInnes
Prisoners of War Armies & Other Land Forces of the British Empire, 1939-45	
Prisoners of War Naval & Air Forces of Great Britain and the Empire, 1939-45	
Prisoners of War British Army, 1939-45	
Distinguished Service Medal, 1939-46	comp. W. H. Fevyer
Distinguished Service Medal, 1914-20	comp. W. H. Fevyer
Distinguished Conduct in the Field Register of the D. S. M., 1939-92	George A. Brown
Who was Who in British India	John F. Riddick
Naval General Service Medal, 1793-1840	comp. Colin Message
Some Apostles of Physiology	William Stirling
History of the Glassary Stewarts	Alexander Donald Stewart

NEWS in BRIEF and EDITOR'S NOTES

Dates for your Diary.

- 14 September Thursday - Ordinary Meeting. *Family History and the Internet*, Karl Ransome. Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 23/24 September Saturday & Sunday - Fife Family History Fair, Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy; details below.
- 28 September Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 12 October Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 16 October Monday - Ordinary Meeting. *The Contact of Scotland with the Low Countries*, Percy Douglas (Holland).
- 26 October Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 09 November Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 16 November Thursday - Ordinary Meeting. *19th Century Midwife: The Career of Margaret Bethune of Largo 1852 - 1887*, Barbara Mortimer, Senior Lecturer Queen Margaret University College.
- 23 November Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
- 14 December Thursday - Member's visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.

Web Page and New E-mail Addresses

The Society web page is at www.scotsgenealogy.com and we have three new e-mail addresses: for sales - sales@scotsgenealogy.com; for subscriptions - subs@scotsgenealogy.com and for general information and enquiries - info@scotsgenealogy.com

Fife Family History Fair

Fife libraries are holding a family history fair entitled "Old Scots, New Scots" on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th September 2000, in the Adam Smith Theatre, Bennoch Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife. Talks to be given will include "Emigration", "Immigration" and "Tracing your Scottish, Welsh, Irish and English Ancestors". There will be numerous stalls, computer workshops and a Ceilidh on Saturday evening. On Sunday the libraries in Cupar, Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline will be open for research. Costs : Weekend ticket £13, all Lectures only, on Saturday £11, Exhibition only, £2 and individual lectures £3 each. For bookings and further information contact *Janet Klak*, Tel: 01592 412883, or e-mail: info@kirkcaldy.fifelib.net

REVIEW

Jock Tamson's Bairns a history of the records of the General Register Office for Scotland by Cecil Sinclair ISBN 1-874451-59-1 Card covers, illustrated, 54pp A5. Published by General Register Office Scotland. £6.99 UK Overseas \$10.50. P & p £0.75 UK Overseas \$3.95.

Copies can be obtained from GRO, New Register House, Edinburgh EH1 3YT

This interesting and informative book looks at the history of the records which were generated in Scotland to record these three vital events in the lives of all its citizens and which are held by the Registrar General for Scotland. It describes the history, character, content and value to researchers of these unique historical records.

This is not another guide to tracing Scottish ancestry. Whether your interest is in family, local or social history, or simply mild curiosity, this work provides the reader with a better understanding about the records of Scotland's past.

Hon Editor

New from the Scottish Genealogy Society

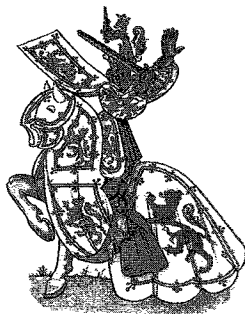
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Early observers noted that the Scots were a proud people, very interested in pedigree and that this was not confined to the gentility but was widespread. In 1707, the population of Scotland is thought to have been about one and a quarter million with 154 peers, one peer to 8,000 people, compared to 164 peers south of the Border - one peer to 32,000 people. The last volume, volume nine, published in 1914, comprises additions and corrections noted since the first volume was published in 1904; however the bulk of the volume is the Index to the whole eight volumes containing between some forty and fifty thousand names, and so forms a valuable compendium of Scottish history.

COMPUTING with CALIDRIS

Archives and Museums

General Register Office of Scotland at www.gro-scotland.gov.uk is responsible for the registration of births, marriage, deaths and periodic censuses. Current statistical information and more is available. The site also gives access to **Scots Origins** at www.origins.net/GRO/ the fee-based service providing access to civil registrations and more.

National Archives of Scotland (NAS) at www.nas.gov.uk/ is the main archive for sources on the history of Scotland as a separate kingdom, her role in the British Isles and the links between Scotland and many other countries over the centuries. Records span from the 12th to the 21st centuries. The site goes fully online November 30 2000.

Public Records Office (Kew, Surrey) at www.pro.gov.uk/pro contains government, military, maritime records as well as other archives such as railways. Information provided on many topics as **Jacobite risings 1715 and 1745** at www.pro.gov.uk/leaflets which has both a list of sources held as well as a reading list.

Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) at proni.nics.gov.uk/ is the official deposit centre for public records in Northern Ireland. It also holds many private records.

National Archives of Ireland at www.nationalarchive.ie/ contains government documents.

National Register of Archives at www.hmc.gov.uk/ The Historical Manuscripts Commission records repositories in the British Isles. Includes papers of individuals, records of landed families and estates, businesses, societies and other organisations. **ARCHON** at www.hmc.gov.uk/archon/archon indexes archives, museums and libraries. Can be searched by location or name. Gives details of holdings, location and contact details. For Scotland 181 repositories listed.

UK National Digital Archive of Datasets (NDAD) at ndad.ulcc.ac.uk/NDAD contains, data which has been stored on a computer and associated documents of more important government and agency information since 1998.

National Library of Ireland at www.heanet.ie/natlib/ contains a wide range of manuscripts covering literature, estate papers and papers of political and literary figures.

National Library of Wales at www.llgc.org.uk/ also has a collection of manuscripts and records.

National Museums of Scotland at www.nms.ac.uk/ includes **SCRAM** (Scottish Cultural Resources Access) a searchable archive of history and culture.

British Museum at www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk contain collections from the whole world. Search by country and period.

UK Museums at www.24hourmuseum.org.uk/ lists all museums. Search by type or place.

For your bookmark

Cyndi's List of Genealogy sites at www.cyndislist.com/ gives choices of indexes - main category, topical, alphabetical, quickest to load is the non-frills. It covers primarily American sources, other countries have very patchy coverage, however under some headings, for example **Census** there are some useful links to European sites, and aids to recording information. For the UK there are 22 headings under Scotland, with **GENUKI** taking the prime place (see my review of this site in earlier issue).

Any comments please contact me, Maureen Kvebekk at: calidris@btinternet.com

QUERIES

- 2864 **SHIELDS** Susannah b. c.1829 Glasgow. Left Melbourne Oct 1856 as Mrs Robert Sangster with 2 children, Robert Jr. b. 1854 Melbourne and Isabella b. 1856 Melbourne, arrived Port Nicholson, Wellington. Her death certificate shows her parents as James and Mary Bradfield. The birth cert's. of the children born in NZ always showed mother as Susan Sangster, formerly Ramsay/Ramsey, yet the marriage cert's of the children always showed mother as Susan Sangster, maiden name Shields. Can anyone help me? I have not been able to trace either Susan or Robert in Australia, or any record of the births of the two children b. in Melbourne. I am hoping someone from Scotland can help me. *Fran Sangster, PO Box 5234, Mount Maunganui, New Zealand. E-mail: les-fran@xtra.co.nz*
- 2865 **SANGSTER** Robert b.c. 1819, d. 1907 NZ. As recorded on his death cert. "*Born Aberdeenshire, parents unknown*". I have seen reports of him being in NZ, as early as 1840 (none confirmed). His wife Susannah (nee Shields) came to NZ from Melbourne in Oct. 1856 with two children, Robert (Jr.) and Isabella. I have not been able to find any record of Robert's arrival. The names of the children born in NZ are William; Jane; Margaret and Alexander. Robert and his family lived in Turakina, Wanganui, Wairoa/Waverley, Ngaere/Ngaire and Auckland, where Susan died 1892. Robert was living in Tauranga when he died. I am hoping someone from Scotland can help me. Robert and Susan are my gt-gt grandparents. *Fran Sangster, PO Box 5234, Mount Maunganui, New Zealand. E-mail: les-fran@xtra.co.nz*
- 2866 **FRASER** Edward Fraser, gardener at Cradlehall, east of Inverness and his wife Isabel, m.s. probably Fraser, had five children: Malcolm b. 1780; Marjory b. 1782; Ann b. 1784; Alexander b. 1787 and Isabel b.1789. Malcolm m. Isabel Grant in Cromdale in 1805 and their descendants are known. Any information about descendants of the others? *M.S. Fraser, 4/3 West Grange Gardens, Edinburgh EH9 2RA, Scotland.*
- 2867 **JEFFREY** I am searching for my husband's ancestors and know that his father was b. Edinburgh on 6 April 1901. His name was Nelson Gordon Jeffrey. My husband found out many years ago that a relative of his ran a general store in Arrochar on Loch Lomond c. 1960 and there was also a relative who was the station master of Arrochar and Tarbet. My husband's grandfather was called James Jeffrey and his father had two brothers named Robert and James and sister called Agnes. If anyone can help us trace our ancestry please contact me. *Liz Jeffrey, 45 Dunvegan Drive, Rise Park, Nottingham NG5 5DX, England. E-mail: liz@jeffreyl.freeserve.co.uk*
- 2868 **DOUGLAS/CLARK** Robert, b. 10 Apr 1855 Edinburgh. Parents, Andrew Douglas and Mary Ann Clark, m. Edinburgh 17 Jan 1854. Information about families wanted. *Günther Douglas, Mitteltgasse 30, 88453 Erolzheim, Germany.*
- 2869 **DOUGLAS** Mary Ann, b. Belfast in 1884. Parents, Thomas and Annie McCann. Information about families wanted. *Günther Douglas, Mitteltgasse 30, 88453 Erolzheim, Germany.*
- 2870 **HOWIE** John Howie of Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland and his wife Sarah Brydon had a son Robert Montgomery Howie b. 23 August 1863 in Kilwinning, Ayrshire, and he m. Isabella Bickerstaff, 23 Aug 1889 at Neilston. John and Sarah's other children are believed to be Catherine; Ann(e); Charles; John; Mary; Sarah and James. Anyone researching the same, we

would be glad to hear from you to exchange info.

*Peter and Doreen Brooks, 39 Rebecca Drive, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6TP, England.
E-mail: pdbrooks.birmingham@virginnet.co.uk*

- 2871 **FINLAY** John Finlay, 1758-1850, tenant farmer Baggerton, Rescobie Parish, Angus and his wife Martha Milne, 1765-1852, had eleven children between 1788 and 1809. The eldest Charles Finlay, 1788-1872 was a writer in Edinburgh, Clerk to Lord Justice Hope and later Assistant Clerk of Session. He m. Sophia Morris, niece of David Octavius Hill, pioneer photographer and lived, first, at 6 Great Stuart Street, Edinburgh and later at 40 York Place, where his son John Hope Finlay resided and where he d. 21 June 1872. Charles and Sophia Finlay had eight children: (1) Sophia Patricia Finlay, b. 1836, d. 13 Feb 1937, unmarried aged 101 years, at 15 Strathearn Place, Edinburgh. Her obituary said she was 'the eldest of eight' and she outlived her sibs. (2) Charles, bapt. 1837, d. in infancy. (3) John Hope, b. Edinburgh, 13 Jan 1839, W.S., Keeper of General Registers of Sasines and Homings, m. first, 1878 Jane Bertram Ronaldson, secondly 1883, Jane Ferguson Annandale. He d. 11 Jan 1907. (4) Arthur, bapt. 1840. (5) Edgar, bapt. 1843. (6) Herbert Blakey (or Blackie) b. 1845, Indian Civil Service, District Judge, retired 1896. (7) Constance, bapt. 1848. (8) Morris, bapt. 1848. Sophia ('Sophy'), John Hope and Arthur Finlay as children were favourite subjects in calotypes of their great-uncle D.O. Hill. Any further information about this family or any descendants would be gratefully received. *Dr. Donald Emslie-Smith, 48 Seafield Road, Broughty Ferry, Angus DD5 3AN, Scotland.*
- 2872 **DENUNE** William, studied medicine in France c. 1721, emigrated to Annapolis, Maryland where he worked as a doctor. Believed to be the son of William Denune, Minister of Pencaitland, b. 1695. Any information on Denunes in Scotland welcomed by a descendant of William Denune. *Harold De Noon, 27 Cogley Cole Road, Vevay, IN 47043-9640, USA. E-mail: bedenoon@seidata.com*
- 2873 **ANDERSON** I am researching the Andersons of Whitburgh, Windygoul and Winterfield, all in East Lothian, earliest traced generations are early 17th c. In the 19th c. the family spread world wide, mainly through the army, though one branch were merchants in Edinburgh, London and the Island of Dominica. The main branch intermarried with Hamiltons and Dalrymples. Is anyone else looking at this family? If so, please contact *Mrs. J. Michaels. Email: jenmic44@aol.com*
- 2874 **BINNIE** I am looking for ancestors of the family Binnie. I have found these ancestors in Belgium, near the border with the Netherlands. My researches are interrupted in 1720. In the 17th & 18th centuries, these countries were called "United Provinces". Probably many Scotsmen fought in these countries, in the Royal Guard of the Kings of France or were exiled because of political or religious difficulties. I would be happy to receive any information regarding these Binnies, who lived and stayed in the Netherlands and would be my Scottish ancestors. *Mr. Henri Binnie, 21 Rue Victor Hugo, 59242 Templeuve, France.*
- 2875 **MILNE** I am looking for information on descendants of my gt- grandfather, William Milne. He was b. 1 July 1862, I believe in Marnoch, Aberchirder, Banff. Enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1881, and served for 24 years and 8 months. He was part of the Gordon Relief Force, and received the Nile Medal, and Khedive Star for that campaign in 1884/85. He served in Ceylon, Sierra Leone, and South Africa. He was discharged from the Army on

16 July 1906, and according to his pension record, he was going to live in Billingham, Sussex, his trade shown as cabinet maker. My grandfather, his son, was Arthur William Milne, on his marriage certificate dated April 1912, William Milne was shown as Sgt. Major, Royal Engineers (deceased). However, in the Army Lists I found William Milne shown as receiving a pension up to 1915. I was unable to find his army papers at the Public Record Office - only his pension application. The other information I have was given to me by the Royal Engineers Museum in Chatham, Kent. His army number was 17247. Any advice, information or help would be gratefully received. *Mrs. P. Robertson, 17 Braddick Close, Loose, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9XQ, England. E-mail: pat.robertson@virgin.net*

- 2876 **LORIMER/LAUGHLAND/WATSON** In 1852 John Lorimer, b. 1824 Kilmarnock, m. Jane Watson at Paisley Middle Church, Renfrewshire. In 1881 John and Jane were living in Paisley High Church Parish with three daughters: Agnes b. 1854; Jane b. 1860 and Christina b. 1868. Seeking information about death and burial of John Lorimer's parents, William Lorimer and Jean Laughland who lived in Kilmarnock until at least 1830 when their youngest child, David Lorimer, was born. Unable to find their deaths at Kilmarnock. *Mrs. Valerie McPherson, 22 Williams Street, Myrtleford, Victoria 3737, Australia. Email: geoval@alpine.albury.net.au*
- 2877 **AIKMAN/HUNTER** James Aikman & Janet Hunter, m. 1800s Berwick, Scotland. Their children were: Margaret b. 1833; Robert b. 1835; John b. 1836; James b. 1839; Mary b. 1841; Esther b. 1843, m. Thomas Porter 1863, d. Eagleville, Ohio 1928; Janet b. 1846 and William b. 1849. All the children were born in Ayton, Berwick, Scotland. I would appreciate any information on the Aikman-Hunter families and their descendants. *Janet Smith, 13439 W. Ashwood Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375-4512, USA. Email: aksmithaz607@cs.com*
- 2878 **KNIGHT** Can anyone please help with any information or photographs of Inveresk, nr. Musselburgh, Midlothian 1784-1794, as my 4 x gr-grandfather David Knight and his family were living there at this time. Also if anyone has information on the 2nd Dragoons, Scots Greys or Royal North British 1805-1815, it would be very welcome as my 3 x gr-grandfather Andrew Knight enlisted in the Edinburgh district 31 July 1805 and was killed 18 June 1815 at the Battle of Waterloo. I would be very grateful for any information on any of the above subjects. *Mrs. Margaret L. Hartshorn, 38 St. Paul's Avenue, Hasland, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 0NG, England.*
- 2879 **MUNRO/MUNROE** Duncan b. Scotland May 1786, possibly Inveraray, Argyll. Immigrated to North Carolina, USA early 1800s. I am searching for his parents and/or siblings. *DeAnn Monroe Steely, 1405 Southwood Drive, Huntsville, TX 77340, USA. Email: dsteeley@yahoo.com*
- 2880 **BRIDGES** John b. 1814 Haddington, East Lothian, m. Elizabeth Hogg c. 1839 in St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh. The family lived in Burns Street, Leith. Their children were: John b. 1839; David b. 1841, Leith; Walter Hogg b. 1843, Leith; Robert b. 1845, Leith; Jane Litster b. 1847, Leith; Archibald b. 1850, Leith and William Mills b. 1855, Leith. William Mills Bridges was my grandfather. Is anyone researching the Bridges name? Any information will be gratefully received and answered. *Janet Bridges Smith, 13439 W. Ashwood Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375-4512, USA. Email: aksmithaz607@cs.com*

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 six 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 examine the accounts.
4. Office Bearers, apart from the Hon. Treasurer shall be elected annually. The latter shall be appointed by the Council. 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 main 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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