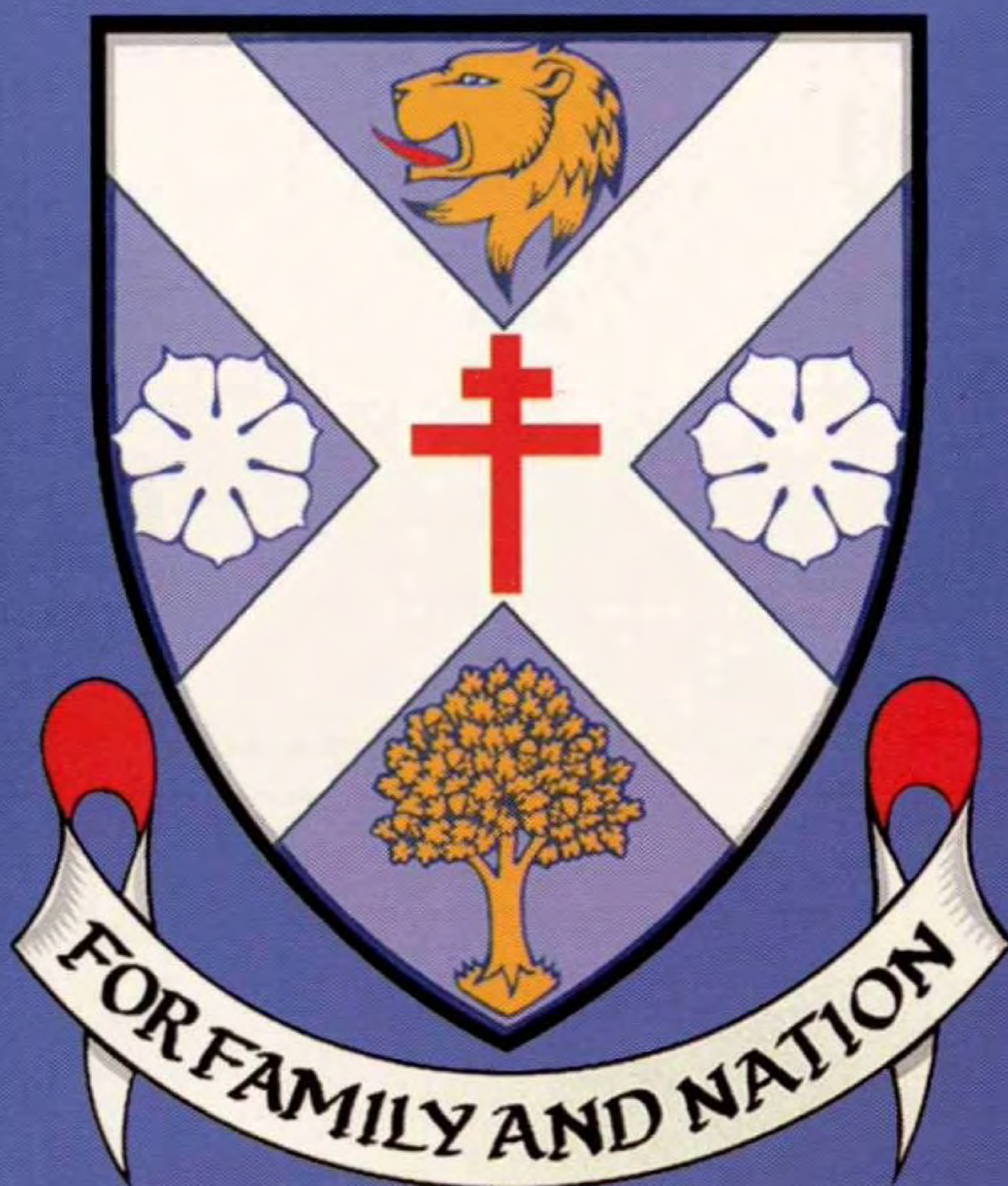


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# THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST



QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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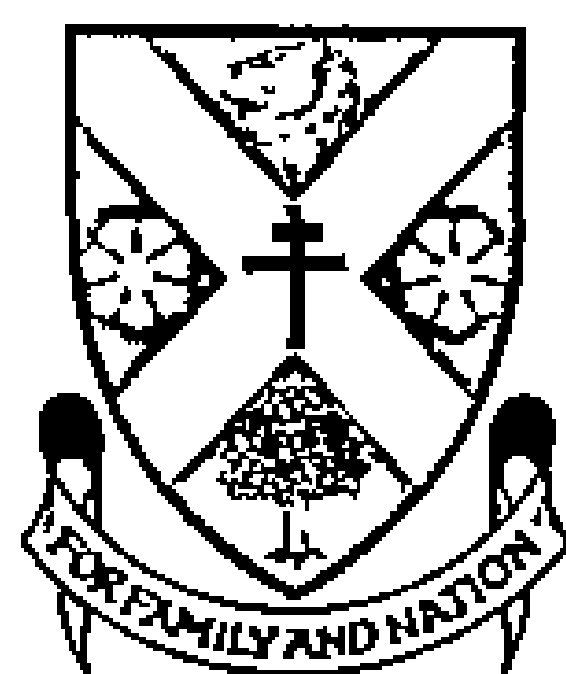
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Tuesday 10.30am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.30am - 8.30pm

Thursday 10.30am - 5.30pm

Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm



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## RECORDS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

by Rosemary Bigwood

The general expectation is that through information given in statutory registers, census returns and in the parish registers – and with a little luck – it should be possible to trace most lines of ancestry back to the early nineteenth century or the late eighteenth century. Earlier than that, success will turn on the existence of records which may reveal sightings of previous generations which can be proved to be relevant. This is often dependent on the status of the family concerned – landowners, merchants and those who may have been misdoers are more likely to have left footprints in the past than those who laboured in a law-abiding manner but in a more humble capacity. The parish registers have the advantage that though registration was not compulsory and many are badly kept or lacking completely, their entries include those in all ranks of society, and as they constitute the most concentrated source of genealogy before 1855, they form the first line of attack in tracing family history before that time. *A Sketch of the History and imperfect condition of the parochial records in Scotland*<sup>1</sup> written in 1854 indicates figures the dates of commencement of the parish registers and this highlights the problem of relying on the Old Parish Registers as a source. It is stated that eighty three parishes had no surviving parish registers, twenty eight commence after 1800, eighty four OPRs start between 1750 and 1800 and in two hundred and twenty six parishes the start of the registers dates back to between 1700 and 1750. Only four hundred and fourteen registers pre-date 1700.

The search for supplementary source material therefore becomes more and more essential the further back the family is traced. Of the other church records, the kirk session records produce a most valuable fund of information about our ancestors – nineteenth century listings of communicants and examination rolls and a few nominal pre-1841 censuses, eighteenth and early nineteenth century listings of those liable for militia service, earlier listings of those who lived in the parish taken for a variety of reasons – and of course the details given of those who appeared before the kirk session in a variety of cases in the role of accused, accuser or as witness. Appeals from the kirk session might be heard before the relevant presbytery and their records are another interesting source for the history of a locality and its people, with information on the churches and ministers, schools and schooling. The Synods, made up of an assemblage of ministers and elders, provided a higher court of appeal from kirk session and presbytery and their records are a valuable source on the governance of the church but in general they do not have a first call on the time of family historians looking for clues on the provenance of their ancestors.

The supreme court of the Church was the General Assembly whose business was to deal with complaints and appeals against decisions of the synods and presbyteries, to hear petitions and overtures and to receive reports from standing committees of the church or from special commissions authorised by the Assembly. These records – which are kept in the National Archives of Scotland (class reference CH1) are often overlooked as a worthwhile source of information but in fact they contain a great deal of valuable material both relating to genealogy and local history.

The sections which are of greatest interest to family historians are in the collection of General Assembly papers (CH1/2) which have been bound chronologically into volumes (one or two per year). The annual contents have been catalogued in detail for the years 1690-1777 which makes them easy to consult and access. The subjects cover a wide range of material which relate both to individuals and also throw light on aspects of opinion and prevailing conditions of the time. There are reports on repairs to be carried out on churches and manses and pleas by ministers for better living

conditions and increased stipends. In 1737 Alexander Pope, minister of Reay put in a request for an augment<sup>2</sup>. He presented the case that his cottage (he had no manse) was in a central position in a large parish where there were no inns and the minister, therefore, had to keep open table for travellers. There were rapid rivers on each side of the kirk and this meant that strangers were often unable to leave the area and had to prevail on the minister's hospitality. Pope claimed that he "was not in a condition to buy a pair of shoes these 5 months" and he ended his plea with a despairing statement: "It seems I'll groan away my life under discouragement as my predecessor did and not have what will give me a decent burial."

Pope had complained about the general depravity of the area – stating that the town of Reay consisted mostly of brewers of aquavita, "an occupation which produced continual disorders, I mean drunkenness and quarrelling." He was not the only one to draw the attention of the Assembly to the state of society. A year earlier the Presbytery of Dunfermline had drawn attention to the sinfulness of stage plays in Dunfermline "now commonly frequented in our most populous towns to the unspeakable hurt of precious immortal souls." The Presbytery claimed that "there have been of late years hellish attempts to sapp the very foundations of Christianity" and they asked the General Assembly to "fortify their hearers against the infidelities of the age."<sup>3</sup>

Tensions between the church and secular authorities were revealed in a case which came before the General Assembly in 1711. The presbytery of Kirkwall represented that one of the Justices of the Peace in Orkney were using their powers to the prejudice of the peace of the country, the encouragement of vice and contempt of the established church. Feelings ran high. It was said that Captain James Moodie, one of the JPs, called the ministers "odious names", terming them "giddie headed gospel mongers, impudent liars, men of turbulent spirits, dishonest impudent detracting little fellows" and that he was guilty of "hellish malice towards them." The ministers complained that the Justices of the Peace were trying to encroach on the discipline of the church, claiming to have power to judge in cases of immorality and Sabbath breaking.<sup>4</sup> The reason for this latter encroachment may perhaps be explained by the ministers' account of Captain Moodie's behaviour who asked the parishioners of Walls, where he lived, to cross the Pentland Firth on a Sunday, carrying over brandy (even passing the church in time of service). At the same time, Captain Moodie attempted to denigrate the local ministers by accusing one of stealing hens and another of sheep stealing. As in so many cases, the outcome in this dispute is not given.

A number of cases were referred to the General Assembly from the lower church courts for a decision to be made. In 1737 an elder of the parish of Tealing, one John Baxter, was accused of incest, having married his former wife's brother's daughter's daughter. This matter originally came up before the Presbytery of Dundee (there were suspicions that Baxter had fallen out with the Presbytery on another matter and that the latter had embraced the opportunity to make trouble for him) and was then passed on to the Synod of Angus and Mearns who – in 1729 - approved the decision of the lower court. Baxter – eight years later – now claimed that the Synod's consideration of the case had been superficial, and appealed against their ruling<sup>5</sup>. Again the final decision is not known. Another case of marriage which came before the General Assembly in 1720 was one concerning John McCoull, merchant in Glasgow who married Marion Mann, daughter of a tailor but the marriage was performed by an excommunicated person and so now had to be validated<sup>6</sup>.

The staffing of schools is often referred to in the General Assembly papers. In 1736 there are details of the names of missionaries and schoolmasters within the bounds of Long Island presbytery. Not all schoolmasters were satisfactory and cases were heard, sometimes couched in very strong terms, concerning their behaviour. John Robertson was the schoolmaster at Kirkcudbright but was deposed in 1735, having been convicted of "gross blasphemies, heresies, errors and immoralities,

the most daring and impious attack made upon our Holy revealed religion in the most Mysterious and Essential Articles thereof and withal affected wickedness, deliberated and studied methods of ridicule, mockery, burlesque, calumny and obscenity which they cannot think of but with the greatest measure of horror and grief.”<sup>7</sup>

In the early decades of the century there was a particular concern about the number of Catholics in Scotland. By 1755, Alexander Webster estimated that only just over one per cent of the population of Scotland were Catholic<sup>8</sup> but circa 1710 the General Assembly was active in instructing ministers to make returns of all Catholics within their parishes. These returns are conserved in the Assembly papers and are a valuable source of information about the adherents of Catholicism in various parts of Scotland. Lists of those belonging to the Established Church also appear in the papers of the General Assembly as a result of information put forward about various local church matters. In choosing a minister for the Port of Menteith in 1725, it was thought necessary to consider the number of those who spoke the “Irish” language and a list was compiled – giving names, places of residence, numbers of those who were examinable in the household, and where each family had originated<sup>9</sup>. Alexander Pope in Reay had reinforced his petition for a larger stipend by producing a list of catechisable persons in the parish, giving the names of all those who lived in each township and also stating relationships within the various households<sup>10</sup>.

The business that took up a considerable amount of time of the General Assembly was concerned with disputed presentations in vacancies – evidence of the growing number of divisions within the Church and the problems of patronage. Patronage, whereby a hereditary owner of the right of presentation, might choose a minister had been abolished in 1690, the right being transferred to elders and heritors to “call” the new minister in a case of vacancy but patronage was re-introduced by Parliament in 1712 in the hope of tempting the Scottish landed gentry to abandon the Jacobite cause. Initially – after this reintroduction – there were few problems but after about 1730 there were more and more cases of a disputed induction as the church courts tended to back the side of the patrons. There was later a return to the custom of parishioners signing calls to ministers – which often reflected a split in the community as to whom should be chosen. This has resulted – particularly from the third decade of the eighteenth century onwards – in a considerable number of lists of inhabitants in a parish. These lists of those who signed are of particular value at a period when the parish registers are not extant in many places and sources for the documentation of individuals more difficult to find.

The amount of information given on those who signed for or against the induction of a particular contender varied. In most cases only the name was given. Many could not write and signed with their initials or mark, the full name being provided by the side. In the case of a disputed call at Edzell in 1720, the names of the illiterate were given in Latin and their residence was added<sup>11</sup>. Sometimes an occupation was stated. While collecting the views of all in the case, the reputations of the probationer or minister might be torn to shreds, and some aspersions were thrown on the character of those signing their support for one candidate or another. No less than ninety five pages were devoted to the case of a settlement in Fearn in 1741 when Donald Fraser, a probationer, was accused of frequenting the change-house, over familiarity with the landlord’s daughter and was the subject of a number of “defamatory whispers”<sup>12</sup>. Small community disputes and antagonisms also surfaced at these times. There was a disputed vacancy in Port of Menteith in 1725 resulting in lists of heads of families and of elders voting for two candidates. One voter was objected to as it was claimed that he was “scandalised with a woman whom Mr. John Andersone banished out of Drymen.”<sup>13</sup> In the same years a call was made to Farquhar Beaton to Kirkmichael from Croy. Protestants and Catholics were agreed in their choice – a unanimity which caused some concern as such concordance was termed “a novelty” and it was thought that there were political influences at work.<sup>14</sup>

The questions must then be asked: What use can be made of the information contained in these lists? What value can be placed upon the occurrence of a name? Evaluation is essential and is too often overlooked. The amount of detail given in an entry – perhaps just a name – may not make it possible to determine the relevance of that reference to the family being researched. A positive mention of the name in a particular district within a certain period of time can, however, at least be taken as a possible “sighting” – which may provide a valuable clue in further searches. Often a number of “sightings” in different or similar contexts may build up into the necessary evidence and resolution of identity. On the other hand, when the particular surname being sought does *not* occur in a list, it is vitally important to consider the provenance of that list. Why was it compiled? Who might it include or exclude? Does a negative appearance of a certain name indicate death, a residence elsewhere or just that he or she was not included in the category of persons listed?

In 1776 a very detailed list was drawn up, for submission to the General Assembly, of certain people who lived in the parish of Kilcalinonell in Argyllshire<sup>15</sup>. The townships were named and the inhabitants of each enumerated. For example, at Ashins there was John Fleming, his wife and two servants; Hugh Johnson, his wife and a servant; Widow MacIlcheir, two children and a servant; Archibald Johnson, his wife and three children; Donald Johnson, his wife and three children. Three hundred and seventy people were listed – clearly not the whole number of those who lived in the parish. Further reading revealed that this was an enquiry into the facility with which people might travel to a kirk to worship, and constituted a description of those who lived within a certain distance of the parish kirk. A note was added that a further seven hundred and thirty four people (not named) “may resort easily to Tarbert for worship”. Failure to find the name of an ancestor in this list could mean that he or she lived in a different part of the parish, were among those who resided near Tarbert or even did not belong to the Established Church of Scotland.

Another interesting and lengthy list of names of inhabitants in the Argyllshire parishes of Campbeltown and Southend (no residences or occupations are stated) was generated by a petition to repeal the Acts of the General Assembly of 1754 and 1755, taking away the sermons on the preparation Saturday before and thanksgiving Monday after the dispensation of the sacrament, thus relieving them of their “deplorable condition in being deprived of these solemn days.”<sup>16</sup> The Southend parish registers do not commence till 1768: those for Campbeltown are very deficient for various parts of the eighteenth century – adding to the value of such a listing of persons subscribing to the Petition but one has to bear in mind that no women signed their names and therefore widows and unmarried women would not be represented. An even more important consideration is that the Petition was subscribed by “heads of familys communicants of the Lowland Congregation of Campbeltoun and parish of Southend”. Campbeltown at this time was divided between the Highland and the Lowland congregations and thus a large part of the parish of Campbeltown would not have been represented. A positive sighting of a possible ancestor would be valuable: a negative result of a search of such a list cannot be taken as proof that a particular family or individual did not live in the area at the time.

The exploration of a wide range of source material is one of the pleasures – as well as one of the necessities – of successful research on family history. The records of the General Assembly are accessible, thanks to a good and detailed catalogue, and may provide a great deal of interest and value to those who take the time to consult them and the wisdom to evaluate what they find.

*References*

- |   |  |                         |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| <sup>1</sup> Seton, George, Sketch of the History and Imperfect Condition of the Parochial Registers in Scotland, Edinburgh 1854. | <sup>5</sup> CH1/2/75  | <sup>9</sup> CH1/2/50   |
| <sup>2</sup> CH1/2/75   | <sup>6</sup> CH1/2/43  | <sup>10</sup> CH1/2/75  |
| <sup>3</sup> CH1/2/73   | <sup>7</sup> CH1/2/75  | <sup>11</sup> H1/2/43   |
| <sup>4</sup> CH1/2/31   | <sup>8</sup> Webster, Alexander, An Account of the Number of People in Scotland in the year 1755, Scottish History Society, 1952 | <sup>12</sup> CH1/2/79  |
|   |  | <sup>13</sup> CH1/2/50  |
|   |  | <sup>14</sup> CH1/2/50  |
|   |  | <sup>15</sup> CH1/2/118 |
|   |  | <sup>16</sup> CH1/2/98  |

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## EVALUATION OF MILITARY INDEXES

*by James D. Becket*

Recent years have seen great progress with the indexing of lists of soldiers, particularly sources W.O.97 and W.O.121 involving about 250,000 men for the period 1770 to 1854. This invaluable index has been organized by the 'Friends of the P.R.O.' team, and is available at the P.R.O. Kew. It is soon also to be launched on the Internet. Publication of this index on Microfiche and on CD Rom is being considered. This will be of great benefit to those living at a distance from London, especially for those in Scotland, and should also help reduce the ever-increasing pressure at P.R.O. Kew.

Like several other Military indexes it does not include Commissioned Officers, who are presumed to be adequately indexed in periodic Army Lists and other sources. Certain Military historians estimate that only one third of the Soldiers prior to 1855 received a pension or are recorded on the source W.O.97

There are at least three other discharge sources, none of which seem to be complete without the others. Certainly prior to 1823 many men were discharged in Ireland, although not necessarily of Irish origin and are recorded in the Kilmainham Hospital. Dublin Registers, Source W.O.118 and W.O.119 refer.

After 1808 a very high number of men were killed in service, especially during the Peninsular Campaigns and Waterloo. Some of these are recorded in 'Deceased Soldiers Effects'. Source W.O.25/2968.

Most of the enquiries I receive are from searchers who have found their ancestor described as a 'Pensioner' on Birth, Death or Marriage Records or on a Census return. Otherwise those men who escaped the net are not discovered as soldiers and usually go unnoticed. It is quite apparent that many genealogists are unaware that they have a soldier as an ancestor prior to 1841.

### *Published or other Sources 1828 to 1840*

The Manchester and Lancashire F.H.S. has published indexes of deserters from the Police Gazette 1828-1840, which includes many not found in W.O.97. Researchers interested in soldiers in the service of 'The Honorable East India Company', should also consult the indexes at the India Office Library at 197, Blackfriars Road, London SE1.

I used to believe that the Royal Marines should not be included with Army Indexes, assuming that they were associated mostly with the Coastal Counties, but I later discovered that they were recruited from all areas. There is an extensive Slip Index at the P.R.O. Kew.



'British Army Pensioners Abroad' by Norman K. Crowder, accounts for thousands of ex soldiers who emigrated abroad, but unfortunately it does not give places of Birth. W.O.120 series refers.

Since 1985 I have built up an extensive "Soldiers Index" of nearly 300,000 men covering men in Service from 1793 to 1854, originally extracted from source W.O.120. It became evident that many who did not receive a pension were just not recorded from conventional pensioner sources, therefore it was decided to supplement the index from wherever soldiers could be found. Thousands of soldiers were added from innumerable 1841 Census returns.

The index was greatly extended by appending the extensive transcripts of the late Ian Rowbotham Medal Collector who had transcribed thousands of soldiers from source W.O.116 and also Muster and Medal Rolls of the Napoleonic War period.

I was very fortunate to receive indexes from Military Historians interested in the regions of Herefordshire, Leicestershire, Suffolk, Sussex and from abroad.

The W.O.116 extracts are particularly interesting, containing men discharged before 1837 who, many years later, successfully applied for a pension on grounds of hardship.

At present there is another important index in progress by Barbara Chambers, of 39 Chatterton, Letchworth, Herts SG6 2JY from source W.O.25/909. It is virtually a list of the Muster Rolls of the entire British Army in June 1806. From these indexes one could proceed to 'Description Books' and 'Casualty Rolls' which usually give the vital birthplace information. About forty Regiments have been indexed. Over one third of the men are not found on my index.

(From 1855 to 1872) This period is covered by Susan M. Davis, 18 Manor Road, East Molesey, Surrey K78 JX. This is a later W.O.97 Index. Should this index not contain your soldier ancestor there is another index organized by Frank B. Turner, 27 Kings Barn Lane, Steyning, W. Sussex BN44 3YR. This is the 1861 Muster Rolls Index of about 200,000 men, which can be conveniently linked to the 1861 Barrack Census returns.

From 1873 to 1913, soldiers for the entire British Army were recorded in strict alphabetical order, this being yet another later version of Source W.O.97 at P.R.O. Kew.

### *World War 1*

With regard to the World War 1 (1914-1922) there seems adequate indexes for those soldiers killed, recorded by the War Graves Commission and on "Soldiers who Died": a CD Rom available in many Society Libraries.

Unfortunately for men who survived WW1 less than 50% of the records are decipherable due to WW2 damage, but this vital indexing project is expected to be completed by the end of the year 2002.

### *1901 Census*

We also await the 1901 census. Hopefully it should help with soldier ancestry, if not their military service. The year 2002 should be a very interesting year for the Military and Family Historian.

*Jim Becket can be contacted by post by writing to him at M&LFHS, Clayton House, 59 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 2AQ, England.*

### *From The Scots Magazine, 1774*

Four hogsheads of wine having been seized some time ago in a gentleman's cellar in the north country, a prosecution was brought against him in the name of the King, for receiving smuggled goods, knowing them to be such. The trial came on in exchequer, 29 Nov, and the defendant, besides forfeiture of the wine, was found liable in £2201. 4s., being treble the value of the wine.

## THE ORIGINS OF THE MACLELLANS

Graeme M. Mackenzie

The MacLellans are a clan mostly associated with the south west of Scotland, where their development in the later middle ages has been thoroughly documented by Richard Torrance in *The McClellans in Galloway* (2 Volumes, Scottish Genealogy Society, 1993 & 1996). He reports the tradition that there were 14 knights of that name in the region in 1422, and remarks in some puzzlement that although in the course of the 15<sup>th</sup> century “the MacClellans populated and came to own large tracts of Galloway with amazing rapidity...”, references to them in the province prior to that are very few and far between. Neither he nor local historian Daphne Brooke, who has also written about the clan in medieval Galloway, is able to give any account of the ancestry of this extremely important kindred. So who were they, and from where did they so suddenly spring up in Galloway?<sup>1</sup>

MacLellan is a name that also appears in other parts of Scotland: most notably in Ross-shire and the Outer Hebrides, where there was a tradition linking it to the MacRaes; and in Perthshire, where it is usually associated with the MacNabs. This latter connection is explained by the origin of the name: MacLellan is a phonetic form of the Gaelic *MacGhille-Fhaolain* (the “c” of Mac elides with the following “G”, and the “Fh” is not pronounced: so *Mac’ille’aolain*, *Macllelan*), which means “Son of the Servant (or Devotee) of Fillan”; and Saint Fillan is supposed to have founded the monastery in Glen Dochart of which the MacNab’s eponymous was abbot. Fillan is also reported to have evangelised parts of Wester Ross and Argyll where place, as well as local kindred names recall the alleged connection. Kilellan in Kintyre is said to have been so-named by descendants of the old lairds of Craignish called McGillellan - another phonetic form of *MacGhille-Fhaolain* - who are reported in Lorn traditions to have been associated with the eponymous of the Ross-shire MacRaes. Another form of the same surname is MacGilligan or MacKillican (*MacGhille-Fhaolagain* - “Son of the Devotee of Little Fillan”), which in Scotland was considered a sept of Clan Chattan in Moray, Ross and Perthshire, and in northern Ireland was to be found in County Coleraine associated with the O’Millans as followers of the O’Cahans.<sup>2</sup>

Daphne Brooke thinks that the MacLellans were imported into Galloway from the north during the 14<sup>th</sup> century “perhaps to repair depopulation resulting from the war or the plague” - a conclusion that Richard Torrance seems inclined to accept - though as Brooke herself points out, the first recorded member of the kindred can be found in the area as early as 1273. *Cane McGillolane* appears then in Devorgilla Balliol’s foundation charter for Sweetheart Abbey; and since his fellow witnesses were the leading men in the lordship, he was clearly a very significant figure. His family’s importance is confirmed by the appearance seventeen years later of his son Douenald le fit Can as one of the Barons du Realme de Escoce who signed the Treaty of Birgham with king Edward I of England.<sup>3</sup>

Sir Donald MacCan is first documented in 1285, in association with the Balliols; and he later appears frequently taking a leading part on behalf of the Balliol faction in the civil and independence wars in Galloway. Like many other native leaders recorded in the English records at this time, his name is rendered in various ways in different languages: i.e. in other Norman French versions, such as *Dovenald le fiz Kan* and *Sir Dovenald fitz Cane*; or in Latin as *Dovenaldo filio Can*. Barbour calls him *Donald McCan* in mentioning his capture by Bruce’s forces in 1308 at the Battle of the River Dee; and he is simply called “the lord Donald” in another English record referring to his son and successor.<sup>4</sup>

*Gilbert, son of the lord Donald* also appears with his name rendered variously: e.g. in 1323 as *Gilberti filio Dofnaldi* and, sometime in the reign of king David II, as *Gilberti McGillolane*. Four of

Gilbert's sons appear on the record: *Patricii filii Gilberti M'Lolan, John son of Gilbert son of Donald Mackane, Gilbert son of Gilbert M'Lolan, and Matthew M'Lolan, knight*, who also appears elsewhere in David II's reign as *Meteledi son of Gilbert*, and with his son John in 1354 as *Sir Mathew MacLollan*. Church records and histories of the Isle of Man record another prominent early member of this kindred, *Gillebertus MacLelan Galvediensis*, who was Bishop of Sodor (i.e. Man and the Isles) in the 1320s; and he is also mentioned in the Scottish Exchequer Rolls for 1329 which document a payment to *Cudberto, fratri domini Gilberti, quondam episcopi Sodorensis*.... "Cudberto" is almost certainly the *Cutbert M'Cane* who is recorded in Galloway in 1304, and a *Gibbon fitz Kan* also appears in the region between 1298 and 1303.<sup>5</sup>

When Cane's grandson appears in the Scottish royal records as Gilbert MacGillolane, it's in an entry that recognises him as the "*Captain of Clenconnan*"; i.e. chief of Clan Cannan. It's generally assumed that this kindred took its name from Cane, and the surnames and place-names associated with it in Galloway – the place Ironmacannie and the family Acannane/Cannon of Killochie – are indeed to be found close to the Clann Ghille-Fhaolain township Balmaclellan. Versions of the surname MacCane can be found too in Lorn, where as we've seen MacGillolanes also appear, and in Cowal where a kindred called *Clann a'Chainich* lived in Glendaruel; and in both cases a possible link can be made between these occurrences and the Galloway kindred (see below). That any clan, let alone such a widespread one, should take its name from Cane is another indication of his importance; so it seems inconceivable that there should be but the one record of him, and no apparent account of his ancestry either in writing or in oral traditions.<sup>6</sup>

In searching for other references to this man called Cane/Kan one must start with the name itself. As it stands it seems to be almost unique in the Scottish record; but if one looks at northern Ireland, which was intimately connected with Scotland at this time – especially Galloway and Argyll – there are phonetic forms of a well known surname that might provide a clue as to its origins. The important kindred name O'Cahan/O'Cathain appears in English records at this time as *Ochaan* (1272) and *Ocaan* (1277). It usually appears later in Ulster as O'Kane, and is sometimes also Anglicised as Cane or Cain/Caine. This branch of the northern *Ui Neill* derived its name from an individual called Cathan after the sixth century saint who, according to Irish traditions, was buried in the abbey of Derry.

The cult of Saint Catan was enormously important throughout the western highlands and islands of Scotland, where some accounts have him buried at Eye (Braighe) on the Isle of Lewis. Dedications to him were still being made as late as the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Ardchattan Priory in Lorn) by the descendants of the Gall-Gaidhel, the people who gave their name to the province of Galloway. There must be a strong possibility therefore that Cane MacGillolane's given-name stands for Cathan; and when one looks amongst the genealogies of kindreds connected to the original Scottish "Clan Chattan" one does indeed find an individual named Cainn who it appears could have lived at about the same time as *Cane McGillolane*.<sup>7</sup>

The genealogy in question is the MS.1467 account of the MacMillans, a kindred who, though no longer associated with Clan Chattan, were at one time amongst the leaders of this then widespread and powerful west coast confederation. The MacMillan pedigree starts with a man who was also the progenitor of a number of other clans shown in MS.1467 – Cormac mac Airbertach – who can now be reasonably identified as the Cormac who was Bishop of Dunkeld c.1115-1135.<sup>8</sup>

Cormac	Cainn
Gilchrist "Gillemaol" (or "Maolan")	Maolmuire
– from whom <i>MacGhillemhaoil</i> (or <i>MacMhaolain</i> )	Malcolm Mor
Malcolm	Malcolm Og
Dougal	

Gilchrist "Gillemaol/Maolan" is documented in the Book of Deer with his father Bishop Cormac in the year 1132. If one comes forward from Gilchrist, calculating on the basis of the usual 30 to 40 years per generation, we find that Cainn "MacMillan" would have lived in the 1220s or 1250s. If one also calculates back on the same basis from the last name on the list – Malcolm Og – who is presumed to have been chief of the clan when the genealogy was compiled, which is now generally thought to have been in about 1400, one arrives at a floruit of the 1280s to the 1310s. Given that the 40 year per generation period is sometimes considered more appropriate for highland clans, that puts Cainn mac Dougal "MacMillan" as having lived sometime between the 1250s and the 1280s which is precisely when we find *Cane McGillolane* on the record.<sup>9</sup>

When one begins to look for evidence of connections between the MacMillans and the devotees of Saint Fillan they are not hard to find. In Galloway the MacMillan lands in the Glenkens lay immediately adjacent to the MacLellan lands, and the earliest identified members there of both clans were loyal supporters of the Balliols. In Perthshire the ancestors of the MacMillans of Knap are supposed to have lived on Loch Tayside next to the MacNabs in Glen Dochart and Strathfillan; while other descendants of Maolan using the surname MacMaoldonich lived in Strathearn, to the east of St. Fillans. A third Perthshire branch of the same kindred were the de Lanys or Lennies of that Ilk, whose seat of Leny is just outside modern Callander, and whose lands were supposed to have been secured by a symbolic charter consisting of a tooth of Saint Fillan and the sword of their ancestor Gilespe Mor.<sup>10</sup>

Gille-easbuig Mor, "the Great Bishop", was Cormac of Dunkeld; and it cannot just be a coincidence that the three mainland churches dedicated to Saint Cormac – after whom the bishop was probably named – are to be found in Knapdale, on Loch Tayside, and south of the MacMillan lands in the Glenkens of Galloway. The last of these, Kirkcormack, was one of a group of churches built in Galloway in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries on land once held by the abbey of Iona and dedicated to saints venerated by the Gall-Gaidhel; and it is close to the important MacLellan seat of Gelston, whose lairds at one time owned it.<sup>11</sup>

The most striking evidence connecting the MacLellans and the MacMillans is heraldic. Both clans have two sets of coats of arms which appear to be more or less related. The first set, which are obviously very closely connected, are also the most obscure; so much so that in one old armorial manuscript the MacLellan version is credited to Richardson of Smeaton, though that accreditation has later been crossed out and "MacLellan of that Ilk" reinstated. The first of the MacMillan arms also appear in some sources credited to another kindred – called MacRanald (but not the branch of Clan Donald) – and this may be an indication that these arms relate to MacLellans and MacMillans outwith Galloway.<sup>12</sup>



MACLELLAN  
*Red Stars, Lion & Bars*



MACMILLAN 1  
*Red Lion & Bars  
Blue Stars*



MACMILLAN 2  
*Black Lion, Red Bars  
Blue Stars*



MACMILLAN 3  
*Black Lion & Bars  
Blue Stars*

The three different versions of this MacMillan coat suggest that the colour differences with the MacLellan coat are not significant beside the identical nature of the designs, and therefore that all



these coats of arms belonged to members of the same kindred. None of these coats are borne by modern members of either clan, though the MacMillan of Knap arms feature the three mullets (stars) and a lion; albeit the lion is rampant rather than, as here, passant. The mullets, which are supposed to represent the clan's original descent from the royal house of Moray, also appear in the second set of MacMillan arms; and these are the ones associated with the Galloway branch of the clan:<sup>13</sup>



MACMILLAN  
IN ENGLAND  
*Black Stars & Chevron*



MACMILLAN  
IN SCOTLAND  
*Black Stars & Chevron  
Yellow Circles*



MACMILLAN  
IN ULSTER  
*Red Stars & Border  
Black Chevron, Yellow Circles*

The second set of MacLellan arms are also those associated with Galloway, and like the above MacMillan arms they also feature chevrons/chevronels; though beyond that there is no other obvious connection. They are shown below with another set of arms that would, as drawn, appear to be related; and they are accredited to a family whose origin is unknown, but whose name may well explain any connection:<sup>14</sup>



CANNE  
*Red & Yellow Chevronels*



EARLY LAIRDS  
OF GELSTON  
*Black & White Chevronels*



LATER GELSTON  
& MACLELLANS OF  
*Black & White Chevron*



MACLELLAN  
OF BOMBIE  
*Black & Yellow Chevron,  
Yellow Background*

The MacLellans of Bombie were the Galloway clan chiefs in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and their coat of arms would suggest they were descended from the early lairds of Gelston, where an important branch of the MacLellans can be documented from about 1420. The latter's coat of arms is the same as that borne by earlier lairds of Gelston who didn't use the surname MacLellan. They can be traced back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, when one of them is recorded bearing three chevronels instead of the two chevrons that came down to the MacLellans. It may be significant that, apart from the unknown but significantly named family of Canne, the other Scottish arms appearing to bear three chevronels are a coat accredited to the MacLarens, a clan from Perthshire whose lands lay between that of the MacNabs in Glen Dochart and the descendants of Maolan in Leny; and a family called Kine or Kynn, which looks very much like another version of Cane or Cainn. The obvious conclusion would appear to be that the early lairds of Gelston did indeed belong to the same kindred as Cane MacGillolane.<sup>15</sup>

Richard Torrance, however, suggests that far from being Celtic devotees of Fillan from

Perthshire, the “de Gevelstones” - as they usually appear in the contemporary records - were actually Anglo-Normans from Cumberland, who gave up their Scottish fief following the Wars of Independence; and were succeeded in Gelston by a branch of MacLellans who inherited their coat of arms along with their lands. Daphne Brooke seems to agree, and between them they cite two main reasons for this conclusion: Firstly that the de Gevelstones appeared in Galloway at a time when the then native lord, Lachlan/Roland mac Uchtred is said to have been importing “Anglo-Norman” families from northern England to bolster his fight against his uncle Gilbert mac Fergus of Carrick; and secondly the fact that these early de Gevelstones are never recorded, as the MacCanes and later MacLellans of Gelston are, with a Gaelic patronymic or surname, but only ever with the name of their fief.<sup>16</sup>

Both of these arguments are however open to question. The fact that a 13<sup>th</sup> century Galloway family had lands in Cumberland does not necessarily suggest an Anglo-Norman descent, since that area of modern England had far stronger historical connections at this time with the Scots than with the English; and especially with the people and rulers of Galloway. In the post-Roman era the ancient British/Welsh kingdoms of Cumbria from time-to-time straddled the Solway; and in the eighth and ninth centuries modern Cumberland was, along with much of Galloway, part of the Anglian kingdom of Northumbria. In the tenth century it was apparently - and most significantly in respect of the de Gevelstone's origins - heavily settled and culturally dominated by the Gall-Gaidhel; and in the early eleventh century it formed part of Scots prince David mac Malcolm's appanage of Strathclyde-Cumbria. David's nephew William mac Duncan was lord of Allerdale and Copeland; huge lordships which encompassed the entire north and west coasts of Cumberland, and stretched inland to the watershed of the Cumbrian Mountains. Hoton-John, the Cumberland manor associated with Sir John of Gevelstone and his son Dougall in 1296, lies at the south-eastern edge of Allerdale; and it had probably been granted by the Scots overlord William mac Duncan or one of his heirs to the family of *William de Hotonis*, who in Scotland may have been known as William of Gelston (and a Sir William de Gevelstone is on record in 1217).<sup>17</sup>

The identification of a family at this time by the name of their lands rather than that of their kindred is also no proof of Anglo-Norman descent. We have already referred to one particularly well documented example of a Picto-Scots family in the same situation; i.e. the descendants of Gilchrist “Gillemaol/Maolan” who were known as *de Lany*. There are many other more well known examples, such as the *de Ile* family (the MacDonalds “of Islay”), *de Ergayel* (MacDougalls “of Argyll”) and *de Glendoghrad* (MacNabs and/or MacGregors “of Glen Dochart”). Examples can also be found closer to Gelston itself. Thomas lord of Workington in Cumberland was a younger son of William mac Duncan's cousin Cospatrick earl of Dunbar - a descendant of king Duncan I's brother Maldred mac Crinan - and he was granted the fief of Colvend in Galloway by Lachlan/Roland mac Uchtred; and though he was recorded at the time with the patronymic style “fitz Cospatrick”, his descendants were later called *de Culwen* after their lands.<sup>18</sup>

Richard Torrance also points to the de Gevelstones' intimacy with the Plantagenet royal family in the course of the Wars of Independence as a possible indication of their origins; but that was also shared at the same time by plainly Celtic kindreds such as the earls of Strathearn, and the MacDougalls and McDowells, as a result of the exigencies of those long and bitter conflicts. The de Gevelstones' style and their English connections cannot therefore be taken as an indication that the early lairds of Gelston were Anglo-Normans. On the contrary, one of the most extraordinary English records relating to this family at the time of the wars quite clearly suggests that they were Gaels, and also provides a key piece of evidence to connect the MacLellans - to whom Celtic “de Gevelstones” must surely have been related - and the MacMillans.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1318 King Edward of England made a grant ...to the King's vallet Duugal

Gyvelstone, and his heirs, for his good service to his father and himself, of Suny Magurke's lands in Knapedale and Glenarewyle in Scotland, forfeited by the treason of John de Menetethe....<sup>19</sup>

Knapdale was one of the most bitterly fought over parts of the Gaidhealtachd, with the MacDougalls to the north and the MacDonalds to the south using the local clans as proxies in a struggle for supremacy within Clann Somerhairle that was fuelled by English money. The idea that an Anglo-Norman family could succeed in driving out the Menteiths – a branch of the Stewarts who were allied with the MacDonalds – where the native MacSweens had failed, is nonsensical; but employing somebody from the same west coast-connected kindred that Cainn mac Dougall belonged to would make very good sense. A similar thing occurred some eight years later, when Robert the Bruce appointed John de Lany as the Constable of Tarbert Castle in Knapdale. Looked at as a member of a lowland family of civil servants and churchmen – as many 14<sup>th</sup> century Lennies were – John de Lany would appear an equally strange appointment; but when considered as a member of the predominantly highland Clan MacMillan, who in the next century were to become the lords of Knap, then his appointment looks entirely different.<sup>20</sup>

The de Gevelstone grant of 1318 also points to other connections between Argyll and Galloway, and MacLellans and MacMillans. Glenarewyle is almost certainly Glendaruel in Cowal, and as previously observed, this was later home to a kindred called Cannan. These MacCanes had neighbours called MacGibbons, and if the early lairds of Gelston did belong to the same kindred as Cane MacGillolane, then the chances are that these MacGibbons might have been named for his son *Gibbon fitz Kan*; while yet another name found later in Glendaruel is Baxter, which is a sept of MacMillan.<sup>21</sup>

Also in Cowal, as early as 1270, there was a witness to a Lamont charter called *Reginald son of Macrath*, and the relatively rare name Macrath appears too at about the same time in the histories of both Craignish and Galloway. According to Lorn traditions, a man called Macrath was cousin in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century to *Dugall of Cragins*, and thus a member of the kindred known locally as MacGillolanes (although the Campbells have long claimed that the Craignish “MacCouls” – i.e. MacDougalls – were by this time a branch of their clan; a claim that does not stand up in the murky light of contradictory accounts written by the Campbells themselves, let alone in the brief flashes of illumination afforded by the fragmentary contemporary records). Another surname associated with the old ruling family of Craignish – and in one account, specifically with Macrath – was *MacIyell/McVeil*. This apparently obscure name is a mangled and mistranscribed form of MacIlveil/Mac'illemhaoil (i.e. MacMillan), and also appears as *MacIgheil/McGeill*. The form *McGill* is recorded later in Kintyre, where MacGillolanes are said to have settled when the Campbells took Craignish, and there it was apparently acknowledged as meaning MacMillan. Back in Craignish, the story telling how Macrath fled from Lorn, eventually to end up in Wester Ross as namefather to the MacRaths or MacRaes, states quite explicitly that his followers in Lorn were the *Gilleann Maola Dubh* – i.e. Black MacMillans.<sup>22</sup>

In 1296 in Dumfriesshire a *Macrath ap Molegan* gave homage to King Edward of England alongside *Dovenald fitz Can* and *Johnan de Gevelestone* (father of the Dougal who received the grant of Knapdale twenty two years later). Macrath's style “ap Maolagain” means “son of the little tonsured one” and is therefore a British/Welsh form of MacMillan; and from it come the septnames Mulligan/Milliken. Versions of this name can later be found alongside MacMillans in Perthshire (where the Gaelic *McMhaoiligan* is on record) and in Galloway where in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries the *Amuliganes/Millikins* were lairds of Blackmyre in Nithsdale, to the north of places called *Milliganton* and *McCheynston* (i.e. Mac Cain's Town). In the 17<sup>th</sup> century Milliganes can be found living over the watershed on the MacMillan lands in the upper reaches of the Ken, and at that time *Myllighame*

of *Blacknyre* also owned lands to the south, in the parishes of Dalry and Balmaclellan.<sup>23</sup>

There is circumstantial evidence therefore to connect MacGillolanes and MacGillemaòls in Lorn, and probably in the late 13<sup>th</sup> and early 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (though the Campbell histories of Craignish most likely condense events that actually took place over some two centuries). There is a documented connection in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century between the lairds of Gelston, who were almost certainly MacLellans even then, and Knapdale which was probably even then already home to MacMillans - as the subsequent appointment of John de Lany to Tarbert Castle would suggest. The Leny connection shows that descendants of Gillemaol/Maolan were devotees of the cult of Fillan; and in that saint's homeland of Perthshire, MacMillans as well as Lennies were neighbours of - and, if *MS 1467* is to be entirely believed, kin to - the chief devotees of Fillan, the MacNabs. Early MacLellans and MacMillans shared almost identical coats of arms, and later MacLellans and MacMillans lived next to each other in Galloway, and alongside MacCaines and MacCormacs. Churches dedicated to Saint Cormac were to be found adjacent to, and probably originally on, the lands of both the MacMillans and the MacLellans; and both kindreds descended from an ancestor with the almost unique name of Caine, who lived in the mid-to-late 13<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>24</sup>

In addition to the above strong, though still only circumstantial evidence, there are a number of other weaker signs that might be considered to point in the same direction. For instance, the fact that the first MacMillan recorded in Galloway is called Gilbert, which is not a name found elsewhere in the clan until later; but which was, as we've already noted, frequently to be found amongst the early Galloway MacLellans. Also, one of the other most prominent given names amongst the 15<sup>th</sup> century MacLellans is Dougal; which in fact gives rise to the MacLellan septname Dougalson (or, as it often appears early on, Dongalson). Dougal was the name of Cainn MacMillan's father, and of course of the laird of Gelston who was granted Knapdale in 1318. Indeed, when one studies the tortured story of the old lairds of Craignish, amongst whom the name Dougal was even more prominent, one eventually comes to the conclusion that the original "devotee of Fillan" after whom they were also called MacGillolane was probably the same Dougal mac Malcolm mhic Mhaolain. If that was so, and this Cainn was indeed the same man as Cane McGillolane, then he bore the appellation "MacLellan" not as a surname but as a patronymic style; and the first appearance of it as a genuine surname would be the record in the 1320s of his son Gilbert as bishop of Sodor.

We need to be clear at this point about how Caine could have been both a MacLellan and a MacMillan, the suggestion of which to many modern members of both clans may appear impossible. The simple fact is that Caine would probably not have considered himself to be a member of either of these clans, insofar as they existed as "clans" at this time. He would more probably have identified himself with a wider kindred sharing descent from a more distant and more illustrious ancestor than Gillefhaolain (whoever he was), or Gillemaol/Maolan. The most likely kindred with which he might have been identified would probably have been Clann Cormaic - the descendants of Cormac bishop of Dunkeld - in exactly the same way as his contemporaries who belonged to the nascent clans MacDougall, MacRuari and MacDonald were at this time most often called "MacSomhairle" after Cormac's contemporary, Somerled king of the isles. Though there are no equivalent contemporary references to men called MacCormac, that surname is later associated in Scotland both with Mull and Lorn (where other kindreds descended from Bishop Cormac had their lands) and in the Glenkens of Galloway alongside MacLellans, MacCaines and MacMillans.<sup>25</sup>

The process of clan and surname evolution is complicated; but remembering one thing above all others does help: No clan, however great, was immaculately conceived; the eponymous of every clan belonged to another clan; and to understand the early history of any clan one will almost certainly need to know something of the history of the parent kindred. So once again to choose the most obvious



example: To understand the evolution of the MacAlisters one must know about the MacDonalds and the rest of Clann Somerhairle; and one must appreciate that insofar as the sons and grandsons of Alasdair Mor mac Donald would ever have identified themselves with a surname – and they would probably not have done, though chroniclers and royal clerks might have done so on their behalf – it could have been any of: MacSorley, MacRanald, MacDonald or (for grandsons and thereafter) MacAlister. The descendants of Alasdair Mor's contemporary Cainn mac Dougall would have had a similar choice: MacCormac, MacGilchrist, MacMalcolm, MacDougall or MacCainn; and in this case with the option of a surname coming from the nicknames Gillemol/Maolan, and – if we are right about the equation of Cainn and Cane – perhaps from Gillefhaolain too.<sup>26</sup>

Whether MacLellans are prepared to accept the probability – and it can never be more than that on the basis of the evidence available – that their Cane McGillolane was the same man as the MacMillan's ancestor Cane mac Dougall will be a matter for individual judgement; but it's worth bearing in mind Daphne Brooke's assertion that the Gaelic speakers of the Glenkens in particular were not using surnames consistently even as late as the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The true explanation therefore for the apparently amazing claim that there were 14 MacLellan knights in Galloway in 1422, may be that there were something like that number of knighted members of the kindred of Cane MacGillolane at that time; but that many of them were called MacMillan, Amuligain, and Milliken, as well as Dougalsen, MacCannie, and Acannan – in so far as any of them actually used a surname at all.

### References

- <sup>1</sup> D. Richard Torrance, *The McClellans in Galloway* (2 Vols, Edinburgh, 1993 & 1996), I, 2-4; Daphne Brooke, *The Glenkens 1275-1456* in TDGNHAS, LIX (1984), 49-51; Daphne Brooke, *Wild Men and Holy Places* (Edinburgh, 1994), 156.
- <sup>2</sup> The Hebridean tradition is reported by Dr. Johnson following his meeting in Glen Shiel with the "McCraas": R. W. Chapman (ed), *Johnson and Boswell's Tour to the Hebrides* (Oxford, 1934), 37. For the MacNab association see Frank Adam, *Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands* (Edinburgh, 1975), 336; and for Saint Fillan: Marjorie O. Anderson, *Columba and Other Irish Saints in Scotland* in HISTORICAL STUDIES 5 (1965), 26. For the "McGillellans" in Craignish see "MS History of Craignish" ("Craignish MS"), *SHS Miscellany IV* (1926); for the Irish "McGilligans" see Edward MacLysaght, *More Irish Families* (Blackrock 1982), 109 & map on page 221; and for the Scots "McKilligans", R. G. W. Mackilligan, *Followers of Saint Fillan* (Privately Published, N.D.). The name *Gillafaelan* appears in the MacNab pedigree in *MS. 1467*, and a *Gille Faolan le Rous* from the county of Stirling gave homage to Edward I in 1296. The latter record in particular suggests that not all MacGillellans/ MacLellans have to be descended from the Cane MacGillefhaolain who is documented in Galloway in 1273.
- <sup>3</sup> APS, I, 85.
- <sup>4</sup> Richard Oram, *Lordship of Galloway* (Edinburgh, 2000), 208; CDS, II, 447, No. 1664; CDS, II, 215-6, No. 824; J. Stevenson (ed), *DoCs. Illustrative of History of Scotland*, (2 Vols, Edinburgh, 1870), I, 177, No. cccxxxvii.
- <sup>5</sup> CDS, I, V, 208, No. 490; RRS, Robert I, 505, No. 235; CDS, IV, 389; RRS, Robert I, 622; Papal Letters, III, 396; RMS, I, App. 2, No. 1022; CDS, III, 288-9, No. 1578; ER, I, 152; CDS, II, Nos. 1049, 1588.
- <sup>6</sup> For the family of *Acannane* (i.e. *ap Cannain for mac Channain*) see D.V. Cannon & R. C. Reid, *The Cannan Family in Galloway* in TDGNHAS, XXXL (1952-3), 78-120. For *Duncan Makcane* in Lorn see OPS, II, Pt. 1, 46, and for the *Makanes/M'Channanichs/Caniches* in Glendaruel, who later changed their name to Buchanan, see Highland Papers II, 175-6; Archibald Brown, "History of Cowal", 36, 84, 93; Adam, op.cit., 575, Appendix V.
- <sup>7</sup> Rev. T. H. Mullin & Rev. J. E. Mullan, *The Ulster Clans O'Mullan, O' Kane and O'Mellan* (Belfast, 1966), 49-50 & 230-1; D. Farmer (ed), *Oxford Dictionary of Saints* (1997), 99. The Scottish traditions regarding St. Catan's burial are mentioned in Lachlan Shaw, *History of the Province of Moray* (3 Vols., Glasgow, 1882), I, 273; and the foundation of Ardchattan Priory in c.1230 is discussed in R. Andrew McDonald, *The Kingdom of the Isles* (East Linton, 1997), 93-4. The traditional derivation of the name "Galloway" from the Gall-Gaidhel, and the connections of the people of the province and those inhabiting the Hebrides and the neighbouring

- mainlands of western Scotland and northern Ireland, are emphasised by Richard Oram, in *Lordship of Galloway*, op. cit. The MacMillans' links with the original Clan Chattan appear in Graeme M. Mackenzie, *The Rarest Decision Recorded in History: The Battle of the Clans in 1396*, TGSJ, LIX (1994-6), 420-487.
- <sup>8</sup> The MS 1467 genealogy can be found in W. F. Skene, *Celtic Scotland* (3 Vols., Edinburgh 1880), Vol. III, Appendix VIII, 458-490, and the discovery of a monumental inscription confirming the historicity of Cormac mac Airbertach is revealed in Kenneth Steer and John Bannerman, *Late Medieval Monumental Sculpture in the West Highlands* (1977), 105. The equation of Cormac mac Airbertach with Bishop Cormac of Dunkeld is discussed in Graeme M. Mackenzie, *The Origins and Early History of the MacMillans...* (Inverness, 2001), Appendix 2, 62-3.
- <sup>9</sup> Kenneth Jackson, *The Gaelic Notes in the Book of Deer* (Cambridge, 1972), 35 & 70-1. The question of years per generation in old highland genealogies is considered in David Sellar, *Family Origins in Cowal*, SCOTTISH STUDIES, No. 15 (1971), 26
- <sup>10</sup> The first MacMillan as such on record in Galloway, *Gylebricht McMalene/Gilluth McMolene*, was deprived of lands in the Glenkens c.1308-1315 by Robert the Bruce because of his support for the Balliols: RMS, I, Appendix 2, 530, No. 316. He would therefore have been an exact contemporary of Gilbert MacGillolane. The later MacMillan chieftains in Galloway appear to have had their seats at Earlston in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, nearby Ardarroch in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Brockloch in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and the Holm of Dalquhairn in the 18<sup>th</sup> century; see Somerled MacMillan, *The MacMillans and their Septs* (Glasgow, 1952), 99 & 105, and Mackenzie, *Origins and Early History...*, op. cit., 51. For the MacLellan lands in Galloway see Torrance, *The McClellans...*, op. cit. The MacMillan lands on Loch Tayside are referred to both in William Buchanan of Auchmar, "An Account of the MacMillans" in *A Historical and Genealogical Essay upon the Family and Surname of Buchanan* (1723), 125, and Hugh Macmillan, *The Clan Macmillan* (London, 1901), 8; plus above cited clan histories. For the MacMaoldonichs and the de Lanys or Lennies, see J. Guthrie Smith, *Strathendrick and its Inhabitants* (1896), 290-1; "An Account of the Lennies" in Auchmar, op. cit., 95; the "curious account" printed in William Fraser, *The Stirlings of Keir* (Edinburgh, 1858), 412-16; and "The MacMhaolain Lairds of Leny", Appendix 3 of Mackenzie, *Origins and Early History*, op. cit., 63-7.
- <sup>11</sup> OPS, II, Pt. 1, 39-40; W. A. Gillies, *In Famed Breadalbane* (Perth, 1938), 51; Brooke, *Wild Men ...*, op. cit., 75; Innes Macleod, *Discovering Galloway* (Edinburgh, 1997), 146.
- <sup>12</sup> Sources for the following four coats: MACLELLAN: R. R. Stodart, *Scottish Arms* (2 Vols, Edinburgh, 1881), I, 83; MACMILLAN 1: Burke's General Armory (1884), 645; MACMILLAN 2: From 1620 MS in Lyon Office: *Arms of Principal MacMillan Families* in CLAN MACMILLAN MAGAZINE, Vol. 1, No. 1 (1958), 41-2, referring to 1953 letter from the Lord Lyon to Somerled MacMillan; MACMILLAN 3: Pre-1663 MS (Ross Herald MSS by Joseph Stacey): S. MacMillan, *The MacMillans...*, op. cit., 47 (it seems quite clear, despite Somerled MacMillan's assertions that the Lord Lyon himself is wrong to read it so, that Stacey is saying the lion is sable - i.e. black - like the bars).
- <sup>13</sup> Sources for following three coats: MACMILLAN IN ENGLAND: Burkes..., op. cit., 645; MACMILLAN IN SCOTLAND: Alexander Nisbet, *A System of Heraldry* (2 Vols, Edinburgh, 1984), I, 219; MACMILLAN IN ULSTER: Burkes..., op. cit., 645. The coat identified by Nisbet can be found on an 18<sup>th</sup> century McMillan gravestone in Carsphairn in the Glenkens of Galloway.
- <sup>14</sup> Sources for following four coats: CANNE: Burkes..., op. cit., 165; EARLY LAIRDS OF GELSTON (Sir John in 1296): Torrance, *The McClellans...*, op. cit., Vol. I, 291; LATER GELSTONS & MACLELLANS OF: Torrance, ante [MacLaren and Kine/Kynn references for same arms: Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorial (1961), 541]; MACLELLAN OF BOMBIE: Burkes..., op. cit., 644.
- <sup>15</sup> The modern MacLaren chiefs bear Or, *two chevronels Gules, accompanied by a lymphad sails furred and oars in action Sable in base*. While the two chevronels once again echo the later MacLellans, the colours emphasise the clan's claimed connection with the old earls of Strathearn, who are recorded as bearing both Or, *two chevronels Gules, and Gules, two chevronels Or* (Stodart, op. cit. I, 1, and Papworths..., op. cit., 542). The later in particular echoes the effect of the colours of the chevron with the two couple closes on it borne by the unknown Canne.
- <sup>16</sup> Richard Torrance, *Gelston and its Early Owners* in THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST, XLIII, No.1 (March 1996), 23-8; Brooke, *Wild Men...*, op. cit., 156.

- <sup>17</sup> Brooke, *Wild Men...*, op.cit., Ch. 2; Oram, *Lordship...*, op.cit., 7 & 62-8; *Atlas of Scottish History to 1707*, eds. Peter G. B. McNeill & Hector L. MacQueen (Edinburgh, 1996), 419; Torrance, *Gelston...*, op.cit., 23-4.
- <sup>18</sup> The MacDonald, MacDougall and MacNab/MacGregor examples come from the 1296 Ragman Roll, where by way of contrast the Campbells do appear with their surname, even at such an early date (the name "Cambel" is attached to no less than eight individuals in this document, but not to the lord of Craignish who would thus appear not to belong to this kindred at this time). For *fitz Cospatrick* of Colvend/de Culwen see Oram, *Lordship...*, op.cit., 202.
- <sup>19</sup> CDS, III, 80, No.423.
- <sup>20</sup> For the conflict on the western seaboard at this time see R. A. McDonald, op.cit., Ch. 6. John de Lany's accounts as Constable of Tarbert appear in ER, I, 52.
- <sup>21</sup> For the MacGibbons in Glendaruel see Brown, op.cit., 83, 85, 93, 162; and for the Baxters, Auchmar, op.cit., 128. Places called *Arngibbon* and *Balgibbon* were on or adjacent to Leny lands in Perthshire and Stirlingshire.
- <sup>22</sup> For Ranald mac Macrath see Archibald Brown, *Memorials of Argyleshire* (Greenock, 1889), 407. The identity of the "Campbells" of Craignish is discussed at length in Appendix 6 of Mackenzie, *Origins and Early History...*, op.cit., where detailed references can be found for the many appearances and various versions of the name *MacIyell/McVeil/McGeill*. The equation of McGill and MacMillan is referred to in Andrew McKerral, *Kintyre in the Seventeenth Century* (1948), 93, and an example occurs in OPR 531/1-3 (Saddell) where the wife of Dugald McMillan, ferryman at Portchranaig, is married and has her first ten children in the 1820s & '30s as Mary McMillan and her last four in the 1830s & '40s as Mary McGill. For the *Gilleann Maola Dubh* see "Craignish MS", op.cit., and Archibald Campbell, *Waifs and Strays of Celtic Tradition: I*: (London, 1889), 3-4, where the attempt is made to dismiss these MacMillans as "bare-headed servants" [similar attempts in Ross-shire and Strathspey result in MacMillans being passed off as "Steel-helmeted servants" – see Graeme M. Mackenzie, "Origins of Lochaber MacMillans..." in Rae Fleming (ed), *Lochaber Emigrants to Glengarry* (Toronto, 1994), 33].
- <sup>23</sup> CDS, II, 198; George F. Black, *Surnames of Scotland* (New York, 1946), 600; Gillies, op.cit., 84 & 366-7; OS Explorer Series, Sheet 321: 863961, 913837, 906844.
- <sup>24</sup> *MS.1467* shows the MacNabs and MacGregors to be descended like the MacMillans from Cormac mac Airbertach, but this descent has been strongly questioned by the leading authority on such matters. Nevertheless they did live on lands adjacent to those occupied by the MacMillans, and did consider themselves as anciently related to the MacKinnons, who certainly were descended from Cormac. See W. D. H. Sellar, "Highland Family Origins" in *The Middle Ages in the Highlands*, ed. L. Maclean, (Inverness 1981).
- <sup>25</sup> Somerled's grandson Duncan mac Dougall appears in Irish annals in 1247 simply as "MacSomhairle", the "style" that indicates the head of the kindred at the time [McDonald, op.cit., 94], while the eponymous of Clan Donald makes his only appearance on the record as "Douenaldus filius Reginaldi filii Sumerledi" [Paisley Reg., 126]. By 1257 the style MacSorley had become a surname, and we find in the Irish annals "Ailin MacSomhairle" (a son of Ruairi mac Ranald mhic Somerled). He however appears in Scottish and English records with his patronymic as "Alan Mac Ruairi" and "Alan fitz Rotheri" [McDonald, ante, 155, 143, 135]. The "fitz Rotherick" or MacRuairi used by his son Lachlan/Roland then becomes the surname of this kindred, at roughly the same time as his cousins assume the names MacDubghaill and MacDomhnaill. The surname *MacShomhairle/MacSorley* remains an option however until at least 1510 when the then MacDougall chief appears as *Alexander McCoirle* [Steer & Bannerman, op.cit., 134]. It should be noted as well, however, that in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, according to Dean Monro, members of Clann Somerhairle were also considered to belong to *Clann Gofraidh* (named for Somerled's 6xGreat-Grandfather who had died in 853), although no early members of that kindred have been documented as a MacGodfrey/Gorrie etc. For "Clann Cormaic" see references to MacCormacks/MacCormicks in Mull and Lorn in Adam, op.cit., 297 & 330; and the McCormacks/McCormaks of Strangassell in the Glenkens of Galloway in RRS, David II, No. 349; and Black, op.cit., 476-7.
- <sup>26</sup> For further discussion of the question of surname evolution in medieval Scotland see John Bannerman, "MacDuff of Fife" in *Medieval Scotland: Crown, Lordship and Community*, eds. Alexander Grant & Keith J. Stringer, (Edinburgh 1993), 20-38.

## THE CLAN MACKELLAR

### Part IV - The Mackellar Connections with Drumfinn & Daill

*By Duncan Beaton*

Neil Mackellar senior, father of Duncan, Neil and Alexander, had a variety of financial set-backs during his droving career. As has been related earlier his family was out of Maam by 1753, when he had a tack of Auchagoyle at Minard; he was at Stroneskar in 1757. His last connection with Auchagoyle mentioned in the Knockbuy Rentals was in 1763 and in that same year he had a tack of Upper Carron with its cattle stance. A tack of Achalick, further down the River Add but still in the Knockbuy Estate, followed in 1769. The terms of this rental were a mailrent, 5 stones of cheese, "a cuidoidhch" (possibly cuideachadh - an assistance given to the laird by the tenant), and "services use & wont".<sup>1</sup>

According to the tale in the "Dewar Manuscripts"<sup>2</sup> Neil Mackellar had left Maam due to financial difficulties arising from his investments with the Bank of Ayr. However this bank was not founded by MacAdam & Co until 1763 and was taken over by Douglas Heron & Co, "Banker in Air". This unintentional pun was unfortunate in that the bank failed in June 1772. There was a branch at Inveraray.<sup>3</sup>

The story of Mackellar's financial tribulations is somewhat different in Hugh Whyte's "Celtic Monthly" article. It was because ".....he kept a sumptuous style at Maam, which aroused the Duke's envy...." He steadfastly refused to sell the farm to the duke, but was forced into an expensive march (boundary) dispute "which, when finished, (he) found it difficult to pay his moiety". It was then, said Whyte, that the proposal was made that he should exchange Maam for the old MacIver farms of Stroneskar and Glasvar in the parish of Glassary.<sup>4</sup>

On moving to Stroneskar Neil Mackellar resolved to rebuild the house there. A cargo of freestone was brought in by sea, but for some obscure reason was dumped into Crinan Bay. There the stones "...remained and served as a quarry for sharpening (sic) stones to the natives for a time; afterwards they were carted to Poltalloch". Next he was involved "...in a tedious lawsuit which caused his ruin. A lawyer named MacGibbon, who conducted his case, fell heir to these farms, and....sold them to the Poltalloch family". This lawyer was Neil MacGibbon, who conducted his business from a house which now forms part of the George Hotel, Inveraray, and was known as "MacGibbon of Glasvar" in 1792. The Glasgow Arms Bank, with which Neil Mackellar also had dealings, also failed disastrously in 1793.<sup>5</sup> By that time Neil Mackellar was deceased.

Neil Mackellar's tack of Achalick lasted until 1777 and the "Knockbuy Rentals" suggest that he may have died in or before 1783. However, on the 20th November 1783 Dugald Campbell of Ederline, son and heir of Colin Campbell of Ederline had a Precept of Clare Constat of the sheiling called Arylochshinnoch in Benleave by Neil Mackellar of Stroneskar. On the 21st October 1789 Duncan Barr, a merchant in Kilmichael Glasaary, received a tenement in the township from Neil Mackellar of Dail(I), which had been acquired from two sisters named Clark in August 1774. By 1802 reference is made of transactions made by Robert Lindsay of Boccaird, factor of the sequestered estates of Neil Mackellar of Dail.<sup>6</sup>

#### *The First Neil Mackellar of Drumfinn.*

There is some confusion between this Neil and a slightly earlier person of the same name, possessor of a property named in the records as Drumfinn. He featured as early as 1730, when he was infest in the lands of Letternamoult.<sup>7</sup>

On the 6th August 1735 he acquired the lands of Stronalbanich (Strone) above the present-day village



of Minard from Patrick Lamont. In this document he was described as "...of Drimfin, merchant in Saffron Walden (in Essex)".<sup>8</sup> In 1737 he was involved with Dugald Campbell of Kilmartin and Dugald Campbell of Barmaddie in the grant of a tack of the same lands.<sup>9</sup> This same property was acquired by Disposition and Assignation by Lt Col Patrick Mackellar on the 18th January 1748.<sup>10</sup> In Kilmalieu graveyard at Inveraray there is a well-worn tombstone commemorating the family of Neil Mackellar of Drimfinn (Drimfin?). His wife Ann Mackellar died on the 28th June 1740 at the age of 25 and two children; John died on the 27th August 1743 and Jean died in infancy in 1740. Neil Mackellar of Drumfinn was on an assise (jury) at the Inveraray Sheriff Court in 1741<sup>11</sup> and apparently died about 1748.<sup>12</sup>

### *The Second Neil Mackellar to be "of Drimfinn"*

The situation is made more confusing in 1751 when a Patrick Mackellar, brother of Neil of Drumfinn is mentioned in connection with the marches at Knockbuy and Stronalbanich. The Valuation Rolls for this period list Patrick Mackellar of Drumfinn for the lands of Stronalbanich, Letternamoult, Drumfinn and Gortangreenoch (possibly Gortanronach, near Lochgair?). Since this Patrick Mackellar (of Drumfinn in 1774) was Lt Col Patrick of the Maam family previously mentioned the relationship of the two Neils (and Patrick) is all the more confusing.

The Letternamoult connection is also interesting since this farm in the Parish of Glassary was another old MacIver place and had passed to a branch of the Mackellars of Ardare during the 16th century. Among the papers collected by the 10th duke of Argyll there are references to Mackellars there in the 18th century, but "in" Letternamoult rather than "of" Letternamoult.

Another link was forged with the MacIver-Campbells when Archibald son of Duncan Mackellar in Letternamoult married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Campbell of Lechuarie in 1704. A witness was Archibald's brother Kenneth. Between 1724 and 1731 there were three sasine references to John, son of Neil(I) Mackellar in Letternamoult and, as stated earlier, Neil Mackellar of Drumfinn was on record as being infest in Letternamoult in 1730.

Also in the General Register of Sasines, dated May 1792, Malcolm MacIver or Campbell of Barmollich, heir to his father Charles (whom he had succeeded on the 23rd May 1792) resigned part of his lands to Archibald MacArthur Stewart of Ascog in Bute. These lands were regranted on the same day to Neil MacGibbon, and consisted of Glasvar, Succothsmoddan, and the sheiling of Arilochshinloch in Benleave, all in Glassary and previously connected with Neil Mackellar of Dail and Stroneskar. Neil's brother Lt Col Patrick had a Contract of Excambion, dated the 9th September 1776, whereby his lands of Stronalbanich had been exchanged for Succothsmoddan in Kilmichael Glen.<sup>13</sup>

Also in 1792 Malcolm MacIver resigned Letternamoult to Allan MacDougall WS and Peter Murdoch, a Glasgow merchant. Murdoch's maternal ancestors were the Campbells of St Catherines in Cowal. MacDougall had been involved in business dealings with Neil Mackellar of Stroneskar and Dail: in 1781 Mackellar paid his rental by a draft on MacDougall.

Letternamoult, which had apparently passed back to the MacIver-Campbells during the late 18th century, is today no more. A deserted township on the high ground above Barmollich, it is commemorated by the adjacent ridge called Leacan nam Mult, which runs parallel to the Kilmichael Glen road south of Succoth (Socach - formerly Succothsmoddan), and SE of Barmollich running towards Loch Leathan. (Ceann Loch Leathan or kinlochlean was another MacIver - Campbell property).

### *The Earlier Mackellars of Dail (Daill).*

Neil Mackellar was designated "of Daill" in or about 1757 but there was no apparent close link with

the earlier Mackellars who had lived there. Alexander Mackellar of Dail, son of John (who had died in March 1699) and grandson of Malcolm (who died in 1686) came of age in 1713 and was mentioned in sasines from the 20th June 1713 to the 31st March 1753. These Mackellars held their lands from the MacAlister captains of Tarbert, an ancient branch of Clan Donald who had been made Captains of Tarbert by the earls of Argyll.

Alexander married Janet, daughter of John MacFarlane, wadsetter of Barinellan near Tarbert about 1724. Janet's father had died in 1721 or 1722 and her sister Margaret married a George MacFarlane but died c1735.

It is not known if there were surviving children of the marriage between Alexander Mackellar of Dail and Janet MacFarlane, but it is apparent that there were no sons. George and Margaret MacFarlane had two daughters, "Geels" or Giles, born c1723 and Mary, born c1725. Margaret had inherited the townland of Glenralloch and the farm of Balimeanoch, both in South Knapdale, from her father. After her death George MacFarlane had remarried (to a Janet Campbell, c1740), had two more daughters, and had forced his two daughters of the first marriage to yield all rights in their mother's inheritance.<sup>14</sup>

George MacFarlane served as a lieutenant in the Argyll Militia during the Jacobite Rebellion and was subsequently killed in the siege at Fort William in 1746. He was succeeded in his properties by Malcolm MacFarlane in Mucroy, South Knapdale, who took possession without sasine. When he died in 1750 his son John succeeded.

This brought a counter claim by the legal successors of John MacFarlane of Barinellan, who were assisted by Colin Campbell of Kilberry. They were: Giles MacFarlane, who had married Donald Campbell of Bragleenbeg; Mary, her sister who had married John Stevenson, a drover and ground officer to Campbell of Kilberry; and Janet Macfarlane, wife of Alexander Mackellar of Dail. They were successful with their petition, all being served Heirs of Line Special in one half of Glenralloch & Balimeanoch in 1750.<sup>15</sup>

After the disappearance of Alexander Mackellar from record in 1753 the farm of Dail, near the present-day village of Cairnbaan, was let to a succession of different people until the Neil Mackellar of the Maam family took possession a few years later.

### References

- <sup>1</sup> "Rentals of Archibald Campbell of Knockbuy" (unpublished). Kindly lent by the late Miss Marion Campbell of Kilberry.
- <sup>2</sup> "The Dewar Manuscripts", a collection of West Highland Folk Tales, originally as collected in Gaelic by John Dewar, woodman to the duke of Argyll, edited in one volume by the reverend John Mackechnie.
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>4</sup> "The Celtic Monthly", January 1908.
- <sup>5</sup> "A History of Scotland", by J. D. Mackie.
- <sup>6</sup> General Register of Sasines, National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> The Campbell of Succoth Papers, TD219/24/3, Glasgow City Archives, formerly Strathclyde Regional Archives, Mitchell Library, Glasgow.
- <sup>9</sup> GR of Sasines.
- <sup>10</sup> TD219/24/3.
- <sup>11</sup> "Justiciary Records of Argyll and the Isles", The Stair Society.
- <sup>12</sup> Neil Mackellar's will is dated the 24th December 1748 at Inveraray. "The Commissariat Records of Argyle. Register of Testaments 1674-1800". The Scottish Record Society, p29.
- <sup>13</sup> TD219/24/3.
- <sup>14</sup> Knockbuy Rentals.
- <sup>15</sup> Services of Heirs, 1750-9.

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1851 Census, Dollar	Central Scotland F.H.S.
1851 Census, Campsie, Vol. 1 A to L	Central Scotland F.H.S.
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Department shortly.*

## LETTER to the EDITOR

Letters from Monikie p129 Dec. 2001

I read with great interest the article on p129 by Marjorie Stewart, F.S.A. Scot of Aberdour. In the no doubt limited space available, Miss Stewart has achieved with considerable skill a précis of what could have occupied the whole edition; space would prevent her extending the tree to show the descendants of Alexander and Margaret including the late Prof. Peter Sturrock Atlanta who returned the letters. Also the first son of William 1798 and his second wife Mary Petrie, Mill of Lour, John Sturrock Millwright, Dundee. John's Diary (still in print) for 1864-1865 has been edited by Christopher A. Whatley from the originals held in the Archives Department. University of Dundee, MS 15/58/1.

It is a matter of great regret that the Wills were not available to Professor Whatley when he edited the Diary. For the record I think that it is worth noting that the Wills were believed by Professor Peter Sturrock to have come from a Rocket Scientist in Vancouver a far cry from Guildie, Monikie. I would like to record my thanks to Marjorie Stewart to her considerable achievement in researching the Sturrock family over the years.

Yours sincerely, Ronald M.R. Sturrock

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## OBITUARY

Sheila Blanche Durham

The Society lost one of its most valuable members by the death, on 4th January 2002, of Sheila Durham after surgery which, initially, had seemed to be successful.

Sheila Blanche Durham was born in India. Her father died there before her birth and her mother and the infant Sheila had to make the long and arduous journey back to Edinburgh and her family. After being educated in Edinburgh, she became a chiropodist and something of a pioneer in this profession. In 1951 she married Tom Durham, a teacher and linguist, and they celebrated their Golden Wedding last November.

Apart from genealogy, Sheila had many other interests and led a very busy life between her husband and family, her community and her garden where she had a particular interest in alpine plants. After the opening of the SGS Library premises more than ten years ago in Victoria Terrace, Sheila became one of the volunteer helpers and one of the most stalwart and dependable, attending regularly every week. She had done much research herself into her own family and its ramifications. Through the Blanches, her mother's family name and a name with Shetland connections, she became interested in Shetland and represented the Shetland Family History Society at the Council Meetings held in Edinburgh of The Scottish Association of Family History Societies. Her grandmother was an Ayer with Angus roots and she had done research in that quarter as well as into her husband's family name of Durham.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Report and Notes on Financial Statements as at 30 September 2001

FIXED ASSETS

	Property	Equipment	Computer Equipment	Library Assets	TOTAL
Net Book Value at 30 September 2000	53063	3951	117	99182	156313
Purchases in year to 30 September 2001					
Equipment		10148	1528		11676
Books				361	361
Microfilm, Microfiche & CDs				3082	3082
	53063	14099	1645	102625	171432
Depreciation for year to 30 September 2001		4555	626		5181
Net Book Value as at 30 September 2001	53063	9544	1019	102625	166251

The property has not been depreciated as it is considered that its value is likely to have appreciated.

Equipment is to be depreciated over five years.

Computer equipment is to be depreciated over three years.

Library assets of books, microfilm and computer data base should appreciate in value and should be replaced if unable to be used.

STOCK

Stock was valued at the lesser of cost or net realisable value on 30 September 2001.

CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

All Creditors and Accruals are payable within normal trading terms.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 30 September 2001 (Subject to audit)

	2001	2000
Income:		
Subscriptions	26943	25862
Investment Income	1215	966
Covenant Tax Refund	1164	1192
Donations	505	112
Sales	28935	34822
Cost of Sales	13333	16208
Sales Surplus	15602	18613
A: Total Income	45429	46745

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Journal (Print & Dist.)	10808	9859
	Lecture Expenses	1291	1531
	Library Running Costs	4474	3584
	Library Refurb/Maint	1294	1278
	Computer Expenses	625	1310
	Postage	2534	3946
	Stationery, Typing etc	2224	2004
	Affiliations	103	113
	Insurance/Bank Charges	1309	1116
	Depreciation	5181	5766
	Advertising	1798	1605
	Telephone & Trav. Expenses	379	480
	Sundries	174	225
	<b>B: Total Expenditure</b>	<b>32194</b>	<b>32816</b>
	<b>Surplus/(Deficit) (A - B)</b>	<b>13236</b>	<b>13928</b>

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2001

**FIXED ASSETS:**

Property at cost	53063	53063
Equipment (Net)	10563	4068
Books, Microfilms etc	102625	99182
	<b>166251</b>	<b>156313</b>

**CURRENT ASSETS:**

Stock	22602	19609
Bank	35291	37824
Glenfiddich Fund	1817	1789
Cash	73	155
	<b>59783</b>	<b>59377</b>

**CURRENT LIABILITIES:**

Creditors & Accruals	700	1573
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>59083</b>	<b>57804</b>

## **VisitScotland and [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com)**

On 24th January 2002 VisitScotland, formerly The Scottish Tourist Board, launched its new web site - [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) - with the specific purpose of linking genealogy with travel. It was launched on the same day in New York and the following day in Toronto.

VisitScotland were aware that many overseas visitors to Scotland had Scottish roots but felt that the essential information on where to begin a search for their ancestors, where to stay and how to get to the actual places that their forebears came from was not easily available. Hence the new website which can be accessed by surname, parish or place from the 1881 Census. Details of the possible origins of surnames, old photographs illustrating places and how the people lived in years gone by, and famous Scots connected with particular areas are also indicated. Details of forthcoming Highland Games, Festivals and Clan Gatherings are also included and of course addresses of web sites from which to learn more.

The actual launching of [ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) was held in Glasgow aboard the tall ship *Glenlee* which is moored in Glasgow Harbour. This was felt to be particularly significant as many of the emigrant ships sailed from this spot on the Clyde. Mrs Sheila Pitcairn and the Hon. Secretary represented the Society and there were representatives of the Press and other interested parties, the General Register Office, Scottish Archives, the Museums of Scotland and the National Trust for Scotland to name but a few. The Minister for Tourism, Mike Watson, gave a brief address and there was a short film starring the actor Hamish Clark, from Monarch of the Glen fame, showing him tracing his family in Angus and Perthshire. He too was present and spoke briefly. The web site was also depicted on film and explained. Refreshments followed and were much appreciated.

### **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

**Volunteers are required to assist in the running of the Society Library**

**Can you give a few hours on a weekly or monthly basis?**

**No experience required.**

**Meet interesting people from all over the world who visit our Library,**

**Make new friends.**

*If you can assist or wish further information please contact our*

*Hon. Librarian Jim Cranstoun*

*in the Library or telephone 0131 220 3677*

## NEWS in BRIEF and EDITOR'S NOTES

### *Dates for your Diary*

14 March	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
19 March	Tuesday – Ordinary Meeting, <i>Clues to Identity: the role of Heraldry</i> , Elizabeth Roads, Lyon Clerk & Keeper of the Records,
28 March	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
11 April	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
18 April	Thursday – Ordinary Meeting, <i>Edinburgh's 19<sup>th</sup> Century Photographers &amp; Family Photographs</i> . Peter Stubbs, ARPS.
25 April	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
27 April	Saturday - S.A.F.H.S. Annual Conference, The Mitchell Theatre Complex, Glasgow. Details below.
9 May	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
11 May	Saturday - Local History Fair, Thomas Morton Hall, Leith. Details below.
15 May	Wednesday – Members' Visit to Trinity House, Kirkgate, Leith, for details see below.
23 May	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
13 June	Thursday – Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm.
17 September	Tuesday – Ordinary Meeting, <i>Army Genealogy in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</i> , K. A. M. Nisbet, B.A.
15 October	Tuesday – Ordinary Meeting, <i>The Emigrant Experience: published &amp; unpublished accounts of emigration, from the National Library's collection</i> , Dr. Kevin Halliwell, Curator US & Commonwealth Collections, National Library of Scotland.
15 November	Friday – Ordinary Meeting, <i>The History of James Thin, Booksellers, &amp; a few other matters</i> , D. Ainslie Thin.

### *Microfiche Readers*

The Society has a number of microfiche reader machines that are surplus to our requirements. If any member would like to have one, please put a request in the Family History Tray in the Library marked for the attention of Richard Torrance. The machines will have to be overhauled and are taken as seen. These machines are free for the uplifting but a donation to the Society would be welcomed.

### *Scottish Association of Family History Societies, 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

This conference to be hosted by Glasgow and the West of Scotland Family History Society will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 in The Mitchell Theatre Complex, Granville Street, Glasgow from 9a.m. to 5p.m. The theme of the conference is "Salt Market to Salt Lake". Tickets are £11.00 and Buffet Lunch tickets £8.00. Further details and booking forms may be obtained from: The Conference Secretary, 6 Sutherland Drive, Glasgow, G46 6PL.

### *Local History Week, 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May 2002*

To mark Local History Week, Leith Local History Society is to host a Local History Fair on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2002, in the Thomas Morton Hall which is located behind Leith Library on Ferry Road, Edinburgh. Our Society will have a stall at this event, we are looking for volunteers to assist; if you can help please contact the Hon. Secretary, Miss Joan Ferguson.



***Members' Visit 15 May 2002***

Numbers for this visit to Trinity House, Leith are restricted to two groups of 15: 11am-12 noon or 2pm-3pm There may be a small charge for this visit; for further details and bookings please contact the Library.

***Clan MacFarlane Society***

It may be of interest to members who have an interest in Clan MacFarlane or Septs of the clan that the Clan Society can be contacted through Joyce and Archie MacFarlane, 114 Ambrose Rise, Dedridge, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 6JU, Scotland; Tel. 01506 413944 or e-mail [jammac@btinternet.com](mailto:jammac@btinternet.com)

Plans are in band for the Society to have their own Heritage Centre at Arrochar, details can be seen on the internet at [www.macfarlane.org](http://www.macfarlane.org)

***Web Page Update***

The new and updated Sales List, for which we are indebted to Nancy Douglas and Rhona Stevenson our sales secretaries, is now on our web page. A new facility is that the sales list can now be downloaded, free of charge. The four Indexes to *The Scottish Genealogist*, Vol. 1 to Vol. XLIV will very shortly also be available for downloading from the web page.

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***A Stirling Worthy***

Wednesday, Neil McDonald, lately residing in Stirling, and formerly a soldier in the Breadalbane Fencibles, stood for an hour on the top of the town-house stair, Glasgow, exposed to the view of the people, with a label before him explaining his crime, which was theft. He was convicted of having gone into a public house, with two others, and robbed a chest of drawers, by picking the locks, when the servant was gone for liquor. They were disturbed in the middle of their procedure, and the other two effected their escape before assistance could be brought. McDonald was sentenced to imprisonment, the species of the pillory which he suffered on Wednesday, and banishment from the city for life. (*From the Dundee Weekly Advertiser, March 13 1801*)

***From The Scots Magazine, 1774***

*Orkney, 10 Sept.* Yesterday sailed from Stromness, the *Marlborough* of Whitby, Preswick, for Savanna, in Georgia, with about 80 emigrants on board; of whom 25 embarked at Whitby, and the remaining 55 are all from Orkney. This is the first ship that has stopped here purposely for emigrants. Though Georgia is not thought a favourable climate, yet Mr. Jonas Brown, the owner of the ship, would have got three times the number, if he had had occasion for them.

## QUERIES

- 2915 **ANDERSON/ELLISON & MURRAY/ANDERSON** Francis Anderson, b. c. 1811 Inch Island, Co. Donegal, d. 16 May 1886 at 42 Kelvingrove Street, Glasgow, married to Elizabeth Anna Ellison, had children Isabella, b. c. 1854, Francis b. 1858, Elizabeth Anna b. 1861 and Helen Matilda b. 1863. Isabella married Angus Murray, Mechanical Draughtsman, at 12 Monteith Row, Glasgow on 12 January 1882 and had three children, Frank, Angus and John. Any information on the Andersons, Murrays or their descendants would be very welcome. *Natalie Blair, 2 Frederick Street, Te Aro, Wellington, 6001, New Zealand. E-mail: [dive@nzdivers@clear.net.nz](mailto:dive@nzdivers@clear.net.nz)*
- 2916 **STEEL** Seeking information on the ancestors of William Steel of Montrose around 1913. He had two brothers George Brown Steel and Robert Brown Steel. Any information for forwarding to descendant now in Australia to: *D. Ferguson, 221 Wingletye Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 3BL, England.*
- 2917 **WATTERS** Seeking others researching this name. Where are they found in Scotland? My ancestor shows up by way of Ireland in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada. 1861 census. Jeremiah Watters b. 1801, wife Eliza, sons; Gilbert S., 1837. William C. 1839, Jeremiah 1841, George 1843, Andrew 1844. He might have been a soldier. Any help or ideas would be appreciated. *Marianne Thorpe, 237 Main St., Fairfield, ME 04937, USA. E-mail: [foxhuntr@mint.net](mailto:foxhuntr@mint.net)*
- 2918 **GRANT** Ogilvie (?1820-?). References to Ogilvie Grant, my great-great-grandfather, are few and either anecdotal or circumstantial. One thing is certain, he was dead by 2 August, 1872, when he featured on his son's marriage certificate as Father of the Groom: "deceased". There was an admitted cover-up and conspiracy of silence within the family up to and including my parents generation. Over the years I have collected sufficient dropped hints and veiled references to construct a plausible "myth", supported to some extent by study of the relevant period. Ogilvie Grant was born in Strathspey about 1820, possibly one of a minor branch of the Grants of Gartenbeg. He died in the West Indies or South America a fugitive from justice. His alleged crime was that of master-minding large-scale sheep stealing from the recently "cleared" and new-stocked sheep "ranches" of northern Scotland. He left a wife, Ann Beattie, and a son William, born in Aberdeen around 1845. The next that is known of the wife and son is their appearance in Leith in connection with Leith Sailors' Home in the 1860's. Ann Beattie died just prior to WW1, and William lived on into the late 20's as a successful businessman and property owner. I should be most grateful to anyone who might be able to shed some light on the myth, or even the facts of Ogilvie Grant's career and antecedents. *John C. Grant, "Riselaw", 2 Guardwell Crescent, Edinburgh EH17 7JA, Scotland. Tel/Fax: 0131 666 0760.*

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### From The Scots Magazine, Feb 1793

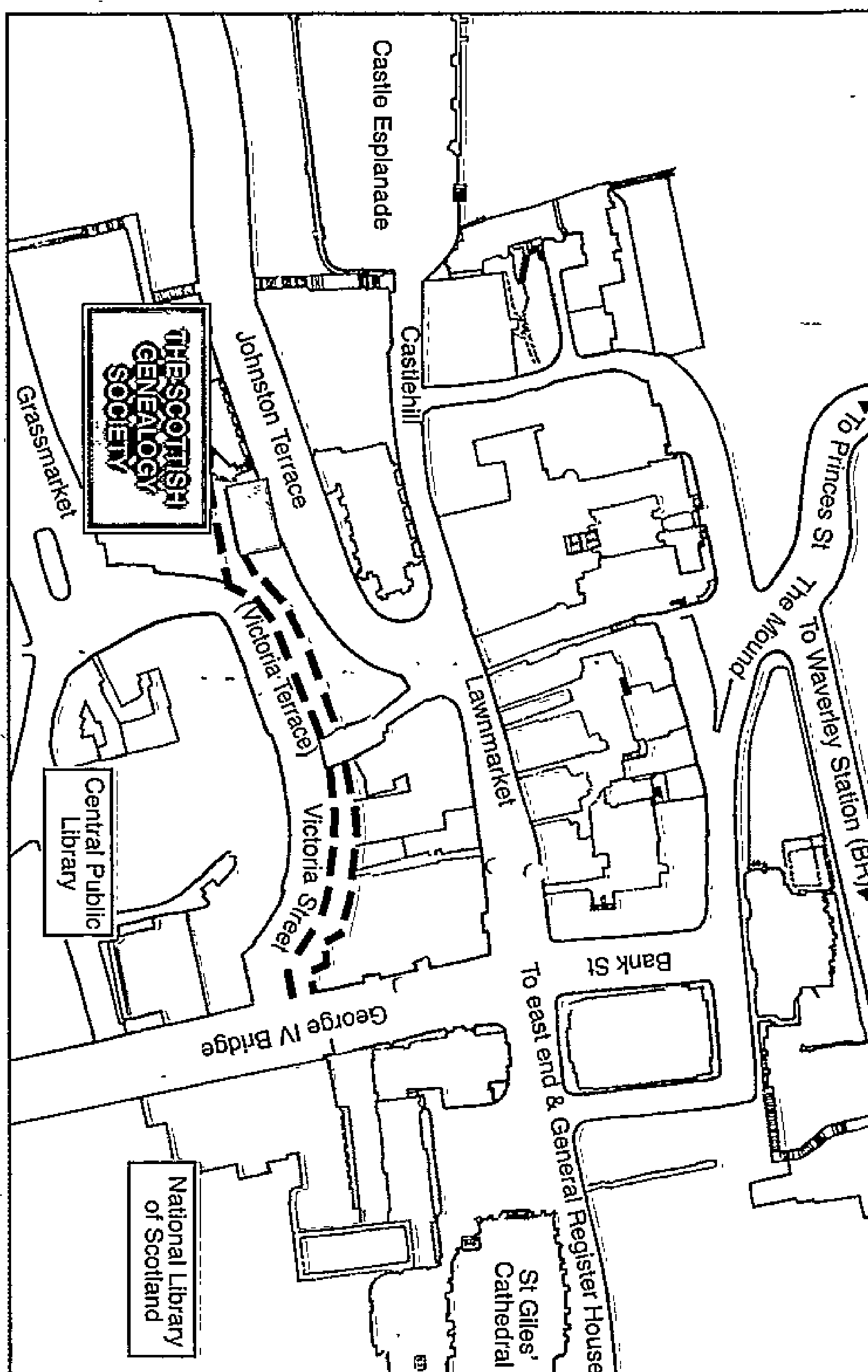
6 Feb. The Court of Session took under consideration a bill of suspension and interdict, at the instance of Mr Jackson, his creditors, and Mrs Esten, the present lessee of the Theatre Royal, against Mr Stephen Kemble, lessee of the Circus, now occupied by him as a theatre. Their Lordships were pleased to find in favour of Mrs Esten, and to interdict Mr Kemble from exhibiting theatrical performances.

## THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

<b>Hon. President</b>	Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, KCVO, WS
<b>Hon. Vice-Presidents</b>	Donald Whyte, FHG, FSG (Hon.) R W Munro, FSA Scot. Dr Jean Munro, FSA Scot. Ivor R Guild, CBE, FRSE, MA, LL.B, WS D Richard Torrance, BSc., FSA Scot.
<b>Acting Chairman of Council</b>	Ivor R Guild, CBE, FRSE, MA, LL.B, WS
<b>Acting Hon. Secretary</b>	Miss Joan P S Ferguson, MBE, MA, ALA, FRCP Edin. 21 Howard Place, Edinburgh EH3 5JY
<b>Hon. Editor</b>	Stuart E Fleming, FSA Scot. "The Learig", Kirkton of Balmerino, Fife DD6 8SA
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<b>Joint Sales Secretaries</b>	Nancy Douglas Rhona Stevenson
<b>Syllabus Secretary</b>	Carol Stubbs

## **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.



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