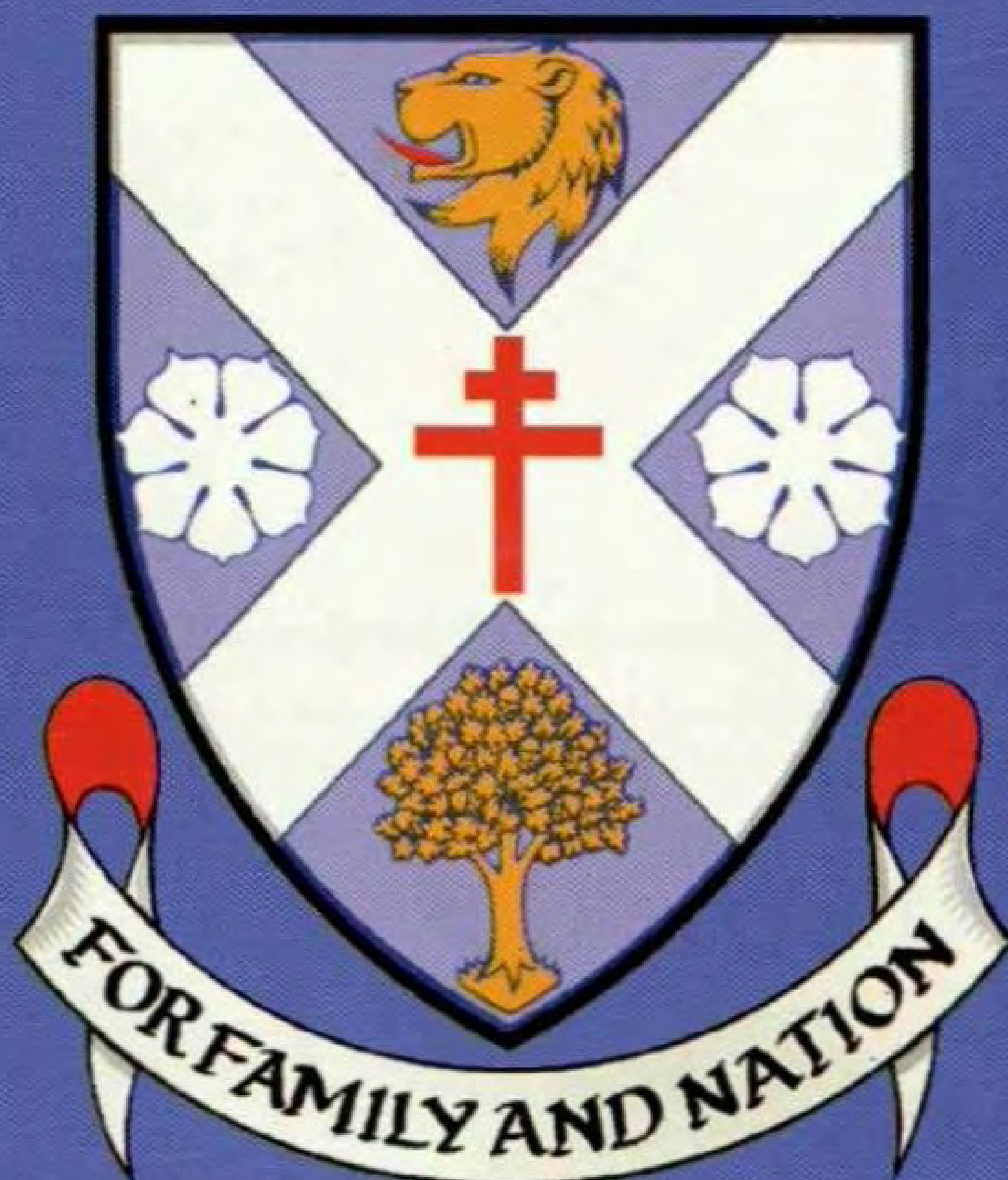

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The Scottish Genealogist

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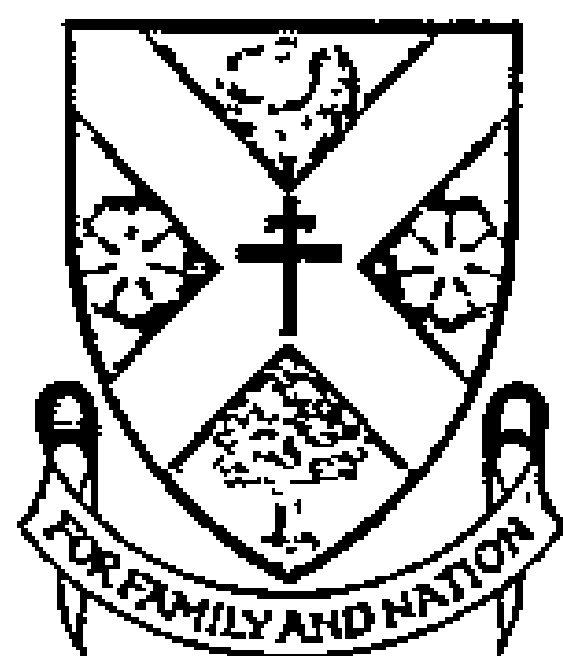
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DAVID THOMSON, THE SCOTTISH FOUNDER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE... A GENTLEMAN, AND A SCHOLAR

Part 4

By Genevieve Cora Fraser, Massachusetts, USA

Researching history is like holding a kaleidoscope to your eye. As each shard of evidence falls into view, colorful designs shift into increasingly complex patterns. And so it has been in my search for the identity of David Thomson, adventurer, scholar, traveler, colonizer, naturalist, philosopher and Scottish gentleman.

On October 16, 1622, Thomson received a 6000-acre grant for Piscataqua (New Hampshire) from the Council for New England. Two months later, he was named Governor and attorney, on behalf of the Council, for the Massachusetts territory granted to Robert Gorges, son of Sir Ferdinando Gorges. The document was signed by Thomas Howard, the Earl of Arundel; James Hamilton, the Marquise of Hamilton; and Ludovick Stuart, the Duke of Lennox, president of the Council for New England.¹

Lennox was no ordinary figure; he was James' closest relation at court from his father's side. According to Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonston, "when King James went to Denmark in 1589, (to pick up his bride Anne, the daughter of the King of Denmark) he not only appointed Ludovick Duke of Lennox viceroy of Scotland during his absence, but also named him heir to the crown of Scotland in case he himself died in that voyage, as being then the next lawful heir to the crown."²

Since the publication of my last article in 2000, I have visited archival repositories in England, Scotland and America. I've searched records in the Public Records Office at Kew Garden, where the 1622 Massachusetts grant is located; the British Library in London, where I accessed Sir Francis Bacon's letter-book; and the National Archives of Scotland in Edinburgh, where genealogical and other important documents can be found. On a visit to the Duke of Norfolk's library at Arundel Castle in West Sussex, I viewed Thomson's letter to the Earl of Arundel first hand. And with my Scots cousin, Liz Farquhar at the wheel, we traveled to Corstorphine and Ratho in Mid-Lothian, where David Thomson once lived with his father, Reverend Richard Thomson.

Ironically, back in America after an extensive search in the UK, I located the original Minute Book of the Council for New England records from 1622 to 1623. It is housed in Worcester, Massachusetts at the American Antiquarian Society (AAS) — not far from my home. Clarence S. Brigham states (1912) in *The Records of the Council for New England*, 'At the top of the first inside page, which is otherwise blank, is written "The briefe orders att several meetings of the Councell of New-England in America."³ Though the hand-written script throughout the manuscript does not match that of David Thomson, based on a careful examination of both handwriting samples, I believe the writing on the top of the first page, which describes the contents as "The briefe orders...", is Thomson's. Perhaps he was labeling the Minute Book, which would join other books in a charter chest purchased to store Council records. Charles Deane corroborates David's access to the manuscript in the 1875 *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, concerning the *Records of the Council for New England*.

That some books were kept by the company, besides the mere minutes of proceedings is evident. An entry in the records of the 12th July 1622 reads,

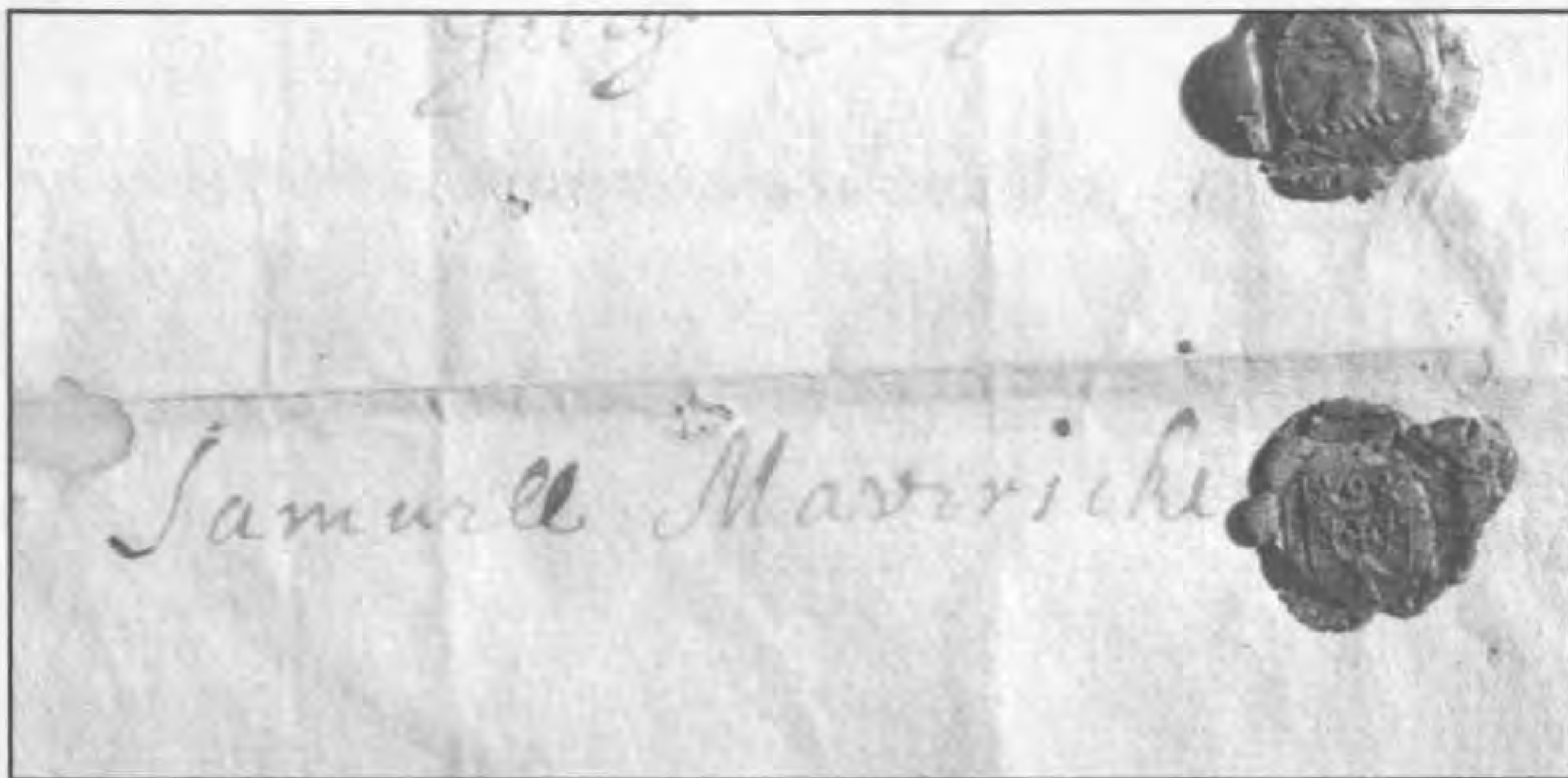
"To consider of a place for our meetings, and staying for the clerk, and for a chest for our books." February 25th, 1622-23, "It is ordered that the clerk call upon Mr. Collingwood for the copy of Sir John Bruce's patent." And this memorandum of the clerk follows, "Mr. Collingwood answered me that he hath delivered all the books to Sir F. Gorges and to Mr. Thompson." Collingwood was formerly clerk to the Council, and now was in the service of the Virginia Company, in the same capacity.⁴

Another interesting feature concerns watermarks in the Minute Book. I examined these with Thomas Knoles, the American Antiquarian Society Curator of Manuscripts. Upon further examination, Knoles wrote in an E-mail that a watermark in the Minute Book manuscript, which he describes as a one handled pot, is similar to a watermark in a copy of the printed 1622 text, "A briefe relation of the discovery and plantation of Nevv England."⁵ Under the date of "Sat last of May 1622. Whitehall," the Minute Book records Lennox, Arundel, Lord Gorges, Mansell, F. Gorges, S. Argall, and Barnabe Gouche as present and states, "the allowance for the printing of the book is referred to the Earl of Arundel."⁶ The 1622 "A briefe relation of the discovery and plantation of Nevv England" I suspect is the book Arundel was authorized to print on behalf of the Council for New England. This watermark also resembles one I noticed embedded in the parchment of the 1625 Thomson letter to Thomas Howard, the Earl of Arundel, housed at Arundel Castle. Each of the three documents, the Minute Book, a "briefe relation" and the 1625 letter of Thomson to Arundel contain similar watermarks. I suspect the parchment paper Thomson used to write the Earl of Arundel while in New England may have been supplied from Arundel's own stock.

Clarence Brigham writes of the one-handed pot found in the Minute Book as a ewer. "The watermark in the paper is a small ewer, with five trefoils at the top, the middle one of the five being larger than the rest. In the middle of the volume, however, is another watermark - an ewer of the same size, but of different shape and design, and with a single trefoil and upturned crescent at the top." In a footnote, Brigham states, "The manuscript Virginia Court Book of 1622-1623, in the Library of Congress, has this latter watermark in some of its pages."⁷ This footnote supports the insight Charles Dean puts forward in suggesting ties between the Council for New England and the Virginia Company.

While visiting the National Library of Scotland, I accessed two letters signed by "Ludvick Stuart, the Duke of Lenox, Great Admirall." The manuscript dated May 159_? included at the top, a seal shaped like a spiny flounder. Whereas the letter, dated Jan 1620, had a seal with a one handled ewer (pot) with five trefoils, and a crescent emerging from the center trefoil. The Lenox watermark is closest in appearance to the watermark described by Brigham as appearing in the middle of the Minutes book of the Council as well as the Virginia Company records.

Another archival clue to the identity of Thomson is found in the Boston Athenaeum in Boston, Massachusetts which houses a manuscript the noted American scholar and former librarian at the Athenaeum, Charles Knowles Bolton, identified as belonging to the arms of Thomson: [Arg] a stag's head cabossed, the horns enclosing a cross moline slipped [gu]. On a chief [az] a crescent bet 2 pierced mullets.⁸ The seal follows "the signature of Samuel Mavericke on a letter from the Comm's bounds, March 11, 1664,¹ to Gov. of Plymouth," which would be about 36 years following Thomson's death.⁹ As has been mentioned in previous articles, Maverick, who was Thomson's close friend in his colonial enterprises, married Thomson's widow, Amias Cole Thomson. During the Restoration, King Charles II appointed Samuel Maverick a Royal Commissioner for the New England Colonies. At that time in American history, a man who married a widow might on certain occasions use the seal of his wife's deceased husband. According to Scotland's Lord Lyon records, heraldic seals associated with Thomsons of Edinburg frequently use a stag's head cabossed as the central image



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associated with the coat of arms. Whereas, the *Heraldic Journal Recording the Armorial Bearings and Genealogies of American Families* reports under item #16, "Samuel Mavericke...uses two armorial seals, one being three battle-axes, the other a cross couped compony, between four mullets, and bearing one on the fess point."¹⁰ In other words, Maverick's alternately used a decorative cross with six pointed stars between each axis arm, with a star in the middle of the cross. (Might this have been associated with an esoteric society, such as the Rosecrucians or Freemasonry?)

Upon request, the Boston Atheneum authorized that a photograph be taken of the 1664 manuscript bearing the Thomson seal. The seal itself is about the size of a small coin. But with the photo magnified, a different identification appears. The cross between the stag's antlers is a cross patte fitche. The crescent, upon closer examination, is not a crescent but an ouroboros, a snake eating it's own tail, associated with alchemy. There are six tines per antler and a dot directly in the center of the forehead, possibly representing the sixth chakra, the inner eye, one of the seven centers of spiritual energy in the human body according to yoga. The cross patte is associated with the Knights Templar and early Freemasonry, and with the cross patte fitche between the antlers, the Kirk at Canongate and Holyrood. Since the time of King David of Scotland, the Kirk at Corstorphine was affiliated with the Canongate. Reverend Richard Thomson, David's father, was affiliated with the Collegiate Kirk at Corstorphine. The kaleidoscope journey through discovery after discovery has sustained and intensified my belief that David Thomson, said to be a descendent of both Alexander, the Earl of Mar and Sir John Forrester of Corstorphine, is one and the same David Thomson, New England colonizer.

One point that needs further investigation involves the affluence that Rev. Richard Thomson enjoyed as a member of the clergy. As early as 1597, Rev. Thomson drew his stipend from an extraordinary number of parishes, several of which came under Royal patronage. Early in his career, his salary was approximately £294 a year plus "bere and meal." A letter, written in French by Mary, Queen of Scots, on September 28, 1584 contains an intriguing reference to a Thomson. It is addressed to her emissary, Monsieur Fontenay, the brother of the French Secretary. The reference may in fact be to Rev. Richard Thomson's father, Bernard (named after Bernard Stuart, the "Flower of Chivalry" who died in Corstorphine castle in 1508). If so, it suggests that from the start, Rev. Thomson enjoyed

Royal preference. The Queen also comments on Lennox, a man clearly involved in David Thomson's life, as was Maitland in his father's. At this point in her troubles, the Queen was imprisoned at Wingfield Manor by the infamous Bess of Hardwick's 4th husband, George Talbot, the 4th Earl of Shrewbury. The Earl was her kindest jailor, whose wife Bess, perhaps unfairly, accused him of infidelity with the imprisoned Queen. It is said he burst into tears at her execution. He was also the grandfather of Altheia Talbot, wife of Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel:¹¹

Mary Queen of Scots to Fontenay

"Fontenay. As being about to depart from here to Tutbury, I may not otherwise have the leisure for writing privately of the things herein to tell those whom they concern, I send you this memoir on leaving, in execution of which I charge you to apply yourself in my name, and to do as much as you can for the good of my service and the contentment of those whom it can concern.

First, recommend on my part to my son, with all the favorable intercession that you can, the young Duke of Lennox, that he may be preserved in all the goods of his late father and others with which since he could have been gratified.

Moreover, to make my said son intervene with regard to my cousin the Earl of Huntley, and to interpose my recommendation for the accomplishment of the marriage between the said earl and the said Duke of Lennox's younger sister."

"....And as to the young Duke of Lennox's journey out of the country and his marriage with Arbella, these are things that do not require haste, and therefore I will refrain for this time from making a reply thereto.... Continue in the course that I have commanded you to take in favor of the Hamiltons, and especially of my Lord Claud, so that my son, separating them from the rest of the exciles seeking assistance here, may assure himself of them in the future, the said Lord Claud being very capable and very sincere in intention to do him service; for which I reply to him myself, and therefore let him retain him in Scotland if possible and return him his possessions...."

"Deliver to Secretary Maitland the packet for him enclosed, in which are letters, articles, and commissions for the association. Which commission I have left to the Secretary to fulfil, as among all others he will be the best advised. But I desire that the Earl of Huntly, Maitland, and Robert Melville may be named therein, and you also, especially if my son is going shortly to perform my intention in that, you will resolve to make a longer sojourn near him.

Excuse me to Robert Melville, because he has been put on one side, my state being such that I can not give him any wages, my dower being reduced to so little that I have been constrained this year to borrow the wages of my officers not actually serving for my maintenance here, and to pay the debts that I have here.

*I have granted to one of Thomson's sons a prebend, not being able at present to do more for him."*¹²

Queen Mary's Secretary in 1584 was John, the 1st Baron Maitland of Thirlstane, the son of William Maitland who had been her secretary as well as her mother's, Mary of Guise. The Maitlands held Thirlestane in mortgage from 1450 to 1586 to the Forresters of Corstorphine. Sir Alexander Forrester had obtained the property in 1450 from his cousin, William 8th Earl of Douglas.¹³ William Maitland was valiantly loyal to Mary, Queen of Scots, and held Edinburgh Castle, the last Marian stronghold, until its fall in 1573. He escaped hanging by dying in Leith prison, possibly by suicide. John his son, was likewise imprisoned, regaining power as Privy Councillor in 1583, Secretary in 1587, and Lord Chancellor in 1587, the year of Mary, Queen of Scot's execution.¹⁴

In Part 2 of this series, I wrote that John, Lord Thirlestane was the patron of Stobo parish from which the Reverend drew a stipend that was challenged in 1603, but resolved in his favor. In addition, the King granted to Ludovic Duke of Lennox the lands belonging to the Archbishopric of Glasgow, including Stobo. This means that Lennox would also have served as a patron to David's father.

The year following the Queen's execution, Richard Thomson was presented to the vicarage principal and pensionary at Ratho, a village on the outskirts of Edinburgh, on 14th January 1588, as recorded by the Register of the Privy Seal. That he would have been presented to the parish by in this manner is another indication of Royal patronage.

*"Ane presentatioun maid to Ritchard Thomesoun minister at Ratho presentand him to ...e vicarage principall of the p(ar)och Kirk of Ratho and vicarage pensionarie of ...e samen lyand within the Sheriffdome of Edinburgh with all and sundrie teynd teynd schevis fruittis rentis proffittis emolumentis and dewiteis of ...e said vicarage principall of Ratho and vicarage pensionarie of ...e samen with mansis gleibis and kirkland apperteinyng ...(air)unto now vacand lyik as it hes vackait be ...e space of ten zeiris bygane be deceis of umquyle sir James Bischope last viccare and possesser ...airof and ...airthrow perteyning to our sovarane lordis presentatioun and dispositioun as direct to ...e comissionare of Lawthiane requyring him to try and exaiminat ...e doctrine literature and coversatioun of ...e said Ritchard Thomesoun minister within the kirk of God to ressaif and admit him to the said vicarage principall of Ratho and pensionarie of ...e samen and authorize him with testimonial ...(air)upoun in competent and dew form at our Halieruidhouse the xxiiij day of Januarie the zeir of God jajvc fourescoir aucht zeiris."*¹⁵ Transcribed by Frank Bigwood.

In subsequent appointments, it is recorded that Thomson was presented to the Prebend of Half Byres, in the College Kirk of Corstorphine and later to Castleton by King James VI. It is clear from the outset that his appointment is authorized "at our Halieruidhouse" aka Holyroodhouse, site of the Palace and Chapel Royal which stands on your left as you enter the Canongate. The legend of Halieruidhouse involves King David I who was hunting on the Feast Day of the Holy Cross. A stag began to charge, and succeeded in unhorsing him, but the King was delivered from certain death by the sudden appearance of the Holy Cross between its antlers. Which is why, to this day, a cross patte between a stag's antlers is the heraldic arms of the Kirk at Canongate, a symbol also found on David Thomson's arms in America.¹⁶

The Ratho church is described as one of the loveliest places of worship for many miles around. A. Ian Dunlap states in his article, "The Kirks of Edinburgh" that it is Norman in origin though much changed since the 13th century. "At the door there is embedded in the wall a stone bearing an emblem of the Knights Templar." Two communion cups, a laver and basin given by Richard, Lord Maitland in the later half of the 17th century, which had been removed by Episcopalian heritors, were returned. In the west wing are vaults of the Lauderdale family.¹⁷ The Earls of Lauderdale are descended from Maitlands, the barons of Thirlestane whose property was mortgaged to the Forresters of Corsorphine.¹⁸

An inventory of monuments in Mid-Lothian conducted by the Historical Monuments Commission noted that the Ratho parish church, which dates from the 12th century and is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, lies within the courtyard to the village.

*"To the south of the church is preserved a tombstone, 4 feet 8 inches long, tapering in width from 10 1/4 inches to 7 inches, with a mean thickness of 9 3/4 inches. On the upper surface a margin is incised, and within this a circle encloses a cross patty. Below the cross is a sword with a tapering blade, incised midrib, straight quillons and bulbous pommel. The stone dates from about the 14th century."*¹⁹

According to the *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, “By mandate of 15th June 1444 Pope Eugenius IV, at the instance of Sir John Forrester of Corstorphine, Kt., annexed the rectory and vicarage of the church of Ratho to the Collegiate Church of Corstorphine.” However, the parishioners had felt that in so doing the “great and populous parish had been much weakened and neglected.” Five years later, the pope separated the parish from Corstorphine and erected the parish church into another vicarage and made provisions of it “to Thomas de Lauder, priest of the Diocese of Saint Andrews, of a race of barons, by unmarried knight and an unmarried woman.”²⁰

Despite the separation of Ratho from Corstorphine, Sir John Forrester may have been keeping his hand in the parish affairs through the marriage of his daughter Elizabeth Forrester to Sir Alexander Lauder of Halton, possibly a relation of the priest Thomas de Lauder. Sir Alexander Lauder held the charter of the lands of Westhall and North Raw in the barony of Ratho.

Sir John Forrester was married to Jean St. Clair, whose father Henry, the Earl of Orkney is associated with the Knights Templar and possible travels to North America, one hundred years prior to Columbus’ famous voyage. (Following Jean Sinclair’s death, Sir John Forrester married Marion Stewart, daughter of Sir Walter Stewart of Garlies, and relict of Sir John Stewart of Jedworth.) Jean Sinclair’s nephew was Sir William Sinclair, Admiral of Scotland, and builder of the “mystical chapel” of Rosslyn in Roslin. Not only are the Sinclairs associated with the Templars, they were hereditary Grand Masters of the Craftmasons and Freemasons. It is believed that at the time of the suppression of the Knights Templar in Europe, some of the Templar treasure of Jerusalem was taken to the vaults of the Sinclair Castle in Roslin. Sir William’s wife was the widow of the progenitor of the Thomson of Corstorphine line, Sir Thomas Stewart, son of Alexander, Earl of Mar.

Sometimes children born to Scottish nobility outside of clerically blessed wedlock became knights in service to the King. Others entered the clergy as revealed in the following edit issued on 22 October 1414, which is found in the papal letters to Scotland by Benedict XIII of Avignon (1394-1419). This references another of the Earl of Mar’s sons, Robert Stewart who in 1419 is described as “...a student in arts, precentor of Moray...after having been dispensed by apostolic authority, notwithstanding defect of birth as the son of an unmarried man, Alexander Earl of Mar and Garrioch, and of an unmarried woman...” Of course, in this instance, the purpose of the language may simply have been to allow Robert to be promoted to holy orders and obtain possession of “prebend and presentorship of the said church.” In his case, the dispensation carried an additional benefit, “total fruits of L100 of old sterling.”²¹

A further example involves another of the Earl of Mar’s relations:

Reg. Avan 347, 291v-292

To Thomas Stewart, clerk, St. Andrews diocese. Indult for Thomas, related in the second degree of consanguinity to James, King of Scots, and kinsman of both Robert, duke of Albany, governor of Scotland, and Alexander, earl of Mar, admiral of Scotland, recently dispensed of his defect of birth as the son of a deacon and an unmarried woman to be promoted to all holy orders and to hold one, two or three benefices, now to hold as many different kinds of benefices as he wishes with power of exchange as often as he pleases. St. Mathews, Tortosa diocese.”²²

However, the phrase “a race of barons, by an unmarried knight and unmarried woman.” is language reminiscent of a life style associated with the Knights Templars. These were warrior “monks” who owed their allegiance to the King rather than to the pope, and at times gave into temptations of the flesh, perhaps deliberately — to perpetuate this special “race.” The term implies that they were of a class with unique social and cultural values, and possibly a unique role to play in the fabric of society. Clearly, one of the questions I am raising has to do with who these knights were,

and might the Earl of Mar and his kin have fit this lifestyle, perhaps as associates of the order?

It appears that the Thomsons of Corstorphine qualify as being firmly rooted in a race of barons, by an unmarried knight and an unmarried woman. Alexander Stewart, the Earl of Mar was the eldest “natural” son of Prince Alexander Stewart, the Wolf of Badenock and his mistress the Lady Mariota Athyn, who was considered to be a great beauty. The “Wolf” aka the earl of Buchan and Ross, the 3rd son of Robert II, was married for reasons of state to Euphemia, the Countess of Ross, but left no issue by her. Ironically, Prince Alexander’s legitimacy historically has also been called into question because of “grey areas” surrounding the youthful marriage of Robert II with his Queen consort and relation, Elizabeth Mure. In 1390, Prince Alexander burned down the church at Forres and the Cathedral at Elgin because the Church excommunicated him for refusing their demand, that he renounce and abandon the mother of his five sons and “adhere” to her who was his wife in name only.²³

In an article on “The Hospitallers of Scotland”, the author, John Edwards states that “The Knights of s. John of Jerusalem, and their brethran the Templars, were popular orders in their early history, and as fighting forces of trained warriors their services during the Crusades and in support of the Latin kingdom of Jerusalem are recognized as valuable, and would have been still more so but for the jealousy and frequent quarrels between them.” About 1150 the Hospitallers had been introduced into Scotland, and had established their preceptory at Torphichen, with the earliest charter record dating to 1160. However, the original possessions of the Templars, “which were given over to the Hospitallers after the suppression of the former in 1312, were of greater value in Scotland than those of the Hospitallers themselves.”²⁴ The Order, according to Edwards, “possessed real estate, ecclesiastical and civil, all over Scotland, including churches, teinds, annual rents and other heritable subjects, and that these carried with them the feudal rights and privileges of a lord of a barony.”²⁵

Based on a close examination of documents, Edwards explains that there was “an attempt to reduce administration of the affairs of the Hospitallers in Scotland in proper order and thus to secure two results, - first, the due performance of the religious services and duties attached to the churches of the knights and those others of which they were patrons, and second, the regular payment of the revenue as stipulated to headquarters for behalf of the order in the East. Edwards estimates that a rental of £5400 were drawn by the order from the estates in Scotland, after providing maintenance for three administrating brethren and the expenses of the preceptories and churches.”²⁶

Edwards makes note that in 1423 “Friar Alexander de Lychtone Knight prior of Torphikyn and guardian and governor of all the lands of Saint John of Jerusalem within the realm of Scotland,” granted a charter confirming “a mortification of certain lands in the regality of Garioch, for the purpose of founding a chaplinary at the altar of S. Mary the Virgin, situated in the south choir of the Church of Aberdeen. Bishop Henry, *Alexander Stewart, Earl of Mar and Garioch, ‘the hero of Harlaw,’ and his son Thomas Stewart, Lord of ‘B’onach’ [Badenoch] are the three first witnesses.*”²⁷ This evidence creates a clear link, if only by association, between the Earl of Mar and his son, Sir Thomas to the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem and possibly to the Knights Templars.

Though married twice “without issue,” as an unmarried knight, Alexander, Earl of Mar had at least three sons, the Thomson ancestor Sir Thomas, and his brothers Robert and Sir John Stewart, plus a daughter, Janet who married Lachlan McLean of Dowart.²⁸ On May 26 1426 he obtained a charter from King James I granting the Earldom of Mar and Lordship of Garioch to himself and his son, Sir Thomas, with reversions to the King and his heirs. The reversion to the King would occur if Sir Thomas failed to produce a legitimate heir. Sir Thomas’ marriage to Elizabeth Douglas, the daughter of Princess Margaret (daughter of King Robert III) and widow of John Stewart, Earl of Buchan proved childless. As was mentioned previously, following Sir Thomas’ death she married William

Sinclair, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, the builder of the Chapel of Rosslyn and nephew of Jean St. Clair and Sir John Forrester of Corstorphine.

I have wondered if Elizabeth Douglas was befriended by Jean Sinclair during the period of her marriage to Sir Thomas Stewart, which may be how she came to know Jean's nephew William, Elizabeth's third husband. As will be illustrated later, Sir Thomas and his father, the Earl of Mar were closely associated with the Forresters. To further inquire into the matter, during my visit to Scotland in March 2002, I dropped by the Office of the Lord Lyon to see if I could locate additional clues. To this end I reviewed the pedigree chart of Thomson of Corstorphine as authored by Theodore Radford Thomson. TR Thomson joined the Society of Genealogists in London in 1923. At the time of his death in 1982, the Society's "Genealogist Magazine" noted that Thomson M.A., M.D., F.S.A., F.R. Hist. S., was formerly Honorary Librarian of the Society and author of the well-known "*Catalogue of British Family Histories*," along with the "*History of the Family of Thomsons of Corstorphine*."²⁹

After a close examination of the pedigree chart, everything matched the information I had already obtained, except for one notation. At the top of the front page was the following: "T.R. Thomson's Petition for a grant of Arms of Alexander Thomson agent of Sir Robert Stewart, Baron of Tillicoultry 1923." The 1923 referenced the date of TR Thomson's petition, but when was Alexander Thomson an agent to Sir Robert Stewart of Tillicoultry? I was further struck by an entry in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland A.D. 1424-1513, which references Elizabeth Douglas and her first husband, John Stewart, Earl of Buchan who were married in 1413. This is one and the same Elizabeth Douglas who married as her second husband, Sir Thomas Stewart, Knight, son of the Earl of Mar, sometime after John Stewart's death in 1424 at the Battle of Verneuil, and later Sir William Sinclair of Roslin.

[20 Jac. I. A.D. 1425-26]

37. *Apud Edinburgh, 25 Feb.*

REX confirmavit cartam patru sui quond.

Roberti ducis Albanie, &c., gubernatoorias Scotia, -

*[qua concessit quond. JOHANNI STEWART comiti Buchanie filio suo, et ELIZABETH, filia Arch. com. de Douglas D. Galwydie et Vallis Anandie, nepti regis sponse dicti Joh., - terras baronie de Tillicultre, vic. de Clacmannane:.... Roberto Stewart filio dicti gubern. fratri germano dicti Joh.,....- Apud Inverkethyne, Nov. 5, 1413, anno gubern. 8]*³⁰

John Stewart, the Earl of Buchan was the Baron of Tillicoultry. Following his death, his brother Robert Stewart would have become the Baron of Tillicoultry. Might this be the Robert Stewart for whom Alexander Thomson was an agent, or is the reference to another time, another era? Alexander Stewart who was born in Corstorphine about 1460 is said to be the grandson of Sir Thomas Stewart. Alexander married Margaret Forrester, great-grandchild of Sir John Forrester and Jean Sinclair. Might this Alexander Thomson have been the Baron of Tillicoultry's agent? If so, why?? Why would Alexander of Corstorphine have traveled to Tillicoultry unless there was a connection? Might Elizabeth have raised Alexander as a stepchild? There is also the possibility that Sir Thomas "comforted" his cousin Elizabeth during her husband's absence in France, and their natural child was the "son of Thomas" aka Thomson. The title, Earl of Mar, according to the King's edict would only descend to a legitimate heir of Sir Thomas, not a natural one, as was the custom in this Stewart race of Barons of an unmarried knight and his lady. Whatever the case may be, Sir Thomas Stewart's child was disqualified from the title, lands and honors, which left it open for the Erskines to covet.

Following the deaths of Alexander, the Earl of Mar and his son, Thomas, Lord Erskine obtained a brieve of inquest claiming he was the rightful heir to the title of Mar. On 5 November 1457 with "John, Lord Lindessay of Byris, Justiciary for parts north of the Forth" in attendance at "the Tolbooth

of Abirdene, at a justiceavie held there in the presence of James (II), King of Scots, and of the assembled prelates, magnates, barons, nobles and freeholders", they were lawfully summoned "to answer concerning the unjust decision and response on a brieve of inquest from Chancery obtained by the late Robert, Lord Erskin and their unlawful retour to said inquest regarding half the lands of the Earldom of Mar within the sherifffdom of Abirdene, Thomas, Lord Erskin also appearing for his interest..." After listing the names of a dozen lords and Earls present, the document continues ...

"...that they had no knowledge of the late Isabella, Countess of Mar, or the degree in which Robert Lord Erskine was related to her, that Sir Alex (Forbes) sheriff depute of Aberdeen served the brieve and was believed to hold the lands of Strathdee of the said Lord Erskine as the price of his support and serving of the brieve and that the artful misrepresentations of John Haddington and other forespeakers for the said Lord, had been misled that they knew that after the death of Alexander, the Earl of Mar, the late King and afterward the present King took possession of the said Earldom and received the rents and profits thereof That Thomas Stewart (Earl) of Garviach died vest and seised as of fee in said Earldom of Mar and that his widow, Elizabeth Countess of Buchane held a third of said Earldom after his death, that the said Walter Berclay was present with the deceased Alexander Lord Gordon and was his servitor at that time when he the said Lord Gordon personally delivered sasine of the said Earldom to the said Thomas Stewart and was on the assise when his said widow was served to the third part of the lands of the said Earldom..."

"...the King answered that the late Lord Erskine did not die vest and seised in said lands...it was beyond doubt that the King was in possession of said lands in his own right and that the said Lord Erskine was not and could not be heir to said lands: ...Moreover the said Robert, Lord Erskine was not related in any degree of consanguinity to the said Isabell, Countess of Mar... Thereupon the said Lord Erskine produced in answer a Charter of the said Isabella, which being heard and understood the Chancellor produced on the part of the King a Charter of Taillie to the said Alexander, Earl of Mar her husband and the heirs lawfully procreated of his body and declared the King to be the true heir to the said Alexander and lawful possessor of the lands, by reason of the bastardry of (the said Thomas Stewart): All which things being heard the assise after long consultation and mature deliberation by themselves gave judgement according to the tenor of the writ of retour affixed to these present."³¹

NOTE: It would appear from the brieve that Alexander, the Earl of Mar predeceased his son, Sir Thomas; whereas, most histories/genealogies pertaining to the ancient Earls of Mar state that Sir Thomas predeceased his father Alexander, the Earl of Mar.

Nearly a century later, in 1542, upon the death of King James V, young Queen Mary was committed to the care of Lord John Erskine who rendered her safely out of Scotland to France, despite King Henry VIII's attempts to get the young Queen out of his hands. For this and other services, Mary, Queen of Scots by an act ratified by parliament in 1563 finally granted Erskine's claim to the title of Earl of Mar, but she granted him a new title, not the ancient one. Later, the Queen entrusted the young prince, afterwards James VI to his care. As Earl of Mar, Erskine was elected Regent of Scotland in 1571, during the minority of the young king.³²

The arms of Alexander Stewart, the Earl of Mar is striking if not bizarre. In "Notes on a Group of Stewart Arms", The Stewart Vol. IV the unnamed author states, "Above the shield and strapped

to it, is a great helm and tassled capeline, and thereon a coronet out of which rises the crest, two demi-serpents entwined, their heads (which have large teeth and eyes) looking before and behind.... The shield is couche, and bears the following arms: - Quarterly, 1st and 4th, a fess chequy between three open crowns; 2nd and 3rd, a bend between six cross crosslets fitchee (Mar).” The author further notes, “The bend and cross crosslets are well known arms of Mar, but what family of Stewarts bore “a fess chequy “between three crowns” or similar arms?”³³

There is also a Mar seal in Laing’s “Catalogue of Ancient Scottish Seals”, Vol. I., No. 796, and Plate XIII. Fig. 4.³⁴ However, in the seal, the two serpents are gracefully entwined erect, the base curve creating an upside-down heart shape. (In the “arms” of Mar, the serpents are tightly interwoven and bulging at each bend.) The serpents in the seal are somewhat similar to the caduceus associated with Hermes (Mercury), except in the seal of Mar, the serpents are entwined without benefit of a staff. Serpents were commonly used as symbols of alchemy and/or wisdom, and in the case of the caduceus, medicine.

In “Rosslyn: Guardians of the Secrets of the Holy Grail,” the authors Tim Wallace-Murphy and Marilyn Hopkins offer additional insight. They describe seven sacred sites that “lie under the beneficent royal arch of the Milky Way.” According to the authors, there was a complex web of interconnecting routes for the pilgrimage that “began to gain immense popularity during the reign of Charlemagne (768-814 A.D.).” The main guide for the “intending pilgrims was published in the twelfth century as the Codex Callextinus.” Most of the sites of the configuration were on different routes to Compostela...Amiens, Paris, Chartes, Orleans, Toulouse.... and later “insightful pilgrims journeyed from Compostela to Rosslyn.”³⁵

“According to the mystical writer Francois Cali, if one passes from Chartes to Amiens...one has made an almost imperceptible transition ‘from the love of God to the love of Wisdom... This cathedral is a symphonic blend of space, stone and light, deliberately designed and constructed to celebrate the gnostic principle of Sophia or sacred wisdom and to house its most precious relic, the severed head of John the Baptist....’³⁶ As evidence of the importance of the relic to the cathedral, the bulk of the outer wall of the choir is decorated with superbly sculptured scenes, in bas-relief, of the life and death of John the Baptist, including one where the top of his severed head is being pierced by a knife in a very similar manner to the piercing of the of the skull of James the Just at Compostela.”³⁷ The authors of *Rosslyn*, continue, “It was at Amiens that the gnostics on the alchemical pilgrimage sought to awaken their brow chakra.”³⁸

In reading these passages, I can’t help but think of David Thomson’s seal. The stag’s head is cabossed as if severed, between the antlers a cross patte fitchee, that is, the cross with it’s tapered end serves as a knife stuck into the skull of the stag, an image of how the skulls of John the Baptist and James the Just might have become pierced. And with the Thomson seal, an ouroboros, a snake eating it’s own tail, the ancient symbol for alchemy is suspended in chief above the cross and skull. On either side of the ouroboros is a five-pointed star. At Amiens, “the rose window in the north transept has an unusual and intriguing design based on the five pointed star,” Within the Thomson arms, there are six tines per antler and a dot directly in the center of the forehead, possibly representing the sixth chakra, the inner eye. In counter-point, the cathedral at Amiens is the sixth on the pilgrimage to Rosslyn, where the roof is “adorned with a profusion of five-pointed stars.”³⁹

The chapel at Rosslyn was founded by Sir William St. Clair, third and last St. Clair Earl of Orkney, who lived in the middle of the fifteenth century. The St. Clairs, “in the person of Henri de St. Clair of Roslin, were involved in the first crusade which led, ultimately, to the capture of Jerusalem and the formation of the Knights Templar. Their name also occurs among those visited by the founders of that mysterious order immediately after their return to Europe, when the St. Clairs of

Roslin granted them the land on which they built their headquarters in Scotland at Ballantrodoch, later renamed Temple.⁴⁰

The commercial interests of the Knights Templars were “impressive and varied. Neither just simple soldiers nor idle aristocracy, these knights were experts in mining, quarrying, building, viniculture, in every climatic zone of Europe and the Holy Lands.” It is alleged, they conducted trade with Greenland, the North Atlantic mainland and Mexico.⁴¹ Many centuries later, David Thomson writing to the Earl of Arundel displays his knowledge of mining, quarrying, building, and viniculture. Thomson’s peers in New England refer to him as a scholar and traveler and he writes to Arundel of the customs and manners of Europe in contrast to the Southern colonies in America. And as did the Knights Templars before him, Thomson charts a course for further travels in North America. “Neither is it farr in likelihood from the place I dwell in, over to the river of Canada; for the great lacke which is in the frenche mapps called lac de Champlaine is but a daye and a halfe journeying from my house.” (Thomson letter 1625)⁴² Approximately four years following Thomson’s death, the Earl of Arundel, according to The Complete peerage is “Said to have been Grand Master of Freemasons 1633-35.”⁴³

To understand the keys to the alchemical (spiritually transforming) pilgrimage, it is necessary to apply “an understanding of the Druidic concept that the seven sacred sites were the earthly equivalent of the seven chakras or energy centres in human beings,” and there are “seven Earth power points arcing across Western Europe from northern Spain to Scotland.”

*“Attaining enlightenment in the Western esoteric tradition involved a form of ritualized mysticism wherein the novice was taught and guided by a Master. These seven chakras were ritually awakened in a predetermined order, from the base upward to the crown. When the powers of spirit and matter combined, the seven chakras acted as a single channel. This energetic power followed a winding path as it moved between the centres. In Eastern schools of philosophy it is described as the rising of the serpent known as Kundalini, which then moves through the other chakras as the student ascends to the higher levels of awareness. It is not surprising that the esoteric symbol associated with the Wouivre, the telluric force recognized by the Druids and the Templars, is the serpent.”*⁴⁴

The authors further suggest that “the Knight was the symbol of the third and warrior degree and knighthood was bestowed for the attainment of it.” Might this be a key to understanding the rising snakes as well as the three crowns in the shield of Alexander, the Earl of Mar? And what of the crowns themselves? Though he was a grandson of a king, Robert II, his birth was not “legitimate” in the eyes of the church and the succession of Kings. However, in the highest degree of initiation, it is believed that the Crown was the royal symbol of the King of the Grail. “This degree gave an insight into the spiritualization of death, which may have explained the ancient Knights Templar’s well-deserved reputation for being fearless in battle.”⁴⁵ Alexander, the Earl of Mar is credited, despite the unscrupulous means by which he attained the title of Mar, as being the greatest man of his time.

Alexander Thomson of Corstorphine fell at Flodden Field 9th September 1513. There are several references in the “Protocol Book of James Young” through the years 1500-1504 concerning an Alexander Thomsoun, the king’s sergeant.⁴⁶ If they are one and the same, it would explain why he fell at Flodden along with King James V and the thirteen Scottish Earls. Alexander of Corstorphine as the grandson of Sir Thomas Stewart, could also be described as belonging to a race of barons of an unmarried knight and an unmarried women. As mentioned earlier, Alexander Thomson married Sir John Forrester’s great grandchild, Margaret Forrester. She was the daughter of John Forrester of Niddry and Elizabeth de Moravia. The records repeatedly show an association between Sir John

Forrester, Alexander, the Earl of Mar and his son Sir Thomas. For example, Sir John's daughter Janet married Robert, the second Lord Maxwell, as is evidenced by an entry in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland under date of 1424, which also names her father, Sir John Forrester, Alexander the Earl of Mar and his son Sir Thomas Stewart.

15. *Apud Edinburgh, 4 Feb*

*REX confirmavit cartam Thome de Summyrvile dom. de Carnwithe, - [qua concessit ROBERTO DE MAXWEL, filio et heredi D. Herberti de Maxwel militis dom. de Carlaverok, et JONETE filia D. Joh. Forestare dom. Corstorfyne.... TENEND. dictis Roberto et Jonete et eorum diutius viventi ac heredibus eorum masculis inter ipsos legitime procreatis....: - TEST: (in presentia regis) Walt. com. Adtholie, Alex. com. de Mar et Garvyach, Hen. com. de Orcadia, Jac. de Douglas dom. de Balvani, D. Tho. Senescalli filio com. de Mar, Alex de Levyingstoun et de Calentare: Apud Edinburgh, Jan. 13, 1424]*⁴⁶

According to the Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland (as reported in *A History of Ratho*), in 1315 "the Barony and patronage of Ratho were with much other property granted by Robert I to the Steward of Scotland as the dowry of the Princess Marjory and, on the occasion of Robert II to the throne in 1371, they became the property of the King's eldest son, James the Stewart, as Prince of Scotland, for whom in 1404 they and other estates were erected into a principality with regal jurisdiction."⁴⁷ In 1596, eight years after presentation to the vicarage principal and pensionary at Ratho, James VI presented Reverend Richard Thomson to the Prebend of Half Byres, in the College Kirk of Corstorphine, "having Gogar also in his charge." The following year the Register of Assignment and Modification of Stipends states:

*"Richard Thomson Minister his stipend third of ye aucht p[re]bendareis of Corstorphin lxxxvj lib the vicarage of Ratho x lib third of ye meill of ye sangsters of Corstorphin iiij bolls meill out of ye provestat of Corstorphin xxvij lib xjs id 1/2d out of ye third of Kelso x bolls beir i chalder iiij bolls meill out of the third of ye personage of Stobo x bolls meill third of ye parsonage of Stobo Askirk xl lib third of ye personage of Kilbocho xxvij lib xiijs iiijd third of ye vicarage of Stobo xx lib the alterage of Ratho callit Lady Preist viij bolls beir Out of ye third of ye bischoprik of Sanct Andris l*6* lib Summa of out Middiefuddy xxx lib Kenydoquhey xxiiij lib, Kincapill xij lib, Bonytoun vij lib vjs viijd, Laderny viij lib, Kembak and Kinnaird xx lib"*⁴⁸ Transcribed by Frank Bigwood.

Perhaps I'm over-reaching, but doesn't the "alterage of Ratho callit Lady Preist" seem evocative of the Knights Templars and a special role women might have played in the order?

Sir John Forrester built the Collegiate Church at Corstorphine on Templelands in 1429. The property was initially obtained through a charter to his father, Sir Adam Forstar (Forrester) to the estate of Corstorphine from William More of Abercome on 22nd March 1392, which was probably on the occasion of his marriage.⁴⁹ This charter also extended the lands originally acquired by his father, Sir Adam Forstar in 1376.

"Charter by Rob II confirming charter by William More of Abircorne, knight, to Adam Forster, burgess of Edynburgh, of the dominical lands of Corstofyne. Witness: William, Bishop of St. Andrews; John, Earl of Carryk and Stewart of Scotland, eldest son of the King; William, Earl of Douglas; John of Carryk, Chancellor; James Lyndesay, nephew of the King, and Alex Lyndesay, knights. At Edunburgh, 11 Dec. yr 6th year of his reign." (1376)

Charter held at the public library in Edinburgh.⁵⁰

William More was related to the wife of King Robert II, Elizabeth Mure of Rowallan. A 12th century, gray grave slab, a remnant of a former church site, stands at the Priest's Door. The slab is decorated with a floriated cross and the outline of a sword, typical of a Knights Templar gravestone. On the Priest's Door, the dates 1429 and 1455 are written in Arabic numerals, which are also reminiscent of the Templars. These dates are the earliest known examples of Arabic Numerals in Scotland. The historic purpose of the inscriptions is that 1429 marks the foundation of the collegiate church, 1455 the death of its Founder, Sir John Forrester." The collegiate church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, patron of the Templars.⁵¹

Prior to the construction of the collegiate church, a John Murry is mentioned in an Instrument of Sasine, dated 15 Feb 1424/25 as procurator (attorney) on behalf of Sir John Forrester.

*"...narrating that in the presence of the notary public and witn: underwritting, Alex Napier, sheriff-depute of Edyn -, give sasine of the lands of the barony of Corstorfin in terms of a royal charter to John Murry, procurator for Sir John Forstar of Cor, Knight by delivery of earth, stone and wood. Done at the Castle of Cors - before these witn: Mr. Robert Heriot, rector of Tyri, Gregory Logan, Esquire, Robert Wilsot, William Logan, David Logan, Th Rede, John Thomson of Clerkintoun, John Stob and John Heryson of Corst. - - Notary, John Brown"*⁵²

The sasine, which is located at the public library in Edinburgh, displays an interesting heraldic drawing in the upper left corner of the parchment... a three-tier pedestal pierced by a sword.⁵³ The sword is encased in an ornate rectangle with the hilt above in the shape of a cross pattee fitchee. On both sides of the cross blades is the Roman numeral II.⁵⁴ John Murry is possibly the father or near relation of Elizabeth de Moravia (Murry). He was in all probability from Ogleface in West Lothian. In the "Registrum Magni Sigilli Regum Scotorum," under notation # 5, dated in Edinburgh 10 Jul. 1424, "Joh. de Murrfe de Ogilface" is linked with "Johanni Forstare militi, magistro hospitii regis."⁵⁵

As mentioned earlier, Elizabeth married Sir John's grandson John Forrester of Niddry whose father was Henry, the progenitor of Sir James Forrester of Meadowfield.

Decades prior to the construction of the collegiate church, Sir John's father Sir Adam Forstar (Forrester) had built a chapel near the site of the ancient chapel referenced in the Foundation Charter granted by King David I for the church of the Holy Rood in Edinburgh. Under this charter was the Church of St. Cuthbert and..."to wit Crostorfin with two oxgates and six acres of land..."⁵⁶ Sir Adam's chapel was likewise dedicated to the Templar patron, St. John the Baptist.

Sir Adam Forstar's (Forrester) first wife was Agnes, daughter of John Dundas of Dundas. They were aunt and uncle to Christian Dundas, married to Sir John Sandilands, ancestor of the Lords Torphichen.⁵⁷ Sir Adam was Chamberlain to Queen Annabelle Drummond wife of King Robert III and, in 1403-4, Deputy Chamberlain for the Southern half of the kingdom. He died on October 13th, 1405, which ironically is a date sacred to the Templars. For on Friday, October 13th 1307, the King of France (Philip le Bel) "bedazzled by the vast store of bullion" belonging to the Templars began his persecutions of the order by arresting Jacques de Molay, Grand Master of the Templars, and sixty of his senior knights."⁵⁸

Sir Adam Forrester's third great-granddaughter Marian, daughter of Sir Archibald Forrester of Corstorphine, married Sir James Sandilands. Their son James, "having a learned education, was by Sir Walter of Lindsey, Lord of St. John, recommended to the great master of the knights of Malta, as a person well qualified to be his successor in the preceptory at Torphichen." Following the death of Sir Walter, Sir James Sandilands "was fully invested with the title, power and jurisdiction, as Lord St. John of Jerusalem in Scotland." According to The Peerage of Scotland, A Genealogical and Historical Account, "he was often employed by King James V and Queen Mary. At the time of the

Reformation, he renounced popery, “and resigning the lordship of St. John into the hands of Queen Mary, her majesty was pleased to grant it again, with the preceptory, to him, his heirs and assigns, and erected his lands into the lordship of Torphichen.”⁵⁹

Sir James Sandilands died without issue and his estates and title descended to his great nephew, James Sandilands Of Calder, who in 1574 granted to Sir James Forrester of Corstorphine (the 2nd of Meadowfield) the lands of Templehirst. “As its name indicated Templehirst was part of the lands granted by David I to the Knights Templar whose headquarters were at Balintrade (Temple).”⁶⁰ Sir James Forrester was one of the Commissioners of Lennox and went to the King at Stirling in 1582 to get Frances Esme Stuart, the Duke of Lennox, a safe passage out of Scotland.⁶¹ Sir James’ father, also Sir James Forrester of Corstorphine and Meadowfield was a 1st cousin to Alexander Thomson, Rev. Richard Thomson’s grandfather. Sir James Forrester of Meadowfield was a witness to Alexander’s last will and testament in 1587, and died himself the following year.

On 19 Jan. 1604, Rev. Richard Thomson, now a widower with children, married Agnes Foulis, the widow of Rev. Adam Hepburn. During a trip to the National Archives of Scotland, I was able to identify her through a “Scheme showing the Genealogy of the Hepburnes of Wauchtoun, Smetoun, Bemistoun (?), Kirklandhill, and Humbie.”⁶² The Schemes’ probable author was Alexander Nisbet writing in the early 1700s. Instead of Agnes being “of Ravelston” as suggested by Theodore Radford Thomson in his pedigree chart of the Thomsons of Corstorphine, she is the daughter of Henry Foulis of Colinton and his wife, Margaret Haldanes, daughter of Sir James Haldane of Gleneagles and the Honorable Margaret Erskine. According to a book entitled, “The Haldanes of Gleneagles,” Agnes Foulis’ grandmother was aunt to her namesake, Margaret Erskine, the mistress of King James V who bore him a son, the Regent Moray, half brother to Mary, Queen of the Scots, the man responsible for her downfall.⁶³

In the same “Scheme” Reverend Adam Hepburn is identified as of Kirlandhill. He acquired “Hartside from James Lawson of Humbie in 1586.” Their son, Adam Hepburn of Humbie, S.C.J. (Senator of the College of Justice) married Agnes Foulis, daughter of George Foulis of Ravelston and Janet Bannatyne, according to a further notation.⁶⁴ This Agnes Foulis of Ravelston has been repeatedly confused with her great aunt, Agnes Foulis of Colinton, whose brother James Foulis (married to Agnes Heriot of Lumphoy) was Agnes Foulis of Ravelston’s grandfather! The reason for the confusion is obvious. Adam Hepburn (parson of Stobo) married Agnes Foulis (of Colinton). Their son, Adam Hepburn (of Humbie) married Agnes Foulis (of Ravelston).

The evidence as documented in the “Schemes” is as follows:

Adam Hepburn of Humbie (who was step-brother to David Thomson of Corstorphine) is referenced in the “Scheme of Kirklandhill and Humbie” as “designate son of umquhile Adam Hepburn, Parson of Stobo and also designate ‘servent’ of Thomas, Earl of Melrose” (aka Earl of Haddington, Lord Advocate and Sec’y of State of Scotland).⁶⁵ This is not surprising considering that his mother’s niece Margaret Foulis was married to the Earl. We also learn that Agnes Foulis was alive in 1622 at a time when her stepson David Thomson was serving as agent, attorney, governor and grantee of the Council for New England.

According to the Scheme:

“ *h.*

On 15 January 1595 Agnes Foulis had with her spouse taken from Mr. Patrick Hepburne of Smetoun of 4 acres of land on the south side of Prestonkirk, and said Agnes had assigned her liferent of the said acres to Gilbert Kirkwood goldsmith, burgess of Edin. who on 27 of July 1622, obtained a decret against Mr. Patrick for 7 bolles bear, the duties of the said acres,. Adam Hepburn spouse of Agnes is

designated brother germane to Patrick Hepburn of Kirklandhill. It would therefore appear from this case that Agnes was still alive on 27 July 1622.

i.

This contract was pleaded on 24 Jan. of 1624, when Mr. Adam Hepburne, servitor to Thomas, Earl of Melrose, served heir to umbiquihle Adam Hepburn of Kirklandhill had decreet against John Lawson of Humbie and others for payment of ...100 merks, conform to said contract."⁶⁶

These same Schemes also make reference to the James (Hepburn) Earl of Bothwell, third husband of Mary, Queen of Scots. "...on 15 Jan 1561, assigned to Patrick Hepburne of Kirklandhill and his heirs ... of fourteen husbandlands...of his lands of Whitsome... delivered to the said Patrick and Helen Hamilton his spouse..."⁶⁷

Adam Hepburn, the Parson of Stobo's Testament Dative contained a Latter Will. According to Frank Bigwood who transcribed the document on my behalf, "The information contained in the testament is that Adam Hepburne was parson and minister of Stobo in the sheriffdom of Peiblis (i.e. Peebles in modern spelling) who died in October 1602 (the exact date is, as it frequently is) left blank. The testament states that it was given up by himself on 6 October 1602 which means that he himself wrote a latter will on that day. The latter will, is very short. After the usual preamble in which Adam Hepburne recommends his soul to God and his body to be suitably buried, it appoints Agnes Foulis, his spouse, as his executrix and commends his 'bairns', the number and names are unspecified, to her to nourish in peace and good manners. The witnesses were Gilbert Tailyer (Taylor), minister of Manor (a neighboring parish) and James Vaitch or Waitch (the modern name is Veitch), clerk in Stobo. In the confirmation, James Foulis Yr. of Colinton is named as executor along with Agnes Foulis."⁶⁸ "The rest of the document is, as one would expect, the inventory of his possessions and debts, He appears to have died owing L 694:6:8 and only have assets of L 106:13:4. Of the very few names mentioned as creditors or debtors (some are not in fact named but only referred to, for example, as the "guidman of Humbie"), one thing is noticeable that Adam Hepburne seems to have had strong contacts in East Lothian. Two names among the debtors and creditors might have some significance: Mr Patrick Hepburne of Smeton and perhaps John Thomas as a man of that name was married to a Jonet Hepburn.

(If you have not come across the expression before 'guidman' is frequently used to mean 'proprietor' or even 'tenant' of a farm or small estate.)" Frank Bigwood.⁶⁹

I had originally believed and stated erroneously in my last article that James Foulis Yr. of Colinton, named as executor along with Agnes Foulis, was her brother. Instead, he is her nephew. After studying the "Genealogical Chart of the Family of Foulis" found in the library of the Scottish Genealogical Society in Edinburgh, it becomes clear that James the Younger is Sir James Foulis of Colinton who served heir to his father in 1603, though his father actually died in 1609. Agnes Foulis's siblings include James Foulis (senior) of Colinton married to Agnes Heriot who was related to George Heriot, goldsmith; Robert Foulis, a cleric in Paisley; Thomas Foulis, a goldsmith; David Foulis, a rector; John Foulis, a merchant; plus a sister Jane. Her sister Katherine married Thomas Woulf; and Margaret married Gilbert Kirkwood of Pilrig, mentioned in the above decreet. Agnes also had a sister Mary. Each of these individuals became as of January 1604 "gude" brothers and sisters to Rev. Richard Thomson. However, Agnes is listed as the last sibling and may in fact have been the youngest, and therefore closer in age to her nephew Sir James. By the children of her brother, James of Colinton, along with being an aunt to Margaret (spouse of Thomas Hamilton, of Binning, and later Earl of Melrose and Haddington and Secretary of State to Scotland), she was also aunt to George of Ravelston; Robert, an advocate; Jean who married George Home, Jun. of Broxmouth;

John, an apothecary; Thomas, a merchant; and Sir David Foulis who accompanied King James IV of Scotland to England in 1603 where he was crowned James I of England.⁷⁰

In the Alumni Oronienses: the Members of the University of the University of Oxford 1500-1714, there is the following notation: "Foulis, Sir David, created MA 30 Aug., 1605, incorporated at Camb 1608, admitted to Gray's Inn 23 May 1603, cofferer to Prince Henry and to Prince Charles; one of the gentlemen of the King's Privy Chamber and the Inner Temple 28 Feb. 1604-5, then of Ingleby Manor, Yorks, Knighted 13 May 1603, created a baronet 6 Feb. 1619-20 (s. James, of Colinton, died 1642) See Foster's Gray's Inn Reg; Fasti, i 315; & DNB."⁷¹

On a visit to the British Library I was able to access a register book of Sir Francis Bacon which contained copies of his original letters, several signed and dated. My opinion is, as is the transcriber of his work, James Spedding, that the handwriting is Bacon's own. "His handwriting varied very much - according, I suppose, to pens, attitudes, moods and times - and a few words inserted here and there are difficult to identify," Spedding wrote in his "The Letters and Life of Francis Bacon."⁷² "Bacon had for some years been employed and described as one of the Learned Council; but it was by the verbal order of the Queen; he had never been sworn in, and had no written warrant."⁷³

Following the death of Elizabeth in 1603, her body was barely cold before Bacon (and I'm sure a host of others) began to solicit favor with the new King of England, hoping for employment if not preferment. In Bacon's register-book, his first letter is titled, "An Offer of Service to His Majesty K. James Upon His First Coming In." Bacon opens in Latin and continues, "...that unto your Majesty's sacred ears (open to the air of all virtues) there might perhaps have come some small breath of the good memory of my father, so long a principal counsellor in this your kingdom; but also by the particular knowledge of the infinite devotion and incessant endeavors...which appeared in my good brother toward your Majesty's service. ...I think there is no subject of your Majesty's, who loveth this island, and is not hollow and unworthy, whose heart is not set on fire, not only to bring you peace offerings to make you propitious, but to sacrifice himself a burnt offering to your Majesty's service..."⁷⁴

The letter following the letter addressed to the King is "A Letter to Mr. David Foules, in Scotland, Upon the Entrance to His Majesty's Reign." For ten years prior to James's ascendancy to the thrones of both kingdoms, David Foulis had been "used by James in his negotiations with England," and had served as resident ambassador in London from 1594 to 1596.⁷⁵ Bacon wrote to Foulis:

"Sir,

*The occasion awaketh in me the remembrance of the constant and mutual good offices which passed between my good brother and yourself; whereunto (as you know) I was not altogether a stranger; though the time and design (as between brethern) made me more reserved. But well do I bear in mind the great opinion which my brother (whose judgement I must reference) would often express to me, of the extraordinary sufficiency, dexterity, and temper, which he had found in you, in the business and service of the King our sovereign lord. This latter bred in me an election, as the former gave an inducement in me, to address myself to you, and to make this significance of my desire toward a mutual entertainment of good affection and correspondance between us; hoping that both some good effect may come of it toward the King's service; and that for our particulars, though occasion give you the precedence of furthering my being known by good note unto the king, so no long time will intercede before I on my part shall have some means given to requite your favors, and to verify your commendations. And so with my loving commendations, good Mr. Foules, I leave you to God's goodness. From Gray's Inn, this 25th of March."*⁷⁶

Both the letter to the King and David Foulis were written prior to the King learning of the Queen's death. Sir James Carey saw James on the night of the 26th, and informed him that the Queen was dead. Mr. Edward Bruce, Abott of Kinloss "and Foulis were immediately dispatched to London, and appear to have set out before the official messenger arrived."⁷⁷ Bacon also sent "A Letter Commending His Love and Service to Sir Thomas Challoner, in Scotland, Upon His Majesty's Entrance."

Bacon wrote to Challoner: Sir...For you know my mind, and you know my means... For the present, according to the Roman adage (that one cluster of grapes ripeneth best besides another,) I know you hold me not unworthy whose mutual friendship you should cherish; and I for my part conceive and hope that you are likely to become an acceptable servant to the King our Master...for the stuff and sufficiency I know which I know to be in you, and whereof I know his Majesty will reap great service....⁷⁸

Challoner was brother-in-law to David Foulis. He was an accomplished scholar, "and a student in natural history and chemistry." Challoner had been employed in Italy "as an intelligencer in the service of the Earl of Essex, upon Athony Bacon's recommendation, who kept up a continual correspondence with him, and whom he 'acknowledged to be the first author of manifesting his firm zeal in his Lordship's service,'" Spedding wrote.⁷⁹ Reflecting back to the letter written by David Thomson to the Earl of Arundel, I wonder if Thomson had known and been influenced by Sir Thomas Challoner as well as Francis Bacon. Within nine months following the Queen's death, Rev. Richard Thomson became uncle to David Foulis through his marriage to Foulis' aunt Agnes of Colinton. As was mentioned earlier, Thomson's correspondence displays a remarkable knowledge of natural history, including geology. His background as a Philosophy student at the University of Edinburgh in 1602, would have prepared him in the philosophical as well as natural sciences, but his practical knowledge (as revealed in the letter to Arundel) was more sophisticated and must have been gained through experience in the field and discussions. Challoner and Bacon would have been perfect teachers. Bacon in particular was a firm believer in studying the laws of nature as well as in experimentation.

Two days after his first letter, Bacon again wrote to Foulis informing him of a letter he had written the day before.

"A Letter to Mr. Foules, 28th of March 1603."

Mr. Foules,

I did write to you yesterday by Mr. Lake (who was dispatched hence from their Lordships) a letter of revive of those sparks of former acquaintance between us in my brother's time; and now upon the same confidence, finding so fit a messenger, I would not fail to salute you; hoping it will fall out so rapidly as that you shall be one of the King's servants which his Majesty will first employ here with us; where I hope not to have some means not to be barren in friendship towards you. We all thirst after the King's coming, accounting all this as but the dawning of the day before the rising of the sun, till we have his presence. And though his Majesty must be Janus bifrons, to have a face to Scotland as well as to England, yet quod nunc instat agendum. The expectation here is that he will come in state, and not in strength. So for this time I commend you to God's goodness.⁸⁰

In reward for all his maneuvering, Francis Bacon was admitted to the presence of the King, shortly after his entrance into London. His ploy was to carry a dispatch from the Earl of Northumberland to the King. It was not long afterward that the King did find employment for Bacon, and in this endeavor he was to join with Foulis' Scottish brother-in-law, Thomas Hamilton, at that time, Lord Advocate for the King.

Both Bacon and Hamilton are considered to be the major architects for the matter dealing with the Union of the Crowns of Scotland and England when King James attempted, but without success, to unite the kingdoms of Scotland and England, and to rename the contentious Border region "Middleshire." But, the English Parliament ruled against it. It was in this setting that on December 9th, and strangely again on December 31st 1604, King James presented Rev. Richard Thomson to the parish communities of Castleton on the border of England.⁸¹

To Be Continued In Part 5

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THE CLAN MACKELLAR - PART IX

By Duncan Beaton

The Mackellars in Glassary Parish (1).

Part VIII of the history of the Mackellars completed the Glen Shira story with the various families in the farm of Stuckscarden. Earlier on we had dealt with the first Mackellars on record, those of Ardarie on Lochaweside from 1470 up to the 1620's.¹

Mackellars in Ardarie.

There were still members of the family living there after they lost the title to the lands to the Campbells of Kilmartin. Among the rebels following the 9th Earl of Argyle in 1685 were Duncan and Dougall "McKellar" in "Ardtarie". Both lost 15 cows each to the Atholl raiders, but evidently survived the experience.² Two persons bearing the same names were in "Arderie" in 1692.³

Just over a century later, during the period 1798-1802, there was concern over the possibility of an invasion of Britain by the French under Napoleon. Again the "commons" were put on standby to defend the country, and there was still a Mackellar listed against Ardarie.⁴ Colin, a farmer, may have been the father of 60 year-old shepherd John Mackellar who, with his wife Christian (Christina) and seven children, was living at "Ardry" at the time of the 1841 census. This family will be explored along with other Lochaweside Mackellars in future parts of the clan history.

Ardarie now lies ruinous and deserted in a commercial forest, but is commemorated in the name of an adjacent forestry picnic area.

MacKellars living on the Knockbuy Estate.

From the 15th through to the 18th centuries a considerable area of the west shore of Loch Fyne south of the Parish of Glenarary was in the possession of members of the Campbell of Auchenbreck family, whose main castle was at Loch Gair. Colin Campbell, of a junior line of descent from Auchenbreck, acquired the estate of Knockbuy towards the end of the 17th century.

Archibald Campbell (1693-1790) was 2nd of Knockbuy and the son of Colin. He was an assiduous manager of his estate, improving the quality of the farming land and stock. He also kept meticulous records which tell us much about the people and their holdings.

We regularly rely on three sets of figures from about the time of Archibald Campbell's birth; the 1685 List of Rebels, the Hearth Tax Roll collected in 1691 and delivered in 1694, and the 1692 Fencible Lists. For the statisticians among us the Mackellars in Glassary Parish represented 2.76% of the rebels and 2.8% of the fencibles, both being obviously all male groupings. For the heads of households in 1691, which is almost but not totally an all male population, the figure is 3.6%.

The percentage of Mackellars to others found in the ledgers of Archibald Campbell of Knockbuy and Kilberry, kept between 1733 and 1788, more or less follows the 17th century trend. Of the 1039 persons mentioned, 25 (2.4%) were Mackellars, and they may be broken down into 15 or less family groups. (It is commonly said that Mackellar and MacCallum are the two most widespread names in Argyll. In this case they almost share equal billing: there were 24 MacCallums listed during the same period). The marriage of Archibald Campbell to a Campbell of Kilberry heiress and kinswoman was probably responsible for the introduction of Mackellars into Knapdale.⁵

*The Mackellar families in the Knockbuy Rentals and what became of some of them.**The Dugald Mackellars.*

One of the first mentioned in Archibald of Knockbuy's rentals was Dugald Mackellar who was a tenant farmer in Upper Carron between 1733 and 1737. At entry to the small farm he had been credited (against his annual rent) for the building of "a barn of 4 couples and 2 tailseals". In 1734 he was also credited for building and thatching a barn "that att my entry was quite don" (sic, for "done", or "down"). There was also a tenant of the same name at nearby North Moninernich during the period 1746-9, who was probably the same person.⁶

The problem with identification from this type of record is a very real one. Whereas the above Dugald at both farms at different periods is likely to have been one and the same, there are other on the original list who could also conceivably be this person. In 1763 there was a "Couilly" Mackellar who was co-tenant of Laidmore, a portion of the farm of Torbhlaren.⁷ He has been identified in Miss Campbell's notes as a Donald, but could have been Dugald, as "Coull" is a form of the latter name.

Another Dugald of this period was the more well-to-do merchant in Kilmichael, the site of the mother church of the parish and then a sizeable village and cattle droving centre. In 1761 he was mentioned as having purchased bere (barley) from a Martin Turner who was a tenant of Campbell of Coulaghailtro in Kintyre.⁸

Donald Mackellar(s).

There was also a Donald Mackellar who was living at Torbhlaren at around the same time as "Couilly". For the 1759-60 rental year he paid the feu duty on the farm of Achalick, then a little township on the upper River Add and now deserted and in forestry. By 1763 he was a co-tenant at Carnower ("Carn-odhar", the brown cairn) another portion of Torbhlaren.

By 1776 there was a Donald Mackellar who was tenant at Shengart, on Kilberry estate in Kintyre, during the period 1781-84 there was another (?) of the same name at Shirdruim near Minard. It is possible that these three references are about the same person, or perhaps two instead of three people.

Donald was at Douner (Lower) Shirdruim in 1781-2, at a place called Corrachangrein (the little green sloping place - Currachan today is a ruined croft house on the side of the hill above Tullochgorm). In 1783-4 he was the tenant of one acre of ground at Douner Shirdruim, with a cow's grazing at Achnain. His wife, also listed but not named, was tenant in her own right of a house and acre of ground, paying the rental on the 31st January 1783.

It is clear from the rentals that Donald had at least two surviving sons, John and Malcolm. In 1784 John delivered money to the laird on behalf of his father, his only mention in the ledgers. His brother Malcolm also paid cash on behalf of his father that year, and during the period 1785-88 was tenant of a third of a merkland at Upper Shirdruim.

Three Malcolm Mackellars.

From the land rentals it seems that there was at least three Malcolms living in the vicinity of Shirdruim ("siaradh-druim", the oblique ridge, a small hill above the present-day village of Minard on Loch Fyne). Malcolm the shoemaker was the tenant of a new house and garden there between 1772 and 1779. In 1775 and 1776 he paid part of his rental by the supply of shoes and in 1777 by supplying shoes and linen cloth delivered by his wife (whose name is not known). This probably indicates that weaving was also being carried out in the little community, from flax grown by the tenants. During 1780-3 he was tenant of one half of Brainport, a settlement on the shores of Loch Fyne near Minard.

The second Malcolm was recorded in Clachbreck on the Kilberry estates in Knapdale where he was tenant of a quarter merkland in 1775-6 (so could not be confused with Malcolm the shoemaker). He is likely to have been the Malcolm "in North Knapdale" who married Christian Campbell on the 9th December 1775 in Glassary. The baptism of their one child on record also appeared in the Glassary OPR.⁹

A third (?) Malcolm was married to Anne Campbell. When they married in Glassary Parish on the 24th May 1772 he was described as living "in Sherdrim".¹⁰ He may have been the son of Donald mentioned above, (although if Donald did come from the Kilberry estate between 1776 and 1781 it may be that his son was actually the above-mentioned husband of Christian Campbell).

Although three Malcolm Mackellars appear in the rentals only these two marriages are recorded in Glassary Parish during the period 1770-90.

Some Descendants of the Malcolm Mackellars.

The kinship and ancestry of the Malcolm Mackellars is not clarified in the following generations. Malcolm the shoemaker's son Alexander lived at Currachan, (so was he the son of Donald Mackellar, at Corrachangrein, 1781-2?) where he died aged 84 on the 4th November 1858. The death certificate has the correct father and occupation, Malcolm, shoemaker, but in place of his mother is the name of Alexander's own late wife Margaret Mitchell.

Alexander Mackellar married Margaret Mitchell in Glassary (presumably at Shirdruim/Minard) on the 23rd June 1804. They had 7 children recorded in the OPR:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Margaret | - born 7th September 1815 |
| Anne | - born 15th June 1808 |
| Neil | - born 31st May 1810 |
| Malcolm (sic) | - born 30th November 1813, who married Margaret Smith. |
| John | - born 23rd April 1817 |
| Alexander | - born 13th April 1818, who married Janet Macnab. |
| Duncan | - born 20th December 1820. |

In addition there was a daughter Janet, who was married to Malcolm Turner (died 20th April 1876 aged 69), a fisherman in Minard. In the 1851 census they were living with Janet's father in Currachan

and in the 1861 census the family was at nearby Tullochgorm. Janet died on the 22nd December 1892 at Minard, when her age was given as 75 (even although the ages given in the 1861 and '71 census returns indicate that she was probably born about 1811) and her parentage confirmed. Malcolm Turner's mother was also a Mackellar. Catherine Mackellar married Donald Turner (1780-1863), a crofter and fisherman, in 1803. From the evidence of the 1851 census Catherine was a year older than her husband and this was supported by her death certificate. When she died at the home she had shared with her late husband at Kaimes, Lochgair, on the 27th November 1858 her age was given as 69 (therefore born c1779). Her parents were given as Malcolm Mackellar, farmer, and Sarah Campbell. However, since she had a sister Barbara living with her in the 1841 census, it is likely that she was a daughter of the Malcolm who had married Anne Campbell. (Although the ages don't tie up Barbara is not a common name among the Argyll Mackellars and the 1841 census ages are notoriously inaccurate).

So with the family of Malcolm Turner and Janet Mackellar the descendants of the two Malcolm Mackellars married in the Minard area in the 1770's were united.¹¹

Patrick Mackellar, Schoolmaster at Drynoch.

Unfortunately it is not possible to connect the various families living in Shirdruim in the late 18th century, but many have tried. When Malcolm the shoemaker's wife was paying the rental of 1780 also credited for "services" was a Patrick Mackellar, schoolmaster at Drynoch, Douner Shirdruim. (Drynoch - "droigheannach", the place of the blackthorns - has long since disappeared in a road widening exercise on the section of the A83 known as Minard Brae). In that same year Patrick had built his schoolhouse which was still in existence on the 26th January 1786. In 1783 part of his rental was delivered by another, younger, Patrick Mackellar who may have been his son. However, in the following year the younger Patrick was delivering rents for a John Mackellar whose father was a well-known drover also named John. All very confusing.

Patrick the schoolmaster's pupils included "Little Mary", whose schooling fees of 1/9d were credited against his rental in 1783. This may have been his daughter but is more likely to have been a child whose welfare was being provided for by the laird Knockbuy.

In 1786 Patrick received 12/- rental credit from Knockbuy's nephew and son-in-law John Campbell of Orangebay, Jamaica (1732-1808), possibly for the education of Orangebay's daughter Graciella, who died young.

John Mackellar Junior.

The John mentioned above, son of the drover also named John Mackellar, went to the Campbell estates in Jamaica. In 1782 Campbell of Knockbuy negotiated a Bill in John's favour from Campbell of Orangebay, but later letters from the Caribbean refer to "poor McKellar" with warnings to "the poor mother" to be prepared for her son's death. After he died Campbell of Orangebay settled his financial affairs.

John Mackellar the Drover.

This John's father, John Mackellar the drover, rented two stone-built stock enclosures at Kilmichaelbeg and one at Achabhailich (possibly "achadh-a-bhaile", the village field) from Knockbuy in 1766. In the following year, as "drover in Levenmore" (Lephinmore, a farm across Loch Fyne on MacLachlan of Strathlachlan's lands), John secured a tack or longer term lease of the same enclosures plus the small islands in the middle of the loch. This tack was later renewed in the year 1771-2. In the latter year he was described as "Officer to Ederline" (Dugald Campbell of Ederline, the laird of the adjoining estate), from whom he obtained a 3 year tack of Upper Carron in 1773. This strategic site was a cattle stance on the Leckan Muir, one day's droving distance from the market at

Kilmichael-Glassary. It had also in the previous decade been leased to Neil Mackellar of Daill, a member of the Mackellar of Maam in Glenshira family.¹² Indeed, Neil and his brothers are also mentioned in the Knockbuy Rentals over a thirty year period, from 1753 to 1783.

Para Dubh Mackellar the Drover.

Other members of John the drover's family appearing in the Knockbuy Rentals were his brother Peter (Patrick) and another son David, "a little boy", who brought his father's rental cash in 1782 and is not mentioned again. Patrick, known as "Para Dubh" (Dark Patrick) lived in the upper valley of the historic river Add and is on record between 1761 and 1772. From 1763 through to 1770 he rented the winter grazing of North Moninernich, paying his share of the herd's (oat)meal and wages (this being the cow-herd, or shepherd) for the term up to Whitsunday 1764. In this same year Patrick "the Drover" had a 7 year tack of the farm of Tunns, which the following year he relet to a Donald MacKenzie while he himself was living "in Levendrisich" ("laighphein-driseag" - the thorny halfpennyland).

During 1765-70 Patrick had a tenancy of Moninernich, plus the farm of Barchuile (on the north side of the Add Valley) and the "south enclosures" (at Knockbuy) in 1766. He still had Tunns in 1770, when it was noted that he had maintained an interest in North Moninernich which he had "possessed violently" after it had been "set to Lanarkmen". His last entry was in 1772, when he had a conjunct Bill for Achabhialich with his brother John.

Patrick MacKellar Senior in Tunns.

The father of John and Para Dubh Mackellar, drovers, may have been the Patrick Mackellar who had a tack of Tunus in 1744-5. He died sometime in 1746, and an action was raised against the executors of his estate in the following year.

Alexander & Duncan Mackellar.

Alexander and his brother Duncan Mackellar were named as heirs to the deceased John MacKenzie, tacksman of Barchuile, in 1780. (John had died on the 26th May 1779 - tombstone inscription in the Kilmalieu Graveyard, Inveraray). John MacKenzie was the son of the Donald MacKenzie who had taken over the tack of Tunns from Para Dubh in 1765. It is not known if there was a family relationship with the MacKenzies, or for that matter with Para Dubh. Being named heirs in this case was a poisoned chalice for the Mackellars, as it made them liable for MacKenzie's debts, which were duly paid.

This leaves two seemingly unconnected Mackellars, the first being Archibald, who worked with Peter MacIlevin (from MacGillebhain, one of the Gaelic surnames later anglicised as White) as a cattle buyer and drover after 1744. The other was Mary, wife of Dugald Fletcher a tenant in Douner Shirdruim 1775-83, who delivered rentals for her husband during the period 1779-82.

Emigration from mid-Argyll to Canada.

There were two major emigrations from mid-Argyll in the early 19th century, in the 1810's and the 1830's, and Mackellars featured in both. The usual destination for families in both groups was Canada. Freedom from the oppression caused by the continual reform of agricultural land use and religious intolerance (many were Baptists, in a staunchly Presbyterian environment) were the two reasons most often cited. In a previous part of this history the tale of the parents of Sheriff Archie Mackellar, whose antecedents came from Glassary, was told. Sheriff Archie's parents left cousins behind, and their story will feature in a later part of the history. For the next episode (or two), however, we will deal with some of the other Glassary families who went to Canada, and what became of them.

References:

1. "The Clan Mackellar", Part I, CCS (NA) Journal, Vol. 23, No 4, Summer 1996, pp15-23.
2. "The Commons of Argyll", by Duncan C. MacTavish. "List of Rebels in Argyll Shyr and Tarbert Shyr" (1685), pages 8 & 20.
3. Ibid. "A List of the Fencible Men between Sixteen and Sixty in Various Parishes in Argyll as given up on 26th May 1692", p38.
4. "Minute Book of the Mid-Argyll Court of Lieutenancy. List of Men of Enlistable Age in Glassary Parish 1803", Argyll & Bute Archives, Lochgilphead.
5. Archibald Campbell married his kinswoman (5th cousin once removed) Grizel (Grace) Campbell of Kilberry ("Genealogy of the Cadets of the Family of Auchenbreck", in "Highland Papers", Vol. IV, Scottish History Society, pp68-89).
6. There were two Gaelic placenames ending in -earnach in the upper river Add valley, denoting the presence of iron in the ground: Moninernich ("moine-an-earnach", the mossy place of the iron ground), and Darinernich ("doire-an-earnach", the oak-grove of the iron ground). The presence of bog-iron in Argyll is usually indicated by rust-red earth. One of the sites appears on the Second Series 6" Ordnance Survey map (c1900) as Dailaneireanach (the meadow of iron ground), on the south side of the Add Valley to the north of Loch Glashan. It lies a quarter mile west of Craigans, another ruined farm site whose name commemorates an ancient crossing of the river Add.
Tunns, another placename featured (from "tunn", a barrell-shaped topographical feature), was also south of the Add, approximately 3 miles east of Craigans on the old Shirdruim-to-Kilmichael road (now a forest track). Moninernich must also have been in this vicinity: there is a lot of boggy ground in the valley of the Add (the old name being Gleann Airidh - in this case "airidh" is taken to mean a green place between hills as opposed to shieling or summer grazing-place, although originally these Add settlements may have served that purpose). The area immediately east of Craigans and south of Tunns was known as Moine Ghlas (the water-moss). Upper and Lower Carron were not sited exactly at the present ruined farmhouse (recently refurbished as an unmanned bothy offering free overnight accomodation for walkers) of the same name but about a quarter of a mile to the west and approximately 250 yards north of the Add. The second series map shows a cattle stance at Lower Carron. The placename Carron probably evolved from "caran", another topographical description, this time of a little sloping green site (all Gaelic meanings extracted from Dwelly's dictionary).
7. "Laid-mor", the piece of land containing the big pond, or watercourse. "Tor-bhlaran", the white faced hill.
8. Donald Campbell of Coulaghailtro was a great-grandson of Cailean Mor Campbell, 1st of Kilberry. On his death without a male heir the Coulaghailtro property passed to his close relative James Campbell of Ormsary, who in turn sold all his estates. Coulaghailtro then passed to the Campbells of Knockbuy and Kilberry. ("Genealogy of the Cadets of the Family of Auchenbreck", in "Highland Papers" as note 4 above).
9. The only child to appear in the Glassary OPR was John, born on the 24th September 1776 at Shirdruim.
10. This couple also had only one child's baptism recorded in the Glassary OPR: Barbara, born 17th March 1773 at Shirdruim. However in the 1851 census Barbara and another unmarried sister, (Anne, born circa 1790) were living at Kaimes, Lochgair with their married sister Catherine (born circa 1779, died 27th November 1858) and her husband Donald Turner (1780-1863).
11. One kenspeckle descendant of this family was Archie "Sugar" Turner, who until the early 1970's was nurseryman on the Cumladden Estate for Sir George Campbell of Succoth at his famous Crarae Gardens. Archie's appellation had nothing to do with the amount of sweetener he put in his tea but all to do with Sir Georg's fascination with the North American Western Hemlock. The Latin name of this tree species is "tsuga", and Archie produced thousands of seedlings for planting all over Cumladden, as specimen trees as well as commercial forestry.
12. "The Clan Mackellar", Part III, CCS (NA) Journal, Vol 24, No 4, Fall 1997, pp14-16, and Part 4, Ibid, Vol 25, No 1, Winter 1998, pp8-10.

THURSDAY EVENING OPENING

Feedback from our Users Survey last summer indicated that there was a significant demand for extended opening hours in our search rooms. As a result, we are having a trial extension to the opening times for the Historical Search Room at General Register House, 2 Princes Street, Edinburgh. From 5 June, for a period of six months, we shall be open until 7.45 pm on Thursday evenings.

Initially, a limited service will be available but this will be under constant review. Readers will be able to order out records held in General Register House until 7.30 pm. Records held in our other buildings, including West Register House, will need to be ordered in advance and no later than 1 pm on the Tuesday preceding your visit.

Up to 12 items can be ordered out for a Thursday evening and you will be informed in advance of your proposed visit if the records you would like to see cannot be produced.

Records can be ordered out in the following way:-

by telephoning:

0131 535 1335

by faxing:

0131 535 1328

by emailing:

historicalorders@nas.gov.uk

(please include a contact name and telephone number)

Unfortunately, our collection of maps and plans has had to be excluded from this trial and cannot be accessed in the evenings. Documents normally consulted in the Legal Search Room are also excluded.

If you are unsure about where the records you are interested in are held, or if you require any additional information before your visit, please telephone 0131 535 1334. Further information to help you plan your visit can be found on our website at www.nas.gov.uk

FIFTY YEARS ENDEAVOUR

Our Society Celebrates

By Donald Whyte and D. Richard Torrance

Writing in *The Scottish Genealogist* (XXI 3, 57), on the occasion of the 21 st anniversary of the Scottish Genealogy Society, Robert W. Munro, a founder member, in an article titled "We Builded Better Than We Knew", commented that some who were at the first meeting, "might have been excused for doubting whether it would ever survive infancy, let alone come of age". Certainly there were problems.

Following on correspondence in the *Edinburgh Evening News*, initiated by Sidney Cramer, an alterations tailor and amateur genealogist from Dundee, the first meeting was held in the home of Rolland J. B. Munro, at 13 Rothesay Terrace, Edinburgh, on 30 May 1953. Those present were: Sidney Cramer, Rolland J. B. Munro, an unemployed librarian and academic; D. Margaret F. Moore, genealogist and searcher of records; James H.C. Milligen, banker; John F. Mitchell, retired Civil Servant; Robert W. Munro, journalist (then with *The Scotsman* newspaper) and historian; James Ogilvy, amateur genealogist; Miss Margaret Napier, psychologist; Rev. Duncan Shaw, minister of St. Margaret's Church, Edinburgh; Leslie Spoor, lecturer; Donald Whyte, family historian; Thomas Brown, of Miller & Bryce, record searchers; Duncan McNaughton, history teacher, and Miss Hilda Woodford, professional genealogist. Of these, Thomas Brown, Rev. Duncan Shaw, and Leslie Spoor, took no active part in the development of the Society.

Rolland J. B. Munro was elected Honorary Secretary, and edited the first issue of *The Scottish Genealogist*. His tenure of office was short, as he and Sidney Cramer were at cross-purposes. In an otherwise erratic article in our magazine (Vol. XXXIX 2, 50-52), Duncan McNaughton, a founder member, gives reasons as Rolland J. B. Munro "became increasingly cut off from the Society and exceedingly difficult to contact". Sidney Cramer made a fuss about R. J. B. Munro hiring extra chairs for a meeting in the Goold Hall, at a cost of 10/6d (the cost of the annual subscription). R. J. B. had the idea that his lecture querying if Sir Isaac Newton (1642-1727) was of Scottish descent, and wrongly thought that academics, including Sir Edward Appleton (1892-1955), Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, would attend. Few members attended. Soon afterwards he resigned, and by reason of other minor matters. Sidney Cramer also tendered his resignation. Many years later he rejoined.

Soon after the first meeting of the Society, Rt. Hon. The Earl of Dundee, Hereditary Royal Standard Bearer of Scotland, was elected Hon. President. Vice-Presidents elected were, Rt. Hon. The Countess of Erroll, Hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland; Rt. Hon. The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, and Rt. Hon. The Lord Lyon King of Arms, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney. Sir Iain Moncreiffe of Moncreiffe, Bt. Unicorn Pursuivant of Arms, was elected Chairman of Council, but because of other commitments, was represented by a series of deputies; Robert W. Munro, Duncan McNaughton, Ivor R. Guild and Donald Whyte.

The resignations of R. J. B. Munro and Sidney Cramer caused an impasse, but this was resolved mainly through the efforts of Duncan McNaughton, Robert W. Munro and Donald Whyte, who, with some others, held a meeting in Mrs. Bailey's tartan shop in Princes Street. As a result, Duncan McNaughton became Hon. Secretary, and the Society progressed. A pillar of strength was The Lord Lyon Sir Thomas Innes, who, at subsequent Annual General Meetings gave splendid lectures, afterwards printed in *The Scottish Genealogist*. Sir Iain Moncreiffe also gave an occasional talk,

contributed notes to the magazine. Their dedicated efforts brought a new concept to the study of genealogy and heraldry no longer regarded of interest only to the nobility and landed gentry. As Scotland is pre-eminently the land of kinship and clanship, the time was ripe for an organisation that would publish genealogical information and encourage academic studies. The stated aims of the Society were "To promote research into Scottish Family History", and to "undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to genealogy". The quarterly journal, *The Scottish Genealogist*, had fallen into arrears, but Dr. Jean Dunlop (later to become Mrs. R. W. Munro) was elected Honorary Editor, in 1954, and within a year had overtaken the backlog. The journal was simply issued in duplicated typescript, but with Volume V, No.1, January 1958, the printed page was achieved. On that occasion Sir Thomas Innes wrote a welcoming message, congratulating the "skilful and enthusiastic management and editorship, which have surmounted the problems and difficulties facing even an established publication". Dr. Jean Munro handed over to Ivor R. Guild at the end of 1958, and he edited *The Scottish Genealogist* for 35 years, handing over to the present editor, Stuart E. Fleming in early 1994.

The Society collected books and manuscripts from the early days. These were in the hands of the secretary for a time, and in 1964 Donald Whyte became the first elected librarian, (1964-66), holding the books at home, and arranging several exchange periodicals. David Cargill, Jr., succeeded him, the books were kept in the Scottish Central Library and other locations, until more permanent premises were found in Forth Street. Robert M. Strathdee, a qualified librarian had taken over in 1973.

After his death in 1991, Miss M. A. Stewart became librarian. She was succeeded ten years later by Mrs. Heather Rose and about a year later by Dr. James Cranstoun, who have brought order to increasing accessions, noted regularly in *The Scottish Genealogist*.

In 1974, Sir Iain Moncreiffe was elected a Vice-President, also John F. Mitchell and Duncan McNaughton, in recognition of their faithful services since the foundation of the Society in 1953. In 1961, Miss Joan P. S. Ferguson, of the Scottish Central Library was elected Honorary Secretary, and she has remained in the post for 42 years: truly an outstanding office-bearer who was honoured with an M.B.E. for her services to genealogy in the Queen's 1998 New Years Honours List. Donald Whyte was elected Chairman of Council in 1974, and in 1977 played a large part in designing the armorial bearings presented to the Society at the 25th Anniversary Conference, in August 1978. He also pioneered the Scottish family history societies, initiating six of them, Donald Whyte was elected a Vice-President in 1983, and Dr Jean Munro succeeded to the chair. In 1986 Dr A. Mackie became Chairman, and was succeeded in 1988 by D. Richard Torrance.

Shortly after taking over as Chairman of the Society we got notice to quit our rented rooms in Union Street. The Society was given little advance notice and had no option but to put all the books into storage and the search for new premises began. After looking at a number of properties the Society put in an offer for what had been Linklaters restaurant in Victoria Terrace. Initially the offer was rejected, as there was a higher offer, but a fortnight after the closing date the Society was contacted to ascertain if our offer still stood – it did. Due to the good management of the Society's funds half the offer price was put down and a mortgage for the remainder was arranged. The Society organized a four year covenanted scheme. This more than covered the monthly repayments.

It is a tribute to the skills, dedication and support of the membership that the Society was able to get the new library up and running so quickly and at such little cost in the summer of 1990. Any fears that we had taken on more than we could cope with were quickly dispelled as membership grew, as did the sales, and the Society paid off its loan after only two and a half years. A great debt of gratitude is owed to the many library helpers who initially kept the Library open three days a week, then four days and currently for five days.

Attendance at ordinary meetings began to increase and the Society had to move its meetings at the Royal College of Physicians from the small library to the big hall and eventually into the lecture theatre where all modern facilities were available: projectors, sound system, loops, computer connections and raked seating.

The Scottish Genealogy Society was one of the founder societies of Scottish Association of Family History Societies, and in 1991 held a very successful conference at the Royal College of Surgeons. The Society continues to have a presence at S.A.F.H.S. and takes a stall at their annual conferences.

In 1993 the Society celebrated their 40th anniversary with a dinner at the Edinburgh City Chambers. A six-day summer school was also arranged which was a great success and oversubscribed. This led to more summer schools being organized. Stirling University then started to offer a course in genealogy and asked the Society to appoint a moderator to examine the final theses produced by the students. This benefited the Society as they received a copy of all the theses produced. Over the years the Society has hosted evenings for people taking evening classes in genealogy and still continues to offer this service. We have also had visits from overseas societies and parties of tourists from abroad, as well as groups of librarians from several of the local libraries, all of whom have been surprised at the quality and extent of our holdings.

In 1998 Peter Ruthven-Murray took over as Chairman and was active in Scottish and UK committees. On his stepping down in 2000 the post of Chairman was not filled. As with many other societies it has been difficult to find someone to give their time to this arduous post and in the interim Ivor Guild, one of the Society's Vice-Presidents, has been the acting chair of Council.

The Society has had a presence on the Internet since 1995 and has recently completely overhauled its website and introduced a secure shopping facility. The result has been an increase in the amount of business we do electronically. The Society also has a very active publishing programme and has published well over 100 books as well as microfiche and CDs on a variety of subjects but with an emphasis on monumental inscriptions.

The Society has received some very generous bequests over the years, both financial and of books. Matthew Stirling left a most magnificent library to the Society and smaller bequests have strengthened our holdings covering specific areas of Scotland.

To help the Society meet the challenge of the next 50 years it asks members to give the same commitment that it has received from them during the first 50 years. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our thanks to all the Society's volunteers for their hard work and support over the years which has made the Society the success it is. The Society would welcome proposals for new Members of Council and the Librarian and his staff would be glad to hear from members who would be willing to work as a volunteer in the Library.

We hope that all of you will be able to attend one or all of the events that have been arranged to celebrate our first 50 years and that you have great success in your researches.

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

Dr. Jim Cranstoun in the Library or telephone 0131 220 3677

THE SIGNAL ‘ENGLAND EXPECTS’ AT TRAFALGAR HOISTED BY FORECASTLE MATE JAMES ROBERTSON, STORNOWAY.

By Donald John MacLeod

Few people are aware that Admiral Horatio Nelson's famous signal, "England expects..." on *HMS Victory* is believed to have been hoisted during the battle by a seaman from the Isle of Lewis, Western Isles, Scotland. He was James Robertson who was serving as Forecastle Mate on *HMS Victory* at the Battle of Trafalgar.

For generations the Western Isles have been a fertile recruitment area for the Royal and Merchant Navies. In the the two World Wars the Western Isles are reputed to have lost more men per head of population than any other area of the British Empire. The reason for the heavy losses was due to most islanders serving with the Royal Navy, the Merchant Navy or in Highland or Colonial infantry regiments.

In WW2 by 1940, when Britain was losing many ships, the casualty rate of the Western Isles was twenty-times higher than the UK mainland. These were immense war losses sustained by an area with a small population and as most of the men lost were young and single it left a void in the population of these islands. The Western Isles fishing fleet has never made up the manpower lost in the two World Wars plus those lost in the *Iolaire Disaster* on 1 January, 1919.

As early as 1801 when Britain was at war with the Northern Confederacy of Russia, Sweden and Norway, an article in the Naval Chronicle stated. "*The inhabitants of the Western Scottish Isles or Hebrides are all so much accustomed to a seafaring life, and retain so much of the native heroism of ancient Highlanders, that almost everything great and successful may be hoped from their gallantry during the war.*" In view of the Norse influence in the Western Isles they should probably have said *Vikings* instead of *Highlanders*.

James Robertson was born in 1783, the eldest son of James Robertson, Collector of Customs at Stornoway, Isle of Lewis and Deputy Lieutenant for Ross-shire. The Isle of Lewis was strictly Protestant and anti-Jacobite and both Robertson's grandfathers fought valiantly against the Jacobites in the 1745 rebellion.

At the age of 18, James Robertson entered the Royal Navy as an Able Seaman at Leith Roads on board the sloop *Inspector*. He became a Midshipman within a month and was transferred to the 38-gun 5th Rate *Princess Charlotte*, formerly the *Junon*, which had been captured two years before from the French in the Mediterranean.

In 1803 Robertson served on *HMS Canopus* in the Mediterranean and at Cadiz. At the recommendation of his Captain, John Conn, he was received by Nelson in *HMS Victory*. Robertson was serving on this ship at the Battle of Trafalgar. Two weeks after the Battle of Trafalgar, Robertson was promoted to Master's mate. It is not known if he received this accelerated promotion for hoisting or supervising the signal, 'England expects...'. However, there is little doubt that his promotion was as a result of some conspicuous act of gallantry during the Battle of Trafalgar.

In January, 1806, *HMS Victory* paid off at Chatham. On the recommendation of Captain Hardy of *HMS Victory*, James Robertson was placed on board a brand new ship built of fir, the 32 gun *HMS Thames*. Later in 1806 Robertson was in a boat with Commodore Edward Owen attacking the French fleet off Boulogne. It was the first time the Royal Navy used military rockets newly invented by Sir William Congreve.

Robertson was promoted to Lieutenant and for the next number of years was engaged in many actions at sea whilst serving on *HMS Fawn*, *HMS Hazard* and *HMS Antelope*: in 1807 at the reduction of the West Indian islands of St Thomas and St Croix; in 1808 capturing a privateer and three merchant vessels under the batteries of Puerto Rico; in 1809 capturing the French frigate *Topaze* and attacking Martinique; in 1810 destroying a French privateer and capturing Guadeloupe and in 1812 and 1813 capturing several American vessels.

Robertson's commanding officer wrote, "*Since I have known the service I have never met in it a young man more eminently gifted with every quality calculated to render him an ornament to his profession.*" Despite this tribute he was not decorated or instantly promoted by the Lordships of the Admiralty. At this time officers from the upper or landed classes were preferred for promotions and honours.

In September, 1814, Robertson took command of the 36 gun 5th Rate *HMS Confiance* after his Captain had been killed in action against the Americans. The ship was fighting on Lake Champlain under the batteries of Pittsburg. *HMS Confiance* was so badly damaged that they had to surrender to a large American squadron. Robertson had fought so bravely and gained so much respect from the Americans that the U.S. Commodore returned his sword to him. However, Robertson was detained in prison until the end of the war.

After his release a court-martial was held regarding the loss of *HMS Confiance* and Robertson was exonerated. He was then promoted to the rank of Commander and later to Reserve Captain.

Captain James Robertson married an heiress from Cumberland and as a consequence adopted the surname, Robertson-Walker. After his wife died he married Kate MacKenzie from Stornoway. Her brother in law was Colonel MacLeod of Drynoch, who named Calgary in Canada after Calgary in the Isle of Mull. Macleod founded or commanded the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

James Robertson's brother, Captain John Robertson, commanded many famous China clipper ships. In 1849, Captain John Robertson came to Hall's Shipyard in Aberdeen to order a new clipper ship for the China run. The ship was to be the fastest ship possible for her size and was to be named *Stornoway*. Under the flag of Jardine, Matheson, Hong Kong, this ship entered the tea trade. The *Stornoway* is considered to be the first of the genuine Aberdeen tea clippers.

A painting of the clipper *Stornoway* used to hang in the Stornoway library. The frame of the painting was made from oak taken from *HMS Victory*, probably by James Robertson. Today there is a model of the *Stornoway* in Aberdeen Maritime Museum.

In a letter from Hong Kong dated 20th December, 1850, to his mother in Stornoway, Captain Alexander Ryrie of the clipper *Mazeppa* wrote, "*I suppose Robertson's new ship the Stornoway is not far from Bombay by this time.*"

On 9th July, 1852, the *Stornoway* under Captain John Robertson who was very ill at the time, left Whampoa loaded with tea and reached the Downs on 25th October, after a race with *Chrysolite*, also built by Alexander Hall in Aberdeen. When John Robertson retired from the sea he became a ship-owner and broker. I believe his office was in Liverpool.

James Robertson's cousin, Anne Robertson, was the mother of the British prime minister William Ewart Gladstone (1809-98). He was born in Liverpool the son of a shipowner and merchant whose forebears came from Scotland. Gladstone was proud of his Stornoway mother and used to say that his wisdom came from her.

Captain James Robertson-Walker died in 1858 and is buried in a churchyard in Distington, Cumbria. Around 1890 when the Church of the Holy Spirit, Distington, was rebuilt, much of the cost was borne by people with Isle of Lewis connections who were living or in business in Liverpool and North West England.

Another Isle of Lewis officer who fought at the Battle of Trafalgar and was held in high regard by Lord Nelson was Lieutenant John Morrison, Aignish. As a token of his regard Nelson presented his walking stick to him. Morrison survived the Battle of Trafalgar and is buried at Eye Cemetery, Point, Isle of Lewis.

The Ryries mentioned above were a famous Stornoway seafaring family whose three sons were well known in maritime circles around the globe. The sons were:

Captain John Ryrie, who in 1853 won the first ever China tea race from Whampoa to Hong Kong whilst in command of Jardine, Matheson's Cairngorm. He was rewarded with a bonus of £200, a lot of money at the time. Later he part-owned and commanded the Flying Spur and is reputed to have made a lot of money.

Captain Alexander Ryrie in 1847 commanded the Hibernia, the Cunard Line ship that inaugurated the Liverpool to New York mail and passenger services. (MacIvers of Lewis origins were part founders of the Cunard Line and owned the Liverpool Line, David MacIver). Alexander Ryrie was drowned in 1853 when his ship, Jardine Matheson's Audax, was lost with all hands on passage from Shanghai to Hong Kong.

Phineas Ryrie served at sea but eventually settled in Hong Kong. He was the first chairman of the wealthy and famous Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club. He was a member of the Hong Kong Legislature Council from 1867 until his death in 1892.

The contribution made to the development of British maritime ventures by men from our sparsely populated coastal communities and islands is seldom acknowledged. In the past, seamen from the Western Isles have provided skills and courage on the oceans of the world out of all proportion to their numbers. Captain James Robertson, Royal Navy, was one of them.

Bibliography:

"Discovering Lewis and Harris" by James Shaw Grant.

"The Opium Clippers" by Basil Lubbock.

Royal Navy Records, Portsmouth.

SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Edited by Stuart E. Fleming, F.S.A. Scot.

Edinburgh Monumental Inscriptions - Pre 1855

Volume 1, *Old Calton*, by John F. Mitchell.

New Calton, by Sheila Scott.

Edinburgh Monumental Inscriptions - Pre 1855

Volume 2, *Canongate & Holyrood Chapel Royal*, by John F. Mitchell.

Edinburgh Monumental Inscriptions - Pre 1855

Volume 3, *St. Johns Episcopal, Jewish, Quaker & Buccleuch*, by John F. Mitchell.

Edinburgh Monumental Inscriptions - Pre 1855

Volume 4, *Greyfriars*, by John F. Mitchell.

The above publications will be available shortly from the Society Sales Department.

Scottish Strays - The Scottish Marriage Index

The Anglo- Scottish FHS, based in Manchester, England now has on its website, The Scottish Marriage Index, which is a database of Scots-born people who married in Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, USA, Wales and other parts of the world. Most of the marriages listed, took place outside Scotland and therefore form a unique database of Scottish Strays.

Readers are invited to search this list on www.mlfhs.org.uk and also to contribute to it by sending the following information to Dan Muir at The Anglo-Scottish FHS, Clayton House, 59 Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 2AQ or by e-mail to danmuir@ntlworld.com

Name, date and place of birth of the couple, one of whom must be Scots-born. The date and place of marriage. The names of the parents, and the contributor's postal address. The postal address is not published on the web but is held at Clayton House to be given to any enquirer. No other information is required.

The above data is based on a marriage because that gives at least three family names, two places of birth, a place of marriage, and the dates each event took place. Thus, the searcher can put a name of interest in a place, at a specific period of time. So, if you have a Scot in your family who married, send in the details and contribute to this unique list of Scottish Strays. You never know, someone else, somewhere in the world may be researching the same ancestors that you are.

If anyone does connect with long lost cousins, the Anglo Scottish FHS would be pleased to know.

New OPR and Census Microfilms in the Library

Compiled by Dr James Cranstoun, Hon. Librarian

OPRs

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| <i>Banffshire</i> | Aberlour, Alvah, Banff, Botriphine, Boyndie, Forglen, Gamrie, Grange, Inverkeithney, Keith, Mortlach, Ordiquhil, Rathven, St Fergus. |
| <i>Aberdeenshire</i> | Cruden, Ellon, Kincardine O'Neill, Leochel Cushnie, Lonmay, Lumphanan, Old Deer, Oyne, Peterculter, Peterhead, Pitsligo, Strichen, Turriff, Tyrie. |
| <i>Perthshire</i> | Longforgan, Moneydie, Monzie, Monzievaird, Moulin, Muckhart, Muthill, Perth (13 films), Port of Menteith, Redgorton, Rhynd. |
| <i>Lanarkshire</i> | Barony (8 films), Cadder, Carmunnock, Gorbals (4 films), Hamilton. |
| <i>West Lothian</i> | Carriden. |
| <i>Midlothian</i> | Edinburgh Marriages: 1696-1787 (3 films). |

Census microfilms

- 1841 *Aberdeenshire*: Kildrummy-Longside. *Angus*: Montrose-Rescobie.
- 1851 *Banffshire*: Marnoch-St Fergus. *Aberdeenshire*: Longside-Monymusk.
Lanarkshire: Pettinain-Wiston & Robertson.
- 1861 *Aberdeenshire*: New Deer-Oyne.
Lanarkshire: Carmichael-Culter; Pettinain-Wiston & Robertson.
- 1871 *Lanarkshire*: Carmichael-Culter.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I refer to the letter from a Miss M.A. Stewart, in the March 2003 edition relating to two previous articles of mine. I am sorry that she found the exemplary sources which I quoted for *Indirect English Descendants of Malcolm III 'Canmore' King of Scots* had not given all of the latter's children. Possibly this was my own omission. But in any event, it is rather irrelevant as the article deals with descents from his daughter Matilda, who married the English King, only.

But as she has raised this matter, it would seem that Miss Stewart herself has not got it right either. According to *Scottish Kings 1005-1625* by Sir Archibald H. Dunbar, Bt., (Edinburgh, 1899) regarded as one of the principal authorities on this subject, Malcolm Canmore had 12 children, and not 8 as she states.

By his first wife Ingibjorg Arnesson, he had:

Donald, who died a violent death in 1085; Malcolm, who died after 12th November 1094; Duncan II King of Scots, c1060-1095.

By his second wife, St. Margaret (1043-1093), he had:

Edmund, who died at Montague, Somerset, England; Edward, died 16th November 1093 near Jedburgh; Ethelred, Abbot of Dunkeld; Mary, died 31st May 1116 and buried at St. Saviour's monastery, Bermondsey, London - married Eustace Count of Boulogne; Matilda, (1st of that name) died young; Edgar, King of Scots (c1074-8th January 1107); Alexander 1st, King of Scots (c1077-23rd April 1124); Matilda, (2nd child bearing that name) (1079-1st May 1118) married Henry 1st, King of England, and is buried at Westminster; David 1st, King of Scots, (c1080-24th May 1152).

My reason for mentioning Maurice, regarded as the progenitor of the Drummond family, in *Agatha-The Ancestry Dispute*, was to emphasise Agatha's Hungarian companions and connections with that country. I apologise if this is not clear. I hope that readers will not hesitate to contact me if even greater clarity is required.

Gregory Lauder-Frost

Dear Sir,

Thank you for informing me of Mr Lauder-Frost's prompt response to my letter. I find it unfortunate that he has not really answered my two questions and in addition has not taken greater care in reading my wording. I particularly wrote that the article referred to the descendants of King Malcolm *and* Queen Margaret therefore the King's older sons by his previous wife, Queen Ingeborg, were not related to Queen Margaret so there seemed no reason to mention them.

As regards the infant child, Matilda, and also the body of a male child supposed to be a child of Queen Margaret's, [Boece writes in his *History of Scotland*, "In this yeare (1448) while pulling down the royall wallis at Dunfermling, the bodies of ane young chyld was found in ane heap of leid, rompled up in Sandhill, als fresch and vncorrupted and als well in culler as the fyrst hour it was buried. This was judged of thame that had curiositie of old antiquities, to be that sone of Queine Margaret, quha deceist in his infancie."] Considering the high infant mortality rate of those times I would not be surprised to find that Queen Margaret had more children who died – children who were not mentioned anywhere as they were not considered to have made any contribution to history.

I remain, dear sir,

Miss M. A. Stewart.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO in EDINBURGH (Part 3)

by Gordon R. Nicoll

Was your ancestor a prominent member of Edinburgh society a hundred years ago? If so there may be a photograph, and a brief biography, in:- *Contemporary Biographies - Edinburgh and the Lothians – At the Opening of the Twentieth Century*, by A. Eddington. [Pike’s *New Century Series*, No. 12, Published by W. T. Pike, Edinburgh.,1904.]

Copies can be found in our own Society’s library, and a number of other Edinburgh libraries. The first hundred or so pages consist of topographical material about places in and around Edinburgh, accompanied by many interesting photographs.

The biographies, themselves, consist of a paragraph descriptive of the individual’s career and accompanied by a photograph. The name of the father, and the early education or training, is usually given, together with the marriage, where appropriate, and surviving family.

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Compiled by Dr. James Cranstoun, Hon. Librarian

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| Ancestry of Anthony Morris Johnson, Vol. 10. | Johnson, R.L |
| Army service records of the First World War | S. Fowler et al. |
| Barrhill Old Cemetery: Monumental Inscriptions | |
| Blackstocks of Argyll | D. Blackstock |
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| Census and Index, 1821, Lanarkshire, Lesmahagow | Lanarkshire F.H.S. |
| Census Indexes, 1851, Lanarkshire: | |
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Census Indexes, 1851, West Lothian:

- Abercorn, Dalmeny, Ecclesmachan, Kirkliston, Livingston parishes West Lothian F.H.S.
- Census Records, 1841, County of Dumfries: Caerlaverock,
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- Census Roxburghshire 1851: Cavers, Hobkirk, Kirkton & Teviothead parishes G. & E. Maxwell
- Chronicle of the Ministers' Daughters College, 1921
- Clock and Watchmakers of Glasgow & West of Scotland D. Whyte
- Desertions, elopements and escapes J.A. Brebner
- Directory of Irish family history research, no 25, 2002
- Directory of War Memorials in Scotland
- Fife Coastal walks: 8, Crail to St Monans; 9, St Monans-Lower Largo
- Colmonell Kirkyard Monumental Inscriptions
- Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae Medii Aevi ad Annum 1638 D.E.R. Watt & A.L. Murray, eds.
- Fife Marriage Registers, Roman Catholic, 1793-1854 Fife F.H.S.
- Flying units of the R.A.F. A. Lake
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- History of the Clan Gregor, Vol. 1 A. MacGregor
- History of the Stewarton Mackies T. Mackie
- In Scotland again H.V. Morton
- Kinnedar Churchyard, Drainie, Morayshire, Monumental Inscriptions B. Bishop
- Life of a Regiment: history of Gordon Highlanders: 1816-1898 C.G. Gardyne
- Medal Yearbook 2003 J. Mackay, ed.
- Memorial Inscriptions in Logierait Churchyard
- Michael Kirk, Gordonstoun E. Lightowler
- Monumental Inscriptions, Shetland: Bressay, Drumossness, Tinwall Shetland F.H.S.
- My Genealogy (in part) M.E. Davidson
- Roll of Dumbarton Burgesses and Guild Brethren: 1600-1846 S. Fowler, et al.
- Scottish Military Dress P. Cochrane
- Scotts of Thirlstane J. Webey
- Simple Heraldry I. Moncrieffe
- To see oursels: rural Scotland in old photographs D. Kidd
- Tracing Your Ancestors in the P.R.O.
- Twixt Forth and Clyde A.G. Williamson
- Uniforms of the Scottish Infantry: 1740-1900 W.A. Thorburn
- Using the 1901 Census on the Internet
- Walk round Tobermory O. Brown
- Wappenrolle Munchner Herold, Vols. 1-4
- Welcome to the Independent Republic of Kelty
- Whitaker's Almanack, 1956 and 1983
- Wilson of Beith, Ayrshire
- Yellowlees Family J. Yellowlees

NEWS in BRIEF and EDITOR'S NOTES

Dates for your Diary

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 10 June | Tuesday - Members' private visit at 6.30pm to the National Library of Scotland with a viewing of the Summer Exhibition. |
| 12 June | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 14 June | Saturday - The Society's 50 th Anniversary Celebratory Fair, The Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh, details below An evening Reception for members at 5.30pm in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. |
| 26 June | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 10 July | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 24 July | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 14 August | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 28 August | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 30 August | Saturday - Fife Family History Fair, Adam Smith Theatre, Bennoch Road, Kirkcaldy, details below. |
| 11 September | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm. |
| 13 September | Saturday - The Great North Fair 2003, Gateshead International Stadium, details below. |
| 17 September | Wednesday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>Neil Gunn's Landscape & People</i> , Lt. Cdr. Dairmid Gunn, OBE. The Library will be closed that evening. |
| 25 September | Thursday - Members' visit to New Register House, 6.30pm |
| 26 September | Friday - 50 th Anniversary Dinner, Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh, 7.30pm. |
| 16 October | Thursday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>The Newhaven Heritage Museum: depicting a community</i> , Denise Brace, The People's Story, Canongate Tolbooth. |
| 17 November | Monday - Ordinary Meeting, <i>The History & Development of the Feudal Barony & its Court</i> , SGS Hon. President, Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, KCVO, WS. |

Scottish Genealogy Society - Golden Jubilee Events

10th June - A visit to the National Library of Scotland for members, with a private viewing of the Summer Exhibition,

14th June - A Family History Fair in the Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh, from 10am to 4pm. To be officially opened by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. Admission is free. Refreshments available all day. In attendance will be the National Archives of Scotland; New Register House on-line with their ScotlandsPeople website, and the Genealogical Society of Utah on-line with their FamilySearch.org website. A group from Queen Margaret University College will give enactments of a genealogical theme throughout the day. Scottish Screen Archive will be showing archive films relating to family life and genealogy in the 1930s, 1940 and 1950s during the day. There will be many other Scottish Family History societies, professional booksellers and other interesting stalls.

14th June - An evening Reception for members to be held in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, from 5.30pm.

26th September - A 50th Anniversary Dinner will be held in the Royal Scots Club, 30 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, 7pm for 7.30pm, tickets £30.00.

Fife Family History Fair

The theme of the fair is "Back to the Future" and takes place in the Adam Smith Theatre, Kirkcaldy on 30th August 2003, from 9am until 5pm, admission is £15.00 with discounts for early booking. Speakers are Hazel Anderson of N.A.S on Wills and Testaments; Andrew Dowsey of Fife Archives; Mike Craig from the Aberdeen George Washington Wilson photographic collection; Lesley Diack on Census Records and Margaret Bennett from the School of Scottish Studies on Oral History. For further details telephone Janet Klak on 01592 412 883.

The Great North Fair

This Family and Local History Fair will be held in the Gateshead International Stadium Exhibition Halls, Neilson Road, on Saturday 13th September 2003, from 10am to 4:30pm. Free car park. For further details telephone 01670 353605.

SCOTTISH CLOCK & WATCHMAKERS

Our Society Vice-President, Donald Whyte, FHG, FSG(Hon.) has now covered all Scotland with his booklets on clock and watchmakers. These are as follows, with availability and price in the UK.

Clock & Watchmakers of South-West Scotland, 1576-1900: Dumfriesshire, Kirkcudbrightshire, Wigtounshire, Carrisk. Published by Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society, 9 Glasgow Road, Dumfries DG2 2AF. £3.00 + 40p (p&p).

Clock & Watchmakers of the Scottish Borders, 1556-1900: Berwickshire, Peebles-shire, Roxburghshire, Selkirkshire. Published by the author at 4 Carmel Road, Kirkliston EH29 9DD. £3.00 + 50p (p&p).

Clock & Watchmakers of the Scottish Highlands & Islands, 1780-1900: includes Moray & Nairn. Published by the Highland F.H.S., c/o the Public Library, Farraline Park, Inverness IV1 1NH. £3.00 + 44p (p&p).

Clock & Watchmakers of Edinburgh & the Lothians, 1539-1900. Published by the Scottish Genealogy Society, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL. £12.00 + 90p (p&p).

Glasgow & West of Scotland Clock & Watchmakers, 1603-1900. Published by Glasgow & West of Scotland F.H.S., Unit 5, 22 Mansfield Street, Glasgow G11 5QP. £4.00 + 66p (p&p).

Tay Valley Clock & Watchmakers (Angus & Perthshire), 1554-1900. Published by Tay Valley F.H.S., 179-181 Princes Street, Dundee DD4 6DQ. £2.80 + 44p (p&p).

Central Scotland Clock & Watchmakers, 1537-1900: Stirlingshire, Clackmannanshire, Kinross-shire & Fife, 1537-1900. Published by Central Scotland F.H.S., "Tarradon", Wallace-Stone Brae, Falkirk FK2 0DH. £3.00 + 44p (p&p).

Clock & Watchmakers of Aberdeen & North-East Scotland, 1453-1900. Published by Aberdeen & North-East F.H.S., 164 King Street, Aberdeen AB24 5BD. £3.60 + 44p (p&p).

These booklets should be of assistance to museums, libraries, record offices, antique dealers, auctioneers, historians and genealogists. The author does not claim completeness, and would be pleased to learn of omissions and corrections. If these are many, he hopes to complete a one-volume work in a few years time, covering all Scotland.

QUERIES



- 2939 The photograph is of 1911/1912 Bejant Students of the University College of Dundee. My namesake uncle Patrick Wright Anderson from Arbroath (who had come from Arbroath High School) is standing left of the top row of four men, just above the female in the plain white blouse. He is one of only two students known to the University of Dundee, in this group of 29 in the photograph; the other is Annie Hosie Strachan from Broughty Ferry she is the female who is wearing the long tie in the group of three females. My uncle, Patrick W. Anderson was, during his years at the University College, Dundee (then part of St. Andrews University), a member of the St. Andrews University Officer Training Corps. And in 1914 was a Corporal in the Corps. and when war was declared he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the 8th Battalion Black Watch and during 1915 transferred to the 10th Bn. Black Watch serving in France and Salonika, before serving with the 18th Sqn. RFC/RAF in France, but on 27th June 1918 was seriously wounded and spent the next year or so in hospitals. He returned home to Arbroath on Armistice Day 1919 to dress his wounds, of which he died on 2nd November 1921, never returning to complete his last year at University College, Dundee. Annie Hosie Strachan was a very active student during her time at University College, and in 1923 she returned to the College, and gave an address to Rudyard Kipling the visiting Rector. I am wondering if any readers are able to identify anyone in the 1911/12 Bejant Year photograph. It would appear that students in those days came from a more local catchment area than nowadays, but the students in the photograph may have matriculated and moved out of the surrounding areas of Perthshire, Angus and Fife. Any assistance would be gratefully received. *Patrick W. Anderson, 2 MacFarlane Croft, Letham, Forfar, Angus, DD8 2GB, Scotland.*

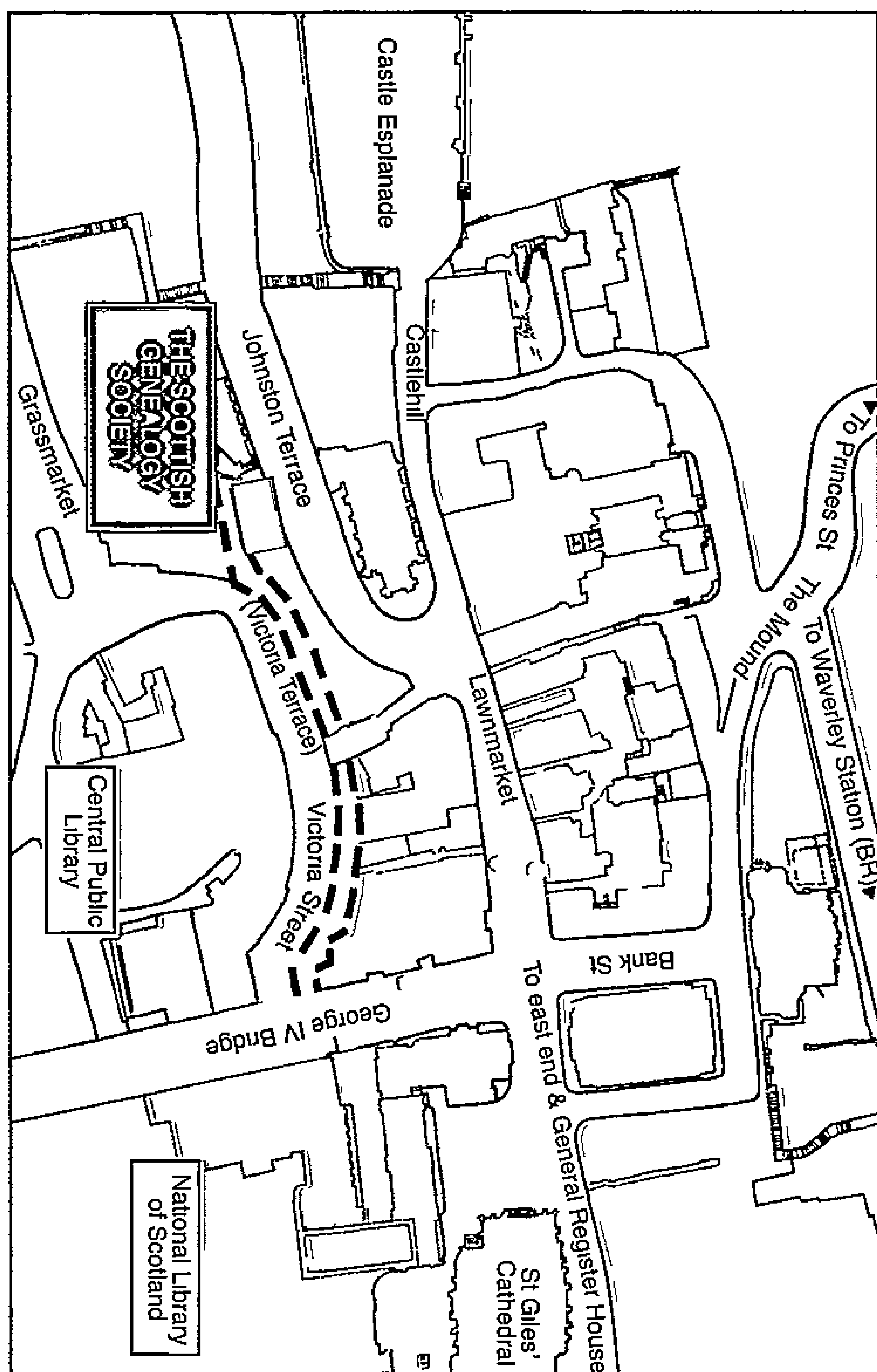
(Editor's note: Photograph is printed by kind permission of Dundee University Archives)

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| | |
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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, Secunder 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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