



THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

DECEMBER 2007

A Confederate Hero

Learmonth or Lermontov

Scots around the Baltic: Urquhart

OAPs and the Census Returns

An Orcadian Mystery

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The Scottish Genealogy Society

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Front Cover: The Society's Coat of Arms

Back Cover: Part of the illustrated matriculation of Gustav Reinhold Loewenwolde, showing his Urquhart line of descent.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Society is an academic and consultative body whose constitutional objects are to promote research into Scottish family history and to undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish genealogy. Copies of our Constitution are available to members upon request. We assist members with modest enquiries, but do not carry out professional research. Private researchers are available, and we can also provide an ASGRA list upon request.

Meetings

Monthly meetings of the Society are held September to April in the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, at 7.30pm around the 15th of the month. If the 15th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the meeting is held the following Monday.

Membership

Single membership £16; family membership £19; affiliate membership £20.

The Society is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a charity. Members who pay UK income tax are therefore encouraged to pay their subscriptions under the Gift Aid Scheme so that the Society may recover the tax paid on these sums. Details of arrangements for the scheme can be obtained from the UK Membership Secretary.

Correspondence, Subscriptions, Publications

General correspondence should be sent to the Honorary Secretary and subscriptions to the Membership Secretary (subs@scotsgenealogy.com). Information about the Society's publications and back numbers of *The Scottish Genealogist* can be obtained from the Sales Secretary (sales@scotsgenealogy.com). All correspondence should be addressed to 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL, Scotland. Email: info@scotsgenealogy.com

The Scottish Genealogist

Relevant articles are welcomed by the Hon. Editor and preferably should be submitted in MSWord or rtf format via email or on a CD Rom. Illustrations are preferred in .jpeg format. Members' queries are also welcomed for inclusion in the magazine: a £2 per entry charge is made to non-members. Email: editor@scotsgenealogy.com

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A Scottish Branch of Urquharts in the Loewenwolde Family Tree

by Vsevolod K. Malinovskii

Gerhard Johann Baron Loewenwolde was a confidant of the Russian Emperor, Peter the Great. The distinguished careers of his three sons, which deserve their own article, began in the reign of Peter I and culminated in the reign of Anna I. The two elder sons, Karl Gustav and Gustav Reinhold, were created Counts of the Russian Empire in 1726, during the reign of Catherine I, Peter's widow. The youngest, Friedrich Casimir, became a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, where he served after leaving Russia in 1734.

Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde not only belonged to an outstanding Baltic German family, was a determined fighter against the Swedish reductions, was a relative and friend of Johann Pattkuell, but he was also, which remains generally unknown at this time, a close relative by birth of a noble Scottish family. On his maternal side Gerhard Johann Lowenwolde was a descendant of the Urquhart family. After the Civil War, his grandfather, John Urquhart, being of a Royalist family, was either forced to emigrate or could not return to Scotland from Sweden.

That Scottish descent is noteworthy, since it may cast light onto the puzzle of why Peter I, who did have many Scotsmen as advisers, not only entrusted Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde with a prominent role in the settlement of Baltic affairs after the Great Northern War (Gerhard being his counsellor and plenipotentiary in Baltic countries in 1710), but also with confidential problems concerning the marriage and family affairs of the Tsarevich Alexey and also with matrimonial matters concerning the Tsar's daughters. Entrustment with the Royal Family's personal matters might be surprising, if Gerhard had been considered a foreigner, or even an enemy, who had entered Russian service only in 1709.

The principal aims of this article are to demonstrate the Scottish branch in the family tree of Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde and his descendants and to invite readers' commentaries. Knowledge of this branch is based mainly on two documents, the family trees of the elder two sons, Karl Gustav and Gustav Reinhold Loewenwolde. Both trees were compiled as Matriculations on the occasion of the brothers' elevation to the Russian peerage. The first, a copy, is included in a book, "A Collection of Various Latvian Monuments" (*Sammlung verschiedener Lieflandischer Monumente*) by J. K. Brotze (see below). The second is the original and was found by me in the Archive of Ancient Acts, Moscow.

My personal interest consists in my being, to my surprise, descended from the Urquharts through Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde's daughter Helena Christina (later known as Charlotte).

The Loewenwolde Family

Below is an extract from a Matriculation (translated from German), delineating Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde, his parentage and children.

Christoph Bernhard von Loewenwolde of Malla, Estonia, Swedish Army Captain, who married **Isabella Urquhart**, daughter of **John Urquhart** and **Isabella Kenmur-Gordon**, both from Scotland.

Their children:

Anna Margaretha (born ca 1640-45, died 1711) who married in the 1690s Joachim Friedrich von Loewenwolde

Gerhard Johann (died 26th April 1723), who married in 1680 Magdalene Elisabeth von Loewen. After a career in the Swedish Army, he joined the service of Russia in 1709, as an adviser to Peter I. From 1710 to 1713 he was the Civilian Governor of Estonia and between 1710 and 1723 he was President of the Legal Commission.

The children of Gerhard Johann & Magdalene:

Karl Gustav (died 30 April 1735) who married in 1722 Charlotte von Rosen (1698-1782). Also had a military career, and at one point he was sent as Envoy to Vienna. Created Count 24 October 1726. Childless.

Gustav Reinhold (born 1693, died in Siberia 22 July 1758). In 1725 he was appointed President of the Russian Chamber; in 1730 Commander of the Household Guard; later Inspector of Salt Production. Created Count 24 October 1726. After his fall from Court favour and his exile to Solikamsk (in west central Russia, about 750 miles from Moscow) in 1742, all the lands granted to him by Tsarina Anna in 1736 and by Tsar Peter II in 1737 were confiscated by the Crown

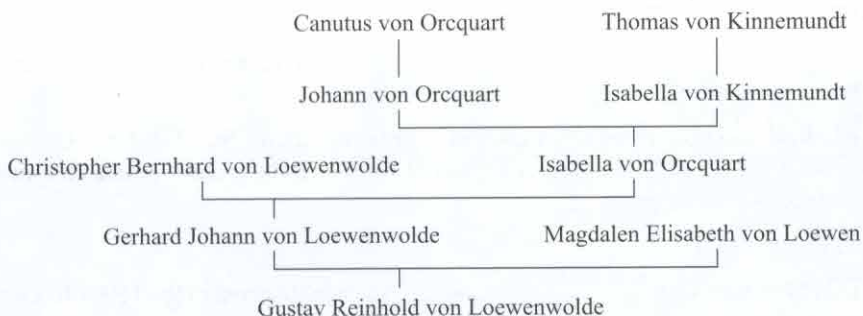
Friedrich Casimir (born 1697, died 8 April 1769), who had a distinguished military career in the Holy Roman Empire. Had one natural son, whom he acknowledged as his heir.

Helena Christina, who married in 1722 Berend Friedrich von Sclippenbach (1695-1737) and with whom she had at least three children.

The Family Tree of Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde

(Scottish branch only)

The original document depicted a tree with its many branches. As stated above, it is deposited in the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts. It is accompanied by a written certification (in German), dated 19th August 1726, and signed by responsible persons, with apposition of their seals. There are many gaps in it, especially as regards the Scottish branches, and, furthermore, it has some differences from his brother's tree. The Scottish descent is shown in the following diagram.



This was accompanied by an open letter of introduction, dated 19 August 1726, from Justus Johannes Rosenkampff, Imperial Secretary to the Imperial High Court Judge for His Imperial Majesty in Estonia, plus 11 other signatories, part of which (in translation from German) reads:

“After showing you this family tree, your Russian Imperial Majesty, the high-born Chamberlain Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde of the House of Malla in your Russian Imperial Majesty’s Higher Court in the Duchy of Estonia, would like it to be known that attention should be drawn to the fact that both the father’s and the mother’s lines are of old aristocratic stock.”

This was followed with a statement describing the contribution of both lines to Russia and her government and emphasising their nobility, together with some written family history.

The Family Tree of Karl Gustav von Loewenwolde

(Scottish branch only)

This document is far more elaborate and has greater detail. (*See back cover for John Urquhart’s lineage.*) The names, designations and relationships in the following list are as they appear in Brotze’s book.

Isabella ab Urquart

Parents:

Joh. ab Urquart, Toparcha in Kinbaikie Caroli X regis Svec. Tribunus militum 1663

Isabella de Kenmur, Gordon filia unica

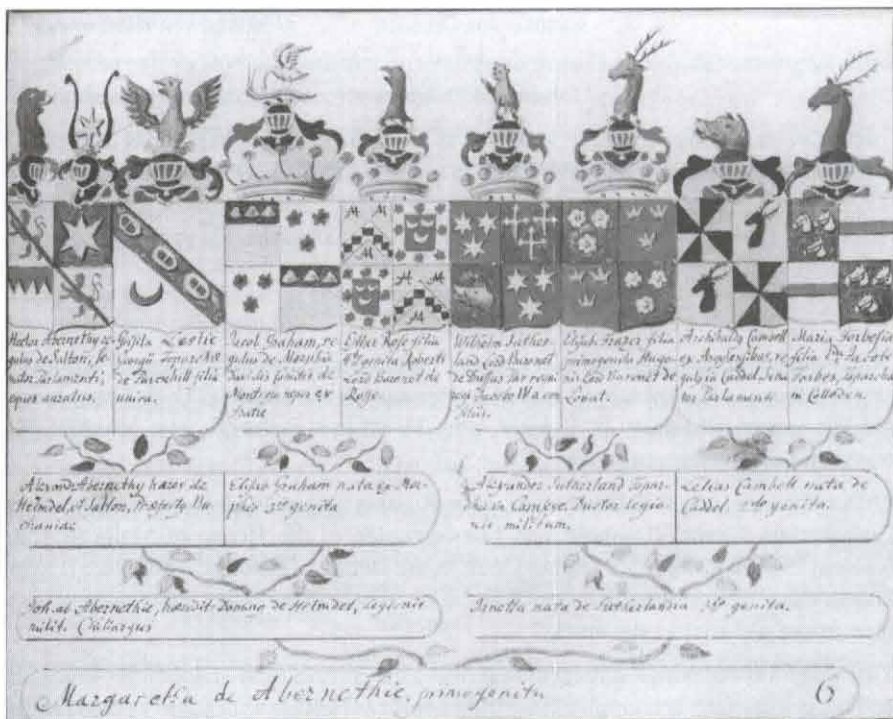
Grandparents:

Alexander ab Urquart Toparcha in Kienbackie, Castri et Comitatus Inverness praefectus

Margaretha de Abernethie primogenita

Thomas Kenmur, Gordon haeres Dominy de Peningham, regni Sver. Tribunus equitum

Isabella Kieth ex linea Pavburniana primogenita



Great-grandparents:

Rodericus ab Urquart Toparcha in Kenbackie, Provinciae Rossiae Praefectus
Anna Monroe, tertia genita, obiit, an at:112

Joh. Abernethie, haeredit: Dominy de Helmdel, Legionis milit. Chiliargus
Janetta nata de Sutherlandia 3-io genita

Georgius Kenmur Gordon har. in Peningham, regis Jacobi IV Consiliarius Thesaurarius
Helena Ogilvie 3-io genita

Jac. Kieth Toparcha de et in Pauburn Provincia Marriae praefectus
Maria Grahame 2-da genita ex linea Ballgown

Great-great-grandparents:

Jacob ab Urquart Toparcha in Kenbackie, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobilius Moraviae
Margaretha Stuart, Mater 14 filiorum et 9 filiarum

Hector Monroe Toparcha in Kiltornie, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobilius Rossiae
Grisilia Gordon, ex Gordonstoun primogenita

Alexander Abernethy haires de Helmdel et Seaton, Praefectus Buchaniae
Elisabeth Grahame naeta ex Morhio 3-io genita

Alexander Sutherland Toparcha in Carnseye, Doctor legionis militum
Lelias Cambell nata de caddel, 2-do genita

Wilh. Kenmur Gordon Toparcha in Peningham, provinciae Gallovidia praefectus
Maria ab Urquart Malcolmi 1-o genita

David Ogilvie 2-do genity Toparcha de Pourie Senator Parlamenti Eques auratus
Helena Grahame Andrew 1-o genita

Malcolmus Kieth Toparcha in de Pauburn Senator Parlamenti
Cathar. Maul nata de Panmure 3-o genita

Jac. Grahame Toparcha de Ballgoven, provincia Angrusiae praefectus
Anna Ogilvie nata de Innerwartii 3-ia genita

Great-great-great-grandparents

Alexander ab Urquart, Fil 2-dis Joannis L. B et Lord de Cromatrie, acrepit Toparchium
de Kenbakie hereditario

Magdalena Grant Filia Roberti ... familia Grant

Jo. Stuart regulus in Reston, nepos Joanis Comitis de Athol et filius Alexandri in
Reston

Majorana Seaton Jacobi Toparchae in Petineden filia 2-da

Robert Monro Toparchae de Alkenge Roberti Monro filius secundus
Helena Dumbar Jacobi Toparchae de Drun filia primogenita

Georg Gordon refulus de Gordonstoun
Catharina Lindsey, Davidus L. Lord de Spenzia filia 2-da

Hector Abernethy regulus de Salton, Senator Parlamenti, equesauratus
Grisilia Leslie Georgii Toparcha de Parekhill filia unica

Jacob Graham, regulus de Morphie Davidis Comitis de Montrose nepos et fratre
Esther Rose filia 4-to genita Roberti Lord Baronet de Rosse

Wilhelm Sutherland Lord Baronet de Duffus Par regni Jacobo IV a consiliis
Elisab. Frazer filia primogenita Hugonis Lord Baronet de Lovat

Archibald Cambell ex Argylensibus, regulus in Caddel. Senator Parlamenti
Maria Forbesia filia 2-da Jacoba Forbes, Toparcha in Colloden

Jo. Gordon Vicecomes Lord de Kenmur Par. regni, Jacobi IV Tribunis equitum
Elisab. Maxwell fil. 2-da genita Jo. Maxwell Lord Baronet de Heries, eius prosteri
Comites de Nithsdale

Malcolm Urquart Toparcha de Meldrum, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobility Murraviae
Judith Banetyne Wilhelmi reguli de Courhouse filia 2-da genita

David Ogilvie, Lord Baronet de Airlie Par regni euj. posterii Comites d'Airlie
Dornabella Irwine, Roberti reguli de Drum filia unica

Andr. Graham Toparcha in Fintrie, Praefect. militar sub Jacobo IV & V
Agnes Douglas Jacobi Toparchae de Stendrie filia 3-io genita

Alang Kieth Toparcha in Panburn sub Jacob IV supremacy aula Judex
Susana Hamilton Alexandri Toparcha in Bayres fil. oujus posserisunt Comites de
Haddington

David Maul Lord Baronet de Panmure Par regni euj. posterii hodie Comites
Felicitas Erskine Georgii Erskine Comitiss de Marr filia 3-da genita

Patricig Grahame Toparcha de Ballgown Senator Parlamenti Eques
Euphemia Bruce fil. Davidis reguli de Solacmanen. Provincia Sterlingae prefectus
regius

Jacob Ogilvie Toparcha de Innerwartii Provinciae Merniae prefectus regius
Caecilia Crichton Ludovici reguli de Frentheit filia unica

This was accompanied by a Certification in Latin, which was translated as follow:

In the year of restored salvation 1730, on the 22nd May, at Aberdeen in the royal kingdom of Scotland, in a very crowded gathering of learned men, an arrangement was put in place concerning the Genealogy of the famous family of the Urquharts of Kinbeachie and in particular about the parents and ancestors of Lady Isabella Urquhart, daughter of Lord John Urquhart, at one time Commader for the most serene and most powerful King of the Swedes and the Goths, and Lady Isabella Kendur-Gordon, wife of the same John. And so that this historical-critical Act might duly and legally proceed in due order, there were most dutifully gathered together very important men, most distinguished by birth, most versatile in learning and in long practice in this sort of argument, especially they seemed more suitable at examining the business more accurately and judging it more capably. Those who were of the proposed known ancestors and those connected by marriage had enquiries placed before them. Thus when everything was set out in due order and authentic documents produced, partly represented pictorially and written, partly stamped and carved, after a most diligent discussion, all agreed with this judgment:



Detail from The Blaeu Atlas of Scotland, Extima Scotiae, 1654, showing Kinbreachie (Kinbrachy) near the Cromarty Firth.
Reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland.

that the aforementioned Isabella was the legitimate daughter of the said John Urquhart of Kinbeachie and of his wife Isabella Kenmur-Gordon, and that John would have had as his father Alexander Toparch of Kinbeachie, son of Roderick of Kinbeachie and Anna Monro of Kilternie: indeed he would have had as his mother Margaret born in Abernethy, daughter of John hereditary lord of Helmdel, and Janet born in Sutherland. Moreover Thomas Kenmur Gordon hereditary lord of Penningham Tribune of horses of the most serene King of Sweden, son of George hereditary lord of Penningham and Helen Ogilvie born in Purie, was the father of Isabella Kendur Gordon: indeed his mother was Isabella Kiets born in Pauburn, daughter of James Kiets Toparch of Pauburn and Maria/Mary Graham born in Ballgown, and thus by ascending through 2 generations thus far there were counted on both sides and sex in the fifth generation not less than 32 ancestors, which, so that confusion from the crowd may be avoided, it seemed good that all these ancestors be distinguished clearly in one plan, and set out in turn in an orderly way, just as the (versa) page will show.

I, John, Duke of Sutherland, Lord Baron of Strathnevern and Dunrobin to His Sacred Royal Majesty in the most secret Council and of the same Locumtenens of the provinces of Moray, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and the Orkney Islands, Peer of the Kingdom, and I, James Ogilvie Count of Airlie and Elight, Lord Baron of Ogilvie and Lentrathen, hereditary Baillie of Arbroath, Peer of the Kingdom etc, to the above-said confession and genealogical-heraldic-critical act, when the Plan of the Ancestors of the Urquhart of Kinbeachie family was produced, examined and proved, we were asked separately and most kindly summoned: after we heard, saw, examined every single thing previously noted and described, and considered carefully near of best faith the public records and the genuine documents of things done, we found that the obverse Scheme of the ancestors and antecedents of Lady Isabella Urquhart, wife of Lord Christopher Bernard Count of Loewenwold to be genuine, true and agreeing in all things with the historical truth, and what is especially certain to us from it, is because very many of our ancestors were counted in it, thus nothing could be had more certain or more evident. Besides these things, there was shown to us at the same time an oblong document with two skins joined firmly with glue, in which in the manner of a genealogical tree the ancestors of the aforementioned Lady Isabella were wholly and skilfully placed and expressed charmingly with colours close to the Clansmen's arrangement of the preceding scheme: in the upper row were added arms of individual people, without the insignia of nobility which is recognised as suitable and proper for individual families, just as today they are able to and ought to bear or carry on their seals and other ornaments, by absolute right. Since therefore all 32 ancestors continuously, of whichever sex, of the said Lady not only would have been born legitimately, but also none of them, as much as can be found out, will have mixed with commoners, or worked with merchandise or mechanical arts, nor has anyone unworthy of their ancestors appeared: it seemed good to us to confirm, strengthen and restore without doubt the aforesaid young shoot next to all her stages

and generations first in the described plan, then in the painted membraned document with its arms and insignia, by our noble word and according to our noted reputation, and also by our signatures and our seals put on as is the custom. Just as by presiding over this public instrument we make firm, strengthen and without doubt restore it. This was settled in Aberdeen, on the day and the year as above, happily in the name of God. Amen

The Book by J. K. Brotze

Johann Christoph Brotze (1742-1823) was born in Gerlitz, studied theology and philosophy at the Universities of Leipzig and Wittenberg and also mastered technical drawing. In 1768 he moved to Riga where he worked as a tutor and in 1769 he started a 46-year teaching career at the Riga Lyceum. Brotze belonged to the trend of late humanism, the so-called school of erudites. He considered the collection and processing of historical sources to be his main task.

He collected historical materials and drew everything that seemed significant to him: people, buildings, coins, armorial bearings, plans of towns, technical innovations, etc, fixing everything with great preciseness and always adding written explanations which might sometimes contain just a couple of lines and which might sometimes extend to several pages. Many of the objects and documents drawn and described by him have perished or disappeared over the course of time, information about them being preserved only in his book.

This collection consists of 10 leather-bound volumes, containing a total of 3,246 pages. A page measures 33 x 21cm (13 x 8ins). Most of the pictures are Brotze's originals, although there are also some plans and drawing by other artists. Many of Brotze's originals are pen-and-ink drawings. The colour illustrations are either water-colours or ink drawings with added water-colours. Unfortunately some of these 18th & 19th century drawings have faded, their colours altered, and in some cases only specks of the water-colours remain.

Some of Brotze's illustrations are of armorial bearings of the Baltic nobility, stamps and monuments of archbishops, bishops, towns, courts and churches. Others are of inscriptions on gravestones, buildings, bells and goblets. There are views of Baltic estates, castles, towns & settlements, public edifices and dwelling-houses, as well as topographical maps of various places. He recorded too the human factor: inhabitants of both town and country, their clothing, lifestyle, occupations, work procedures and equipment used, for example, for water supply and telegraph. In these volumes can be found a wealth of information about Latvia and Estonia at that time and of their histories. It was characteristic of Brotze to record as much information as possible. To show a town in development, for example, he would collect plans drawn in different years, draw its most significant buildings and offer an historical outline of its economy and administration.

Addenda

Sir Thomas Urquhart

Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty (1611-1660), the noted translator of Rabelais, wrote in his personal genealogical volume *Pantochronochanon* that Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty, Sixth Chief of the Clan Urquhart, had a second son from whom is "descended lineally, that learned and valorous gentleman, Colonel John Urquhart, who went to Germany, and for many years together, most faithfully discharged the duty of Lieutenant-Colonel to the queen regnant of Swedeland."

A Swedish Source

A Swedish document has been found.

(In translation)

The noble family Urqvard nr. 423, probably extinct 1656.

One Henrik Urqvart was an ensign in the Swedish army in 1644

John Urquhart became a Swedish citizen in 1648 and his name was changed to Urqvard. He was a resident of Skäggesta, a farm on duty-free land in Börje parish just east of Uppsala which he was granted on 19 May 1645 and 18 April 1646 and where he erected a manorhouse in 1650.

He belonged to an old noble family in Scotland and came to Sweden in the beginning of the 1630s with one of the Scottish mercenary regiments (hired by the Swedes to fight the Thirty Years War in Germany.) He was a lieutenant in a Swedish regiment led by Johan Skytte (a well-known Swedish nobleman, scientist and politician of his time) and became captain of that regiment in 1636.

On 23 August 1643 he assisted the commander on Neumunde Skans, a fortification in Germany. He became a Major of the Lifeguards on 14 May 1645 and Lieutenant-Colonel of the same regiment on 8 April 1647.

On 12 April 1648 he became a Swedish citizen and was ennobled. In 1650 he was introduced to knighthood at the House of the Nobility. His Family's number there was 404, later changed to 423. In 1655 he was a colonel at Magnus Gabriel De la Gardie's household regiment and he was also commander at Birsén in Livonia.

He was dead by the spring of 1656, probably the last of his family on the male side.

Wife: He was married to Isabella Kinnimund, born in Scotland, daughter of William Kinnimund and sister to Patrick and Thomas Kinnimund, ennobled in Sweden to Kinnimond nr. 505.

Children: Isabella, married to Baron Bernhard von Lowenwolde of Ayasch and Murricas in the parish of Tryden, Livonia.

(Addendum) A Thomas Urquhart was a student in Uppsala in September 1654.

Testimonial issued by Charles II to John Urquhart

(In translation from Latin)

Charles, by the Grace of God, etc.... into whose hands these letters will arrive, Greetings
Since the origin of this noble and vigorous man. John Urquhart, loved above all by us, a Tribune of soldiers under Swedish command, is overlooked in the regions in which he is staying, nor can letters be cited as evidence concerning the innate nobility of this man, - letters which on such occasions are accustomed to be freed from our Chancellory in the Kingdom of Scotland - because of a tyrannical rebellion of the English and internal disagreements in that Kingdom of ours, we can't get them for a long time.

When he asked us, after due enquiry and an examination of the whole affair, we testify to all whom it concerns that the said John Urquhart is a Scot by birth, son of Alexander Urquhart of Kinbeachie of the most noble and ancient family of Urquhart, hereditary Sheriffs of Cromarty in the County of Ross, born in the family of chiefs of his clan, and of Margaret Abernethy from the most noble and ancient Abernethys Barons of Saltoun in the County of Lothian, also born in the family of chiefs of her clan - that John Urquhart is born legitimately and we ask that the same honour which his ancestors deserve, should be granted to him

Delivered at Cologne under our signature and seal, 22 February, in the year of Salvation 1655, in the 7th of our reign.

Sources:

Family Tree of Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde: Russian Archive of Ancient Acts, f. 154, inv. 2, af. 294, p II.

Family Tree of Carl Gustave von Loewenwolde: J. K. Brotze (or J. C. Broce): *Sammlung verschiedner Lieflandisher Monumente*, vol. 5, part 1 (of 2).

Swedish reference: Elgenstierna G. *Den introducerade svenska adelns attartavlor*, Stockholm, 1925-1936. The article: Adliga atten Urqvard, 423, utdod.

Charles II's Testimonial: British Library Add MS 15856: Copies of official documents during the reigns of Charles I and Charles II 1634-1658, f.49

Comments on this article may be made via the Journal or directly to the author:

Vsevolod K. Malinskii, ulitza Pokrovka, dom 41, kvartira 41, 103062, MOSKVA, ROSSIJA.
e-mail: malinov@orc.ru

Related websites:

The Genealogisches Handbuch der Baltischen Ritterschaften (Genealogy book of Baltic nobility) is now available in Internet

http://mdz1.bib-bvb.de/cocoon/baltlex/Blatt_bsb00000600.00623.html

In particular, for a branch of the Loewenwolde family

http://mdz1.bib-bvb.de/cocoon/baltlex/Blatt_bsb00000600.00623.html

A CD and prints of the Matriculations have been deposited in the SGS Library.

The Editor thanks Birgitta Berger for the translation from Swedish, Carol Stubbs for the translations from Latin, Max Ridder-Patrick for the translations from German and Charlie Napier for his advice on some historical factors.

Scotland's People Vouchers

by Ken Nisbet

If there is any website, apart from the Society's own, which would be recommended to all members, it is www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Unlike any other country in the world, Scotland has on one website all its historical birth, marriage and death records, digital images of wills and the pre-1855 Church of Scotland Parish Registers. Records continue to be added to the site.

This is a pay-per-view website, but those who do wish to use their credit or debit card can buy a voucher of 30 credits. As a member of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies, the Scottish Genealogy Society has been given access to these vouchers, which can be purchased through the Society at the reduced cost of £4.80 (plus any appropriate postage). The normal price is £6.00.

The website currently contains the indexes and digital images for Births 1855-1906, Marriages 1855-1931, Deaths 1855-1956, plus any attached Registers of Corrected Entries; Indexes and Digital Images of the pre-1855 Church of Scotland Baptisms/ Births and Banns / Marriages; the indexes and digital images for 1841/51/61/71/91 and 1901 Census (an index exists for the 1881 census); Wills and Testaments 1513-1901 (the index being free to search with a £5 charge to view or download a copy of the Will or Testament)

The following records will be added by the end of next year: the indexes only of birth, marriage, death certificates will be brought up to the current date (as well as advancing the availability of digital images by one year); the burial records contained in the pre-1855 parish registers of the Church Scotland; the baptismal, marriage and death records of the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland prior to 1900 (where available). Digital images of the 1881 census are also to be added next year.

Here's how to use the site for birth, marriage & death indexes and images from 1855. A future article will cover census returns, parish registers and wills.

One credit allows you access to one index page, and for five credits you can access a digital image. There are a number of ways to search the site before you use up your credits, as searching costs nothing after you have purchased your voucher and registered it online.

You can ask how many Smiths were born in Scotland from 1855 to 1906 (answer - 92,097!), how many were born in any particular year between those dates in a particular county or in a particular parish, and the same can be done for marriages and deaths. You can ask similar questions for the each of the census returns. These can be a male-only or female-only searches, or both together.

Each index page can contain up to 25 entries, so if you know or think your relatives lived in a particular country or parish, it's better to refine the search. For example, the

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Searched for: Surname: "MACPHERSON"; Use Soundex: **On**; Forename: ""; Sex: "Both"; Year From: 1881; Year To: 1906
 District: CAWDOR

Page 1 (Free) of 1 (17 records)

Year	Surname	Forename	Sex	District	City/County/MR	GROS Data	Image	Extract
1899	MACPHERSON	ALEXANDER	M	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0022	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1882	MACPHERSON	ANNIE JANE	F	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0015	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1900	MACPHERSON	CATHERINE ANN	F	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0020	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1892	MACPHERSON	CHARLES	M	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0006	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1894	MACPHERSON	HUGH	M	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0006	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1888	MACPHERSON	JOHN	M	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0010	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER
1904	MACPHERSON	ROBERT ALEXANDER	M	CAWDOR	/NAIRN	122/00 0001	VIEW (PAID)	ORDER

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Search

Surname: * ?

☒ Use Soundex ?

Forename: ?

☒ Return all forenames that begin with these characters ?

Sex: ?

Year Range: To ?

County/City/Minor Records: ?

District: ?

- ARDCLACH
- AULDEARN
- CAWDOR**
- NAIRN

Internet

best way to use the credits when looking for a birth is to ask for all the births in a parish between certain years rather than to ask for an individual birth entry. My great-grandparents, John and Isabella McPherson, who lived in Cawdor, Nairnshire, had 10 children between 1881 and 1906. If I looked at the index page for a year's births for every child, it would cost me 10 credits. However, if I ask for all the entries between 1881 and 1906 for McPherson births, it tells me that there are 10 entries and then it would only cost me only one credit to look at the index page. As I know, the family's surname was sometimes spelt as "Macpherson", so searching for that variation of the surname results in 7 entries. If I tick the Soundex entry for McPhersons to search for that and similar-sounding surnames, it comes up with the total of 17 possibilities, so then I look at that rather than searching for an individual entry. I would use the Soundex only for the Mc/ Mac surnames, as for other surnames it can come up with huge numbers.

For marriages, you can search with the surname and forename of both parties or with the surname and forename of one party and only the surname or forename of their partner. You can search and even enter only the initial letter if you do know it, if it was Janet, Jessie, Jean, Jane, etc. The option to search with one party's name only remains. For example, if I know that Thomas Wilson married at Falkirk between 1890 and 1896 a woman whose forename begin with "I", the search result will tell me that there are only 2 entries. If I knew the marriage took place in Stirlingshire, but didn't know the specific parish, I'd be offered 6 entries.

For deaths, you can enter age ranges, mother's surname if it was recorded in the indexes, two surnames for a woman who was married, and again you can enter the full forename or just the initial.

Once the search result has confirmed that there some entries under the required name, the website asks if you want use a credit to view the index page. Choosing to do so produces the index pages you requested. The response of previous searches is saved in your session, so you can look back at what you asked for earlier (free of an extra charge), and it can be saved separately as a spread-sheet or in Wordpad. To look at an digital image costs 5 credits, and this can be downloaded to your hard-drive or printed off, as you require.

Part Two in the March 2008 Journal.

Edinburgh Family History Week 14th-19th April 2008

Edinburgh City Libraries are planning a week's programme of Family history events, including talks, drop-in surgeries, internet taster sessions, displays etc. Full details in the March 2008 issue of *The Scottish Genealogist*.

Colonel Robert Alexander Smith 1836-1862

by Patricia Player

It was about four years ago, when walking in Dean Cemetery, that my attention was drawn to a memorial stone in remembrance of Colonel Robert A. Smith. Although the inscription was almost illegible, I could just make out that the Edinburgh-born Colonel R. A. Smith had died at Fort Craig on 21st. September 1862, aged 26 years, of wounds sustained during the Battle of Munfordville, Kentucky, USA. Intrigued, and being a keen family historian, I decided to find out what I could about the Colonel Smith's life and family.

James Smith & Ann Preston married on 30th July 1813. James, a Manufacturer, resided at 56 Crosscauseway, and Ann was the daughter of Alexander Preston, Grocer, of 7 West Richmond Street.

Robert Alexander Smith was born on 5th April 1836, and his ten siblings were John, Alfred, Henry, William, James, Herriot, Euphemia, Jane, Anne & Elizabeth. James, Herriot, John and Jane eventually settled in Jackson, Mississippi. Alfred W. P. Smith remained in the UK and became a Manufacturing Chemist. James Smith formed a partnership with his friend



The monument to Col. Robert A. Smith in Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh. The Civil War insignia were laid by a local Civil War enthusiast, who tends the grave. The wreath of poppies was laid by the Scottish Veterans Association.

Stephen Wellstood in 1854, the company becoming known as the Smith & Wellstood American Stove Company of Bonnybridge.

The Smith family were Paisley Shawl & Baby Linen Manufacturers. By searching the 1841 and 1851 Census Returns, I found the family at George Street, Edinburgh. It would appear the business was also based in George Street. Mrs. Ann Smith is listed also in the 1843 Edinburgh Post Office Street Directory as being Proprietor of a Baby Linen Warehouse & Lace Printer of 77 Princes Street, Edinburgh. It is interesting to note that Mrs. Smith employed two of her daughters: they are described as being Milliner & Embroiderer.

It had been the desire of Robert's parents that he became either a Minister or Lawyer; however in 1850, aged fourteen, he travelled to Mississippi in order to join a brother and a sister in Jackson. After settling in his adopted country, Robert joined the ranks of the Mississippi Rifles, excelled very quickly, becoming proficient in military tactics and rapidly attaining the rank of Captain.

In a tribute to Colonel Smith, published in 1863, a local newspaper (The Daily Mississippian) said of Colonel Smith -

No citizen of this community was more public spirited, he was straight forward in all things, noted for his many kind deeds, unpretentious and exceptional intellect. It is clear from reading the long and generous tribute to him, Robert Smith was a very highly regarded and much admired member of the community.

His debating skills were legendary, the "Debating Club" of which he was an enthusiastic member. The subject matter of one discussion was entitled - In what does the wealth of a people and just Government consist - Robert a frequent reader of Adam Smith's 'Wealth of Nations' entered into the debate with enthusiasm, his reply displayed such a grasp of historical, political and statistical knowledge, and so impressed those present, it was thought that one day he would rise to the highest civil or political honours.



Col. R.A. Smith

In March 1861 he left Jackson, Mississippi for Pensacola, as Captain of one of the best-organised, drilled and equipped companies (The Mississippi Rifles.) The troops from Mississippi were divided into the 9th and 10th Regiments, Captain Smith being assigned senior Captain of the 10th Mississippi.

When the position of Commander became vacant, the rule of promotion was not the law in Mississippi, and an election to fill the vacancy was ordered. Captain Smith's competitors were Captain W. D. Wade of the Regiment and Joseph E. Davis, Lieutenant-General of the Regiment and nephew of a Brigadier-General on the personal staff of President Davis. The result was a decided majority for Captain Smith. As Regimental Commander in Braggs - Pensacola Army - Colonel Smith acquired a reputation as the most promising officer of the command: he was ever watchful of the welfare of his men, who in turn held him in high regard and were proud of him both as an officer and a man.

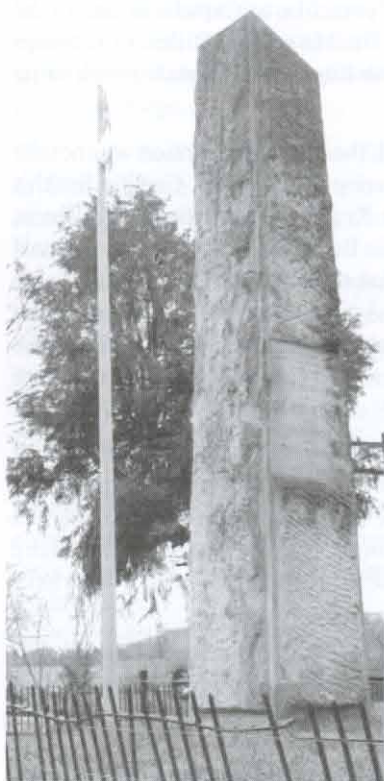
Colonel Smith's regiment fought in the Battle of Shiloh on 6th and 7th April 1862. It was reported of him that during the battle he was conspicuous for his gallantry, unflinching courage and coolness of command. He won the respect of all his superiors and the unlimited confidence and respect of his troops. It was believed that had there been a vacancy to be filled by a Mississippi soldier, Robert A. Smith would have been promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General.

After the battle of Shiloh Colonel Smith was detached from his regiment by General Bragg, to take command of a brigade known as "Anderson's Brigade". He remained in charge of this brigade until after the army's arrival at Tupelo. As the senior Colonel of his own brigade, in the absence of General Chalmers, he frequently acted as Brigade Commander.

The Battle of Munfordville took place between 14th and 17 September 1862. On the night of the 13th September, General Chalmers assumed responsibility for moving on towards Munfordville. At dawn next day he had closed in on the Federal troops, consisting of over 3000 men, who were entrenched in a well-fortified position on the south bank of Green River.

Chalmers had only 1500 men when the order to attack came on 14th September. Colonel Smith led his men into battle, charging forward at the head, was shot several times and fell mortally wounded (the casualty list that day was 40 killed and 211 wounded). Colonel Smith, in excruciating pain, was carried to Fort Craig and died of his wounds on 21st September 1862.

He was buried originally at Munfordville, however his sister Herriot took a wagon across the Federal lines, retrieved the body and took it back to Jackson for reburial. With her were a friend and the friend's son who had contraband documents sewn into their clothes to avoid detection. Several years later the son later wrote a story about the incident.



Munfordville Stone

Photographs by Bill Brown,
a life member of "Sons of the Confederate Veterans",
Murfreesboro Camp no. 33, Tennessee.



In 1884, his brother James Smith travelled to visit the battlefield at Munfordville, where he purchased a small piece of land, on which was erected a monument in honour of his brother Robert. The monument was reported at that time as being, with the exception of Cleopatra's Needle, the largest monument in America carved from a single stone.

The monument is a solid block of white gothic limestone, quarried near Bowling Green. It weighs about 35 tons, is 12ft in height, 4ft around the base and 3ft around the top. The foundation consists of rock and cement, extending 10ft below the ground. The stone took two months to erect and cost \$4000. The monument is located at the southern end of the Railroad Bridge.

In 1854, on a return trip to America, the ship on which James Smith was passenger sank. He floated on a zinc-lined basket for three days, until rescued by a ship named Cambria. I believe there is a Currier & Ives print of this event; and the actual raft is exhibited at the ESSE Company Museum. Interestingly, at least two later female members of the family were named Cambria.

Colonel Robert Alexander Smith is interred at Greenwood Cemetery, Jackson, Mississippi. The monument in Dean Cemetery is his third stone.

I am indebted to Lydia Melton (descendant of the Smith family) and to Jim Huffman (Historian) for their encouragement and assistance.

Col. Robert A. Smith was honoured at Dean Cemetery on Saturday, 15th September 2007, by the Scottish Veterans Association, in a ceremony similar to that to honour Dr Elsie Inglis (see September 2007 Journal).

Learmonth or Lermontov?

The ancestral DNA analysis company, Oxford Ancestors, is inviting members of the Learmonth family and bearers of the Russian surname 'Lermontov' to submit their DNA samples to establish whether the two families are related and thus share a common ancestor - confirming a popular Russian belief that the family that produced the influential 19th Century novelist and Pushkin's collaborator, Mikhail Lermontov, had a Scottish origin.

This is the first in a series of initiatives to be launched by the company's founder Professor Bryan Sykes (best-known for his pioneering DNA extraction work on 5,000 year old Otzi the Iceman), which will seek to identify the historical spread of British DNA across Russia by confirming the 'creation myths' of major Russian families bearing an incongruously Scottish or English surname, or, alternatively, holding what appears to be a Russianised form of a British last name.

Other names to be analysed in due course will include the Greig and Crichton families in Moscow, Reads in St.Petersburg (a 'Nikolai Read' was commander of the Russian forces in the Caucasus in the mid-19th Century) and Smytovs.



Mikhail Yuryevich Lermontov

Bearers of the Lermontov and Learmonth surnames (and relevant derivations) should submit their details for consideration via www.oxfordancestors.com There will be no charge for selected participants and individual DNA results will remain confidential.

Russian/British DNA Analysis - Specifics

Using its Y-Clan analysis service devised by Professor Bryan Sykes, Oxford Ancestors

is able to extract DNA from Lermontov and Learmonth volunteers via a simple cheek swab, to isolate shared DNA found in the Y-chromosome (carried by men).

This will be the very first international family history research study to use DNA and will seek to confirm a link between the two families, thus far unconfirmed due to a lack of records but firmly believed to exist by both families. It may serve to expand understanding in both countries of emigration to Russia in the centuries before the Revolution.

Professor Bryan Sykes, Founder of Oxford Ancestors, describes the inspiration behind the company's initiative. "An academic colleague made reference to Russian families who claimed a British progenitor, and, even though they could not speak a word of conversational English, were able to recite fragments of British nursery rhymes and Scottish songs, apparently passed down the generations by oral transmission."

This eastward Scottish migration is widely acknowledged in Russia - organisations such as the Moscow Caledonian Society have existed to celebrate this shared heritage in Russia. Perhaps on a more subtle level, this DNA trail might account for the increasing prevalence of Scottish-themed bars across Russia! (See 'Russian Fling' article, Time Magazine, May 28th 2006).

Lermontov Family History

Mikhail Yuryevich Lermontov (1814-1841) is one of Russia's foremost poets and literature's most tragic characters, popularly termed by many biographers as the 'Byron of Russia'. Following his exile for penning a controversial poem alluding to high-level complicity in the death of his friend Pushkin, Lermontov became famous for his semi-biographical novel 'A Hero Of Our Time'. He was slain in a duel in 1841. Lermontov was born in Moscow to a respectable family who traced descent from the Scottish Learmonth, one of whom, recorded in Russian records as 'Lermont', settled in Russia in the early 17th century after being captured by the Russian army. However, despite exhaustive searches by Russian literary historians and members of the family, it has been impossible to locate records that link Peter Lermontoff back to Scotland. In August 2007, the Lermontovs of Russia invited Learmonth from across the globe to join them in Moscow to celebrate the 950th anniversary of the first recording of the Learmonth surname.

Learmonth Family History

The Learmonth surname (and the variants Learmont, Learmond, Learmouth) first appears in Scotland in the late 13th century. The believed progenitor of the family was a 13th century prophet and seer, Sir Thomas Learmonth of Ercildoune (now Earlston). Supposedly a seer who predicted the death of Alexander III and the Battle of Bannockburn, Thomas's prophecies were published in 1603 and he rose to greater posthumous prominence as a consequence of Sir Walter Scott's modernisation of the ballad of his life, 'Thomas The Rhymer'.

Oxford Ancestors

Oxford Ancestors - the world's first, and leading, personal DNA analysis company - provides a unique service which allows individuals to go beyond conventional records and recent history. Through shared DNA they can connect with ancient ancestors from millennia past, offering the chance to link with forebears from up to 35,000 years ago. Since its foundation in 2001, Oxford Ancestors has helped many thousands of people discover their ancient ancestral roots via its website www.oxfordancestors.com

Its founder, Professor Bryan Sykes, a professor of Human Genetics at the University of Oxford, had been using DNA analysis to trace important events in human evolution, and in his internationally bestselling book *The Seven Daughters Of Eve* (copy in SGS Library) he demonstrated that the unravelling of European DNA reveals that the majority of modern humans of European extraction can claim to be descended from one of seven women.

Prof. Sykes's work in the field of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis allowed him and his co-workers to produce the most complete DNA family tree of our species yet constructed, the basis of the MatriLine™ service. Using his own surname, Prof. Sykes was the first to show the astonishingly close connection between surnames and Y-chromosomes, which then became the basis for the Y-Clan™ service.

Prof. Sykes gave a talk to the Scottish Genealogy Society a few years ago.

The Learmonth/ Lermontov study

Male Learmonth and Lermontov family members wishing to take part in the voluntary DNA study should visit www.oxfordancestors.com to register themselves as interested in taking part. There will be a limit on the number of participants required to take part.

To order other DNA analysis, call 01865 374 425, or order online at www.oxfordancestors.com
Oxford Ancestors DNA Analyses take up to 6 weeks to process.

For further information on the Oxford Ancestors Anglo-Russian Surname Study, please contact Benjamin Webb

07930 408 224 or benjamin@deliberate-pr.com

From press release

New Publication

"City Of The Dead: a guide to Glasgow's Southern Necropolis" is now available.

For a copy, send a cheque for £8.00 (incl. p&p - within UK) made payable to SGHET, to: SGHET, Colin Mackie, 89 Queenmary Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow G40 3LY

www.cityofthedeath.co.uk

We'll review it in the March 2008 Journal.

Scottish censuses and the OAPs.

by Rosemary Bigwood

Some events have unexpected results and it is quite possible that we owe the survival of the Scottish census returns of 1841 and 1851 to the Old Age Pensions Act of 1908. This Act is a landmark in the history of social welfare reform in introducing for the first time an income for those who were too old to work - albeit modest in its initial scope. It provided a payment of between 1s. and 5s for those over seventy whose incomes were not over 12s. a week. Like all official bodies, however, the Government was not willing to hand over money to an applicant without proof that he or she was indeed over seventy. Applications were made to the local pensions committees in Scotland but in some cases no local information was available to provide proof of age and it was thought necessary to apply to the Local Government Board in Edinburgh for assistance in the matter. Some interesting light is thrown on the introduction of old age pensions, the problems of age verification between 1909 and 1913 and the discussions as to use to be made of census material in this context in a volume of papers in the National Archives of Scotland (GRO5/779).

Proof of Age

Statutory registration was not introduced in Scotland till 1 January 1855 and thus, for a number of years after the introduction of the first pension's scheme, birth certificates were often not available to provide official proof of age of an applicant. The Old Parish Registers were notoriously deficient in the number of births or baptisms recorded - an article published in *The Scottish Review* on 3 September 1908 suggested that only 30%-40% of births were recorded there - and it was therefore necessary to look elsewhere. It was suggested that a statutory certificate of marriage which stated the age of both bride and bridegroom could be used as proof, as even in 1908 many of those aged 70 or over would have been married within the period of statutory registration. This idea, however, was rejected as it was asserted that in a large number of cases ages given on these certificates were incorrect. The next



Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, during whose government the Great Liberal Reforms began.

suggestion was that the evidence of the census returns should be used - a solution which may seem strange to all who have studied details given in the censuses and found that statements of age were very variable and frequently wrong.

The decennial Census

Census taking had first been established nationally in 1801 and from that time onwards information has been gathered on everyone in the United Kingdom once every ten years (with the one exception of 1941). The first four censuses - 1801-1831 - were mainly statistical and few returns have survived but in 1841 the first nominal return was made of everyone in Scotland (and in the rest of Britain) - though the details taken down were limited. Ages of adults, in most cases, were only given to within five years, rounded down. In 1851, much more information was provided, including - supposedly - the exact age of each person. Both these censuses pre-dated the introduction of statutory registration and the appointment of a Registrar General in Scotland. The taking of the two first nominal census enumerations was therefore organised by the Home Office in London and the enumerators' books were transported down to London for safe-keeping where they remained for many years.

A minute of the Local Government Board in Edinburgh dated 19 May 1909 notes that the Board had been approached by local pensions committees and others suggesting that the census returns should be thrown open for verification of ages of OAP claimants. Enquiries had been made as to why access was denied and what authority was necessary to make the returns available. In Ireland such returns could be consulted for this purpose. A number of reasons for the continued closure of the census were given. It was said that if census returns could be used as a proof of age "it may be a temptation to persons to mis-state their age in future censuses." There were also concerns about ensuring the confidentiality of the censuses as it was thought that people might not be willing to fill out the census schedules if they believed that the returns might be consulted generally out of mere curiosity. The Irish practice was quoted but a rather enigmatic reply was given: "The Irish proceedings are very Irish"!

To test the value of census entries as a proof of age, a request was made to London to look for proofs of age of seven Scottish claimants - three of which could not be traced at all. The following remarks were recorded in the correspondence: "The search - a very dirty process- among not very well arranged bundles of paper-bound books involved the work of this officer from time to time ... for 11 hours." The officer again suggested that recourse should be made to the Scottish marriage registers - which was not approved. However, another experiment made in Scotland of the 1861 census returns showed that five out of ten cases examined had produced satisfactory evidence and it was thought that this justified the future use of census information.

The return of the returns

The fact that the 1841 and 1851 census returns were kept in London now opened the question as to whether they should be returned to Scotland. It was widely acknowledged that the books, kept in Queen Anne's Chambers, Tothill Street, London, were in very

imperfect condition. The books were stored in open racks and were very dusty. Some were in such a state of decay that it was impossible to handle them and it was stated that the returns were known not to be complete. On 9 November 1909, the Registrar General for Scotland - J. Patten McDougall - wrote to the Secretary for Scotland: "Apart from the special consideration of their usefulness for the purposes of the Old Age Pensions Act, it seems only natural and proper that they should be used here, rather than as the English Registrar says, be allowed to fall into complete decay in an English cellar." He added: "I am strongly of opinion that a case has been established for access being given to the census returns, those necessary for the purpose of verifying the age of applicants for the Old Age Pensions. I further think that the census returns for Scotland 1841 & 1851 now crumbling to pieces in London, should be transferred to Scotland."

Consent to this request was finally given by London on 12 January 1910. Two packers were employed for sixty-four hours on pay of 6d. per hour. Thirty nine special packing cases had to be made at a cost of £3 13s.2d. and return of the cases to London was requested. The total weight of the 1841 and 1851 Scottish censuses was between two and three tons. They were transported north on the London and North West Railway at a total charge of £5 8s. and it was stipulated that this cost was to be paid by the Registrar General's department. On 27 January 1910, the thirty nine packing cases were delivered to the General Register Office in Edinburgh and were mainly housed in Room 39 which had been cupboarded from floor to ceiling.

The arrival of the 1841 and 1851 censuses was not an unmixed blessing to the officials concerned in verifying ages of OAP applicants. It was soon realised that there were difficulties in establishing age when the census evidence was conflicting and that the 1841 census was practically valueless in this respect. The 1861 census was needed for comparison of ages stated in the enumerations - but there was considerable resistance to opening up this return for searching. It was claimed that the 1861 census return was more extensive and intricate and the pensions officers were requested to search all other evidence first.

Some familiar arguments, some familiar complaints

In July 1910 the view was expressed to the Registrar General by those responsible for dealing with the census searches in Edinburgh that "it will be expedient and politic to keep the census records entirely within the reach of "appealed" cases for several reasons, not least of all being the approaching census and the disturbing influences in the public mind that the census records are being operated upon day by day by a staff of clerks hunting for particulars of OAPs." The correspondent added: "Open the doors of the census to pension officers to fire haphazard references to us (the Local Government Board) and where shall we be - constant, exacting and troublesome searching for our poor officers here - the popular belief of the public destroyed as to the privacy of their particulars." Lacking indexes to the census returns, it was often

very difficult to locate individuals who moved frequently, especially in large towns. One member of the Local Government Board for Scotland, having agreed in 1910 to try to verify the age of a former inhabitant in Greenock in the 1861 census, wrote in despair: "What have I undertaken?" He pointed out that this work would take days of searching.

It was not till 1913 that the 1861 census was opened up for wider access by the Local Government Board and immediately requests were made for the similar access to the 1871 census - which was refused. The door had, however, been opened a crack and in 1923 the Scottish Office agreed to the request of the Registrar General that the public should have limited access to the 1841-71 returns, members of the RG's staff carrying out the actual searches. Eventually in 1955 the public was allowed direct access to the census returns in New Register House, with eighty years' closure, though in 1974 it was decided to bring Scotland in line with England in denying access to any further census till one hundred years after the enumeration was taken.

Had it not been for the OAPs, perhaps much of the early material might have been lost in English vaults and access to the later censuses from 1861 onwards denied! Fortune has favoured the family historian.

Sources

GRO5/779 - Old Age Pensions Acts and age verification 1909-1913, NAS
Cecil Sinclair, *Jock Tamson's Bairns*, GRO 2000

British Maritime History

Realistic genealogical guides to surviving records and more...

Mercantile & Naval

<http://www.barnettresearch.freeserve.co.uk/>

An interesting site which will be of use to those who are setting off on tracing Royal Naval and Merchant Navy ancestors.

While there is no specific information on individuals, there are many links to sources and useful bibliography.

Well worth placing as a "bookmark".

Contributed by John Stevenson

Festival Closure

The Library will close on the afternoon of Saturday 22nd December 2007 and re-open on Monday 7th January 2008. The volunteers wish everyone a Happy Christmas and hope that 2008 will offer many productive research results.

The mysterious Mr. Black, Blacksmith, Kirkwall

by Bruce K. Gorie

When looking for information on one's own family it is sometimes surprising what one finds. Following up a curious entry in the Old Parish Register births for Kirkwall led to this rather sad tale spanning some 70 or 80 years, one which begs more questions than it answers. Who was Mr. Black? Where did he meet Isabella? How did Manuel reach Orkney? Did he work in Caithness? This paper is the results of a few hours' labour undertaken purely because the surname was 'different' - different in almost every record I found!

According to an Old Parish Register entry for a marriage in South Leith, at some time before September 1824, a blacksmith called Mr. Black worked in Kirkwall. He had a daughter Isabella who, after her father's death at a time as yet unknown, married, on 25th September 1824, Manuel Gonsalves, a gardener in Leith. The Rev. Dr. Robertson^[i] of St. Mungo's Church, South Leith, conducted the service. Both Manuel, called Emanuel in another record, and Isabella were living in Leith at the time they married. Isabella was born between 1791 and 1795, although where or when I cannot tell other than not in Orkney, while Manuel was born in Portugal about 1800 and, sometime before 1851, became a naturalised British Subject.

At the time of the 1841 Census Manuel de Gunsilvy was a gardener living at Lasquoy in the parish of St. Andrews, Orkney, with Isabella, then aged about 45, and their children:-

Margaret Gunsalves, born on 19th November and baptised on 4th December 1825 by the Rev. John Dunn,^[ii] minister of the Second Charge, Kirkwall. According to the 1851 Census Margaret Gunsalvo, age 24, was a visitor at 28 Haddington Place, Edinburgh, the home of Cockburn Chrystal, Boot & Shoe Maker, and his wife Catherine Scott Chrystal. Also there were their sons John & Robert, and daughter Catherine, together with lodgers William and Arthur Murphy, and James Gray, all gardeners. Were they friends of Manuel? Margaret does not appear in any other census records nor can she be traced in any of the Old Parish Registers, or marriage and death registers after 1855. What happened to her?

James Gunsalvo, of whom more later, and

William de Gunsalvo, born on 8th December 1833 and baptised on 22nd December 1833, by the Rev. Mr. Logie^[iii] minister of the First Charge, Kirkwall. William appears in the 1841 Census in St. Andrews but not in 1851. Had he died by 1851?

It appears that Isabella Black died between 1841 and 1851, as Manuel, in the 1851 Census, still a gardener, is residing with his wife Margaret and his son James in Wellington Street, Kirkwall. I can find no record of the marriage of Manuel and Margaret, but Census records show that Margaret was born in Thurso. She died on

26th April 1881 at Buttquoy, Kirkwall, the informant being Manuel Gunsalvo, widower. Her Death Certificate showed her to be the daughter of James Sutherland, farmer, and Margaret Gunn, but I have not been able to trace either her birth or her parents' marriage. Margaret had an unmarried sister Jean, a general servant in the 1871 Census, and described in the 1881 Census as Jane, a dairywoman, who lived with Manuel and Margaret in Buttquoy. In the 1881 Census Manuel was described as a 'gardener (hired out)'. He died on 27th June 1885 in Palace Place, Kirkwall, the informant being a neighbour, Charles White.



Wellington Street, Kirkwall

Returning to **James**, he was born in Kirkwall on 13th September 1829 and baptised on 20th September 1829 by the Rev. William Logie*. From the Census records, he appears to have spent at least part of his childhood in St. Andrews. In the 1851 Census he is described as a shoemaker, living with his father and step-mother Margaret Sutherland in Wellington Street. We next find James Gansaloo in 1861 a shoemaker, living as a boarder at West Blackbutts, Cookney, Kincardineshire, with a crofter, James Watt, and his daughter/housekeeper Catherine Watt (age 28) and Watt's grandson William Kennedy (age 8) a scholar. In 1871 James is living at 86 John Street, Aberdeen, where he had two rooms with one or more windows, and was described as a shoemaker employing 1 man. He must have found Cookney a pleasant enough place as on 28th June 1872, at Burnorrachie in the Parish of Cookney, some five miles north of

Stonehaven, he married Jane Don, daughter of Ann Lyon and her husband, James Don, a farmer of 30 acres employing 1 worker and 1 boy. (Burnorrachie was a stone's-throw from West Blackbuts and is now an organic farm.) James was still working as a shoemaker but by the time of his marriage was living at 86+ John Street. Jane had been born on 4th December 1831 in Fetteresso, Kincardineshire and died on 21st February 1879 at 23 Canal Road, Aberdeen, at which address James appears with his second wife in the 1881 Census.

James married secondly on 29th Apr 1880 in Old Machar, Aberdeen, Louisa Rogers, daughter of Henry Rogers, Master Butcher, of Chapel Street, Aberdeen, and his wife Catherine Clark. Louisa was the widow of Colonel William Ashcourt of the 93rd Regiment of Foot, had been born on 25th April 1821 in Aberdeen and died on 12th June 1886 at 23 Canal Road - from 1805 to 1845 the Aberdeen to Inverurie canal ran close by.

By now described as a Bootmaker in Aberdeen, on 24th May 1876 James purchased from 'the Trustees of the deceased James Spark of Craigiepark, with consent of William Ironside, Builder in Aberdeen', land and property in Aberdeen lying between Causewayend and Canal Road with 8 dwelling houses thereon, 4 fronting Canal Road, numbers 11, 13, 15 & 17, and 4 fronting Causewayend, numbered 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118 & 120, with a dwelling house and shop on the lands of Broadfoot with gardens at the back thereof. This purchase was made with the help of a loan of £1,000/- from the executors of David Wyllie, formerly Cashier of the Union Bank of Scotland, Aberdeen, and £440/- from James Bryce, advocate in Aberdeen, probably father of James's executor and beneficiary John Stewart Bryce, also an advocate in Aberdeen^[iv].

By 1879 James was described as a House Proprietor, when he acquired more property, 23 Canal Street and then 40 Beaconsfield Place, possibly financed by loans from the Marriage Contract Trustees of Samuel Willans, Merchant, residing at Friendly Bank near Aberdeen; from Elizabeth Emslie; and from the Trustees and Executors of Rev. Donald Campbell, Minister of the Free Church of Scotland at Ballater.

He obtained other loans, secured against his properties, including one of £475/- from James Greig Leask, Brigade Surgeon, of Aberdeen but then residing in London, and who died there on 16th January 1898 at 44 Clarges Street, Piccadilly.

(Mr. Leask warranted a brief mention in the *London Illustrated News* when his Will appeared^[v]. His Inventory shows he had a Bond for £700/- from the Executors of John Stewart Bryce, perhaps the continuation of the loan due to John's father? At the time of his death Mr. Leask was struggling to exist on a Brigade Surgeon's pension of 22/6 a day, rather more than the average weekly agricultural wage in Scotland at the time.^[vi] When he died he had £1,990/4/- in cash at home. Hidden, perhaps under the mattress? He left $\frac{1}{10}$ th of his net estate of some £23,000 to each of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, The Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children, his six nephews and nieces, and to John Stewart Bryce's sister, the widow of one of Mr. Leask's original executors,

John Stewart Bryce being the other, with one part to be shared between his two new executors.)

Another Bond for £600/- was from Anne Milne, sister of George Milne, sometime Chamberlain of Aberdeen, and this Bond later became part of Anne Milne's estate inherited by her niece Anne Smith who had lived with her aunt at 24 Hamilton Place, Aberdeen. Andrew Milne, father of Anne and George Milne, was a linen manufacturer.

James Gonsalvo left what appears to be, at my brief glance, a somewhat convoluted paper trail but it would seem that a number of his loans were from people who had an unfortunate habit of dying, leaving the debts for others to collect. Was it the case that as he had no family other than his sister-in-law, Louisa's sister, and the informant of his death, he used the value of his properties as a pension fund, leaving his executor to repay the loans from the sale of his heritable estate? Louisa does not receive any mention in his Will.

His death on 16th Feb 1888 at his home at 40 Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen, left James's executor to pick up the pieces. According to his Inventory, which does not mention the value of his properties, James died leaving personal estate of £172-0-9 but expenses including, among other sums, 1/- due to John Hepburn, printer, Aberdeen, and £3/17/7 to John Milne. Perhaps this sum was for collecting outstanding rents? Milne, I find, was admitted as a Messenger-at-Arms for Aberdeen on 20th January 1868.^[xiii] Dr. Leask was due £100/- 'on Bills'; with £213/9/3 due to Mr. J. Bryce's Executors also 'on Bills'. James must have had some fairly substantial repair works undertaken on one or more of his properties, as builders, plumbers, cement merchants and painters were due a total of £98/5/10+. Or were plumbers just as expensive in the 1880s? It was also the case that he had stopped making shoes, or at least his own shoes, as there was a bill for 17/6 due to W. Shivas Junior, Shoemaker, Aberdeen.^[xiv] The funeral expenses of 10/- to Joseph Leith, Carpenter, Aberdeen, and £8/4/- to W. Cay & Sons, Undertakers, brought the final total outgoings to £740-18-5, leaving a deficiency in his personal estate of £568/17/8. Perhaps the minister of Skene Street U.P Church conducted the funeral service, as one of the expenses was a 'subscription promised by the deceased' of 20 Guineas to that Church.

One wonders if the sorting of James's estate was a contributing factor in the death, at the comparatively early age of 41, in Puckeridge, Hertfordshire, of his executor almost exactly two years later? Why Puckeridge? Puckeridge does not appear in the Domesday Book while neighbouring villages do, but Samuel Pepys records that he stopped at the Falcon Inn there. Such fame!

There ends the story of the Gonsalvos, or is it Gunsalvo, Gunsalves, de Gunsalvy, Gousalvo, Gansaloo or Gonsalves?

Or is it the end? If you look at the records for Caithness there is mention of a John Gonsalves, illegitimate son of Elizabeth Murray, who died unmarried, aged 70, on 9th

February 1888 at Castletown, Caithness, where he had lived with his servant Esther Tait for some 30 years. Esther, daughter of Donald Tait, farmer, and Sydney Smith, died a pauper in 1908 of 'Old Age and General Debility', aged 90. John was a gardener....

And what of John Michael Gonsalves, son of M. G. Gonsalves, who died, aged 25, at the Royal Navy Auxiliary Hospital, Invergordon, on 29th March 1944 of injuries received in an aircraft crash?

And who WAS Mr. Black?

[ii] JAMES ROBERTSON, licen. by Presb. of Glasgow 2nd May 1781; ord. assistant at St Ninians 13th Aug. 1783; adm. to Gargunnock 12th July 1787; pres. by the Magistrates, etc., and trans. and adm. 13th Dec. 1804; D.D. (Edinburgh, 9th Dec. 1805); died at Balloan, Perthshire, 25th Aug. 1832, in 75th year. He marr. (1) 24th Sept. 1787, Ann Walker, who died 18th Oct. 1806, and had issue- Campbell, born 11th Sept. 1788, died 7th Jan. 1807; John Thomas, merchant, Leith, born 20th April 1793, died 17th April 1865; (2) 25th Feb. 1808, Alison (died 10th June 1858), daugh. of William Jamieson, Portobello, and had issue- Christian, died 3rd Dec. 1809. Publications- The Duty of Contending Earnestly for the Faith once delivered to the Saints, a sermon (Edinburgh, 1811); Account of Gargunnock (Sinclair's Stat. Acc., xviii.).- [Tombst. Kay's Portr.] *Fasti, Vol I, p 169*

[iii] JOHN DUNN, born 1787, son of Peter D., North Hill, Laurencekirk; educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen; M.A (28 March 1805); sometime school master of Dunnet; licen. By Presb. of Caithness 30th March 1813; schoolmaster in Sanday; declined app. as schoolmaster of Kirkwall in 1814; pres. by the Magistrates and Town Council 9th June, and ord. 21st Sept. 1815; died 24th Dec. 1830. He marr. 26th Oct. 1815, Ann (died 25th Aug. 1842), daugh. of James Gordon of Little Folla, Aberdeenshire. [Hossack 'Kirkwall', 274] *Fasti, Vol IX, p227*

[iiii] WILLIAM LOGIE, born Kirkwall, 23rd Feb. 1786, son of Alexander L., merchant; educated at Kirkwall School and Univ. of Edinburgh; licen. by Presb. of Kirkwall 14th Sept. 1809; ord. to Lady 25th April 1811; pres. by the Magistrates and Town Council 22nd and by George IV 30th June, trans. and adm. 25th November 1824; D.D. (Edinburgh, 25th March 1854); died 5th Sept. 1856. He was an accomplished scholar, an eloquent preacher, and a model parish minister. He marr. 22nd March 1814, Elizabeth (died 6th Jan. 1862, age 69), second daugh. of James Scarth, merchant, Kirkwall, and had issue- Margaret Lendrum, born 7th May 1815 (marr. 19th June 1843, George Smellie, D.D, min. of Lady, afterwards of St. Fergus, Canada), died 11th March 1904; Alexander, born 7th Nov. 1816; Barbara, born 9th July 1818 (marr. 4th March 1852, William Watt Graham Watt of Breckness); James Scarth Spence, M.D., Kirkwall, born 11th May 1820, died 17th July, 1920; Isabella Leask, born 8th Jan. 1822; William, D.D., min. of Dirleton, born 19th March 1824; Harriet, born 1829 (marr. James Roberson, sheriff-substitute, Kirkwall), died 28th Aug. 1824; Helen Elizabeth, born 3rd Jan. 1833; Alexina Isabella, born 19th June 1835 (marr. James Scarth Spence, banker, Kirkwall), died 11th Nov. 1923. *Fasti, Vol IX, p224*

[iv] Aberdeen solicitors still use the term 'advocate', an historic terminology which helps make modern life more interesting.

[vi] *Illustrated London News*, 2nd April, 1898, Wills and Bequests. This was the year that Kitchener defeated the Dervishes at the Battle of Omdurman; the United States defeated Spain and gained Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Philipines; 12 Pedigree Hereford bulls were shipped to South America to improve the beef cattle; and *The Ballad of Reading Gaol* by Oscar Wilde was published.

[vii] Report of an enquiry by the Board of Trade into the earnings and hours of labour of workpeople of the United Kingdom: V: agriculture in 1907. Abstract: The average annual earnings of full-time adult male farm servants in 1907 were in England £47 15s., in Wales £46 16s., in Scotland £50 19s. and in Ireland £29 4s. The average weekly wage varied from 22s. in Durham to 16s. 4d. in Oxfordshire, 19s. 3d. in Glamorgan and 16s. 6d. in Cardiganshire. The average earnings of the predominant class of agricultural labourer in 1907 was greater than in 1898 by 5 per cent in England and 8 per cent in Scotland.

[viii] Admissions Register for Messengers-at-Arms, Court of the Lord Lyon.

[ix] According to the 1881 Census William Shivas, Shoemaker (on his own account), aged 61, with his wife Christian, age 54, son George, age 16, a Boot Closer, and daughter Eliza, age 19, a Machinist, lived at 1 Broadford Lane, Old Machar, Aberdeen. William was born in New Deer, Aberdeenshire, while his wife and children were born in Aberdeen.

Principal source materials were Old Parish Registers for Kirkwall, Leith South, Cookney and Aberdeen, various Birth, Marriage and Death records, Wills and Inventories, Sasine and Census records, and *The History of the Society of Advocates in Aberdeen*.

Spellings of names are, as far as possible, the spellings used in each of the records being discussed.

I am most grateful to Mrs. C.G.W. Roads, Lyon Clerk & Keeper of the Records at the Court of the Lord Lyon, for her enthusiastic support in developing this tale, for allowing use of the Lyon Office library and access to the records relating to Messengers-at-Arms.

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Andrew Fisher 1862-1928

by David G. C. Burns

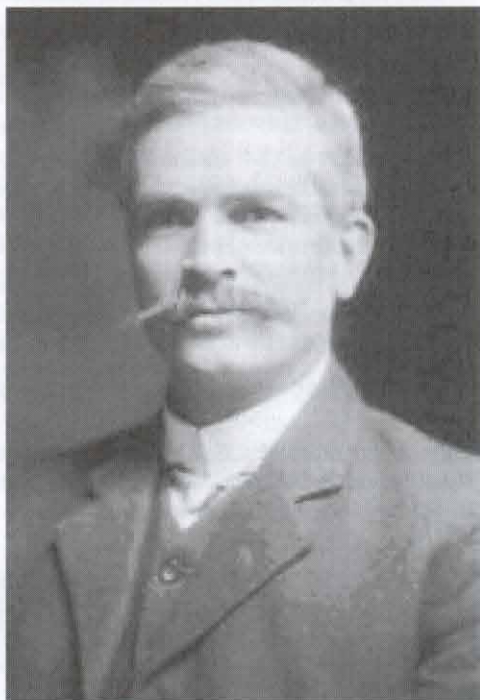
Two Scots disembarked from the ship *New Guinea* at Brisbane in Queensland on 7 August 1885. It was the culmination of a long and tiring journey from Scotland to Australia. Little did they know that for one of the brothers it would be an onward step destined to take him eventually to the highest political office in Australia.

Early days in Scotland

Andrew Fisher was born in the mining village of Crosshouse, Kilmaurs, Ayrshire, on 29 August 1862, the second son of Robert Fisher, Coalminer, and Jane Garven, the daughter of a Blacksmith. They lived in a small house in a typical miners' row. Fisher was fortunate to be raised in a home and family (with little of material value) but founded on good moral principles and strong connections with the values of the Presbyterian Kirk. Education was a key word drummed into the children from an early age. It was to serve them well later in life.

Educated initially at Dreghorn, the young Andrew then moved on to Crosshouse elementary school under the care of his teacher, James Wilson. He may have been but a young lad, but he had a serious turn of mind and a

voracious reading appetite, and thus he was soon granted access to Wilson's personal library. In 1872 his father fell ill with Pneumoconiosis. Women had stopped working underground some years before, but children still went down the mines. At the tender age of ten years, Andrew Fisher started work as a pit-boy. With twelve-hour days, Mondays to Saturdays, it was hard unrelenting toil. Yet he still found time to read and to go for long walks. He was on friendly terms with the local minister and allowed to borrow books from him. Robert Fisher, his father, was a founder member of the Crosshouse Co-operative Wholesale Society (now part of Scotmid) and, as the movement developed, it moved into the field of education. A reading room and a library offered Andrew opportunities to study quietly its stock of newspapers,



Andrew Fisher

magazines and an ever-growing number of literary works, including those by Carlyle and Emerson.

He honed his debating skills at street corners, where miners met to discuss the issues of the day, and he enjoyed the cut-and-thrust of heated argument. At the age of seventeen, he was elected Secretary of the Ayrshire Miners' Union. In 1885 he became involved in strike action, lost his job and was blacklisted by the mine-owners. There was never any bitterness in Andrew Fisher. He was motivated into action because of the appalling living and working conditions of the common people.

In June 1885, Andrew and James Fisher left Crosshouse, made their way to Kilmarnock and boarded the train for London. From there they set sail on the long voyage to Australia on the *S.S. New Guinea*.

The beginnings of a new life in Australia

As they were miners by occupation, they found work quickly in the Queensland coalfields. Andrew Fisher rose to the position of mine manager. In 1887 he moved to work in the goldfields at Gympie. At the end of 1890, and not for the first time, he went on strike and was dismissed. However, his talents soon opened up work in other fields; he obtained his certificate as an engine driver and worked above ground.

He became a man of modest disposition, tactful and blessed with a great deal of commonsense. He grew tall and physically hardy. He continued his concern for his fellow man by being active in the Independent Order of Oddfellows, serving as Superintendent in the Presbyterian Church Sunday School, joining the Amalgamated Miners' Association and was a shareholder in the local Co-operative Society. For a time he served in the Colonial Defence Force.

Political life

His first step on the long road to the top of the political ladder began, when he became President of the Gympie branch of the new Labor Party. Fisher, although quiet in manner and conciliatory in approach, was determined to succeed and managed to create an aura of trust in his demeanour. His first appointment, on a national scale, was as Secretary for Railways and Public Works. However, this minority Labor Party lasted only a short time.

At this time in his life, Fisher experienced mixed fortunes. In 1901, his brother John, Chief Constable of Grimsby, was killed. James, a mine manager, who had emigrated with Andrew, died in a mining accident in India in 1893. Another brother, Robert, was killed in a railway accident in Canada in 1895. On a more uplifting note, Fisher married Margaret Jane Irvine, his landlady's daughter, on 31 December 1901. From that union came forth five sons and one daughter.

It took him over twenty years, through the hard and demanding school of Labor politics in Australia, before he achieved the high position of Prime Minister for the first time in 1908. These were heady days for the fledgling Labor administration; but

it was only able to flex its political muscle for less than a year under Fisher. He served three times as Prime Minister. During his tenures of office he guided through the following reforms: established old age pensions; formed the Royal Australian Navy; founded the Commonwealth Bank and issued Australia's first paper currency; introduced maternity allowances; recognized the need for greater political equality for women and began the construction of the trans-Australian railway. Andrew Fisher had the ability to maximize his talents. During his second tenure in office 1910-1913, the Australian Government, under his guiding hand, put 113 Acts of Parliament on the Statue Book. He also laid the foundation stone for Canberra [ACT] in 1913, after resisting the idea, suggested by others, that the Federal Capital be named after him.

On a more personal note, he worked on improving the quality of his speech but, proudly, retained his distinctive Scottish accent throughout his life. He readily sought guidance from people better informed than himself. Fisher had much to say during his life, and I quote one source, *"Class feeling and prejudice are not barriers to advancement in Australia. Every man gets a chance. I was impressed at home in my youth by observing that many children and poor people had not enough to eat. In Australia, there is plenty for everybody. If clothes cost more, food costs less. On balance, the Australian worker has himself to blame if he is not surrounded by comfort and even affluence."*

He retired from politics in 1915. A year later he was appointed Australian High Commissioner in London and served in that capacity until 1921.

Later days in Scotland

As Prime Minister of Australia, he came back to the United Kingdom in 1911, ostensibly to represent Australia at the Imperial Conference and to attend the Coronation of King George V and Queen Mary. But he had other things in his mind, too. He managed a visit to Kilmarnock and received the Freedom of the town. He proceeded to Crosshouse, where he had been born, the inhabitants of the mining village turning out *en masse* for this Gala occasion, and had the added pleasure of meeting his old schoolmaster, Mr. James Wilson. He was to visit his native village again in 1916 and 1927. Interestingly, whilst Fisher was attending to his formal duties in 1911, his wife Margaret led an Australian group in the British Suffrage March in London.

Andrew Fisher died in London on 22 October 1928, aged 66 years, and is buried in Hampstead Cemetery. A memorial over his grave was unveiled in 1930 by another Scot, Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister of Britain's first Labour Government. In 1978, to celebrate 50 years since his death, a garden was laid out on the banks of Carmel Water at Crosshouse, near where Fisher was born. A feature of the garden is a cairn with four plaques, representing aspects of Fisher's creative life. Fittingly, the memorial garden was opened by Sir Gordon Freeth, then High Commissioner for Australia.



He was a good family man and, together with his wife Margaret, provided a sound launching-pad which enabled their children to achieve success in their chosen fields.

Robert: Degree in Economics from Oxford University. During the Second World War he worked in the British Department of Economic Warfare.

Henry: Degree in Civil Engineering from London University. Rank of Major in British Army in the Second World War.

Andrew: Journalist in *Adelaide Advertiser* and Captain in Australian Army in the Second World War.

John: Journalist in Melbourne and Sydney. He took part in the Spanish Civil War and was in Australian Diplomatic Mission to Moscow during the Second World War.

James: Industrial Chemist for I.C.I., with a degree from Cambridge University.

Notes:

Andrew Fisher 1862-1928 Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council Darvel Ayrshire.

Australia's Prime Ministers: Andrew Fisher National Archives of Australia [Computer printout]

Andrew Fisher 1862-1928 Biography by D J Murphy Melbourne University Press 1981

From pit-boy to Prime Minister: Andrew Fisher by Kathleen Fisher Canberra-based Freelance Journalist [Computer printout]

ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL

1st October 2006 to 30th September 2007

Council

The Annual General Meeting in February saw the retiral of our Honorary President, Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, KCVO, WS, after 15 years in the position. As an expression of our thanks to him, he was presented with some gardening vouchers and a hand-executed commemorative certificate. (A Profile of Sir Malcolm was published in the June 2007 Journal.) Our new Honorary President is the current Lord Lyon, Robin Orr Blair, who will preside over our next Annual General Meeting. Retiring from Council were Leslie Hodgson, Mrs Alison Mowat and Mrs Carol Stubbs, who were thanked for their past (and continuing) contributions to the Society. We welcomed Andrew Nicoll and Mrs Moira Stevenson onto Council. Caroline Gerard, an existing Council member, was elected Editor.

Library

This has been an eventful year in the development of the Library. New legislation has entailed the overhaul of our fire safety, intruder alarm and emergency lighting systems. This work has been undertaken by Chubb under the supervision of Barbara Revolta. The other major development concerning us this year has been the installation of a new computer system. This has involved a great deal of preparatory work by volunteers but, as the year finishes, the installation is still to be completed. Meanwhile the regular routine of the work of volunteers continues. 357 books and a number of CD-Roms have been added to the library stock. We hoped to purchase more Census films but the change in policy at G.R.O.S. has made this impossible. The library continues to receive groups anxious to enhance their genealogical skills. Mr Bob Starratt and Mr Coulshaw have both brought classes during the current session. We also welcomed two groups from Edinburgh City Libraries who sought information on our resources. Various other groups have participated in the 'My Ain Folk' programme initiated by John Stevenson. We must also thank Caroline Gerard and Ken Nisbet for speaking to organisations outwith the Library. The Society continues to receive the good will of its volunteers, old and new, who provide a knowledgeable and friendly service to members and visitors.

Society Meetings

A range of meetings was held during the year: we thank Barbara Revolta for organising them. Peter Wadley of the National Archives of Scotland, who spoke on the Top Twenty pre-1855 sources for family history research, gave the first talk of the season. In November Ken Nisbet talked on his experiences in recording Rosebank Cemetery in Edinburgh using slide illustrations. The meeting for January 2007 was the first to be held at our new venue, Augustine United Church Centre in George IV Bridge. Graham E. Macdonnell introduced his research on the life of Sir John A. MacDonald, a man of Glasgow origins who became the first Prime Minister of the Confederation

of Canada. March saw a lecture by Hamish Coghill on the Water of Leith, with supporting slides, tracing the waterway's history from its source to the sea. In April we welcomed Duncan Macniven, Registrar General for Scotland, who explained the changes which the 'One-Stop Shop' and what this would mean for users. Mr Macniven dealt with the many questions asked comprehensively and clearly. For our September meeting our guest was Dr Maurice McCrae, who spoke on 'Dynasties and clusters'. We thank all our speakers for their efforts.

Family History Fairs

The Society was represented at several family history fairs, including the annual SAFHS Fair at Culloden Academy in April, the Gateshead Fair in September, the Fife Family History Fair at Glenrothes in September and, in a limited capacity only, the *Who do you think you are?* Fair at London in May (see separate item). Those making the journeys to man our stalls and sell our publications included Jim Cranstoun, Joy Dodd, Craig Ellery, Caroline Gerard, Alison Moffat, Ken Nisbet and Barbara Revolta. An enormous amount of preparatory work for these Fairs is always undertaken by our Treasurer, Dorothy Tweedie, and our Sales Team of Nancy Douglas, Alison Moffat and Rhona Stevenson. All are thanked for their time and efforts.

Publications/ Printing

Our new publications this year were *North Berwick Burial & Mortcloth Records*, by Joy Dodd, and the MIs of *Warriston Cemetery* (CD only) and *Comely Bank Cemetery* (Book and CD).

We repinted the MIs of *Angus vol. 1*; *Caithness vols. 1 & 3*; *Dunfermline and Dunfermline Abbey*; *East Stirlingshire*; *Edinburgh, Leith*; *Kilmarnock & Loudoun*; *Kirkcudbright vols. 1, 3 & 6*; *Lanark Upper Ward*; *Renfrew vol. 1*; *Sutherland*; and *West Lothian vols. 1 & 2*.

We also repinted *The Photographers of North-East Scotland*, by D. Richard Torrance. Several new titles are planned for 2008.

Advertising

During 2007 The Society has advertised in *History Scotland* magazine; *The Directory of Irish Family History Research 2007*; *The Genealogical Research Directory 2007*; *The Clan Donnachaidh Society* magazine; *Leith Local History Society Quarterly Journal*; *Family & Local History Handbook 2007*; *Family History Monthly*; *Family Tree Magazine*; *Ancestors* magazine; *Your Family Tree* magazine; *YELL* (Yellow Pages) for 2006-2007, in the Libraries & Genealogists section.

New Register House visits

During 2007 a total of 23 evening visits were arranged.

Acknowledgements

The Council would like to thank the office-bearers and all our library volunteers who contribute to make the work of the Society successful.

Reviews

The Biographical Dictionary of Scottish Women from the Earliest Times to 2004,

edited by Elizabeth Evans, Sue Innes and Sian Reynolds,

Edinburgh University Press, 2007, ISBN: 9780 7486 3293. Paperback £24.99.

This volume begins to meet the relative neglect of named women in the historical record of Scotland. The vast bulk of the entries deal with the late nineteenth and the twentieth centuries when increasingly emancipated women emerged to take a fuller part in the public life of the nation. Chronologically we move from Gruoch, whom an English playwright called Lady Macbeth, to Rowy Mitchison, whom we lost in 2002. The fictional, or semi-fictional, are not left out: we have an entry on Jenny Geddes, though the precise events of her life remain uncertain. Maw Broon gets an entry though the details of her life remain frustratingly vague. Association with Scotland, rather than mere birth in the country, is regarded as a qualification for inclusion so that editorial treatment should be regarded as wide-ranging. Thus Joan Eardley and Sophia Jex-Blake find places, who, though not born in Scotland, recorded their major achievements here. The same might be said of Mary of Guise. Jean Armour is included, as is Margaret Laidlaw, the Ettrick Shepherd's mother. The editors make it clear that the Dictionary could have contained many more entries had finance and the problems of book-making permitted.

The production of the volume is a major achievement in helping us to understand better the role of women in Scotland. The work is supplied with a thematic index which lists the biographees under the topics for which they are best known. This is a valuable tool for librarians and any researchers on Scotland. The volume has been rigorously tested and this reviewer has been able to find no flaw in it, either in terms of the inclusion of entries or their quality. Though it should find a place in libraries everywhere, it should perhaps be added to many Christmas present lists. In the best sense it is a book which it is difficult to put down.

Jim Cranstoun

From Clan to Regiment: Six Hundred Years in the Hebrides 1400 - 2000

by Nicholas MacLean-Bristol, Pen and Sword Books, 2007,

ISBN: 078-1844155491. £45.00

The title of this volume - and over 700 pages of almost 50 years of research mean that it is a volume! - may incline some readers to think it pertains only to the military history of a clan, but this is far from the case.

It's divided into 9 parts and then into chapters. It deals with history of the MacLeans of Coll, Rum and Muck, and their transition from being a family who were primarily concerned with local happenings to a family, who, through family members' participation, became involved in the great military events of the 19th century and

how in turn this influenced the family at home. The book also stresses the importance of inter-family relationships and the effect that these had on the strength of the family in their ancestral homeland. Whilst it does pertain to a particular family, it is to be recommended to any reader interested in the historical, social, economic and military development of the Western Isles.

Part I, *The Making of a Military Tradition*, describes the MacLeans arrival on Coll in the 1400s and their interaction with families such as the MacLeans of Duart, who were the senior MacLean family, and the MacKinnon family, supporters of the family on Mull. The reader is introduced to Lachlan MacLean of Coll (1583-1635), who, as Laird of Coll for more than 50 years, saw many changes in the Hebrides, in particular the increasing changeover to an economy where farming, in particular of cattle, was to be of great importance. The next chapter deals with Lachlan's son John Garbh MacLean of Coll (1635-1651). The chapter following deals with impact of the battle of Inverkeithing on 20th July 1651, when the clan MacLean sent a Clan Regiment to support the Royalist forces in their fight against Cromwell's forces and how their defeat and heavy losses had a effect on the Islands. The MacLeans' hereditary rivals in this period were the Campbells, a sect of whom owned a small part of Coll which was to cause constant friction between the clans for the next century.

Indeed Part II is entitled *Campbell versus MacLean*. The Campbells in Mull received much support from the Duke of Argyll, who tried to use his great military and political strength to dominate the situation, and the chapters in this part describe how Argyll's rise and fall impacted on the MacLeans of Coll. The last two chapters in this part of the book refer to the 1715 and 1745-46 Jacobite rebellions and their impact on the MacLeans.

Part III, *British Service 1756-1793*, and Part IV, *The War with Revolutionary France 1793-1802*, cover the involvement of the family and its followers in providing both officers and men in Britain's expanding armies. This had been achievable in part by reconciliation of the MacLeans and the Campbells, and the story of the families' involvement in the Breadalbane Fencibles is told. The MacLean family did not just become soldiers: the story of the family includes members who became Church Ministers, Doctors and Schoolteachers in this period also.

The impact the wars had on the economic and social life of the islands is told in Part V, *Change at home*, Part VI, *The War with Napoleon 1803 - 1815*, and Part VII, *After the War*.

The first chapter in Part VII is titled, *Things start to go wrong*. This chapter and the remaining chapters in this part of the book cover how the family's involvement with Coll and Muck became of less central importance to the family compared to its interaction with leading families south of the Border. This led to an increasing gulf of understanding between the family and its traditional supporters and island tenants. The families who had been traditional tenants of the MacLeans saw the opportunity

to improve themselves, by moving away from the island both by migration to other parts of Scotland and by emigration to places such as Nova Scotia.

The impact of the Disruption of 1843, when the proprietors supported the establishment and nearly everyone else supported the Free Church, also had an enormous impact on the social bonds in the community, and this is examined in the chapter titled *The Disruption*.

In Part VIII, *The Hungry Thirties and Forties*, the impact of disastrous harvests and poor fishing led to a total economic collapse on the islands and the forced selling-off the MacLeans' estates is examined. The remaining members of the family saw their only means of continuing to be prosperous was to follow the lead of their tenants in emigration to countries such as Australia and South Africa. For other members of the family, serving Queen Victoria in India and China, or against the Zulus and Boers in South Africa, was a form of employment.

The final part of the book deals with attempts of members of the family to reconnect with their ancestry through being recognized as Clan Chief or by purchasing some part of the ancestral estate. A short history of the families' service with the King's Own Scottish Borders in the First World War is also given.

Detailed endnotes support each chapter and there is a very good Bibliography. There are 12 genealogical trees to illustrate the lineages of the various families mentioned in the book.

The book reads well and can be dipped into easily. Although written as an academic work, the narrative flows in an easily-read manner. I enjoyed the way the author has gathered together such a huge range of disparate information to present this comprehensive picture of life on Coll Rum and Muck. He explains, for example, how the death of the chief at the battle of Inverkeithing affected the clan, and how deaths in the Napoleonic Wars and India were to lead to a similar effect on the family. I liked particularly the way that the author covered not just the MacLean family in Coll, but also included many references to the tenant families, the farms and farming methods used on them and their changes over time. It is an enjoyable as well as an informative book.

Available via bookshops, or directly from Nicholas Maclean-Bristol, Breacachadh Castle, Isle of Coll, Argyll PA78 6TB Nmbcoll@aol.com

Kenneth Nisbet

Probing the Past: Memories from the Pentland Probus Club.

Living Memory Association, Edinburgh, 2007.

ISBN 13978 0 9550846. Cost £5 plus 90p p&p.

This is a collection of twenty-five short memoirs published to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Probus Club, a body of retired professional and business men

who reside in the area of Balerno, Currie and Juniper Green. The memoirs are grouped into three sections dealing with childhood experiences of the pre-World War Two period, recollections of their lives during the war, and some memories of the post-war era. It is the detail of the experiences described and the manner in which this is done that gives the compilation considerable charm. Though the experiences described are individual ones they do seem to bind together as the memories of a generation with the individuals having a great deal in common. The events described are low key - tenement life in the 1920s, memories of holidays in pre-war Kinghorn, experiences of war and of National Service life in its aftermath. The sum of the accounts shows a positive and cheerful world. Painful experiences there must have been but they do not appear in this worldview. The text is complemented with witty illustrations, which confirm the clean-cut and light-hearted approach of the accounts.

Available from Living Memories Association,
101 St Leonards Street, Edinburgh EH8 9QY

Jim Cranstoun

Back Issues of "The Scottish Genealogist"

New electronic facility

Thanks to our Webmaster, Graham Senior-Milne, it's now possible to download back issues of the Journal from our excellent website (though we describe it so ourselves!) as Adobe Acrobat files, for the modest sum of £2 per issue. The facility at the moment extends only to Journal issues from 1954 to 2005. After this date, back copies must be bought in their original paper format. It is, of course, still possible to buy paper copies.

The indexing of over 11,000 entries was compiled by Dr James D. Floyd, John and Margaret Kinnaird, D. Richard Torrance and other members of the Society.

Do take a look and catch up with over 50 years of back issues. Visit the site, www.scotsgenealogy.com, and browse the option "Back issues index" or "What's new on this site". The "On-line shop" offers the fine print. It's just a couple of clicks of the mouse to receive a back copy - it couldn't be easier!

Family Records Centre, Myddleton Street, London

As some readers will know, the Family Records Centre at Myddleton Street is to close and its facilities to be removed to the Public Record Office, Kew. The revised date for this is now March 2008. The PRO, Kew, will be closed due to building works from 1st to 16th December and again from 21st to 27th January 2008. Before planning any visits, it's recommended that www.gro.gov.uk or www.nationalarchives.gov.uk are checked for the latest position.

RECENT ADDITIONS to the LIBRARY

Compiled by Carol Stubbs

- Angus: 1851 Census: Name Index: Edzell, Murroes Tay Valley F.H.S.
Annals and Statistics of the Original Secession
Church: till its...union with the Free Church David Scott
Auchinleck Family Network of the 16th century:
a reconstruction based on genealogy assisted by heraldry David Affleck
Berwickshire: 1861 Census:
indexed transcription: Earlston Graham & Emma Maxwell
Biographical Dictionary of Scottish Women
from the Earliest Times to 2004¹ Elizabeth Ewan et al
Bogue/Bogg & Related Family Trees
(incl. Yoolie, Reid, Couper, Bowman,
Weir, Lumgair, Matthew, Watt & Hebenton) George Hebenton & Craig Ellery
Clinkscales of America: the stream flows on Wilda Bond Wing
De Dundee: an early Burgess family with Highland connections Jack Blair
Diocese of Carlisle: Marriage Licence/Bonds:
Vol.1: 1668-1739
Vol.2: 1740-1752
Vol.3: 1753-1762
Vol.4: 1763-1774² Clement Singleton, comp.
Dundee Shipping 1760-1769: ships, shipmasters, and voyages David Dobson
East Lothian: Gifford Old Churchyard:
Part 1: MIs and Register of Interments
Part 2: Index Andrew Gilmour
Edinburgh Gazette 1943³ H.M.S.O.
Fife: 1851 Census: Name Index: Falkland, Kettle, Leslie, Scoonie Tay Valley F.H.S.
Fraser from Rannoch Robert Stewart Fraser
Fraternity of Masters and Seamen
of Trinity House in Dundee Frances Mudie
From Fife to Otago: the history of Isabella Fairbairn and
Peter Ireland and their children and grandchildren Pauline Ireland-Kenny editor
Hearth Tax Records, 1691:
Forfar and neighbouring parishes, Kirriemuir and neighbouring
parishes, Sidlaw parishes from Newtyle to Monikie David Dobson
Lanarkshire Spinners and Weavers James Wallace
Lands & People of Moray Part 29:
Burgh & Parish of Forres from 1800 to 1850 Bruce B. Bishop
Lands & People of Moray: transcriptions of the surviving
pre-1855 death records for the parishes of
Dyke & Moy and Edinkillie, Moray Bruce B. Bishop, comp.

- Midlothian: Newbattle Parish: MIs and other associated records: Part 1: Old churchyard and church Recording Angels
- Midlothian: Old Pentland: a part of Lasswade parish: MIs and other associated records Recording Angels
- Midlothian: Rosewell (Hawthornden): a part of Lasswade Parish: MIs and other associated records Recording Angels
- Monumental Inscriptions in Westray Orkney F.H.S.
- Mortimer as a Surname in Scotland: a genealogical guide for those who have ...the surname Mortimer J.G.M. Mortimer
- Parish of Biggar & 15 Surrounding Parishes: Part 1: 1901 Census
- Part 2: Index to 1901 Census William Fleming
- People of Montrose 1600-1699: a genealogical source book David Dobson
- Perthshire: 1851 Census: Name Index: Abernyte, Crieff Tay Valley F.H.S.
- Perthshire: MIs: Chapelhill Graveyard & Logiealmond Cemetery Margaret Brown & Rae Imrie
- Roxburghshire: 1841 Census: indexed transcription: Jedburgh, Kelso, Roxburgh, St Boswells, Smailholm, Southdean, Sprouston Graham & Emma Maxwell
- Scots-Irish Links 1575-1725: Part 6 David Dobson
- Scottish Transatlantic Merchants, 1611-1785⁴ David Dobson
- Selkirkshire: 1861 Census: indexed transcription: Galashiels, Selkirk, Yarrow Graham & Emma Maxwell
- Sinners of Cramond: the struggle to impose godly behaviour on a Scottish community⁵ Alison Hanham
- Squires of Weston Colville, Cambridgeshire, from 1700-1912 Timothy Cockerill
- Stewartry of Kirkcudbright: 1851 Census: indexed transcription Anwoth, Balmaclellan, Balmaghie Graham & Emma Maxwell
- Strands of Seaweed: the story of a Ross family in Aberdeen W. Ross Napier
- Waldies and the Blackwoods: coal merchants and shipmasters Robert Stewart Fraser
1. Excludes those still living, and the dictionary's range runs from earliest records - Roman Britain - until a date of death before January 2005; it includes people who may be fictitious but whose names are recorded. Each entry has references, which include books, interviews, personal knowledge and private information, and web sites. At the end is a thematic index, with entries arranged by subject.
 2. These 4 volumes transcribe the Carlisle Marriage Licence Bonds from 1668 until 1774. Many entries give addresses over the Scottish border, and each volume, although arranged chronologically, has a name index, so check this in case a Borders ancestor went to marry in Cumbria. Vol.1 has a name index, vols. 2,3 & 4 have a name, place and trade index.
 3. People wishing to change their name give notice of this in the Edinburgh Gazette, so if you think this may have happened, you can check lists for the original name and the new one. A cumulative index of those changing their name is at the beginning of the volume.

4. Alphabetical list of merchants giving such information as where they came from, where they emigrated to, whom they traded with, with dates where possible. References after each entry guide the reader to the original source.
5. Life around Cramond, now part of Edinburgh, as seen through the Cramond Kirk Session Minutes. A name index may guide family historians to the misdemeanours of their ancestors.

LETTER

Can I add to the article "A Curious Will" by John William Irvine?

I refer to the 2-volume "Medical Officers in the British Army 1660-1960" (Welcome Library, 1968), as follows:

William Dunlop: H(orse regt.) Mate, Gen. Serv., 6 Jan 1813. A(ss)t S(urgeon), 89th Foot, 4 Feb. 1813. Retd. on half pay, 25 Jan 1817. Struck off list of medical officers, 16 Feb 1828, having settled in Canada without permission. American War, 1813-1814. He was known as "Tiger" Dunlop from his prowess with the rifle in India. He became a prominent pioneer in the development of Ontario. He wrote "Recollections of the American War, 1812-1814" (Toronto, 1905, 1908 2 editions); "Statistical sketches of Upper Canada", by Backwoodman (Murray, 1832) and contributed to Fraser's magazine and Blackwood. Died at Lachine in Canada, 1848. (See: Chamber's Journal, 6th series, pt.140, Aug.1809).

The above appears to add detail and to suggest minor corrections to the article, with particular reference to his serving as an army surgeon in the war of 1812, when he did not join the army medical service until January 1813. He might of course have participated as a civilian doctor in 1812: his "Recollections" might clarify that.

Gordon Johnson, Wick.

Was it identity theft?

We've all had cases of spectacularly mis-spelt names or of initial letters mis-read by transcribers - but would you really want to be the descendant of this chap and attempt some research?

Admitted to Greenlaw Prison on 27th April 1855, after being found guilty of theft, was one James Smith alias Peter or Patrick Mooney alias James Cooper alias James Stevenson.

According to the Register, he was 24 years old, had been born on Co. Cavan, had spent most of his life in Ireland and had been lately resident in Morpeth. Religion: Roman Catholic. His conduct was "good" and he was discharged on 11th May.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2008

**All SGS meetings (unless otherwise advised) take place at 7.30pm in the
Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.**

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| 21 January | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“The Oligarch Kings – America’s Political Establishment” by David MacAdam |
| 18 February | Monday – Annual General Meeting
followed by “Prized Family History Objects” |
| 17 March | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“Using Directories for Family and Local History” by Jessie A. Denholm, M.B.E. |
| 14 April | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“Scottish Handwriting” by Kirsty Stewart, NAS |
| May visit TBA | Carson Clark Gallery, Scotland’s Map Heritage Centre |
| 15 September | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“Donald and Kiefer Sutherland” by Graham E. Macdonell |
| 20 October | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“John Murray Archive” by David McClay, NLS |
| 17 November | Monday – Ordinary Meeting
“War Memorials in East Lothian” by Dr James Cranstoun |

New Register House Research Evenings:

Please contact Library for 2008 dates.

University of Strathclyde Lectures:

Tuesdays, 6.30pm in the Livingstone Tower, L410,
26 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XH. Cost: £3, at door.
Call 0141-548 5778 or access www.cll.strath.ac.uk
one week in advance to confirm details of each lecture.

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|------------|--|
| 8 January | “The Confusing Heraldry of Queen Margaret” by Dr Bruce Durie |
| 5 February | “German-Jewish Ancestry” by Jeanette Rosenberg |
| 4 March | “Architectural History and Genealogy” by Prof. John Hume, RCAHMS |
| 6 May | “Gravestone Symbolism” by John G. Harrison |
| 3 June | “Heraldic Art in the New Russia” by Prof. Michael Medvedev,
Heraldic Artist, St Petersburg State University, Russia |
| 1 July | “The Slave Trade and its Implications for Genealogy”
by Dr Eric J. Graham |

Fairs and other events:

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| 6 January | Sundays | “Digging Up Your Roots”,
BBC Radio Scotland - new series |
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14-19 April	Mon to Sat	Family History Week, Edinburgh City Libraries
26 April	Saturday	SAFHS Fair, Motherwell
2-4 May	Fri, Sat & Sun	"Who do you think you are?", Olympia, London
28 June	Saturday	Yorkshire FH Fair, York Racecourse
13 September	Saturday	National Family History Fair, Gateshead

"Who do you think you are?" 2007

We wondered who we were, when three members of the Society, Joy Dodd, Caroline Gerard and Barbara Revolta, ably assisted by Paul Charlesworth, entered the portals of Olympia and flew the flag for Scotland. We were unable to take the full book stall this year, but took what we could, by train and plane; and set ourselves up to advise on Scottish Family History. We nearly sold out on the first on day! We were kept very busy, right up until closing time on the Bank Holiday Monday, listening to and hopefully helping with people's research.

The venue is big. The Family History Societies were all in one corner of the hall. Representatives from most of the British Isles were present, though some of the smaller societies, like Hertfordshire, found it too expensive. Other related groups had stalls nearby, including Scotland's People and Strathclyde University, who were promoting their course on Scottish Genealogy. Then there were the bigger concerns; such as the National Archives, Ancestor, Find my Past, and the Family History magazines.

On the balcony, which runs round all four sides of the hall, were set up enclosures for talks. Not ideal, as they're not totally soundproofed from neighbouring talks and movement roundabout.

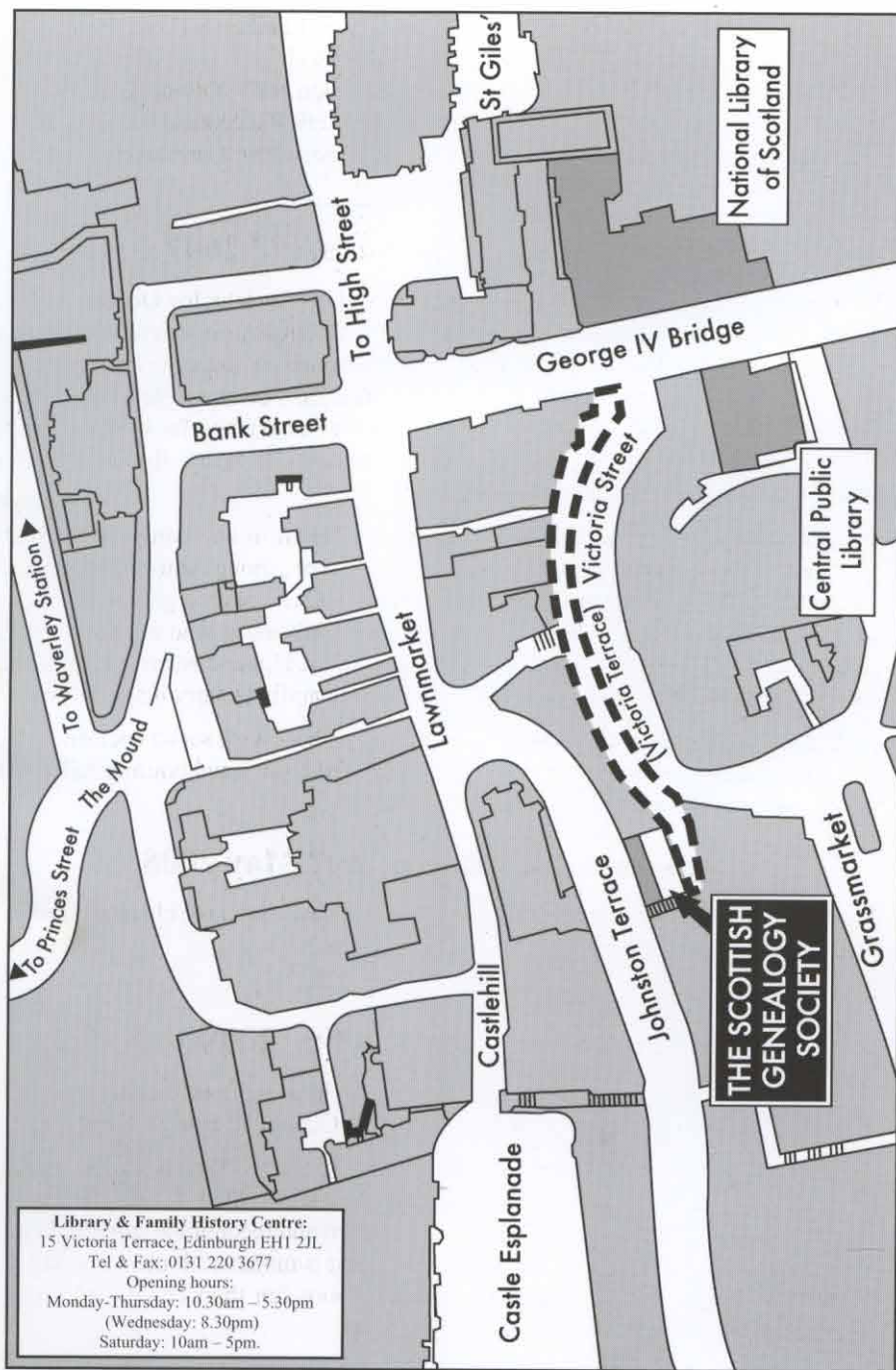
Who do you think you are? May 2008

We will be there! Full Book Stall for all of the three days. So come along and see us. We may be able to help you.

Annual General Meeting 2008

The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 18th February 2008 at the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.

After the necessary business, Reports and Elections, etc, we'll be having a session called "Prized Family History Objects". Members are invited to bring along an interesting object from their family history, display it and recount the story behind it - in no more than 5 minutes. The value of the object is immaterial: the story will be the important part. This promises to be much more fun than certain television programmes.



Please note that access from George IV Bridge is suspended until at least December 2008.

*Alexander ab Wyndeschorch in Kenhuse, Dorn-
vils Regis Regentus.*

*Henricus ab Wyndeschorch in Kenhuse, Dorn-
vils Regis Regentus.*

*Henricus ab Wyndeschorch in Kenhuse, Dorn-
vils Regis Regentus.*

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