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- Highland FHS Journal, back numbers - £1.00 per issue
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He was a good friend, and a faithful servant, but I shall not miss him. A simple, unpretentious type, he did his best within the obvious limits of his ability. But his talents were basic, his constitution not strong, and I readily concede that I simply asked too much of him. Although comparatively young in years, this willing workhorse aged prematurely before my eyes, and I regret to say I grew increasingly impatient with his shortcomings. I am, of course, referring to my late and unlamented typewriter, he of the erratic carriage and jumpy spacebar. As I hope you can see, that little plastic-bodied portable (a tribute to in-built obsolescence) has been usurped by a sturdier, much more intelligent, and infinitely more versatile machine - one of the new electronic generation. This represents a considerable investment on the part of the Society but, from the evidence before you now, I hope you will agree it was money well spent. The Committee felt it was important to improve the presentation of the Journal, for the benefit of all our members, and in particular those for whom the Journal is the main point of contact with the Society (the majority).

I'm not ashamed to say that, in addition, this machine incorporates a number of automatic functions which make life easier and less time-consuming for the typist, i.e. me. Once I get the hang of all these buttons, I hope the result will be a Journal which is more "up-to-date" in all respects. For the moment, it continues to be laboriously photocopied, collated, stapled and folded by hand; and while we enjoy our "stapling parties", the quantity involved means we shall soon have to consider professional printing.

Despite its imperfections, the "old-style" Journal was much praised by members so, barring some minor experimentation with layout, I intend to keep the basic format much the same. It will just be easier to read and more attractive to look at (I hope). Do let me have your views on this, or any other topic - I hope to publish more readers' letters in future. The nagging fear remains that the use of a smaller typeface will make these 24 pages that much more difficult to fill, but I'm relying on you all to keep me regularly supplied with items. We could find space for more Queries, for example, so keep them coming in.

by Douglas G.J. Stewart

On Tuesday, 29th January, 1985, I spent some time at New Register House in Edinburgh, searching through the indexes of the Statutory Civil Registration documents (births, marriages and deaths) in an effort to enhance my knowledge of my family history. I had two main objectives in this visit: the first to confirm people, dates and places I knew of; and the second to discover, hopefully, some new ancestors. However, before I describe my day there, I have to spend a time explaining that proper preparation was essential.

I had decided some time before, that I would have to go to Edinburgh to complete some of the missing links, and I spent a considerable time trying to decide what preparation I should perform before undertaking such a journey. What I first did was both simple and obvious: I wrote out a list of the names of the people in whom I had an interest (mainly my ancestors) and then tried to complete birth, marriage and death details for each one. For example, one line from the list read as follows -

- Peter R.W. Stewart**
- b. 1899, Moulin.**
- md. Jane Shand, 1924, Moulin.**
- d. 1975, Elgin (75).**

Obviously, not all lines were as complete.

There was a great deal of missing information -

- Margaret Rutherford**
- b. 1857, Tranent.**
- md. George Stewart, 1880, Tranent.**
- d. after 1924, probably in Moulin.**

So for each person listed I had written something about their birth, their marriage, and their death. I was now ready to mutilate the list. The first thing I did was go through the list scoring out the parts I had already seen (the birth certificates of my grandparents, etc). There was no point looking at them again. Naturally, this pass through the list cut out only a few parts of entries, and barely a handful of complete lines.

The next stage was decided by the choice that I would only do a search of the statutory registrations in Edinburgh, meaning from 1st January, 1855, to the present day. I removed all references to births, marriages and deaths I knew to be prior to 1855. This removed a significant portion of the list, and many of the entries had been completely removed. This process left me with a much shortened list (which I actually re-wrote, detailing only those parts I had not yet deleted) on which to proceed. Again I did some thinking, and it occurred to me that where I knew the exact year (and place) I would have a much better chance of finding the certificate reference in the indexes. Further to that, I decided I would find the data on marriage certificates most useful, and that although I could not decide the relative values of birth and death entries, I would put these in their natural order.

From the list I now had, I created a new list (I called it 'work list 1') of marriages where I knew the year (but not necessarily the place) of the event, and I listed these in date order. For example I had -

- John Milne and Jessie McDonald**
- md. 1878, Knockando.**

Continuing with this process, I created a list of births -

- Margaret Rutherford**
- b. 1857, Tranent.**
- And a list of deaths -**
- James Shand**
- d. 1944, Drainie (90).**

(Note that with the death, I also listed the age of the person).

I now had three work sheets: one each for marriage birth and death where I knew the year (and sometimes the place) the event occurred. That left what may be called the 'fuzzy' entries - a list containing no definite dates. I split this remainder's list into two sections. The first section contained those entries where I knew the event occurred within a range of years, for example -

- James Robertson**
- d. 1861 - 71, Alves.**

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So my second set of work lists were compiled from these entries, for example the marriage list had the line -

James Shand and Jane Hossack
md. by 1879, probably Drainie,

and the list of deaths -

John Milne

d. around 1897, Knockando or Alves
(b. 1842, md. Jessie McDonald).

The third set of work lists had no marriages or births, just deaths, and on this list I put all the remaining entries in the order I thought might be easiest to find. I had, for example -

Isabella Wilson (Wood)

d. after 1874, possibly Gamrie
(b. 1818-19, md. Alexander Wilson).

My final list concerned the families of my ancestors. Those more recent I knew by word-of-mouth, and those more ancient from OPR and IGI indexes. The problem I had lay with the latter part of the 19th century and the families of my ancestors living at that time. I created this extra list with vague search guidelines for those families, and top of the list was -

James Shand and Ann Robertson

Lived in Drainie parish, 1850 onwards,
from which I hoped to get the date of marriage (around 1849) of James Shand to Ann Robertson.

I now had eight lists -

- 1 - Marriages (with dates)
- 2 - Births (with dates)
- 3 - Deaths (with dates)
- 4 - Marriages (around a date)
- 5 - Births (around a date)
- 6 - Deaths (around a date)
- 7 - Deaths (all others)
- 8 - Families

and before I went there, I had no idea how far through these lists I would get, but I had no worries that I had not prepared myself for the task. My only concern was how much I would achieve.

I knew I could only spend one day in Edinburgh so I resolved to be there by 9.30 (opening time). As a hint to anyone else spending a day there, make sure you arrive in plenty time - well before starting time because even although I went during the quiet season and arrived before 9.15, I was still only fifth in the queue (it appears this situation gets worse during the busy season of April to August). Another hint, only a limited number of places are available each day, so a late arrival can lead to a frustrating disappointment.

Nine-thirty had barely passed when I had paid my money and been instructed on the operation of the operation of the system. There is little point detailing here how the offices are run. My task in writing this is to give an idea of how being there feels, and how useful a day spent there may be. From my first three lists (where I knew the dates), finding the entries in the indexes was a fairly simple task, however it was during this time that I came across what I consider a nuisance. I wanted to see all these entries, so I put my name on the list, that I might be taken by a repository assistant to see, and copy parts of, the certificates. There are, I think, five people doing this, but less over the lunch-hour period. The problem I found was that so many people wanted to see actual documents, that I often had to wait up to half-an-hour to be called to be taken to see the entries. This was a hassle, and I can imagine it would be even worse during the busy summer months. As the day progressed I found it less so. The reason for this probably stems from the fact that most people there (like me) had prepared a list of things to do, starting with the easiest-to-find entries, so that there would always be a greater demand on the service of assistants before lunch than after - a problem I am afraid we must put up with.

How did I fare? Well, to begin with, searches were simple. When one knows both the year and the place, finding the entry is very easy. Although, having said that, I had one minor problem with a marriage in 1924.

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It took a long time for it to occur to me that it was registered in 1925, because the marriage took place on Hogmanay. I had located, in the indexes, all the entries on my first five lists within an hour and a half (although at that time I had not seen all the certificates). Some of the deaths I had put on list 6 I also found quite easily, but it was with this list that I started to find problems which carried themselves more forcibly into list 7, where I knew fewer of the essential details.

These problems are best illustrated by considering two entries from the 7th work list -

- George Stewart
 - d. by 1924, probably Moulin
 - (b. 1851, md. Margaret Rutherford).
- and

- Margaret Rutherford
- d. after 1924, probably Moulin
- (b. 1857, md. George Stewart).

I knew that both were alive in 1899, when their youngest child was born. This meant that George Stewart died sometime between 1899 and 1924. Because I had a bound on the year he died, I started with him in the 1899 index of deaths and went through six or seven years till I decided that even if I were to be looking at the correct year, there was no guarantee I would notice the entry, especially if the age were given wrongly, or the parish be other than Moulin. This highlighted the problems of searching for a male death. One must really try to narrow down as much as possible the range of years to be searched (this also applies to females) and, more importantly, try to define the exact year of birth - either from a birth or marriage certificate, or from census returns - so that ages given in the deaths indexes can be at all useful. I finally found George Stewart, but the entry I looked at was given as Perth, which illustrates quite well the problem of parish. I had come to the conclusion that George Stewart and Margaret Rutherford lived in the parish of Moulin, and I was correct. However, George Stewart died in Perth Royal Infirmary and, subsequently, his death was registered in Perth, by his sister-in-law, who lived there.

This highlighted a potential lack of knowledge. Although I knew Moulin and Perth were parishes not separated by many miles, I could easily have been looking for an entry in a particular parish and not realise that the entry in the index referred to the parish 'next door' because I did not know the area well enough. Although I only knew that Margaret Rutherford died sometime after 1924, I knew that searching for her death entry would be much easier. Starting with 1924 (just in case she died late in that year) I began searching the deaths indexes for any Margaret Rutherford who may have been born around 1858, possibly lived in Moulin, and most importantly had a corresponding entry listed under Margaret Stewart. The double entry system for females, I find, is either an amazing piece of foresight, or just a simple fluke on the part of the designer of the indexes, but lends itself to much greater success in searching for females (marriages and deaths), and I used this new knowledge for other pairings on my 7th list by firstly looking for the female to try to cut down further the number of years I had to search through for the male entry.

By way of contrast, and also as a warning, I must also relate a failure on that day. On my 7th list, I had placed **Isabella Wood** the wife of **Alex. Wilson** who farmed at Backhill Yonderton in the parish of King Edward until his death in 1861. I knew from census returns that she was born around 1818-19, probably in the parish of Alvah, and was possibly still living in 1874 when her daughter, **Jessie** married **James Spence** at Keith. I used the same type of technique searching for her entry in the indexes of deaths as I had used most successfully with other female ancestors, and had covered the years 1874 to 1895 before I abandoned my search on the assumption I had either overlooked the entry, or my inference that she was still alive in 1874 was wrong. Although this was not the only entry on my lists I did not complete, I consider it to be my major failure that day, and it serves to show that not every search will be successful.

By three o'clock I was beginning to tire. I had decided (mistakenly) not to take a break for lunch, but work through from 9.30 to 4.30. I would not advise this. Had I been able to sit down while making searches I think I might have lasted better, but I am simply not used to standing up for more than six hours on end.

Of the lists, I managed to complete the first six. The 7th list was only a partial success, and some problems still remained unsolved. With the last list, I had time, and succeeded in building a picture of four of the six families I had noted there.

I saw over 70 certificates (including a few wrong ones - which in itself was useful) and must consider the day a great success. I succeeded in confirming some details of births, marriages and deaths; discovered a few useful addresses (for future attacks on Census Returns); confirmed parent-child links I had 'supposed'; and I revealed new ancestors as parents in some of the birth marriage and death certificates I saw.

In conclusion, I must say that I would never have found out what I found out in Edinburgh other than by being there, and that I would not have found out as much as I did had I not known as much as I did beforehand. I would most certainly recommend a day at New Register House (during the quiet season) for anyone tracing their ancestry, but I would suggest that before going there they prepare themselves for it by doing as much work locally as they can, and especially by developing a plan of action - even if it is just a simple list to work from.

OFFER OF HELP

Author of the above, Mr Douglas G.J. Stewart, 62 Maisondieu Road, Elgin, writes: "Living in Elgin, I am fortunate to have access (at Grant Lodge) to the OPR indexes for Moray & Banff, the IGI index for Scotland, microfilm of all the Moray & Banff OPRs, and Census Returns. Also (since I am currently working in Aberdeen) I have access to the corresponding indexes and microfilms of the County of Aberdeen. Providing postage is included for expected replies, I am quite willing to undertake to help solve any queries in these areas."

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ABERTARFF HOUSE, INVERNESS

Abertarff House is one of the oldest buildings in Inverness. It was built in 1593. The architects and early owners are unknown, but the names of Scheviz (Shives), Warrant and Sutor occur in 17th century records. On the ground floor there is a chimney-piece marriage lintel with initials S and HP and the date 1681. On the gable of the adjacent building there is also a stone inserted with the initials AS-HP which it is thought came from a nearby building, now demolished, also owned by the Scheviz family. They were wealthy Inverness merchants who owned the estates of Muirtown and Kinmylies.

In the 18th century, the property passed into the ownership of the Warrands of Warrantfield who later sold it to the Sutors, Inverness wine merchants. In 1801 it was sold to 'Archie' Fraser of Lovat, the youngest son of Lord Lovat of the '45.

Archie Fraser died in 1815 leaving no direct male heirs. The entailed estate of Lovat passed to the Frasers of Strichen, of whom the present Lord Lovat is a direct descendant. But he did have an illegitimate grandson, Archibald Thomas Frederick Fraser to whom he bequeathed the small estate of Abertarff and several minor properties, including the Church Street House.

In the mid-19th century the block of buildings in Church Street was acquired by the Commercial Bank, who were owners for about 100 years. Latterly, all these buildings were in a very ruinous state. Many were demolished, but Abertarff House remained.

The house is a good example of domestic architecture of the 16th/17th century period, with its crow-stepping and circular stone stair tower leading to the upper floors. Originally it was approached by a close with an archway. This was known as Abertarff's Close. In 1963 the proprietors, the then National Commercial Bank, gave the building to the National Trust for Scotland, who completed its restoration in 1966, helped by the people of Inverness and other benefactors. The restoration was marked by a Civic Trust Award.

The Manchester & Lancashire FHS are indexing by surname the 1851 Manchester Census. The first two volumes have been published. Volume 1, covering Newton, Beswick and Bradford, costs (inclusive of postage) UK £1.20; overseas surface mail £1.30, airmail £1.85. Volume 2 covering Market Street sub-district, costs UK £1.70; overseas surface mail £1.80, airmail £2.35.

Requests will be accepted for orders for future volumes, which would be despatched on publication together with an invoice.

The Society has also published: A Guide to the Registration Districts of Manchester (UK £1.70; overseas surface mail £1.80, airmail £2.35); and A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants into England and Wales (UK £2.25; overseas surface mail £2.30, airmail £3). Orders to Mr A.M. Berrell, 3 Lytham Road, Manchester M19 2AT.

[Some of our own members have started indexing one or two Highland parishes from the 1851 Census. None has been published yet, but I hope to have a progress report for the next Journal - Ed].

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present.

After restoration the building was let to An Comunn Gaidhealach. This year (1985) the National Trust for Scotland moved its Highland Office to Abertarff House.

[The above information was supplied by the National Trust for Scotland.]

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IRREGULAR MARRIAGES

The following reply was received from New Register House, Edinburgh, in response to a member's enquiry about the meaning of a phrase on a marriage certificate, to the effect that the marriage was 'irregular by virtue of a warrant of Sheriff Substitute etc.'. The explanation may be of interest to other members.

"The reason for this wording appearing on the entry is that prior to the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1939 coming into force, there was no provision, in law, for a civil marriage to be performed in a Registrar's Office. Earlier legislation allowed for religious marriages to be performed and registered, but no provision was made to alter the law or custom in regard to non-religious marriages. It follows, therefore, that an irregular marriage is one where the consenting parties agreed to enter into marriage, usually before two witnesses, but without the presence of a minister or priest. In order that these irregular marriages could be registered, a simple written declaration was made by the parties accepting each other as husband and wife, and thereafter signed by the witnesses. Provided these declarations were produced to the Sheriff within three months of the marriage, he could grant a warrant to the Registrar, within whose district the marriage took place, to enter the details of the marriage in the register of marriages on payment of the fee of 5 shillings for an extract. If you can gain access to a copy of Vital Registration by G.T. Bisset-Smith, you will find it an invaluable source of old registration facts."

REFERENCE ROOM: Inverness Library's fine new reference room is now open to the public. More than twice the size of the old one, it has been created from the former archive storage area. It is equipped with three microfilm readers and four microfiche readers, all of which have been in heavy demand so far. The library also has a reader/printer machine which, although not for general use, can provide printouts from film and fiche, on request. Peter Reynolds will advise on details of costs, etc. The commodious new reference room will provide the Society with a much more comfortable venue when our monthly meetings resume on September 24th. The first meeting will probably be an 'Open Night'.

IN RESIDENCE: The opening of the new reference room co-incided with another interesting development for family historians - the appointment of a 'genealogist-in-residence'. He is Alistair MacLeod, from Ullapool, and judging by his caseload so far, he HAS practically taken up residence! He has been employed by the Regional Library Service to offer practical guidance, advice and assistance (in greater depth than can the regular staff) to the many folk who come to the library to seek out their Highland ancestors. Somehow, he also finds time to tackle some of the backlog of postal enquiries. His services have been in almost constant demand. Unfortunately, his post is a temporary one, and he leaves at the end of August. But before he goes, he is compiling a report for the Council on how to improve genealogical services to the public, and a permanent appointment of some sort would seem an obvious first step.

CAPE BRETON: Highland Region having 'twinned' with Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, we have been in touch with our transatlantic counterparts, and it has been agreed that we exchange Journals. Like ourselves, the Cape Breton Genealogical Society is comparatively new, having been established in 1983. They publish two Newsletters a year, and regular features include B.D.M.s, cemetery records, passengers lists, queries, etc. Their June issue has been received and is in our library (along with many other F.H.S Journals, incidentally). The Society's address is: PO Box 53, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada B1P 6G9.

MEMBERSHIP: Our membership year expires at the end of August, and a renewal form will be found enclosed with this Journal. Subscriptions for 1985-86 have not been increased, and we would value your continued support. ABERDEEN: The new Secretary of the Aberdeen and North-East Scotland F.H.S. is: Mrs Rosemary Baxter, 647 King Street, Aberdeen. The Aberdeen F.H.S have recently published the proceedings of their first conference, held on August 24th last year, and they make interesting reading. The papers include 'Aspects of Genealogical Research' (more useful tips from Hon. Vice-President, Donald Whyte); 'Rural Migration & Family History in N-E Scotland, 1750-1900' by Malcolm Gray (former Reader in Economic History, Aberdeen University; 'The Snow Churchyard, Aberdeen', by Alasdair Roberts; and 'St Machar's Cathedral and Kirkyard', by J.G. Hay. There are also lists of sources/holdings at the William Coull Anderson Library of Genealogy, Arbroath; Grampian Regional Archives; Aberdeen University Library; Aberdeen District Archives; N-E of Scotland Library Service; and the Scottish Catholic Archives, plus a fine parish map for N-E Scotland. Copies of Conference Proceedings, price £1 plus p&p, can be obtained from Miss S. Spiers, 27 Woodend Drive, Aberdeen.

FEDERATION: The Federation of Family History Societies have appointed a part-time paid Administrator. She is Mrs Pauline Saul, 31 Seven Star Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2BZ. All correspondence previously sent to the General Secretary, Mrs Ann Chiswell, should now be sent to Mrs Saul. The pressing need for her appointment is explained in the Federation's journal 'Family History News and Digest' (April '85): "Over the past few years, as the Federation has expanded, it has become increasingly apparent that the growing workload involved in running its administrative affairs can no longer be borne by volunteers alone. The General Secretary has been answering some 6000 items of correspondence a year - over 100 letters a week! - and the distribution of publications is now a major and vital factor in the Federation's development but one which is extremely time-consuming." Proof, if any were needed, of how rapidly our hobby is growing in popularity.

NEW MEMBERS

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 402 CONWAY Mr Donald D, Craigniche House, Foyers, Inverness-shire.
 413 CONWAY Mr Jeremy, 1 Birchfield Cres., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3R 2E7.
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 398 STEWART Mr Douglas G J, 62 Maisondieu Road, Elgin, Moray IV30 1RH.
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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

377 BARNES Mrs C J, 11 Austen Way, Guestling, Hastings, Sussex.
 177 BIRKETT Mr Eric R, 97 Kingsmills Road, Inverness IV2 3PE.
 28 FRASER Mr Donald G, Glencairn, Jamestown, Strathpeffer, Ross-shire.
 120 TAIT Miss Maureen, 58 Scorguie Drive, Inverness IV3 6SG.

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MACKENZIES - TAKE HEART!

The ingredients for success are: a grandmother with family pride and a good memory - persistence - luck - persistence - help from all the family - persistence - help from friends and fellow searchers - persistence - the skill and expertise of professional researchers in Scotland and elsewhere - persistence - the generosity of searchers everywhere - persistence (known as "mother's pig-headedness").

1870 - John McKenzie died in Kirkfield, Ontario, "age 78". He could not sign his name, but taught his children both English and Gaelic.

1930 - John's daughter, Mary Jane, scribbled in pencil on both sides of a ruled page the details she remembered from her father's accounts. She gave his parents as John McKenzie and Janet McLennan, his siblings as Duncan, William, Ewen, Roderick, Janet and Isabel, and gave the page to her daughter, Sally

1944 - Sally instructed her daughter (me), serving in London, England, in the WRONS, to write to "Uncle Willie McKenzie in West Kilbride". With some trepidation, I did so; the answer - "I remember your grandmother and her wonderful white hair", authenticated 'Uncle Bill', so I visited West Kilbride and fell in love with all my Scottish cousins.

1930 - Sally moved restlessly from Ottawa to Vancouver and back.
 1970 The scribbled page survived countless packings, moves and storages until given to me, together with the names of John's 12 children, their spouses, and many grandchildren.

1965 - I began sporadic searches for McKenzies. By chance, I chose Eldon Township (one of three possible), for Census records, read the 1851 Census to the last page, and there found John McKenzie and his children.

1976 - I joined the Ontario Genealogical Society. A fellow member strongly recommended the services of Donald Whyte, of the Scottish Genealogy Society. I read about a new book Eldon Connections and guessed it might be about the Township. I wrote to the author and by return mail received an invitation to the opening of McKenzie House, and the unveiling of a memorial plaque.

I attended the celebration, met about 50 Mackenzies, enlisted the help of three, visited the local graveyard and recorded the McKenzie memorials.

1977 - I wrote to the Mackenzie cousins in West Kilbride requesting help, and received a copy of the death certificate of John's brother, William McKenzie of Aberdeen.

1979 - I sent the certificate, and copy of grandmother's story, to Donald Whyte, who traced through death records, censuses, Urray Parish records, and discovered: William McKenzie baptised 1808, John baptised 1810, Alexander baptised 1813, mother Janet McLennan, and father Roderick (not John), of Febait, Urray Parish, Ross-shire.

1979 - I followed various Mackenzie leads: with the author of Eldon Connections, Mr Rae Fleming, who wrote his M.A. thesis on the life of Sir William McKenzie to 1891; with a good-natured maternal aunt who, though ill and not interested in family history, nevertheless dredged through her papers and memories and wrote down answers to an endless stream of questions; with descendants of William McKenzie of Aberdeen, eliciting further information about the family in Scotland [e.g., 1970, one cousin wrote "grandfather was raised by Uncle Ewen in Paisley"; and in 1983 another cousin told me "grandfather lived in Glasgow with Uncle Ewen McKenzie and Aunt Isobel Jean"], gradually narrowing the field.

1982 - I searched the local L.D.S. library fiches and turned up a possible marriage for John McKenzie and Mary McLachlan: December 1831 in Kirkhill parish, with a witness a possible brother, Roderick McKenzie.

1983 - I joined the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland and the Highland Family History Societies, and received generous help from several of their members.

1984 - Duncan Ross of the H.F.H.S. searched the new OPR index, and turned up a possible family in Kirkhill Parish who matched the McLachlans who emigrated with John and Mary McKenzie in 1832.

1984 - I sent additional information and new questions to Donald Whyte, who then searched Glasgow records. He turned up Ewen and Isobel McKenzie, traced them both to Febait, and confirmed Ewen as the brother of John and William. He turned up a sister, Mary, baptised in 1820. He also found a possible brother Duncan, and two possible sisters, Isabel and Janet.

The scribbled sheet has now survived for over 50 years, and most of its details have been verified, or I have a lead to verification. Clan McLennan records are being searched, and the outlook is hopeful.

The principal question remaining is: which Roderick McKenzie was John's father? In Urray Parish there is a choice of four, all born c. 1775 - but the choice, of course, lies in all of the Highlands.

The search continues, backwards and forwards. Some day, perhaps, all the Scottish family will be documented, and all the descendants of John's 12 children winkled out and charted. Devoted recorders, indexers and searchers daily make the task easier. Take courage, and have fun!

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I.G.I. PRINT-OUTS

Members interested in the foreign countries covered by the International Genealogical Index (Journal N014, p9), may like to know that copies from specific fiche can be obtained by writing to:- Microfiche Ordering Centre, Church of Jesus Christ L.D.S., 399 Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham B33 0UH, England. The fee is 20p per sheet of about 30 names, plus 20p postage. This information has been passed on by Mrs Margaret Mackenzie, DuInain Bridge, who writes: "I wanted print-outs for Brazil and having put in a plea for a quick reply was sent 6 sheets within 10 days. My cheque was returned and the correct amount invoiced, so perhaps it is not necessary to enclose money with the order."

