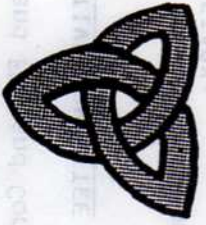


Highland family history society



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- Please order from the address above. Prices include postage
- Highland F.H.S. Journal back numbers £1.00 per issue
- Tombstone Inscriptions: £1.00 (£1.50 airmail)
 Geddes Churchyard, Nairnshire
- Parish Indexes to the 1851 Census:
 Kiltearn, Ross & Cromarty £1.00 (£1.50 airmail)
 Kincardine (with Croick), Ross & Cromarty £1.00 (£1.50 airmail)
 Knockbain, Ross & Cromarty £1.50 (£2.00 airmail)
 Wick (landward), Caithness £2.00 (£2.75 airmail)
- Highland F.H.S. Register of Research (1986) £1.50 (£2.00 airmail)

In April, we welcomed back Mr Donald Whyte, former Chairman and now an Honorary Vice-President of the Scottish Genealogy Society, who helped to launch the Highland FHS in 1981 and spoke at our inaugural meeting. He expressed pleasure at the way the Society had grown since that time, and proceeded to give the following talk, illustrated with slides, about printed source material (having spoken last time about 'basic sources' like the Old Parochial Registers and Census Returns).

Among the most useful printed sources are Street Directories, especially for the larger towns like Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. The earliest ones for Glasgow and Edinburgh are for the year 1773. One can only wish that, even although the information given is scant, they had begun a bit earlier. A project I have been working on lately is a biography of Walter MacFarlane, the famous genealogist and antiquary, who had a town house in Edinburgh. If we had a Street Directory 10 years earlier, we might know more exactly where he lived.

They are very useful at a later date, especially in the years of the Census, because when you are searching Census records at new Register House in Edinburgh, they are only indexed for the larger towns, by streets. Street Directories are quite often very helpful if you can't pick up the right address from death or marriage certificates - if the family happen to have moved, for example.

It is gratifying to note that it is the Highland FHS who are attempting to take another tack with the Census Indexing and do it by surnames, but I think you'll appreciate that in the large towns it's a very big job indeed. However, I think Glasgow FHS are going to make a start as well.

The County Directories of Scotland began about 1862, and they run through at intervals to about 1912. They are very useful indeed, especially in the vicinity of towns, where so many farms and crofts have been swallowed up with the expansion of suburbia. They are very useful if you are looking for unusual placenames, because they are indexed, not only by people, but by farms, etc.

Another one I use quite a bit is Findlay's Directory of Gentlemen's Seats in 1843, which is useful for the same reason.

Perhaps one of the best known books is Frank Adam's The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands, which was quite extensively revised by the late Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, whose son Malcolm is now Lord Lyon King of Arms. It has in some cases to be used with care. For example, it gives the name Houston as a sept of Clan Donald, but that only applied to a very tiny group. The main Houstons were in Renfrewshire and were in existence long before any of the Highland clans became established.

Among some of the older books which the topographer and local historian and, to some extent, the genealogist will use is George Chalmers's Caledonia. One writer was a bit sceptical about it, and described it as 'large and interminable'. It never really got the length of the Highlands, but it is a remarkable and very extensive work. Chalmers was a fairly accurate historian and quite a prudent writer.

Another book which crops up in most libraries, and sometimes criticised, is William Anderson's Scottish Nation. There are some fairy tales, especially some of the stories about the earlier Scottish Kings, but there are some good biographical sketches, and it should never be overlooked. (Published in 3 volumes, 1878-80.)

There are books on the peerage and baronetage and the landed gentry. Among the earliest is the Peerage of Scotland (1716) by George Crawford. It was superseded by Sir Robert Douglas's Peerage about 1764. This was extensively revised in 1813 by a remarkable man called Wood, who was deaf and dumb. In turn, that was succeeded by The Scots Peerage, based on Wood's edition of Douglas's Peerage. It came out in nine volumes between 1904 and 1914. The general editor was Sir James Balfour Paul, who was Lord Lyon King of Arms at the time.

Burke's Peerage and Baronetage is the thing you find in most libraries nowadays. It is in tabulated form and sometimes very difficult to read because of the small print. I'm afraid when it comes to historical proofs, the Lord Lyon would demand rather more than

what's in here. If you are putting forward a claim to the peerage or baronetage, he would pooh-pooh what's in here, and you would have to produce original documents for every step of the way. But it is very useful for consultation in the first instance.

Families in the peerage perhaps had more stability, and do not change much, but there are families which pop up in Burke's Landed Gentry, throughout the last century and the early years of the present century, which disappear in the next edition - either they have gone out of existence, or lost their land. So the older volumes of the Landed Gentry are very useful indeed, and very scarce.

There are County Histories for many of the Scottish counties, and they should always be looked at for an outline, at least of the landed families of the district. Some of them have long lists of names, and different documents appended to them. The one for Ayrshire is nearly all genealogical.

There are also long lists of people in the various volumes published by the Scottish Burgh Records Society, which has sadly gone out of existence. You never know who is going to crop up in them, and they are well indexed.

Apart from books, there are lots of other bits and pieces of printed material, such as pamphlets and other loose items - difficult to keep track of, and a nuisance to librarians, but very valuable. For example, a Rental of North Uist, 1853-4, which includes a list of tenants.

Other printed sources are Valuation Rolls and Voters rolls. These are usually divided into municipal wards, and can be helpful if you are looking for people in between Census years. There is a long series of them in the Scottish Record Office, but many local libraries have copies for their own districts.

Another set of printed books is the Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, 1545-1691. Most of you who have done work on parish registers will have found it is quite easy to get back to about 1770, and then you are really in trouble unless the people concerned had land or property, or were involved in the professions, like the law, medicine, or the church. But if you can get back to this period, the Register of the Privy Council

can provide all sorts of useful information. The Privy Council covered an amazing variety of misdemeanours, - during the Covenanted period, for instance, there are long lists of people who refused to take the test - and their records are very well indexed.

If you are looking for a minister of the Church of Scotland, the work you have to look for is Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanae, by the Rev. Hugh Scott, which gives details of ministers and their families. He compiled most of it using a system very much like the card index of later times, but he did it on the back of old envelopes and so on, and when he died they found drawers and drawers full. It was very much revised in the early years of the present century, and it runs to about 10 volumes now.

There is also a Fasti for the Free Church, and several books about some of the other churches, such as Small's History of the U.P. Congregations, in two volumes. But they don't give as much genealogical information as we have for the Church of Scotland.

Periodicals should not be overlooked, but I am sad to say they often are. We didn't have a genealogical periodical of any kind in Scotland up to 1954 when the Scottish Genealogy Society started publishing. Then, in recent years, we have the Newsletters and various other publications of the Family History Societies, with which I have been very much involved since they started. The earliest one was Glasgow, then Aberdeen, Dundee, Highland, and now one in the eastern Borders, and hopefully we might get one going in the South-West. This means there is a lot of information getting into print now, which might not otherwise have done so.

There are two very useful bibliographies which you should always look at in the first instance. The main one is Scottish Family History, (1930) by Margaret Stuart, with an introduction by Lord Lyon Balfour Paul on how to write a family history. One of the good things about it is that they included not just the titles of books, but the titles of articles in publications such as Scottish Notes and Queries. The other one, Scottish Family Histories held in Scottish Libraries, by Joan P.S. Ferguson (1960) has recently come out in a revised

form. The first edition did not contain the vast holdings of the National Library of Scotland, but the new edition does.

If you are looking for people who seem to 'disappear', the answer is probably that they emigrated. Emigrant ships left from places like Leith, Kirkcaldy, Aberdeen and even further North, but the bulk of the sailings to the New World were from the West Coast ports such as Fort William, Oban and Tobermory, and the Western Isles.

People are always looking for Passenger Lists, but these are very few and far between, and most of them have now been published in some form or other. There is now a fairly large volume of published material about emigrants, especially to the New World, for example my new book A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada, Before Confederation. Most of the passenger lists, where they do exist, are found on the other side, and not very often in this country. I rather suspect, reading between the lines of the customs records, that what happened on this side was that a passenger list was hung up on the door of the Customs House, so people could check when debtors were leaving the country, and it just hung there until it fell to pieces. They had good intentions of trying to keep them, but only one or two have survived in this country. There are quite a lot in Canada, in places like the Public Archives in Ottawa and the Provincial Archives in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Many of them have been printed.

Another source of information is Old Newspapers, and there are many good collections of them in prominent libraries, especially the National Library of Scotland, and the Mitchell Library in Glasgow. Aberdeen also has a very fine collection. One would hope that local societies would perhaps make some attempt to index the deaths and marriages, and other information in them.

Genealogists are continually looking for placenames, and this can be especially difficult in the Highlands where a lot of the townships have simply disappeared. Sometimes you might find them in Gazetteers. The one with the most information is Groom's Gazetteer of Scotland, published in five volumes in the 1890s, and is still

obtainable in second-hand bookshops. It is a very helpful book if you are looking for background information about even quite small hamlets and villages.

Sometimes it is interesting to know the meaning of placenames - it's the subject of a lot of controversy. One of the pioneering works is J.B. Johnston's The Place-names of Scotland, and perhaps the best known is W.J. Watson's Celtic Placenames of Scotland.

Old Maps are another source of information about farms and crofts which disappeared, for example during the Clearances. Some of the older maps go back to the 1660s, but more detailed county maps did not appear until the early 19th century. The 'Clan Maps' so popular with tourists should be treated with caution. The clan territories marked on them are meant to indicate general spheres of influence. It does not mean we all lived in little plots like Indians on reservations.

There are some very good books on Heraldry, such as Scots Heraldry, by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney and revised by his son Malcolm in 1978, and A.C. Fox-Davies's Armorial Families, the best edition of which came out in 1929 in two volumes. It is often thought that Scotland does not have many early armorials, but an Act of 1672 made it compulsory to register arms at the Lyon Court. The Lyon Register started in that year and runs right up to the present day, and it is perhaps the most beautiful heraldic manuscript in the world. There are some earlier armorials in Scotland and, although not an official register, they are quite authentic. Perhaps the best known is the armorial register of Sir David Lindsay of the Mount, which appeared about 1542. The original finished up in the National Library of Scotland, but facsimile copies have been made and some libraries have one.

In Scotland, unlike some other countries, a coat of arms is an individual thing, belonging to the person to whom it is granted. In England there are literally thousands of bogus coats of arms because, although the College of Arms is the authoritative body, it has no teeth. In Scotland, the Lord Lyon is one of the Great Officers of State, his office is backed by legislation, and he can proceed against people who usurp the arms of others.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 1986-7

The Annual General Meeting took place on March 24, 1987, in the Reference Room of Farraline Park Library, Inverness.

The Committee was re-elected, with Douglas Stewart as Chairman, Duncan Ross as Editor, John Durham as Treasurer, Mrs Barrie Tulloch in charge of Research, Hamish MacLennan in charge of Publications, Sandy Gillies as Monumental Inscription Recorder, and Loraine Maclean of Dochgarroch as Secretary.

The Accounts were passed with a general vote of thanks to Dorothy Booth, the retiring Treasurer, who has looked after our finances since the Society started. Her successor is John Durham.

Mr Bill Perry then gave a most interesting talk on his own pedigree. Until three or four years ago he had taken no interest in it, but once he had started, he became fascinated by his discoveries. Fortunately his family had not ventured very far from the part of Cheshire where he now lives, so when he had retired he was able to bicycle round and find gravestones and church records. He produced a pedigree showing his descent from Ranulf, Earl of Orkney, about 800 A.D. One of the unusual things about this long line is that it was done without finding a Royal descent.

L.M. of D.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For The Year September 1985 - August 1986.

During the year 1985/86 we lost 45 members, but gained 63 new members which gave us an overall gain of 18, and brought our membership up to 342 which is our highest year so far.

The Society purchased the following items:-

1841 Census for Argyll (microfilm).

Index to the OPRs for Moray (microfiche).

1984 International Genealogical Index for Scotland (microfiche), at a total cost of £189.87.

We ended the year with a surplus income over expenditure of £606.11. However, this really gives a false impression

as there were only two Journals produced instead of the usual four. If four had been produced, the cost of production and postage would have reduced the surplus to about £200.

We have 83 members who covenant their subscriptions and as a result we received a tax refund of £180.58. For the current year the tax refund will be £166.43 as the standard rate of tax was reduced from 30% to 29%. Unfortunately, there have been no new covenants during the current year.

At the present moment we have 325 members. Of these, 34 are new and there are 51 members who have not continued their membership, so we have a net fall of 17. Of the 51 who have not renewed, 14 live locally (i.e. within approx. 30 miles of Inverness) and the remaining 37 are either elsewhere in the UK (15) or overseas (24).

Our 325 members this year consist of 79 local, 120 in the rest of the UK and 126 overseas, of which we have one (each) in France, Ireland, South Africa and Hong Kong, the remainder being fairly evenly divided amongst Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the States. So, in effect, we have 244 members who are unable to come to meetings and can only participate through correspondence and the Journal. I think, therefore, for that reason our subscription rate should remain the same for the coming year, although it has remained unchanged since September 1983, and is lower than the subscription charged by many other family history societies.

I should like to thank our member Mr Alan Imlah for auditing the Accounts.

Dorothy H. Booth

SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1986-1987

The year from March 1986 to March 1987 may have been a fairly quiet year on the surface, but there has been the usual amount of checking queries from distant members, and if more members in Town would offer to take some of this on, it would spread the load.

The Society has produced three more Parish Indexes to the 1851 Census. We added Kiltearn in 1985, and

those of Kincardine and Knockbain, both in Ross-shire, and that of the landward parts of Wick in Caithness, in the last twelve-month. Since a mention of this in the Press and Journal, there has been a steady stream of requests for these last three.

We now also have the 1981 I.G.I. for Scotland and Ireland, in alphabetical order, and the 1984 I.G.I. for Scotland, which is divided by Counties. Past Journals have shown maps of the Highland Parish boundaries, which are no longer shown on the latest Ordnance Survey maps. We have now added the microfilm of the 1861 census, including those of Nairn and Argyll, to those of 1841 and 1851. Much of the material in the Library, in microfilm or microfiche, belongs to the Society, and we use the readers provided by the Regional Council. These readers are in constant use, though I doubt whether many people realise that what they are reading is the property of the Highland Family History Society. If someone has an idea for making this fact clearer, the users might well join the Society. The Library's summer genealogist-in-residence may not have realised this, either.

Mr MacLennan and Mr Gillies have been busy recording the gravestones at Kilmuir (Black Isle), despite the very wet summer of 1986. The local authorities in Fortrose have been helpful to them.

There have been one or two meetings about the position of the Scottish Family History Societies, as seen by the Federation of Family History Societies, which is based, and has its library, in Birmingham. At present, the Scottish societies, whose total membership is less than that of the Birmingham Society, are expected to pay more than four times the Birmingham Society's subscription. This does not seem fair, especially as we seem to get nothing for our subscriptions. At present, matters are very much in the balance, and this is just to let you know that things may be changing in the not too distant future.

Lorraine Maclean of Dochgarroch

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HIGHLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1986

INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Subscriptions	1,797.82	Journal: Production	319.23
Donations	69.42	Postage	133.76
Profit on Sale of Publications:-		Less transfers to Sales A/c	32.58
opening stock	147.59	Depreciation on equipment, etc	509.65
purchases/transfers	359.40	Postage	197.99
closing stock	506.99	Printing	86.39
	362.76	Stationery	169.67
sales	144.23	Advertising	38.87
	197.00	Expenses of Meetings	61.00
Adverts in Journal	2.50	Other Expenses	90.65
Bank Interest	77.65	(Fees, Insurance, etc)	
Tax Refund on covenanted subs	180.58	Surplus to General Fund	606.11
	2,180.74		2,180.74
			=====
Subscriptions	606.11	Equipment, etc at cost	1,528.96
Surplus 1985/86	606.11	Less depreciation	1,095.12
Balance as at 1:9:85	1,286.92	Stock at cost	362.76
Subscriptions paid in advance		Cash at bank:	
& Donations		Current	321.09
		Deposit	1,019.03
			1,340.12
			=====
			2,136.72
			=====

(signed) Alan Imjah Auditor

(signed) Dorothy H. Booth Hon. Treasurer

NEWS

EXCLUSIVE use of a microfiche reader has been arranged for our members in the Inverness Public Library reference room. It is situated in the upstairs gallery and will be made available by the reference staff, on request and proof of membership, when the downstairs readers are all in use by members of the public. (Note - This reader takes fiche only, not roll film.) This arrangement follows complaints that Society members are unable to gain access to our own material in the library at peak periods. It is also a "quid pro quo" for the Library Service's use of our material (fiche indexes and census film), as they are now making a charge for their Genealogical Search Service. This is provided by their "Genealogist-in-Residence", Alistair MacLeod, who is back in post for a third summer. So far, it remains a seasonal appointment. His initial advice and guidance to sources remains free of charge, as does "do-it-yourself" use of research material. But "active guidance and investigation by staff" will cost £5 (a non-refundable registration fee for the first 45 mins) and thereafter £4 per hour, or part of an hour. The service is being widely advertised and, in the circumstances, the publicity leaflet could perhaps have given some information about our Society and how to join. Your Committee are also giving thought to how the library staff might do more to publicise our existence within the premises.

ASSOCIATION: Following a series of meetings at Perth attended by representatives of all five regional Family History Societies (Aberdeen, Glasgow, Tay Valley, Borders and ourselves), as well as the national body, the Scottish Genealogy Society, it was agreed to set up the Association of Scottish Family History Societies. Its aims are to promote Scottish family history in general; encourage the growth of Family History Societies in Scotland; provide a forum for discussion between Member Societies and joint consultation with National Institutions; and to associate with other National Bodies in the UK and overseas which have similar aims. Chairman is Bill Diack (Aberdeen) and the Secretary is Ken McConnell (Tay Valley). Our own chairman, Doug Stewart, was elected Treasurer. The new body was immediately immersed in difficult

negotiations with the English-based Federation of Family History Societies over the membership status of the Scottish societies - a problem at least partly responsible for the creation of the new Scottish body in the first place. Anomalies arose when the Federation scrapped Associate Membership for UK societies, but allowed existing Associate Members (including ourselves) to remain as such, for an annual subscription of £20. The Ordinary Membership subscriptions meanwhile went up to £120, and the Aberdeen and Tay Valley societies found it an unacceptable burden to be paying the same rate as much larger societies South of the Border. Attempts to secure equal treatment for the Scottish societies centred on a plan for the new Association to take out a "block" membership on their behalf, but the Federation's terms proved unacceptable. The situation remains unresolved, at the time of writing, and the Scottish societies have meantime deferred payment of any subscriptions for 1987.

LETTER BOX: In an attempt to simplify the handling of our correspondence, we now have a SINGLE ADDRESS for all the Society's mail:- **HIGHLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY, c/o THE REFERENCE ROOM, PUBLIC LIBRARY, FARRALINE PARK, INVERNESS.** Library staff will keep our mail aside in a box, from which it will be regularly collected, and distributed to the appropriate person. This "letter box" can also be used for hand-delivered items or messages. However, everything must be clearly marked for the attention of a particular person, i.e. "The Secretary", for general correspondence; "The Treasurer" for membership or subscription enquiries; "The Editor" for contributions & queries intended for publication in the Journal; "The Publications Secretary" if ordering any of our publications; or "The Research Secretary", if you have a specific research request. If you have communications for more than one office-bearer please put them on separate sheets of paper, and put your name, address and membership number on each one. This will greatly assist us. Long letters of the omnibus kind containing a variety of different requests, are difficult to deal with. The current allocation of responsibilities among committee members will be found inside the front cover of this issue. If the names seem familiar, it is simply because no new volunteers (or conscripts!) could be

'ound. We do need more helpers - whether officially on the committee, or not. Barrie Tulloch, in particular, could do with a hand answering research enquiries from members. It's an important (and interesting!) assignment she is currently fulfilling almost single-handed. If you can offer even a little of your time, to help in any way, please get in touch with any committee member.

TREASURER: As mentioned in the AGM report, John Durham has taken over the purse strings as our new Treasurer (Hamish MacLennan assuming responsibility for the sale of publications). He succeeds Dorothy Booth, whose unflappable efficiency should appear on the Balance Sheet as one of our principal assets. Since the early days of the Steering Committee, she has done a power of work to build up the Society, quite apart from keeping us in the black, and guided us through the jungles of the Inland Revenue to reach Charitable Status - probably the only occasion on which she lost her cool! Fortunately, Dorothy is staying on as a committee member, but for her "sterling service" we say "Many thanks".

CENSUS: Our microfilm collection at the Inverness library now includes the 1861 Census Returns for the Highland counties, including Nairn and Argyll.

QUERIES: The Committee have decided Queries for the Journal will now be accepted from non-members, at a charge of £1 per query. No charge is made for members' queries.

INDEX: We have published a fourth booklet in our series of parish indexes to the 1851 Census. This one is for the landward portion of the parish of Wick, Caithness, (i.e. excluding the burgh of Wick and Pulteneytown), and has been compiled by our member Mrs Evelyn More, of Tain. It lists over 5000 individuals in 11 enumeration districts, giving their age, marital status, and parish or county of birth. The cost is £2.00 (including UK or overseas surface postage), or £2.75 for airmail postage. Other indexes in the series are for Kiltearn; Knockbain; and Kincardine (with Croick), all in Ross and Cromarty. These indexes are useful finding tools and, along with our other publications - back issues of the Journal; Geddes churchyard tombstone inscriptions; and the 1986 Register of Research - they may be purchased from the Publications Secretary, Highland FHS, c/o The Reference Room, Public Library, Farraline Park, Inverness.

LETTERS

On p.20 of Journal No.13, Jan '85, you reprinted a notice regarding the Warrant for Arrest of an Archibald Macpherson, accused of sheep-stealing. As far as I know, he wasn't an ancestor of mine! However, I think I do know who his parents were.

Archibald Macpherson, b.1824, Parish of Assynt, was the son of Andrew Macpherson, b. circa 1791, and his wife Lucy McDiarmid, b. circa 1796, who lived first in Lairg Parish, where they had four other children between 1815 and 1821, and then moved to Assynt Parish before Archibald was born. They had three more children, the last born in 1836. At the 1841 Census, the family was living at Durlan (or Darlan ?), Assynt Parish, where Andrew was a shepherd. Archibald was not recorded there, but an Archibald McPherson, age 20, shepherd, is listed at Badcall, Eddrachillis Parish, in the same area of North-West Sutherland. I am not sure what became of the family later, as they are not listed in any of the Sutherland Parishes in the 1851 Census.

Mrs Margaret Hambleton,
2952 Connaught Avenue,
Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Canada B3L 3A4.

- o o o -

You printed a query for me in the July '86 Journal and I received a reply. I am very happy about it because I had been searching for this particular information for years. The Query was on p.23, No 19/6 - McDonald.

Hugh Barron, a member of the Society, sent me explicit directions about where Ceananlath farm is, and how to reach it when and if I can go back to Scotland. The awful part is that I have driven by the road leading to it maybe a dozen times!

The second part of my query was regarding the place where Isabell McKenzie, my gt-gt-grandma McDonald, lived. Mr Barron confirmed my guess about the house (Dalnamine) and I have a snapshot I took of it in 1977. Of course, I wrote to thank him as soon as I got his letter, and I want to thank the Society for

your big part in helping me find these homes of my ancestors. ...

I am also very interested in contacting descendants of the survivors of the Glencoe Massacre. I am disappointed that there is not a committee of any kind gathering information about the survivors and descendants.

I would like to find somebody who is keenly interested in forming a group who want to collect stories about these people. I received a letter from a descendant in Australia, who saw my name in the Genealogical Research Directory, and I know of another in British Columbia, Canada.

At my suggestion, a friend of mine, Miss Barbara Fairweather, Invercoe House, Glencoe, put a Register Book in Glencoe Museum this year, for McDonalds to register. She sent me a photocopy of the names, and some of them are Glencoe descendants.

Mrs Hilda Downey,
Eskadale Farm, Tiverton,
Ontario, Canada NOG 2T0.

- o o o -

The "Otago Daily Times" of December 10, 1958, reported:- "The son and daughter of a Bannerman chatted with each other in the city yesterday afternoon. The son the Prime Minister of Canada, Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker, the daughter Mrs Ella Cheyne of Dunedin (Mary Elizabeth Bannerman). The Prime Minister and Mrs Cheyne met at a civic welcome. Greatly interested in an old photograph which Mrs Cheyne showed him, of a view looking up the Strath of Kildonan, Helmsdale, Sutherlandshire, Mrs Cheyne said her father was born in the house in the photo. Mr Diefenbaker, whose mother was a Bannerman, thought that his great-grandparents had lived in the house in earlier years. Mr Diefenbaker showed great interest in the photograph and came back for a second look. Mrs Cheyne also showed him photos of her parents. Her mother had come from a district near Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Mr Diefenbaker told her that when visiting Edinburgh he had met two men, John and Hugh Bannerman, who possibly might be distant cousins of Mrs Cheyne's.

Mrs Diefenbaker took away photos of Helmsdale given to her."

From my research, Mrs Cheyne was my father's aunt, the only daughter of William and Mallie Bannerman. William Bannerman, b. 1839 at West Helmsdale, was the 7th child of Alexander Bannerman and Elizabeth Bruce. William and Mallie came to New Zealand aboard the "Nelson" in 1875 after their marriage in Mara, Toronto, Ontario. The "Nelson" left from Glasgow. William Bannerman and Mallie Bruce were cousins. The house mentioned in the newspaper article was Bual Cottage. From relations I've spoken to, I am told that John G. Diefenbaker also had a copy of the same photo of the house.

The great-grandparents of Mrs Cheyne were John Bannerman, tenant in Laest, and Janet Sutherland Mrs Cheyne's mother's parents were Robert Bruce and Mary Ann Shuter, of Ontario, Canada. Robert Bruce and Elizabeth Bannerman (Bruce) were brother and sister, children of George Bruce, tenant in Caines, Sutherlandshire.

I'd be interested in hearing from anyone or making contact with any relations with information of the families mentioned.

Mrs N.M. Anderson,
Ashley Downs,
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Can anyone suggest some reference material I might research to obtain information on where the HOSSACKS came from? Our branch came from Reay, Caitness/Stromsay c.1750. There are many Hossacks in the Black Isle. I've heard they came originally from Europe (Bohemia and Schleswig-Holstein) and crossed the North Sea to Cromarty. Another member told me her line descends from a General Joseph Hosack, an adjutant in Wallenstein's army, Bohemia, in 1569. It would appear I need some European history lessons as well as Scottish!

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DIARY OF A PASSAGE FROM JAMAICA

In 1845 a Highland merchant, Ewen MacLennan, sailed home from Jamaica to see his wife and new-born son. He kept a diary of the stormy crossing, written in pencil on the fly-leaf of a geography book, now in the possession of his great-granddaughter, Mary Davidson, 347 Roland Road, RR1, Fulford Harbour, B.C., Canada. She has provided the following information about her ancestor, and a transcript of the diary.

EWEN MACLENNAN 1802-1850

Ewen MacLennan was born in 1802 at Kilillan in the parish of Kintail in Ross-shire. He was the eldest of 11 children born to Roderick MacLennan, who was probably the innkeeper at Kilillan at the time, and his wife Charlotte Stewart.

Ewen and three of his brothers, Duncan, Alexander Stewart and John MacKenzie MacLennan, were concerned with plantations and sales out of the Caribbean. Ewen is listed as a merchant in Old Parish Register entries. Ewen farmed in Jamaica, where he grew either indigo or sugar, or perhaps both. His brothers were in Demerara, now Georgetown, Guyana. In a small Bible, Ewen has recorded the deaths of of his three brothers in Demerara - Duncan in 1831, Alexander in 1838, and John in 1839; as well as his marriage to Ann Marr Newman in Jamaica in 1836, the birth of their two children Maria (December 1836) and William (November 1837), and his wife's death in 1837, a few days after William's birth. No reasons are given for these deaths but, in that area, malaria was a common cause. Ann Marr Newman might have died from childbed fever, also a common cause of death in earlier times.

As a merchant, Ewen MacLennan probably sailed frequently between Jamaica and Great Britain. However, no record of other voyages has been found. According to the Old Parish Registers for Kintail, Ewen MacLennan married Helen MacRae in 1844 in Scotland, and their son Alexander was born February 16, 1845. It seems that Ewen was not present at the birth of his son in Scotland, but sailed for home when he received word that the child was born. It is

this voyage that he has recorded in diary form on the fly leaf pages of Volume IV of Bell's World Geography.

It is unknown whether or not Ewen returned to Jamaica. A daughter, Ann Charlotte, was born to Ewen MacLennan and Helen MacRae in 1846, and another, Jennet MacLennan, in 1848, so it seems unlikely that he left Scotland again. His children in Jamaica retained the plantation(s) and there are letters between the half-siblings to indicate a continuous and congenial family relationship into adulthood, although they probably never met. Perhaps their maternal grandparents raised them after their father left Jamaica.

In 1850, Ewen MacLennan died at Sliggachan on the Isle of Skye. His father, Roderick, was innkeeper at Sliggachan at the time, so Ewen was probably visiting there. He was brought back to Kintail to be buried, quite possibly carried in his coffin the whole distance, according to ancient tradition, as his son Alexander, then only five years old, recalled following the coffin for a great distance. Ewen MacLennan's tombstone is still standing in Clachan Duich churchyard at the head of Loch Duich - shared by his wife Helen MacRae, and John MacLennan of Rurach and his wife Catherine MacRae.

DIARY OF EWEN MACLENNAN

1845

The leward passage from Jamaica you proceed through the Gulf of Florida and pass the coast of Florida, Georgia, South and North Carolina's - Virginia Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York - New Haven and - Connecticut - and up the whole of that coast until you strike of at New Foundland - when you will then steer for England E.N.E. --

Off Cape Hatteras, 22nd and 23rd May 1845, Virginia.

Thursday 22nd opposite George Town South Carolina - and blowing very fresh, decks washing over - ? ? ? and then thought on my d---- H---- [dear Helen].

6 oC p.m. ship put under double ruff topsail until 10oC next morning, friday 23rd when it blew a compleat Hurican, then deprived of all her Canvas, when she was going under bear poles - and the helm made fast - sea running at a tremendous rate - washing all her deck's and the storm did not abate until 12oC on Friday night - never witnessed any thing like it

