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How does one amuse oneself at 6am on a Saturday in London? Having spent all ruddy night on the National Express coach from Glasgow awake and in great discomfort due to the horrible design and operation of the thing (for which I had paid nearly £30!), I was really not too enthusiastic but I pattered about in the streets and the railway station until 9ish and then went to the records offices to investigate things. I had found out just in time that St Catherine's (where the hatched, matched and dispatched records are kept) was closed so I didn't go there, but the Public Record Office in Portugal Place (for census records) was always open, so I walked there.

It had a sign on it saying that the records were now in the PRO HQ in Chancery Lane, drat, so I walked there. Large notice: "Closed for stocktaking Oct 4th-18th." Drat and double drat. So I walked up to St Paul's and gawped a bit and then went to see the Society of Genealogists' place. That was interesting, but I had such a short time available that a description of its wonders must wait for someone more knowledgeable than I to write it. (This is a hint.)

On September 25th while my younger daughter was having an unexpected meeting with Prince Edward at Culloeden Academy where our event had been intended to take place, we were appearing on the other side of town at the Inverness Royal Academy hosting the AGM of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies, or SAFHS (pronounced Saffs). We had put together a day of four lectures and a sales hall for all the FHSS and meals and coffee and Get-Your-Old-Photos-Copied-Here and computers for 170 visitors and it all seemed to come off well. The lectures were enjoyable and we sold lots of our own publications, including our latest one on Dingwall's memorial inscriptions, and I met lots of nice Mormons among the many others and am well set up with contacts should we ever go to Salt Lake City.

As well as shepherding people out of the coffee hall on cue my other job was to demonstrate my computer's wonders in the main hallway to those who were interested, and many were. I was in competition with another computer show-offer who had a different machine with a pretty program which draws drop charts like I wish my program did, and the rest of it was interesting but perhaps not as all-embracing as PAF. Both of us had more enquirers than we could cope with anyway.

One of the speakers was Ross Noble, who is the Highland Region's museum chief, and has his own one at Kingussie. He mentioned a museum cataloguing programme and I have written to him to ask for a copy for Dingwall's. He also guards an enormous collection of photographic negatives, now in the hundreds of thousands, so has developed a computer program for cataloguing them too.

The other speakers talked entertainingly about crofting (Jim Hunter) and fishing (Iain Sutherland) and the army (Alistair Cameron of Airds), all highly important traditional Highland areas of employment, so the visitors from the far reaches of central Scotland, England and even Australia (3) and New Zealand, were well versed in Highland life and culture by the time they left.

The editorial team apologise for the fact that this issue of the Journal will be going out some three weeks behind schedule. This is due to two factors, the first being the need to have a rest following the excitement of hosting the conference. The second factor is the lack of articles from members following a period when we were well served from that resource. This issue does include a short piece from a member but we do need longer articles from you. In this way we will have sufficient material to hand in case we have not managed to transcribe the latest talk in time for the deadline for the next Journal.

BOOKSHELF

Two books published by SAFHS have come to hand, both useful but both difficult of long review because of the obvious needs each of them fills.

"Jacobites of the '15" by David Dobson is a list of about 1500 names of people involved in what is Number Two on the list of All The Jacobite Rebellions You Can Remember. Being number two it needs to try harder because everybody publishes lists of who took part in the '45 so the earlier ones tend to get a little forgotten, but it happened only a generation or so before most of the parish registers started, and was a major historical event in the lives of the parents of the earliest generation most of us know anything at all about.

Mr Dobson has garnered the names from primary sources in the PRO and the SRO as well as St. Andrews and Maryland, and from any published list he could find. He has prisoners, transportees, officers, anyone who got an official mention as having taken part. A typical example of a highland name is that of: "McBRAYNE, Lachlan, transported from Liverpool to South Carolina on the 'Wakefield' 21.4.1716 (SPC 1716.309)" where 'SPC' is one of the list of references given at the beginning of the book. Perhaps there are more names and sources out there getting ready for a second edition? This book is a useful source of sources.

What can one say about an A4-sized book called "The Parishes, Registers and Registrars of Scotland" other than it contains all the names of the parishes, registers and registrars in Scotland? The pre-1975 counties are all there neatly listed with the present regions and districts, and the ones which changed names over the years too, like Elginshire giving way to Morayshire, and all the parish maps with the names of the FHS

who hold copies of the registers. Against each parish name is given a summary of the baptism, marriage and burial registers available, the county it is part of and the district number(s) used in recording censuses and registers. The last part of the book is a neat and tidy list of all the registrars and where to find them.

There is a fair scattering of somewhat annoying typos, Kilmarnock, Kilchatten (twice at least). Stornaway (at least three times), Kinlochspelve, Dunlichty, North Ronaldshay and so on, which will present problems to people unfamiliar with the names, but it is to be trusted that these will be healed in future editions as owners of copies of the book write to SAFHS about them, and the minor irritations they provide is well compensated for by the completeness of the listings of Church of Scotland registers which also can be used to lead to others. Helpfully, they also include older names of parishes where immediately available, very useful too.

If your research takes you all over the place, or you offer research facilities for lots of people, or you can't casually make it to Scotland and need to write to others for your research, then this should be a useful reference book for your shelf. Both books are available from SAFHS, (Miss S M Spiers), 27 Woodend Drive, Aberdeen AB2 6YJ and are priced at £4.50 (Jacobites) and £3.75 (Parishes). Postage and packaging are extra so use a cheque with the amount payable blank but endorsed "not to exceed £6 (Jacobites) or £5 (Parishes)".

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The IGI ain't what it used to be, so do not put the unquestioning trust in it which once you might have done. Oh, you didn't anyway? One of our members, Alan Maryon, was startled to notice that the 1992 IGI has only 11 entries for the name Gollan in Ayr, whereas the 1988 one had had 26, and he wrote to the LDS to ask why the decrease? They wrote very politely back and this is a summary of their summary of the instructions on fiche Z001 accompanying the IGI microfiches.

The Parish and Vital Records List is a list of the parish, town and county records indexed by the LDS, and the International Genealogical Index used to be the names from those records which had been prepared to be sent to the temple and may or may not have had their temple ordinances performed. From now on the two lists will not exactly correlate as the IGI will only include those names which have actually been sent to the temple, although all names removed from the index as well as future receipts will be available eventually on Compact Disc. In Scotland we do have the extra Old Parochial records index, which is the complete index of baptisms and marriages in Scottish OPRs, so is more complete than the IGI in some respects.

MERCHANT SEAMEN IN THE CROMARTY FIRTH
IN THE 17th & 18th CENTURIES

by David Alston

(condensed from a talk given on 15th December 1992)

We get our first picture of trade in the Cromarty Firth in 1655 when Thomas Tucker was engaged by government authority to travel round the country to review the state of the customs. He came to the north and reported that in Cromarty there was one vessel of 16 tons. Inverness only had one at this time and it was only of 10 tons; Thurso had one but it was 30 tons. So you can see that in 1655 it was a very low point of trade in the north. These are very small ships.

As the 17th century went on there was quite a boom in trade in Cromarty based on two main goods being shipped out, grain and fish. The grain most economically important was bere/barley and most of that was shipped down to the Firth of Forth to the breweries of Edinburgh. The fish, cod, salmon and herring were being shipped out in quite large quantities.

The most important need was salt. Salt was for preserving oily fish. You could preserve cod with Scottish produced salt but it was inadequate for salmon or herring. So foreign salt was coming in for curing hides.

George MacKenzie of the Rosehaugh Estate in the 1680s said that if hides were cured in Scottish salt they very quickly went to holes. If the ship was coming all the way up from Portugal with salt, it would be a great pity if it didn't bring a bit of wine and brandy as well and that constituted another major import, leading on to the subject of smuggling.

One thing which was certainly developing about the 1670s was the import of flagstone slate from Caithness and Sutherland. Some of the first records of slate we find being imported by a skipper called Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty in a ship called the "Blessing" in the 1670s. They shipped it mostly from Dunrobin where there seemed to be full time slaters; one of them moved down for a contract in the Cromarty Firth area following one of these imports by Alexander Urquhart.

From records of the time we can identify a number of skippers and boatmen. John Reid was Master of one of the first large ships in Cromarty. John Corbett who we know nothing about other than he was a skipper. William Clunnes, (the Clunnes family were important in Cromarty), some of them very prominent merchants. John Hossack, although he later appears as a fisherman. So I think there were some people in their days of prosperity described themselves as skippers or captains but perhaps if things weren't going well would revert to fishing. John Colson, another family involved with the sea, and Alexander Urquhart.

There was a boom in trade in the late 17th century, but in 1655 only one ship of 10 tons which was not going to carry out much trade. There was a need for new ships in the area and it seems that one of the ways which these might have been acquired was through the Admiralty Court of Cromarty and its activities during the Dutch War.

There were three Dutch Wars in the late 17th century. The Dutch were the great traders in the North Sea and beyond. With some enormous ships for the time, the equivalent of the super tankers of today, dwarfing the little trading vessels of the north of Scotland. Part of their success as traders was because these large ships were lightly crewed and thus cheap to run. Of course that meant they were not very well defended and in the wars with the Dutch, part of the economic spin off was that a considerable number of ships were captured.

As well as capturing ships in the course of war you could also lay a claim to any ship which you could claim was trading with the enemy or shipping goods which might be used by the enemy and you seized it at sea and brought it into port and the Admiralty Court was convened.

Cromarty was a tiny Sheriffdom but they claimed the right to hold the Courts of Admiralty over the seas north of Inverness and it was a notoriously corrupt court. Stair, who began to codify Scots Law in his works in the late 17th century refers to the Cromarty Court and to confessions being extorted at sword point and crews being kept down in the hold without food and water until they provided the necessary evidence that ships were trading with the enemy.

So in one year, 1672, we know of three ships, two of them Swedish, being brought to Cromarty and declared prizes of war. It was obviously a very lucrative business, but came to an end in 1661, when by act of parliament the rights of these hereditary vice-admirals was abolished and all the powers went back to Central Courts. Up until the 1680s, particularly during the first and second Dutch War, ships were being acquired which may be one of the ways in which the trade of the area was being built up although we have some evidence there was some ship building going on locally.

This slide is of a grave stone from St Regulus' Churchyard in Cromarty. St. Regulus' is the oldest of the graveyards and a lot of the merchants of the late 17th and early 18th century are buried up there. This stone has the initials on it, W.S. which I believe is William Swan and down here you can see a three masted ship and on either side, shipwright tools.

There is a series of other initials presumably of his children who all seem to have died in 1676-1680s. So either William Swan was ship building earlier in the century and died in the 1670s or else his children died young and he is currently involved in

ship building. It is very nice to have a contemporary illustration of the kind of small trading vessel that was being used. It has got little details on it like the St. Andrews cross. It is probably a trading vessel capable of carrying about 50 tons, which seems to be about the size of cargo that was going out at the time.

I said that the trade was based on two main exports, grain and fish and there are considerable remnants of the grain in the girdles, the grain store which were built by the major landowners round the Cromarty Firth.

These slides are of the girdles at Ainess and at Portmahomack. It is the bank for the landowners as they receive their rent in kind, in grain. Storing it here, beside the Dornoch Firth so that it can be shipped out down to Edinburgh. It gives a reasonable picture of the size of the cargo. In a good year that is going to be full of grain which has to fit into one of these ships to make average cargoes of about 50 tons.

To turn from grain to the export of fish, here are some figures I have been working on recently. Bounties paid on the export of fish from the precinct of Inverness, (see table) all the shipping records at Cromarty at this period. These are tied up with Inverness because after the reform of the customs, Cromarty became part of the Inverness Customs Precinct. Sometimes it is difficult to separate out Cromarty but in this particular year the person in charge of customs was filling in all these forms in great detail.

These records survive because bounties were paid on the export of herring and salmon and in cash, you got a debenture and a government receipt saying how much fish had gone out and how much the bounty was.

If you go through piles and piles of these you build up a picture of who was exporting what. It was an economically important aspect of trade at the time and you can see that the bulk of it is going out from Cromarty.

The main merchant as this trade grew from the 1670s was a man called George Urquhart of Greenhill, a minor branch of the Urquhart's of Cromarty. He is said at one point to have had five three-masted vessels, trading from Cromarty but that's from local legend one hundred years later, so there may be a bit of distortion but it seems clear that he was a substantial merchant.

He was a landowner as well; a fairly small landowner, acquiring property but most of his money seems to have been made in the herring trade and I think you can see from these figures that in a good year there was a great deal of money to be made.

A great deal of organisation was needed as well when you think of the amounts of salt that were needed for this which had to be imported. You also had to have the salt in cellars ready. You had to have all your cookers, all your wood for barrels and so on and you had to have ships organised to ship it abroad.

Shipping out the fish is very interesting. Salt salmon seems in general to have been going down to the Mediterranean and to Venice, and Marseilles. The salt herring was going more across the North Sea to Germany the Netherlands and the Baltic and the dried cod to Spain and Portugal. Sometimes some was going further. Among the records of export of herring, there is some going in these small vessels to Jamaica and Madeira.

To get the bulk of the catch away meant getting larger ships up from London in December and January. If you can imagine setting off in this kind of weather, in these fairly frail ships for Venice or wherever, one gains quite an admiration for these skippers of the early 18th century. Urquhart's money was made in herring and he fell with the decline of herring. Herring were unpredictable.

We have no records before 1707 and he seems to have made money before then. 1713-1714-1715 were good years but then there was a decline again. 1728 seems to have been the last reasonable herring fishing from Cromarty for almost one hundred years. It was 1815 again before there were herring in these types of quantities that would really make any kind of difference to the town. Urquhart became bankrupt in the 1720s, died in 1734 and he had no male children. Five daughters, some of whom married locally, some who disappeared but the man who had once been the most prosperous merchant and largest landowner in this little town went from that to almost nothing.

The next merchant skippers that I want to look at are the Reids. John Reid (Senior) we know not a great deal about. He was involved in shipping grain from the Cromarty Firth and describes himself as "Master under God of the great ship the Hendred of Cromarty." He had an adventurous career. In his later life in 1707 he petitioned George Mackenzie, later Earl of Cromarty, to be appointed as a customs officer because he claimed that he was now incapable of carrying out trade having been shipwrecked in the Firth of Forth and again off the Downs coming into London and he had also been involved in shipping grain to relieve the siege of Londonderry. He had been taken prisoner there and injured and for all these reasons he wanted to leave the sea.

There is no evidence for the local legend that he was drowned at sea shortly after seeing a mermaid off the shore, just east of Cromarty. There is a cave along there, the Dripping (or Drooping) Cave, outside which, traditionally, a mermaid appears.

of the Grammar School and the family moved from Cromarty to Inverness and John Reid bought this house in 1720.

You can see that it is one of these typical houses of the late 18th century with very steeply pitched roof. In a recent renovation they found some traces of the Caithness flagstone slates with which it would have been originally roofed.

This is the house where he lived with Helen, daughter of Baillie Steurt of Inverness. Their daughter Elizabeth married into the local gentry. Although her husband George MacKenzie died shortly after the marriage, she spent the rest of her life either here or at her house in Cromarty and lived until about 1800.

In the 1750s she wrote to one of her friends saying that old Captain Reid had become so deaf that they had to shout all the time. She was sure the whole town could hear them at the cross which was just outside their home.

That is Hugh Miller's cottage there. Built about the same time, the late 1690s by someone who had also gone to sea: John Reddes, Hugh Miller's ancestor. He claimed to have made his money in buccaneering, so it wasn't just trade you could make your money at; on a smaller scale but still a substantial house for the period.

The merchant I would like to turn to now is Gilbert Barkly. The rise of the Barkly family in Cromarty is interesting and rather shady. He was connected with smuggling in the Firth and one of the important things is the picture that we have of the customs men out in their boats trying to stop smugglers, certainly accurate when we get to the middle of the 18th century. All sorts of people were complaining how difficult it was to smuggle things in than earlier on when the custom service was getting under way.

There were some attempts to set it up in the 1690s but it wasn't until after the Union of the Parliaments, when there was central government action to try and reform the customs that there was a customs service that was in any way efficient but even then there was great variance.

In that early period most of the smuggling that went on in this area was through corrupt customs officials. The man who was appointed collector of customs, after their reform was Alexander Gordon, connected with the Gordons of Invergordon, and he got up to about every kind of abuse of his post that was possible.

The situation is partly confused because landowners claimed in the late 17th century the right to import goods duty-free anyway. I think they thought any attempt to impose custom duty was really eroding their privilege, so I have no doubt they

Now John Reid Jnr. comes into our history also having seen the mermaid, though he made rather better use of the sighting. He had his eye on the daughter of Baillie John Steuart of Inverness, who was one of the leading merchants in Inverness, and met her when she was staying in Cromarty and was walking with some friends on the hillside above this cave.

He claimed that he had just caught the mermaid. He had come across her unawares, seized hold of her and would only let her go after she had granted him three wishes, which were to be prosperous, be safe at sea and to marry Helen Steuart. On the strength of this she did marry him and they set up house in Cromarty.

We know quite a lot more about the trade of John Reid and have a fairly good picture of the trade of a fairly small merchant skipper. He is both a merchant and a skipper, going to sea as well as engaging in trade. Much of it is fairly straight-forward to London. Some of it is a lot further away across the North Sea, down to Bilbao.

In 1725 he was trying to come into Montrose Harbour. He hit the sand bar instead of the channel and the ship was wrecked but left exposed at low tide. The ship was called the "Prosperous Margaret" but they very quickly dropped that and simply called it the "Margaret".

In 1752 he lost a ship which was seized at Harwich carrying contraband. The ship was sold for very little. In 1751 he was involved with another merchant, Gilbert Barkly, importing one hundred and fifty thousand pounds of tobacco from Virginia to Inverness. He shipped a lot of it on to the continent but the amounts which they had to pay in duty was three and a half thousand pounds and I think this really stretched their resources too much. He went on trading a little bit but he eventually moved from Cromarty to settle in Church Street in Inverness.

I have a list of the cargo of the "Prosperous Margaret." Most was rescued after it hit the sand bar at Montrose and was sold there on the beach on the 12th December. I expect most of it was sold off fairly cheaply as I don't see people travelling great distances in December weather to buy.

There is a very interesting picture of the kind of luxury goods which these small traders were shipping in from London and a lot of John Reid's trade was from London. This particular cargo was bound for Inverness, his father-in-law being steward. It gives a very full picture of what it was that the better off in Inverness were after at the time.

This is a slide of Captain John Reid's house in Cromarty. Built by John Lane who was an earlier merchant who had also been involved in herring export. John Lane's son became the master

said that it wasn't always as underhand as it appeared. It got so bad while Alexander Gordon was collector that the treasury sent a ship up to inspect the area and parked in the Cromarty Firth to set about investigating how things were going.

The corruption of Alexander Gordon was so notorious that everybody in the area knew that huge quantities of brandy and wine were run ashore at his brother William's house. Knowledge of this was so widespread that Alexander Gordon felt that he had at least to appear to do something. He gathered together some of the custom officials from Inverness and mounted what was supposed to be a raid on the house, but there was so much contraband about that they accidentally found some!

They appeared at a widow's house which was stacked from one end to the other with contraband and two men there called Barkly and Elphinstone at first seemed terribly upset and said that if all the goods were seized they would be ruined. Alexander Gordon had a private word with them outside and they came back in again and Barkly said it had all been a dreadful mistake, nothing to do with them. They were completely innocent and of course the customs authority should take all the contraband away.

Gordon then declared that to take it away they would need horses and he led off all the customs officers to find some horses and when they came back again, guess what, nothing could be found at the house. In his report the captain of the ship said that Barkly and Elphinstone, five years before, had been poor illiterate tenants and not worth sixpence apiece but now they were considerable merchants in the area trading in wine, tobacco, brandy and soap and a whole range of other goods and even sold them at a price less than the customs duty that was due on them.

So anybody who has got family connections with Eliphinstone or Barkly name has some shady ancestors, I am fairly sure it is the same family, although I can't actually trace the link. Barkly and Eliphinstone appear dealing in herring in the 1720s and then shortly after that we find Gilbert Barkley.

By the late 1730s Gilbert Barkly seemed to have assumed that role and the same sort of wide-ranging enterprising affairs: buying sand here and organising the export of Lord So-and-so's bere crop, picking up opportunities where ever they were. His trade went into the Baltic, to Scandinavia and also a ship-load of barrel-staves from New York in the 1750s. He was the one involved with Captain John Reid in the import of tobacco and barrel-staves and timber coming in from Virginia. They were very enterprising.

Barkly is quite an attractive character. He is obviously enterprising and he did manage to get involved right at the beginning when the government were backing, through the British

Linen Company, the introduction of wide scale spinning of flax in the north of Scotland. This was a government subsidised venture and Barkly was one of the agents in Cromarty and was responsible for receiving flax from the Netherlands and the Baltic, distributing it to spinners.

He fell out with the company over what he had done with some of the Russian iron that was being imported at the time. It is not quite clear but he was sacked by them and he very quickly after that got into financial difficulties, I suspect largely because of this large import of tobacco.

He hid in Cromarty Castle for a week while his creditors were searching for him. He then managed to get a ship down to Edinburgh where he took refuge at Holyrood. If you were in debt and could get to Holyrood Abbey you could stay there and arrange to leave the country and avoid prosecution. Your creditors could get hold of your goods but you yourself wouldn't be seized.

He emigrated from there to the United States, to Pennsylvania where he appeared during the American Civil War very ingeniously offering services as a spy to the British Government and he wrote regular reports, which were shipped back with friendly ships' captains. They can now be found in the National Library of Scotland.

He himself then moved back and put in a very substantial claim for payment for the information that he provided and seems to have got, he received something like a thousand guineas and was claiming another two thousand. I don't know whether he got the rest but he retired to Banff and lived there quite comfortably until he died about 1800. He did warn one of his relatives against Ross-Shire lairds.

I can't help but feel that Gilbert Barkly was a great loss to Cromarty. He was certainly an exciting character. The rest of the family who prospered moved away from Cromarty. One of them Henry Barkly became Governor of Cape Province and there were towns named Barkly after him. Other members of the family became involved in trade in India and Canada. (to be continued in the next issue).

Bounties paid on exports of fish from the precinct of Inverness July 1713 - June 1714

Departing	Barrels herring	Barrels salmon	Dried codfish
Cromarty	4,305	662	35,000
Fortrose	1,110		
Inverness	1,360	633	3,975
Findhorn			
Banff		117	

THOMAS WILMOR MACKENZIE

From our latest publication of monumental inscriptions, for Dingwall naturally, comes this brass in the kirk: "To the glory of God and in memory of Thomas Wilmor Mackenzie, a native of Ross-shire, who landed in New Zealand in 1840, the first British settler to sleep and hoist the British flag in Wellington. The first newspaper apprentice, and afterwards father of the New Zealand press, founder of the 'Independent' the 'New Zealand Times', the 'New Zealand Weekly Mail', and of the 'New Zealand press gallery in Parliament, one of the founders of the Home for Aged and Needy, the New Zealand Boys Institute, the Oddfellows Lodge, the Widows and Orphans Society, and the Scotch Church which called Mr McPharlane the first presbyterian minister. One of the first apprentice freemasons, and afterwards Grand Warden of New Zealand Grand Lodge, past president of the Grand Board of Benevolence." Died as he lived, a gentleman and a worthy son of Scotland."

I wondered aloud in these pages if any NZ members knew of him, and if memories there are as rosy as in Dingwall, and this elicited a splendid letter from Peter Thompson in Christchurch from which the following short article comes. Although regretfully not directly relevant to the content of this Journal, he also sent the story of the fight on the Adelaide's voyage to New Zealand between printer/journalist Samuel Revans and Dr George Evans, the intended 'Legal Umpire' for the new settlement and a complainer of note. Evans was challenged to a duel by another passenger so ordered the ship to stop in at the Cape, but the captain refused and Evans charged him with mutiny! On the other hand it definitely is relevant to us that Samuel Revan's first issue of the New Zealand Gazette had appeared in London in 1839 and included imaginative verses by poet laureate Thomas Campbell, apparently aimed at dissuading would-be Scottish emigrants from going:

"On New Zealand's hills, where tigers steal along
And the dread Indian chants a dismal song,
Where human fiends on midnight errands walk
And bathe in brains the murderous tomahawk,
There shall the flocks on thymy pastures stray
And shepherds dance at summer's opening day."

THOMAS WILMOR MACKENZIE IN NEW ZEALAND by Peter A Thompson

The statement that he was 'the first British settler to sleep and hoist the British flag in Wellington' is definitely wrong. The founding of New Zealand's first permanent European settlement is officially commemorated in Wellington province on January 22nd, the date in 1840 when colonists were unloaded on Petone Beach. The Union Jack was raised in the presence of a

large crowd at Petone on June 2nd 1840, with Thomas Mackenzie present, but history does not state that he actually raised it.

Thomas Mackenzie, 20 years old and a servant like his widowed mother, arrived with her in Wellington on the ship Adelaide from London on March 7th 1840 after a 171-day journey, according to volume two of Sir Henry Brett's 'White Wings'. The ship's passenger list said that Mrs Mackenzie was 35 years old. The Dictionary of NZ Biography adds that the youth was upon his arrival apprenticed at 'Pit-o-one' to Samuel Revans and helped to produce the first issues of the NZ Gazette. After the Adelaide had departed, he spent the night at Pipitea Maori Pa in charge of a warehouse built for Dr Evans. He was a strong swimmer and later formed a boating club connected with one of his newspapers, and now known as the Wellington Rowing Club.

With newspaper work being slack the staff agreed to work alternate weeks and during his off week Mackenzie became a farmer. Then the NZ Gazette was sold, and with three other compositors named W.E. Vincent, George Fellingham and James Muir, Mackenzie started the 'Independent'. After his partners left one by one, he became sole proprietor, successfully until its demise in 1874. Then the NZ Times Co., formed in 1873, took over the property and the 'Independent' changed its name to the 'NZ Times' in June 1874. Mackenzie remained on as secretary until his retirement.

He made no attempt to get into Parliament or its predecessor the Wellington Provincial Council, but as his involvement in farm and settler associations in Wairarapa, he was a member of the Wellington City Council from 1881 to 1887, and he unsuccessfully contested the Mayoralty. As first corresponding secretary of Oddfellows Lodges in NZ he obtained six charters from Manchester Unity, including Wellington's Antipodean and Britannia, plus two other originals in Auckland and Dunedin. He was also from 1848 nearly to his death secretary of the Widows and Orphans Society of the above order. He was a Freemason past master and District Warden and first Grand Principal of the Royal Arch Chapter. Through him the Provincial Council granted both the Oddfellows and Freemasons land for their lodge rooms.

He helped to found the Mechanics Institute which had a strong educational influence for many years. Also he was a trustee of the home for Aged Needy, a Wellington Licensing Committee member and elder of St. John's (Presbyterian) Church. He died on March 2nd 1911.

Mr Thompson sent photocopies of The Emigration Register, which gives the ages of Thomas and Mrs Mackenzie and describes both as servants and single. It also indicates that they were engaged by 'Mrs Evans' before emigrating.

THE 1881 CENSUS PROJECT

This is going reasonably well. The Genealogical Society of Utah (the family history department of the LDS) has received back most of the transcribed batches for Orkney and all Kincardine, Kinross, Dumfries, Kirkcubright-shire and Wigton-shire, and should by now have Aberdeen-shire too. As for our batches for Shetland, Caithness, Sutherland, Ross, Nairn and Inverness-shire this is where we stand:

No of batches:	net 848	100%
No out:	658	76%
No A-checked	213	25%
No returned to GSU:	60	7%

'Net 848' translates that we received nominally 991 batches, but of these 11 were missing on arrival and 15 were duplicated, which with 117 others we returned to the GSU for passing on to the Aberdeen and NE FHS as they had finished their lot and were thirsting for more. The A-check is a 100% check of each transcribed batch and the B-check is a random second check which I am performing before returning the batches to the GSU for evaluation and data-entry. They hope to have all the entering done by May 1994.

My main problem in checking or transcribing is the ages, so many have been crossed out by the original enumerators and checkers in 1881/2, with not a thought for us 111 years later working from photocopies taken off microfilm photographs! Most of the batches I still have not put out for transcription are for the islands: Skye, Lewis, Harris and the rest of the Hebrides as well as the Small Isles too. To find a local coordinator in Stornoway or Tarbert would be a Very Good Thing....

Some interesting things have popped up from all this transcribing of the census, interesting in a dilettantish fashion that is, such as the stunningly useful statement that 27% of the 2206 people in Dingwall admitted a knowledge of Gaelic in 1881.

In Avoch on the Black Isle lived a widow and her son, born in Canada, perhaps it may be assumed that she had returned dressed in black to the bosom of her family, and next door was a 17-year-old 'visitor' from Ontario, why was young William Munro the groom staying here? It is nice to know that the people traffic between the Highlands and Canada was not all one way.

One address in Avoch appeals: Bog of Afterflow Cottage, which had two families staying there, who may not have been living to the same standard of comfort as we might expect nowadays and who perhaps did not consider the name of their cottage romantic but very down to earth. It's still a bog by the way. I've lost my note of precisely which batch had the wife's age as "Would not give her age but she looks about 30."

In the parish of Urray, at the Keeper's House in Carnoch the family has lots of kids and servants and one visitor: James McDonald, Occupation Enumerator, an unmarried Gaelic-speaking game rearer born in the parish of Fodderty and aged 24. This is the only enumerator I have noticed in the lists, but then I haven't been looking hard. They must all be there somewhere.

Alvie parish in Inverness-shire, district 7, had only two uninhabited houses in it, and the enumerator obviously wanted his bosses to realise the sort of territory he had to cover: "Part of the Civil Parish and the School Board District of Alvie - Comprising the houses at Loinchroin and Fellian. The two houses in this District are not inhabited during the Winter but a Shepherd and a Watcher are expected to be there before the 3rd April - This District is about nine or ten miles from here over high hills, moors and rivers."

BT and POST OFFICE ARCHIVES

(by Bob Murphy of the Liverpool and District FHS and published in their June 1993 journal)

If you had relatives who worked for the Post Office, the archives stored are a goldmine, especially if you know the approximate dates of service.

Grades such as Postmen are covered by the Appointment Registers running from 1831, while more senior posts are covered by Establishment Books going back to 1742. And if you had a Head Postmaster in the family, their records stretch from 1672.

The Post Office Archives are at:

Freeling House
Mount Pleasant
London EC1A 1BB
(Entrance Phoenix Place and open
Monday to Friday 9am to 4:15pm
except Bank Holidays, Christmas week
and Maunday Thursday afternoon).

BT Archives, which controls records filling almost a mile of shelving, is based at Telephone House in Temple Avenue, off the Embankment in London. This building was the former headquarters of the National Telephone Company and also houses the Historical Information Centre, which has possibly the largest historical library on telecommunications in the country.

There are phone books from 1879, when there were no published telephone numbers - the caller asked the operator for someone by their name and address. Numbers were listed for the first time in a directory in 1880. Apart from a few gaps (mainly in the 1920s) the Archive has a complete collection of national phone books. They get over 140 research requests each month, and about 40 people turn up on the doorstep each month, often

trying to trace their family history. Under the 1958 and 1967 Public Records Acts, BT is obliged to maintain records and to allow public access to non-sensitive (pre-PLC) data after 30 years. A programme is under way to pass on to local records offices deeds which are no longer required by BT, some of which go back to the 17th century.

The BT Archives may be contacted via 071-822-1002

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Motion proposed and passed at the regular monthly meeting of the Society on September 28th 1993: "that the Highland Family History Society record its appreciation and thanks to its chairman Neil Murray and to the members of its Executive Committee, in particular the chairman of the conference committee, John Durham, for their work in organizing and managing the highly successful Fifth Conference of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies held in the Inverness Royal Academy on 25th September 1993."

MEMBER'S CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 187 Mrs Doreen Tulloch, Grangegreen, The Street,
Great Wrattling, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 7HQ.
- 621 Miss Patricia Mackenzie, 10 Kevins Grove, Fleet
Hampshire GU13 9BT
- 680 Mr Neil Matheson, c/o 19 St Ninian Drive, Inverness
IV3 5AT
- 768 Mrs Margaret Edgar, Knightcote Hall Farm, Knightcote,
Nr Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV33 0SF
- 961 Mr Donald C Lockhart, 147 Mason Terrace, Brookline
Massachusetts 02146, U.S.A.

CORRECTIONS

- 862 Mrs Vera Stammers, 40 Overdale Road, Leicester LE2 3YH
- 972 Mrs Rosemary Southern, 54 Hillcrest Drive, Southdown,
Bath, Avon BA2 1HE

DEATHS

- 116 Mrs M L Dickey, Dove Cottage, Outwoods Lane, Anslow,
Burton-on-Trent DE15 0AB
- 440 Mr John A Smith, 108 Queen Victoria Drive, Glasgow G14 9BL

MEMBER'S RESEARCH INTERESTS

0027 Major E B B McD Simpson, Woodend House, Dalcross
Inverness IV1 2JJ
Returning to the fold after a short rest from membership.
Researching MacDONALD in Skye (North) 1750-1850; SIMPSON in
Caithness 1700-1820; BRUCE in Leven, Fife 1750-1850 and SIMPSON
in Forfarshire 1800-1899.

838 Mrs Robin J Gould, 5 Squires Street, Sunnybank Hills,
Queensland 4109, Australia
A number of amendments to the list shown in the latest copy of
Members' Research Interests. Researching GARROW in Botriphine,
Banff c1800; GORDON in Botriphine c1850 and in Keith c1820;
HACKETT in Keith c1800; KEMP in Duffus, Elgin c1800; KING in
Speymouth 1850's, Nethy Bridge 1890's and Grantown on Spey
1900's; McINTOSH in Croy 1790's and Inverness 1800's; MANN in
Croy 1790's, Inverness 1830's, Avoch 1850's and Grantown on Spey
1870's; MORE in Avoch 1800+; MUSTARD in Avoch 1800+; PEDDIE in
Duffus, Elgin 1800's; PEDDISON in Avoch 1750's; PRIEST in
Knockando, Elgin 1780+ and Newsprinie, Elgin 1820's; SELLAR in
Botriphine 1800's; STEWART in Avoch 1780's and Botriphine 1800's.

NEW MEMBERS

1023 Mrs Jean Stanley, 93 Kearney Lake Road, Unit 209, Halifax
Nova Scotia, B3M 4E7, Canada
Researching McINTYRE in Kilmonivaig, Inverness-shire from 1790.
She enclosed a copy of a list of the 12 children of Duncan
McINTYRE and Katherine KENNEDY born between 1793 and 1817. Three
of them - Allan, William and Duncan went to Australia and
information about them has been noted.

1024 Miss Aileen Stooke, 2 Inala Court, East Burwood 3151
Victoria, Australia
Researching CLARKE in Kildonan and Loth pre-1866 and MACLEOD in
Kildonan and Helmsdale from 1750-1850. Margaret MACLEOD who was
born 1815 to Angus MACLEOD and Katherine MACLEOD married Hector
CLARKE born c1819.

1025 Mrs Rosemary Johnson, P.O. Box 433, Buddina, Queensland 4575
Australia
Most of her research is in the Orkney Islands - TOMISON
(THOMISON) (TAMISON) in South Ronaldsday & Flotta pre-1840;
RICHAN (BICHAN) in South Ronaldsday & Kirkwall pre-1840; FLAWS in
South Ronaldsday c1770; WINDWICK in Flotta c1780 and OMAND in
South Ronaldsday pre-1900. Away from Orkney, WEBB in South
Stoneham, Hampshire pre-1890; BROWN in Clerkenwell, Middlesex
pre-1883; McCANN in Newbridge, Kildare pre-1840 and HILLAIR in
Horsington, Somerset pre-1813.

1026 Mrs Flora J Maguire, 26 Patrick Street, Greenock PA16 8HD

Researching NICOLSON & MacDOUGALL in Portree for the period 1700-1899. Her grandfather Archibald NICOLSON was born in the Isle of Skye and worked in the Caledonian Hotel, Portree c1890-1910.

1027 Mr Fraser Maclean, 19 Ballinard Road, Broughty Ferry
Dundee DD5 3JG
Researching the MACLEANS from Kiltarity.

1028 Mrs Jeanne Butler, Caerlee, Hillhead, Forres, Moray
IV36 00T
Researching McINTOSH in Bunloit, Glenmoriston pre-1850 and in Lochluichart, Achnasheen from 1860; McMILLAN in Glenmoriston pre-1850; McDONALD in Tomchrasky, Glenmoriston 1800-1899 and in Boleskine pre-1860; MORRISON in Glensig c1840 and Thomas FRASER born c1800 in Ross-shire.

1029 Mr Robert D McClashan, 18 Harland Square, Leeds LS2 9EB

Researching MCGLASHAN in Ardcloch 1600-1860, Edinkillie c1800 and in Inverness & Moray Firth area from earliest times to date; FALCONER in Ardcloch and Edinkillie.

1030 Mrs Kirsteen MacCorquodale, Rowanhill, Inchberry, Lentrane
Inverness IV3 6RJ
Researching MacDONELL of Glengarry in Inverness-shire from 1700.

1031 Mrs Kathleen McCorkell, 51 Simpson Crescent, Saskatoon
Sask., S7H 3C5 Canada

1032 Mr Rod Cameron, 11 Balmoral Drive, Holmes Chapel
Cheshire CW4 7HY
Researching CAMERON in Nairnshire, in Ardcloch pre-1790 and in Auldearn post-1780.

1033 Mrs Elizabeth W Steel, 17 Chestnut Place, Kilmarnock
Ayrshire KA1 2HM
Researching MacKENZIE in the Beaully and Muir-of-Ord area from 1800-1899.

1034 Mrs Anne McRae Fyvie, Balgownie, Meikle Wartle
Inverurie AB51 9AA
Researching McRAE in Lochalsh from 1700-1799 and in Lochcarron and Aviemore from 1800-1899.

1035 Mrs Esme E Jones, 39 Alinatt Street, Temuka 8752
South Canterbury, New Zealand
Researching ELDER in Rosemarkie from 1767-date; AIRD in Rosemarkie 1780+; BAIN in Avoch 1816+; GRIGOR in Elgin 1830+; WILSON in Elgin 1830+; FERGUSON in Ballone 1811+ and GALLOWAY in Elgin 1873+. James Campbell GALLOWAY married Donaldina ELDER in New Zealand in 1869 and they appear to have come back to Scotland and settled in Elgin c1875.

1036 Mr Neville Nicolson Thompson, 352 Blackburn Road
Higher Wheelton, Chorley, Lancs PR6 8HS
Researching THOMSON in Thurso and Reay and BUDGE in Castletown and Orlig from 1776-1900; NICOLSON and BANKS in Castletown and OLRIG 1845-1900. George THOMSON was a flag cutter at Castletown. Some THOMSONS went to America (Michigan?) and some NICOLSONS to New Zealand.

1037 Mr Iain Thornber F.R.S.A, Knock House, Morvern, Oban
Argyll PA34 5UU

1038 Mr Brian Webster, #304-310-8 Street, New Westminster
British Columbia, V3M 3R2 Canada
All researches in Fodderty. In the Loch Ussie area - SINCLAIR pre-1841; McLENNAN pre-1851; McINTOSH pre-1880 and CAMERON pre-1850. In Strathconon, McKay pre-1873 and McRAE c1850 and prior. The SINCLAIR family still reside at Loch Ussie. The McKay's were in Strathconon until c1900 and there are still cousins there. Any information would be gladly received. Can trace the SINCLAIR side back to Colin who was born c1771. Does anyone know the location of the following places: Drumfeaton, parish of Contin, Brumfearn and Bogshroe or Bogshrew?

1039 Mrs Mary Jane McBarnet, 467 Laulea Place, Paia, Maui
Hawaii 96779, U.S.A.

Researching McBARNET in Mortlach in the early 1700's and in Kilmornaig in the late 1700's. Interested in the derivation of the name McBARNET and in the birth of Alexander McBARNET c1785, who died November 1838 and is buried in the Old High Church Cemetary in Inverness (no record found).

1040 Mrs Fay Mackay, Caddon Mill, Clovenfords, Galashiels TD1 3LZ

Researching in the Thurso area of Caithness: MACKAY at Geiselittle 1780-1810 and in Thurso 1760-1790; SUTHERLAND in Thurso 1730-1760 and CAMPBELL in Wass 1750-1780.

1041 Mrs Jean Llewellyn, 34 Windlehurst Road, High Lane,
Stockport, Cheshire

Researching McDONALD, McLENNAN/McLINEN, CAMERON and CHISHOLM in Beaully pre-1800; TOLMIE and McKENZIE in Petty pre-1800 and BROOMAN in all areas of Inverness-shire pre-1836.

1042 Mr W D H Sellar, 6 Eildon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5JU

Researching FRASER (Welsh claimant) in Inverness-shire from 1750; HERKES in Creich and Dornoch 1750-1850; FINDLAY in Edderton 1840-1940 and GOLLAN in Urray pre-1850. He has a particular interest in Highland Family Origins (so far mainly West Coast) and has written on several including the MacDONALDs and CAMPBELLS. Also on the Lordship of the Isles.

1043 Mr Jim Mackay, 11 Lilac Avenue, Knutsford, Cheshire
WA16 OAZ

