

highland family
history society



comunn
sloinntearachd
na
gaidhealtachd

JOURNAL

Vol. 12 No. 3

May 1994

ISSN 0262-6659

Published by
The Highland Family History Society
Comunn Sloinntearachd na Gaidhealtachd

EDITORIAL

Silly me. I complain about typographical errors in other people's work and then stick in a few of my own. Humumble, humble. My ignorance allowed me to complain about KILMARNOCK as a typo in the SAFHS publication on Parishes and Registers of Scotland. It's of course quite different from KILMARNOCK. Then my mental note to remind me to seek out Gollanfield's precise placing got printed in error so I didn't say that it was near Ardersier outside Inverness. Smart boy wanted, to be editor of prestigious family history journal.

Duncan MacDonald UE, of the Clan Donald Canada has kindly let us know that he has sent copies of his publications of early records of Upper Canada to the Clan Donald Centre, Armadale, Sleat, Isle of Skye. These comprise:

- The Lochiel Parish Register of Births and Marriages;*
- The St Andrews West Parish Register BMD from 1804;*
- The Diary of Deaths of Rev Father John Macdonald;*
- Parish Registers (separate publications) of Notre Dame de Montreal, St Regis (I and II), St Raphaels (Deaths 1804-1856, Births and Marriages I and II), St John's Presbyterian*

Cornwall (Marriages and Marriages & Deaths 1833), and St Joseph de Soulanges;
The Brevity of Rev Father John Macdonald.
 Of personal interest to me is that he is based in Brockville, Ontario, where once throve a successful McColl Society!

Apropos of the article on Captain MacLennan and his ship the Dart in which he sailed in 1803/04, a letter from Our Oz Correspondent includes notes on his (OOC's, not the Captain's) ancestors-in-law who were slaves carried on the 'brig Dart' in the 1830s. Australia seems to have some wonderful records, he has the court records from Mauritius and arrival in NSW on the Dart at New Year 1834. The Dart roved out from Mauritius again in May. And yes please, I would like an article entitled "My Ancestor Louis was a Bird-stuffer" but could only print it if it had a Highland connection.

As part of my quest to re-introduce Gaelic to Dingwall I attended a presentation by a lady from Ireland who heads a small organisation doing precisely that in Galway, a small and important city in the west of Ireland. I now have a little wooden block for my desk which says on the side I shall present when non-Irish speakers visit my little office in the loading bay: *Ta Gaeilge agam* (I speak Irish), and on the other side *Ta beagan Gaeilge agam* (I have a little Irish). Even the second statement is a gross exaggeration, but it looks good.

Rosemary Bailey's gt-grandfather George Gordon enumerated one of Edderton's five areas in Ross which I mentioned last time, but it wasn't he who frightened away a family of travellers who upped stakes as soon as he spoke to them, it was Angus Mackenzie. She will be pleased to see George and his family in the fiches when they are published with the details: his croft of nine acres, five of them arable, that he was born in Dornoch, had an older wife and three children and his wife's sister as servant. He had his oldest son working on the croft who was born in Assynt so they had moved about a bit.

Marjorie Hanson starts her article saying that "about 33 years ago (she) sailed up the Clyde on the Empress of Canada." It was 41 years ago that I sailed on her too in the other direction, as a six-week-old, newly recovered from pneumonia and going with my mother to our new life in Canada where my father was working and had yet to meet me. Nearly nine years later, in October 1960 so not far away in time from Marjorie's trip, we sailed back across the Atlantic in her sister-ship, the Empress of Britain. Ah, nostalgia can still be found in unexpected places.

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AUCHIE-DOLIES and PETTIE STEPPERS

Fishers of the Inverness Firth

From unknown beginnings in the 17th century up until approximately the mid 19th century, fishing along the shores of the Inverness Firth was an important and successful industry involving hundreds of men and women in a process that was a complete way of life. Fishermen claiming Scandinavian, French and English origins eked out a sometimes precarious living in small 'seatouns' huddled along the sandy shores of the inner Moray Firth. Between Nairn and Inverness, fisher communities at Delniet, Campbelltown, Stuarton, Connage, Petty, Alhurie and Culloden, fished by line from small open boats for the seasonal whitefish, and by net for herring that frequented these in-waters. The upper reaches of the Inverness Firth regularly termed with 'kessocks' - small, local herring which in the late 1700's and early 1800's were the mainstay of the communities.

Peter Anson, in his book 'Fishing Boats and Fisher Folk on the East Coast of Scotland' described good seasons in the upper Inverness Firth when "... 60 to 80 herring boats containing 300 men may be seen at times, plying together on the same stream ..." (1).

There were, however, times of great hardship when the kessocks did not return to the firth and the fishermen were forced to venture further in their open boats to banks off Helmsdale or Burghead. When their very existence depended on following the shoals, family migration between communities around the Moray Firth was a frequent and necessary occurrence. With the opening of a small harbour at Avoch in 1814 (2), and a deep water harbour and pier in Nairn in 1820 (3), men and women from smaller fisher-towns, used to hauling heavy boats up over stony beaches and carrying gear, tackle and catches over distances, were glad to move to these new harbours to take advantage of better facilities. In this way the Davidsons, Johnstons, Mairns, Mair (Wallace) and Mair (Laird) from Delniet, Campbelltown and Connage; the Storms, Wilsons, Mefts and Smiths from Maviston (east of Nairn); and the Passians and McIntoshes from Petty (4) were responsible for changing the naming patterns of the new communities in which they settled.

Successive years of low yields and subsequent migrations meant that in some cases whole settlements were totally abandoned, and now like Brigadoon, have vanished without trace into the mists of time. At the time of the 1841 Census there were eighteen fisher families (of whom thirteen were named Mair, Mair (Wallace) and Mair (Laird) at Seatown of Delniet. In 1881 that number had fallen to six, with occupations changed from 'Seaman' to 'Farm Servant', 'Cattleman', 'Shepherd', 'Day Labourer' and 'Pauper'. Today not so much as a stone remains of their dwellings or village, though a later icehouse for the salmon fishing-station on the Cairn survives beneath its turf mantle.

A similar fate has also befallen the old Fishertown of Petty beside Castle Stuart. In 1925 George Bain remarked in his book 'The Lordship of Petty' "... all that remains of the ancient fishery of Petty is the rotten ribs of some derelict boats protruding above the raised beach, like ghastly skeletons ..." (5). Walking today along the raised beach known as the 'canteeen', and climbing the thin clad escarpment to the site of the old Fishertown of Petty offers no clues to a past way of life here that has now disappeared. The absence of any structural remains at this site may be explained by an earlier reference to the type of fisher dwellings - "... straggling turf huts ..." - given by the Rev. John Grant in the 'New Statistical Account of Scotland' in 1839. But there were other differences in this particular community that set it apart from its easterly fishing neighbours, and these form the basis of this brief comparative study between 'Auchie-dolies' and 'Petty steppers' - the fisherfolk of Avoch and Petty.

Directly opposite to Petty on the north shore of the Firth, the Seatown of Avoch prospered and earned a reputation as a community of dedicated, professional and highly skilled fishermen, whose origins were probably Norse (7) and French, and whose names were different from those of other Moray fishers. Almost exclusively, the seamen of Avoch were named Patience, Jack, MacLeman, Skinner and Reid, while their near fisher neighbours along the same north shore at Cromarty were predominantly Hoggs, Fiddlers, Watsons, and Flossacks (8). A study of the Old Parish Records and Census returns 1841-1891, reveals the patterns of intermarriage and migration among the various families (see attached sheet) but also raises some interesting and puzzling questions. While there is evidence that a small number of Reids, Skinners and MacLemans found their way to Cromarty, and an isolated Mair or Brodie from the east settled in Avoch, extant records confirm that by far the greatest movement of families took place across the Inverness Firth between Petty and Avoch. Was there some other reason to connect these enclaves?

George Bain describes how, from ancient times, this short sea passage "... was a crossing place between the Black Isle and the mainland, the Knights of Petty ... (having) their stronghold on Ormond Hill above Avoch, put off in boats from Alhurie Point to the creek below Connage ..." (9). There was also much communication between both sides by shipping of all kinds, Petty Bay being the favoured, natural anchorage for all foreign vessels awaiting pilot assistance into Inverness Harbour. Out of sight of the Excisemen, the secluded beaches around Petty Bay were perfect havens for the secretion of consignments from continental ports. In the 18th and 19th centuries smuggling was prevalent, well organised, and necessarily involved seamen from Petty. One episode on 11th June 1723 which featured five fishers from Petty, and which ended in the murder of one, John McCowal (Macdougall) by an excise official, caused a public outcry. The story of the famous trial is recounted by Bain in his chapter XII of 'Smuggling Days'.

Plunderers of another kind from other fisher villages were busy across the Inverness Firth, attracted to the rich pickings at Munloch Bay (beside Avoch), where the rich mussel scamps supplied the prosperous Avoch fishing industry. It is recorded by Anson that the herring fishing in the Inverness Firth during the winter of 1786/7 produced 5,000 barrels of cured fish for export, the curing being done by Messrs. Falls of Dunbar (10). From early 1800 all Avoch herring was cured by the Northumberland Fishing Company. At the height of the industry around 1840, there were nine Avoch boats, manned by 10 men each, regularly employed in haddock and whiting fishing; in July of that year Avoch sent 35 boats for the herring fishing at Caithness (11). In comparison that same year, Petty had 24 boats engaged in herring fishing, employing "... lads from the West Highlands ... at the rate of about 14...." (12).

From seemingly disparate backgrounds and traditions, the commutation back and forth of Avoch and Petty fishers begs the question: was there, at some point, a common ancestry?

Unlike Avoch, Petty worked as a crofting/fishing settlement, in which displaced Highlanders named McKenzie, McDonald and McKinnon, along with the indigenous McIntoshes formed an integral part. Organised in a pseudo-clan system with a 'headman' (13), their language and that of the Fishertown of Petty was Gaelic (1891 Census). Conversely, the language in Avoch was English; the people, according to Anson, "... probably of Norse descent and certainly not among its older residents) a language all of its own - "... a manner of speech (which) utterly mystifies the ear of the outsider ... (and) creates the impression of a foreign language ..." (15). This strong, local dialect "... contains words which indicate a Scandinavian, French, German and Celtic origin ..." and have led to much speculation over the origins of these fishers with the

"... Strange dark goxld looka ..."

"Keeteec (shal abool ur eyd): U!i now moodeoor, f'or thec noyrann?
Bella (weel lusstet tul ey aldc): Ayo mutal, theyr an afoi wechi.
Um just sayun aboot the beef etis no mouise somelimon. U!is that
arteefeshals maks et uz tyoach uz the souro. B!it thee must ev
something tul keep boasdey un sowl together, thec ken. Kutchy
cs teystic, bit oo arr thee keepun theesel, byoch?"

from FISHERLORE of AVOCH

Where did these people originate?

However tempting it may be to give credence to local beliefs
that:

Viking ships seeking refuge in Avoch Bay left men behind
that:

some of Cromwell's troops in occupation around Inverness,
having removed the stones from Ormonde Castle at Avoch then
remained behind after the army returned home

that:

the MacLemans were Cockneys from Leman Street by the Docks
in Whitechapel

or that:

wrecked Breton fishermen made the village home

There is no documented evidence to support any of these theories. George Bain, in the chapter entitled "After Culloiden", writes of the Mackinnons returning to Skye following failure of the stall salmon fishing at Aluirie Point and Petty, and of the Laird of Culloiden bringing in "... expert fishers from the North of England to carry on the work with more skill than the Skyemen, but after a few years' trial they gave it up and went across to Avoch, finding it better fishing ground, where their descendants of the uncommon name of Patience are still to be found ..." (16).

The O.P.R. for Petty records the name of PASSIANS, with the earliest entry dated 10/10/1756, a child John born to Roderick Passians and Isabel Cameron. Birth and marriage entries between 1756-1836 indicate four families named PASSIANS with up to 4 children, and three other marriages in 1803 and 1811. Interestingly, the 1841 Census reveals that just one of these 7 families was still resident in Petty, and that of their 7 children, only 4 births had been recorded. These dates certainly fit with the 'After Culloiden' (1746) story, and there does seem to be some truth in a North of England connection also. The International Genealogy Index (I.G.I.) for Northumberland shows a PASSYON in Berwick-on-Tweed in 1589! However, back in Avoch on 3rd June 1737, a John PATIENS, son of John Patiens, fisher in Avoch, married Ann Gow. The I.G.I. came up with PASSONS in the late 1700's/early 1800's in Great Yarmouth; Cornwall had PASHENS, PATIENCH, PASHION, and PASSONS in profusion from 1639-1781. PATIENCIA appeared in Wales 1625-50, along with an occasional PATIENCE in 17th and 18th centuries, then a multitude of them between 1809-1850. All of which inconclusive evidence confirms only that fishermen named PATIENCE/PASSIANS etc. were at these places on these dates, and therefore speculation about the origins of the Avoch fishers and their unusual language must, unfortunately, remain just that - speculation.

Good naturedly called 'Auchie-dolies' by outsiders, the descendants of old fisher families are still known locally by their customary by-names (see attached list of examples). Indeed, enquirers in the village seeking the whereabouts of a particular person can often be met with blank stares if, for instance, the by-name 'Twinnie', 'Cankie', 'Ree', 'Certain', 'Monsey', as appropriate is omitted. The homes of the "... ninety-three families of fishermen living in the Seatown of Avoch ..." described by the Rev. James Smith in the 'Statistical Account of Scotland' of 1793, as "... neat, comfortable and better than in any other part of the county of Ross-shire ... cost £20 (17) to build ..." - are all as sturdy and neat today, inhabited by fisher descendants and incomers alike. In 1993 the Avoch fishing fleet numbered some 20 boats, now operated from Malliag and Kyle of Lochalsh on the West Coast and the village retains its character and charm and its superabundance of Patience, Jack and MacLeman families.

Renowned for their curious 'pettie-step', and known by their Gaelic by-names, it has been claimed that few Petty fishers knew their real name and only bothered to find out on occasions such as births, deaths and marriages (18). From superstitious belief and the prevalence of witches in earlier times, strange customs were observed in Petty, the strangest of all being the funeral 'pettie-step'. This 'step', taken with a total lack of decorum by coffin carriers, was described as little short of a gallop, that left many fallen by the wayside! (19).

One of the first, more sedate exits from the parish, recorded on 25th May 1729 in the Old Parish records of Avoch:

Then ALEXANDER McINTOSH, fisher in the Parish of Petty was hand fasted with JOAN MUNRO daughter to John Munro, Webster in Avoch. Cautions for the man: George Jack, fisher in the Seatown of Avoch; for the woman the said John Munro her father, that the above written purpose of Marriage shall be implemented under the penalty of fourtie pounds Scots payable by the Partie failer to the Partie willing to perform and both Parties and Cautions did signifie their consent to the promises by touching the pen declaring they could not write and therefore informing the Session Clerk to sign the promisses.

This, together with information from Census returns in Avoch, testifying to the numerous cross-firth fittings, suggest a camaraderie between the fishers of these villages and an exclusiveness that was denied other fisherfolk of the east Moray Firth. Given that Petty dwellers were Gaelic speaking crofter-fishermen of Highland extraction, living in turf huts, their seeming integration into a community as distinctive as that of the Seatown of Avoch, remains something of an enigma.

Extracts from 1851 Census for Avoch
(illustrating the migration and change of employment)

	Head Mar.	46	Boat carpenter	Where born
John RALPH	Wife	47		Petty
Isabella	Son	16	Carpenter (apprentice)	Avoch
John	"	13	Scholar	"
Donald	Daug	10	"	"
Jean	"	8	"	"
Helen				
Margaret McIntOSH	Head Mar.	26		Petty

Ann	9	Croy
Donald	5	Inverness
Margaret	3	"
Elizabeth	9 months	Avoch
John JACK	37	Shoemaker
Isabella	36	Alturic
Isabella	3	Avoch
Margaret	1	"
Margaret Brodie	20	"
James PATTENCE	36	Shoemaker
Helen	37	Avoch
David	11	Petty
Agnes Whyte Patience	9	Glasgow
Catherine	7	Avoch
Donald MAIN	40	Fisher

The O.P.R.'s revealed that the above James Patience, born in Avoch, married Christian Paton on 18/8/1838 in the Gorbals, Glasgow. Christian died some time after the birth of Catherine (6/11/1843) and James was remarried to Helen Main on 30/1/1846. It is probable that the 'visitor' Donald Main was Helen's brother.

Donald MacLeman	40	Boat carpenter	Petty
Catherine	38	Wife	Avoch
Janet	14	Daug	Henrietta
Margaret	11	"	"
John	9	Son	"
Catherine	7	Daug	"
George	5	Son	"

Note: Henrietta, now part of Avoch proper, was at that time separate from the Seatown because of its position across the bridge at the Gooseburn

Extracts from FISHERLORE OF AVOCH

SOME FISHERMEN'S WORDS

Lowegur	wave surge
Rowe	shore
Po-en	first net shot
Buird	last net shot
Smoolyurs	small scithe
Shultoo	small fish like aprats
Malyflak	stormy petrel
Suichee slaver	jelly fish
Cyathack	monk fish
Cunyowacks	root-ended whin branches for fire
Groff	thick (rope)
Shalters	iron staples for securing rudder
Ruther	rudder

Owld	hold (yoll)
Den	cabin forward (yoll)
Leafee	sheet (sail)
Ray	gaff
Tak a cast about thee	action!
A fair wun tul thee	cheerio

SOME COMMON EXPRESSIONS

Aa yaaz thee	who do you belong to?
Toshun	to urge
Uzwurrun	assuredly
Aa gushuit	all confused
Ithaas for yo	expression of congratulation or delight
Mee crockels bad	I've hurt my ankle
Mee dossun	boy's front hair
A good aan	a hopeless fellow
Keltry	spurde for porridge
Dumpeesh	stupid
Mugalees	to destroy, make a mess of
Foolhya	filth
Sheyr	chair
Skutchurs	small flat stones for skimming over a calm sea

SOME BYNAMES

Bann, Bappey, Bleck, Bob, Boddey, Bolley, Bander, Bookee, Bantan, Cairter, Cockle, Clachey, Cloudee, Crow, Cyich, Cankee, Caddley, Certain, Dode, Doo, Dockey, Durler, Dottle, Duckley, Dundle, Drummeey, Dusdie, Droull, Eppey, Eelyum, Fuddler, Gowee, Gouder, Keeng, Kyunduck, Knotty, Havannah, Lochey, Laa, Maliflax, Monsey, Muspaa, Mooched, Nushun, Neekless, Onney, Pashee, Paish, Pandey, Peyg, Packer, Proliack, Pallet, Powp, Ree, Reyd, Scattan, Skeen, Slake, Splunter, Scootee, Spud, Tchaney, Tenashen, Turnpan, Tolan, Toatey, Twurney, Unte, Welcome, Wummun, Wulsh, Yokaa.

"Nobody knows the true spelling of these bynames (if there ever was) so they have been written as pronounced in the mother tongue". p.11

Article submitted by Carole Lohar (Member No. 837)

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 supra p. 90
 9. Bain, G.
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 12. Blackwell
 supra pp. 127/8/9
 13. Bain, G.
 supra p. 230
 14. Anson, P.
 FISHERLORE OF AVOCH - Heritage Society of
 Ross and Cromarty p. 7
 15. Sutherland, D.K.
 supra p. 102
 16. Bain, G.
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 17. Anson, P.
 supra p. 129
 18. Bain, G.
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 19. Blackwell

ARGYLL AND WEST OF SCOTLAND CENSUS INDEX

This has been developing over the last few years in New South Wales and is starting to be seriously available. Limited numbers of microfiche parts of the 1851 census index for five areas may be bought from The Seanachas Press at Peter Gibson's address below. Prices \$A19.95 each except Inverness at \$21.95. Knock 10% off the fiche price if you want all five and then add \$3 (\$4 if airmail) for postage. These cover Bute, Inverness parish, North Skye (Kilmuir, Duirinish, Snizort), South Skye and the Small Isles, and Gairloch, Lochbroom and Applecross.

This is just part of the computerised index which now covers some 250,000 people over seven counties. The districts covered at the moment are all of Argyll except Cumberloden, all of Bute, lots of Inverness (Inverness, Glenelg, Kilmunvaig, North and South Uist, Laggan, Moy and Dalacorssie, Bracadale, Kilmuir, Sleat, Duirinish, Small Isles, Portree, Strath, Snizort, Barra, Harris, Alvie, Ardernier, Abernethy and Kincardine, Petty, Kirkhill), some of Ross (Kintail, Glenshiel, Dingwall, Gairloch, Lochalsh, Lochbroom, Lochcarron, Lochs, Stormoway, Barvas, Uig, Tain, Applecross, Urray), and a bit of Lanark. Thurso and Eddrachillis are being worked on at the moment.

Write to Peter Gibson, P O Box 169, Maroubra N S W 2035, Australia with £2.50 per search (includes postage) for an individual and any family living with them. He will also conduct a (limited) amount of research to try and identify the correct individual where there is more than one person on the index that matches.

INCREASE IN OVERSEAS POSTAL RATES

Membership Year 1994-95

Unfortunately last September the new postal rates brought out by the Post Office meant a significant increase of £1.60 per annum in the cost to the Society in sending out the Journals to members. At the Annual General Meeting it was agreed that overseas members be asked to contribute £1 towards that increase. Accordingly with effect from 1st September the new rate from airmail postage will be £3 per annum.

First our statistics. 991 batches received, less 11 which hadn't materialised, less 132 sent back for Aberdeen to keep them at it, leaves 848 ready for us to do. All have been put out and 233 have not yet come back. Of the returnees 87 have not yet been A-checked (a 100% check of the transcription) and 164 have not yet been B-checked (a random recheck). 364 have been B-checked and returned to Edinburgh and more will follow shortly.

During the past two years about 14 million finished entries have been data-filtered and sent to the GSU headquarters, or nearly half the total population of Scotland, Wales and England, and many fiches have now been published. By April nearly 2 million people had been transcribed out of the 3.7 million Scottish population and the millionth entry into the computers had been done in March.

Kincardine and Kinross are the first Scottish counties to appear on fiche and another nine (out of 31) counties have their transcribing finished so will appear in due course. None of ours yet, but we are getting there. Orkney is finished, all bar a single entry from Shetland (I'll explain this strange idea below), and I have put back to the GSU the completed bigger halves of Caithness and Sutherland as well as a lot of Ross and Invernessshire. Nairn is starting to move too.

I had the chance to see some of the end results of this census project and was very pleased with what I saw. A full review is a way off yet, let's see our own counties and the national one in a year or so, but my first impression was very favourable. An English county of interest to me is Cambridge, where my wife's family comes from, so I hoiked it out and went for them and found them in seconds.

There are five sets of fiche for each county, all colour-coded for distinction. The yellow 'As Enumerated' ones are obvious, just copies of the schedules in the order of their PRO coding and I was looking at 1681, page 72, but you almost do not need to see the originals, these are so complete. The main bits missing are the surrounding notes, the blind/imbecile notes and the bits on different handwritings that might tell a searcher something when handling the originals.

A lot of these however are taken care of in the brown 'Miscellaneous' entries with transcribers' additional notes. The first part of call is naturally the pink 'Surname' index which lists the lines in alpha order by surname, you miss the address, but you are cross-referenced to the 'As Enumerated' fiches that so all is well. That's what I did when seeking my wife's great-grandfather's family in Soham and got them at once.

To explain the odd bit above about needing a Shetland entry to complete Orkney, turn to the fifth set of fiches, the green 'Birthplaces' ones. If you know where your ancestor was born, but don't know to where he or she or the family disappeared afterwards, look them up in this one and it will direct you to the area in which they were counted in 1881. This is the jewel in this finding-aid and it is a major addition to all the lists and card-indices made available to us by the labour of many.

You will all be pleased to know that my quick visit found me the address of the farm the Priggs were living on at the time, and they included the year-old baby who would grow up to be my wife's grandfather. My father-in-law was never able to tell me the ages or birth-years of his aunts and uncles born in the 1860s and 1870s, but now I know, and he wasn't aware that he had had an Aunt Emma, but now he is.

A WATERLOO VETERAN

From the Banff Journal - 26/9/1897

A Correspondent writes:- "I occasionally see in yours and other newspapers notices of soldiers who had been at Waterloo. Will you kindly afford space for the following particulars regarding one resident in Macduff, as gleaned from conversations with him.

George Burnet was born at Logic, Gamrie, in February 1790. In 1808 he enlisted in the 92nd Highlanders, was sent to join the second battalion, then in Ireland. In 1811 the battalion came to Scotland, and had for six months its headquarters in Banff. It was then sent to Fort George, where a draft was made to join the first battalion in the Peninsula. Burnet was one of the draft. Landing in Lisbon, they then were at once sent to the front to join their regiment, commanded by Colonel Cameron, under General Hill commanding the division. The British army was then on their last and famous march through Spain. The battle of Vittoria came first, then the Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes and Toulouse, in which Burnet bore a part. When peace was proclaimed, the 92nd was sent to Fermooy, Ireland, but on Bonaparte's landing was at once sent to Belgium.

On the morning of the 16th June the 92nd were in the front, along with some other regiments, forming the right division of Wellington's army, and having a body of Greasers on their right, and a body of German troops on their extreme left. After the troops came in sight, the French kept up a continual fire, but the division was no sooner formed in line than it charged, but, as Burnet emphatically says, the French would not stand. The charges were repeated the whole day. Towards nightfall the French advanced under a shower of shot, shell, and musketry. A piece of shell struck Colonel Cameron on the side, and passing along tore open his bowels. Burnet was near him when he tried to ride off the field, keeping his bowels up with his hands. He died on his road to Brussels.

Shortly after this Burnet received a musket ball in his left shoulder, which completely disabled him. He left to have his wound dressed. This was roughly done on the field, but he was ordered to go to the rear, and tramped five good Scots miles, as he says, before he could get shelter, which he found in a village, the name of which he does not remember, where he lay for some time, how long he cannot tell, till he was transported to the hospital at Antwerp, and in July sent home to the hospital at Yarmouth, from which he was transferred successively to hospitals at Colchester, Chatham and London where he was finally discharged with a pension of 9d per day.

Burnet possesses two medals, the Peninsular one with six clasps - Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse and the Waterloo medal. I doubt whether there are many surviving who can show the like. Yet Burnet is a hale, healthy old man and with the exception of a very slight deafness has the full use of his mental and bodily faculties. I may mention that besides his pension, Burnet obtained from the Kinloch Fund £4 a year. That fund was established for the use of disabled Scotch soldiers who had not an income of £20 a year.

In 1874 the Waterloo veterans got an increase of their pensions. Burnet's was increased to 1s. 6d. per day, making his income more than £20 a year, and to his honour be it told that, no sooner did he get the official notice of the increase, than he wrote to the trustees of the Kinloch Fund intimating it, and of course has not received the £4 since. I trust our army consists of many who possess the moral rectitude of Burnet.

I do not wish to solicit on behalf of Burnet, and indeed he would not allow me to do so; but is there nothing that can be done to show our support for this good old soldier and honest man?"

THE KINLOCH BEQUEST (or FUND)

In the course of researching my wife's family history we came across a reference to the "Kinloch Fund". This was in the 1851 Census Return for Nairn where the entry for her Great-grandfather showed him to be a "Pensioner - Kinloch Fund".

We subsequently established through the good offices of Mr Iredale, Morayshire Archivist in Forres, that the Kinloch Bequest was a bequest in Trust to the Corporation of the Scottish Hospital, in London. (This information came from Oliver & Boyd's Almanack).

The Corporation of the Scottish Hospital was incorporated in 1665 and re-incorporated in 1775. Its purpose was:

"To afford Monthly Assistance to indigent Persons Natives of Scotland and their children resident in the Metropolis, who are not in receipt of Parochial Relief, and affords free passages back to Scotland to those who wish to spend their last days in their native land."

The Kinloch Bequest was:

"In Trust to the Corporation for Annuities to discharged men of Scottish extraction of the Regular Army or Royal Navy disabled by wounds in the Service of their country, who are resident in the United Kingdom, and in indigent circumstances."

For some time we were unable to progress further but in due course, through the good offices of Mr Ron McGregor in Elgin, we discovered that the Corporation of the Scottish Hospital still exists, now under the title of The Royal Scottish Corporation, and that it still administers The Kinloch Bequest.

The history of both organisations is fascinating.

The story of The Royal Scottish Corporation begins after the accession of James VI of Scotland to the British throne in 1603. Increasing numbers of Scots followed him South to take advantage of the trading opportunities this opened up for them. Inevitably, some fell by the wayside.

In 1613 Scottish Merchants in London started putting their "hawbees" into the Scots Box, in meetings at Lamb's Conduit, for the benefit of their less well off brothers; and so it has grown so that the Corporation is now the largest Scottish Charity outwith Scotland giving care and succour to those Scots in need within a radius of 35 miles of the centre of London.

William Kinloch was a native of Arbuthnot, Kincardineshire. He was from a poor family but made a fortune in Calcutta. When he died he bequeathed various sums of money to relatives and others including £3,000 to the Kirk Session of Arbuthnot for the relief of the poor. The balance, some £75,000 he bequeathed in trust to the Governors of the Scottish Hospital for the relief of needy and deserving Scotsmen who had become disabled during or following service in the Army or Navy. Although he died in 1812, and his precise intentions as to who should benefit under his bequest were not clear, the Trustees took the matter to the Chancery Court for clarification and it was not until 1818 that the Court finished its deliberations and produced detailed regulations for the administration of the Fund. Briefly, these were that up to 500 qualifying applicants, selected by ballot, who had an income of less than £20 a year were to receive a pension from the Fund to bring their income up to that sum.

The Chelsea Out-pensioner's pension in 1897 was 9d a day, ie £13. 5s. 6d. a year, and in 1856 was probably less, so many Chelsea Out-pensioners would have qualified for a top-up from the

Kinloch Bequest to make their annual income up to £20. The terms of the Bequest have obviously been varied from time to time to meet changing conditions but the work begun by William Kinloch these many years ago still continues.

Unfortunately, the Fund had a disastrous fire at its premises in 1878 so that no records exist before that date.

Enquiries should be addressed to:

The Secretary
The Royal Scottish Corporation
37 King Street
London
WC2 8JS

This, and the previous article, were submitted by Iain Macnair (Member No. 988)

JESSIE MCKENZIE - DID YOU EXIST?

About 33 years ago I sailed up the Clyde to Greenock on the *EMPRESS OF CANADA*; some hours later we sailed back down the Clyde; and thus was my (to date) one and only visit to Scotland. Yet to this day I can remember the foggy mist and through the mist the feeling of a ghost making me misty-eyed (and this, years before I started on the Family History trail, and long before I realised I truly had Scottish ties!)

The first written evidence I have of my paternal Great-grandmother, JESSIE MCKENZIE is her marriage certificate, declaring her to be a member of the Presbyterian Church. Jessie, then aged 22 years, married John Chard on 4th April 1856 at Castlemaine, Victoria, (a gold-mining town in the midst of the great Goldrush.) From the certificate we also learn;

1. That Jessie was at the time a Domestic Servant at Campbell's Flat, another mining settlement a few miles from Castlemaine.
2. That neither Jessie nor John were literate and the certificate and all that followed were signed with crosses; (so all information was only as good as that verbally given to questions asked and written by a third person.)
3. Jessie's parents were ALEXANDER (labourer) and what reads as JESSIE MCKENZIE.
4. That Jessie was born in "Glasgow". (Could the question asked have been, "Where did you come from in Scotland?", and could the answer perhaps have been in terms of where they had sailed from, which could have been Glasgow?)

Next official evidence of Jessie is in the birth certificate of my Grandmother, Mary Ann Chard born in 1857 in Collingwood (an inner suburb of Melbourne). The informant for the certificate was Jessie herself and now we find "place of birth" for Jessie given as ROSS-SHIRE. Nine more children followed; Edward ('58) also in Collingwood; then came a move to BALLARAT and Sarah ('60); Jessie ('61); Eliza ('63); Alexander ('64); George ('66); John ('70); Robert ('72); and Jane (1875).

I have not got all ten children's birth certificates but the informant for Sarah and Alexander was

John, the father, and the Mother's birthplace is given as "Inverness". Just to add to the confusion over this point, after Jane's birth in '75, 13 yr old Eliza became the informant and we find Jessie's birthplace is now recorded as Aberdeen --- at least there was no dispute about it being somewhere in Scotland. I'm inclined to believe Ross-shire as it is the only one actually given by Jessie herself.

Well, my Great-grandmother Jessie eventually died at the age of 77 yrs in 1910, still in Ballarat, never having returned to Scotland nor being able to write to kith and kin about her life and family in Australia. Jessie had been widowed in 1886 whilst husband John was the Publican of a Hotel named The Beehive. Understandably, with 10 children, Jessie had a great number of grandchildren to give her comfort in her adopted land. I have not made a count so far of the exact number but of my own Gran., - her first born had 9 children and at least two of the other families were as large.

A delightful sidetrack and teaser to me has been the discovery (whilst searching Victorian records for anything I could connect to Jessie) of a Death certificate of an ALEXANDER MCKENZIE in Ballarat in 1870. Alexander at this time was given as 36 yrs, his birthplace, ROSS-SHIRE and his parents as ALEXANDER and JESSIE MCKENZIE. (Could this be a mere coincidence or is it too much to think Alexander might be Jessie's brother? Their ages are close enough, and it is the only Alexander and Jessie combinations I have found in Victoria of the time.) Both had been in Ballarat about the same time and lived in the same part of the mining settlement.

Oh, but how much easier I have found getting information on Alexander. His death certificate stated he was married to Eliza Reid in Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, 7 years before. I was lucky enough to obtain their marriage certificate from South Africa, but not much information of use came of this. However, I recently received some information from a S A publication on Immigration to the Cape. Alexander was listed as a 27 yr old Mason from Ross arriving on the Gipsy Bride, May 1858. Notes on this voyage of the Gipsy Bride tell "that all the single men on board were from Scotland and suffered a high incident of Tuberculosis. Several subsequently died. The Board considered them a very superior class of immigrant, who would prove a great acquisition to the Colony." Next record of Alexander McKenzie; "Went to New Zealand on the "Otago" 1863 with his wife Eliza Reid. He paid their own fare."

For what ever reason they ended up in Ballarat where they had 2 sons and a daughter, Jessie McKenzie! Poor Alexander died in March in Ballarat, of "Congestion of Brain, from exposure to Sun and from over fatigue! He was a Quarryman." (People today will tell you it couldn't get that hot in Ballarat!)

Were my tears on approach to Glasgow for the return of the spirit of my Great-grandmother; returning perhaps to where she may have years before, had her last visible ties with family and homeland?

Oral family history believes she came to Australia as a Lady's Maid to a Doctor's Wife. I have not been able to identify her on Sailing Lists, but if she were a Maid, it is likely she may have been only listed as Dr and Mrs Someone and MAID! So I am not sure exactly when she left Scotland but I think it was around 1853 or 54 making her about a 20 yr old. What an adventure for a 20 yr old!

So, can anyone tell me did JESSIE MCKENZIE really exist? No, not my Great-grandmother Jessie, I know she existed; I can go and put flowers on her grave any time I'm in Ballarat, but the lonely mother she must have left behind. Did this JESSIE have to say goodbye to a daughter and perhaps a son - could there have been even more? Never to hear from them

