

GRAVE ENCOUNTERS

AT KELLS



Grave Encounters:
A 2022 volunteer research project into the people
memorialised at Kells, New Galloway



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Introduction

“In Scotland there is a little-acknowledged and largely unrecorded historical treasure, accessible to, and belonging to, each Scottish community.”

Betty Willsher in *Understanding Scottish Graveyards* (1985)

The Grave Encounters project recruited volunteers to undertake research into the memorial inscriptions at Kells graveyard in New Galloway¹. These inscriptions are often all that publicly remains of the individuals named within, but they contain glimpses, not just into their lives, but also into past events, locations and connections which make up an area’s heritage.

The decision to focus on Kells stemmed from its carvings. Nic Coombey, from the Solway Firth Partnership, introduced us to the presence of its ‘Adam and Eve’ carvings, but a wander through the stones soon revealed several intricate designs dating back some 300 years. Choosing Kells allowed the project to be combined with creating a record of some of these carvings. But, in truth, every graveyard across Galloway, and indeed Scotland, will contain similar insights into their local area’s collective history.

With a total of 485 inscriptions to choose from, each volunteer was given their own specific set of gravestones to research. To achieve this, the project used ‘Kells Memorial Inscriptions’: a complete transcription of the gravestones published by the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society in 2015. The numbering of the inscriptions within this report matches those given in the 2015 publication, with their locations shown in the figure on page 4.

Each volunteer was initially assigned three gravestone inscriptions. There was no pressure to research all three (and equally volunteers could ask for more) but having a choice allowed volunteers to move between options if they started to struggle in their research on any given one. Each group of inscriptions tried to encompass a chronological spread and included one each from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries where possible. Beyond this, preference was given to inscriptions that contained additional information, such as the person’s trade or reference to a military record, which might help with research.

As well as their assigned inscriptions, each researcher was also given a guidance note outlining the main resources available online. People could visit their local library or archive centre but the choice of online resources kept the project open to anyone who might face constraints in attending such places in person.

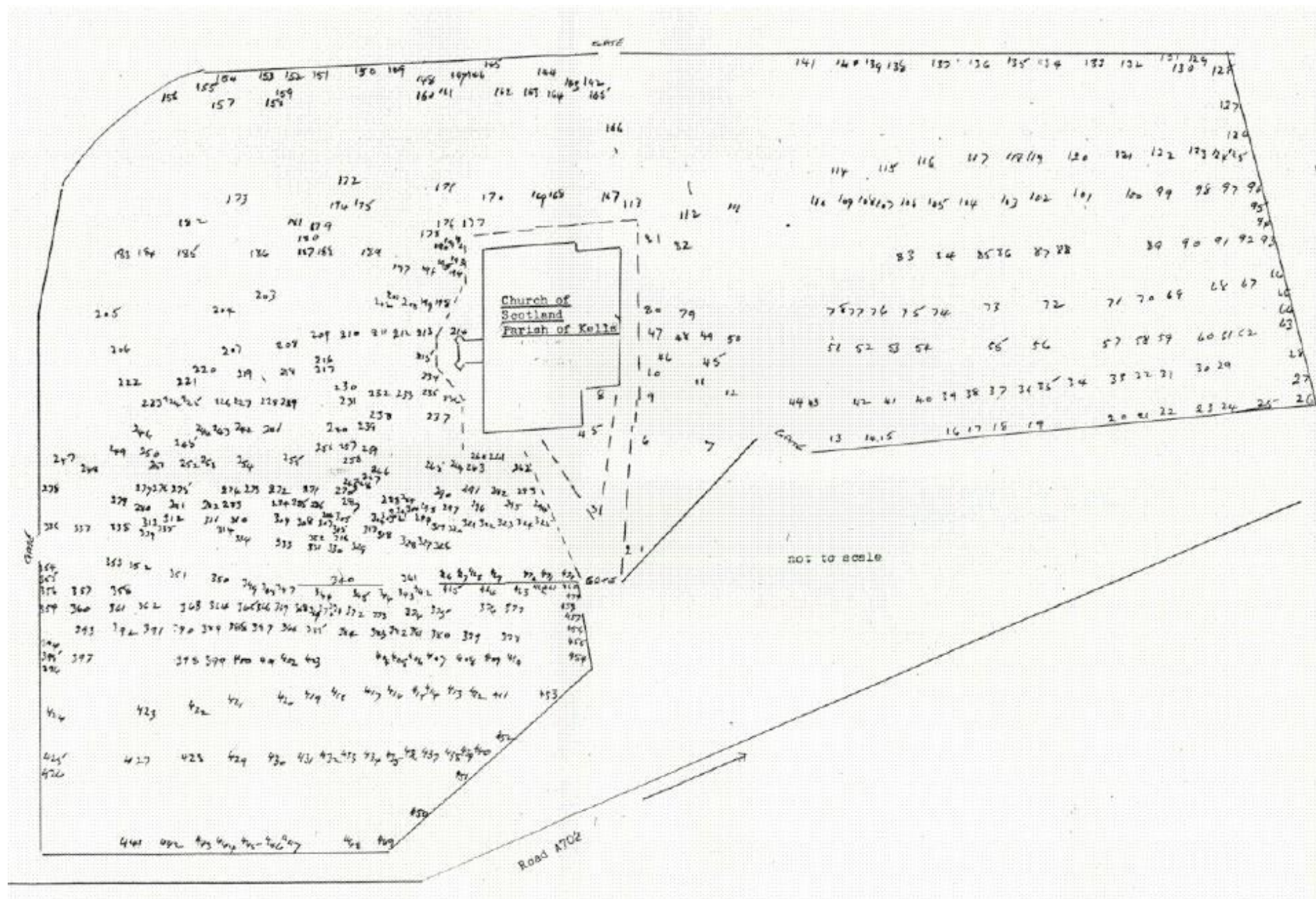
Volunteers were encouraged to email with any questions and a weekly virtual ‘tea break’ was also held using a video conferencing application, optional for anyone who might prefer it as a means of communication.

By the end of the project, 14 volunteers submitted their findings as summary reports, which covered 57 of the inscriptions found at Kells. The volunteers included people from Galloway, Ayrshire, Glasgow, Bristol, Canada and New Zealand. Their results revealed stories of local ministers; teachers; religious conflict; war casualties; emigrations to Canada, America and New Zealand; and several local individuals who lived and worked in the surrounding area over the last 300 years to make it what it is today.

All this history was found in just a small fraction of the inscriptions at Kells, itself only one of over 100 graveyards within Galloway alone. These inscriptions may exist as a record of death but there is still life to be found in them. Their study helps us to rediscover the people in our history, the individuals and their stories that are so often overlooked but remain integral to our understanding of heritage.

Claire Williamson

¹ The Grave Encounters project was undertaken in March and April 2022 as part of ‘Can You Dig It’, the community archaeology project of the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership. Galloway Glens was a five-year initiative funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and ‘Can You Dig It’ was match funded by Historic Environment Scotland and delivered by Rathmell Archaeology.



Plan of memorial locations reproduced from 'Kells Graveyard Memorial Inscriptions' published in 2015 by the Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society

Inscription 12 – Douglas & McMillan

by Pat Swiatek

John Douglas was born in Rerrick, Kirkcudbrightshire in 1783 to Andrew Douglas and Sara Thomson.

He had brothers James 8.4.1800 and William 11.4.1793, sisters Jane 5.6.1795, Janet 23.11.1797 and Elizabeth 1.5.1781. They are all recorded as births in Rerrick.

He married Janet McMillan who was born in Carsphairn 23.6.1773.

There is no record of John Douglas's birth in the OPRs only his siblings.

He was recorded in the 1841, 1851 and 1861 census as a joiner employing one apprentice and lived in Kells.

Both John Douglas and Janet McMillan are noted as having died in New Galloway. She was 88 years old on 18.3.1861 and he was 87 years old in 8.2.1871. They are both recorded as having died of old age.

Janet McMillan's parents were Andrew McMillan and Jean Hairstones or Hastings and they came from Carsphairn.

Andrew McMillan was a shepherd.

She had a sister called Barbara 14.7.1771

John and Janet's children were John 1814-1814, Mary 1812-1888, Andrew 1807-1863 and William 1817-1885.

I also found a record of a Mathew but nothing further than a name and a date of 23.3.1817.

His son Andrew emigrated to the USA in 2.7.1836 and moved to Louisiana and was an overseer on a plantation there, married a Bridget Foley (Irish) and had at least three children.

His son William emigrated to the USA in 1841 and married Permelia Amelia Strawn in Missouri and then moved to Pike, Illinois and went onto have 11 children! He was a joiner to trade.

Inscription 16 – Bateson

by Sue Taylor



Stone 16

Erected to the memory of Sophia BATESON a native of Yorkshire who died at Glenlochar House in this county 6th June 1869 aged 86 years, and is interred in Cross-Michael Churchyard. Also of Sarah BATESON niece of the above who died at Cairn Edward in this Parish 21st March 1895 aged 79 years. Two faithfull and beloved servants from youth till death in the family of Tottenham LEE, Esq., of Saint John's Wakefield for many years resident in this county.

Sarah Bateson (1816?-1895) and her aunt, Sophia Bateson (1783?-1869), were born and lived their younger years in the north-east of England, in the County Durham area. Sophia was christened in September 1782; I could find no record of her actual birth date, though Ancestry specifies it as 1778 (no source given). Similarly, Sarah was baptised in August 1816 at St Nicholas church in Durham, but there's no trace of a birth certificate.

Both Sarah and Sophia joined the household of Tottenham Lee as servants (Sophia at 24 years of age, according to her obituary), both remaining in service with this family for the rest of their lives. Apart from the baptism details, there's no record or indication of where or how either Sophia or Sarah lived prior to their joining the family. Sarah appears (age 25) in the 1841 census (the first year names were collected centrally), whilst Sophia first appears in the 1851 census, both living with the Lees.

As with most servants of that period in history, little documentation of their lives survives, apart from official recordings of birth, marriage, death and wills, and the few fragments that can be gleaned or imagined from these. Sophia is the more shadowy figure; apart from the official dates and her 1841 and 1851 census listings under the same roofs as the Lee family, I discovered really nothing about her or her life. With Sarah it was almost the same, yet one document was a surprising revelation, and brought her suddenly to life for me.

Life and death with the Lee family

Born in Wakefield in 1794, Tottenham Lee was a lawyer, investor and businessman who came from a wealthy family. His father John Lee was a philanthropist, industrialist, lawyer and entrepreneur, and funded Britain's first public railway.

In 1841 Tottenham was living with his wife Louisa Egremont, a wealthy heiress, and six children in a fine townhouse called Newton Lodge in Wakefield, Yorkshire, along with Sophia Bateson (then aged 59) and her niece Sarah Bateson (age 25), the cook, and three other servants. Following years of constant borrowing from his father-in-law, John Egremont, and then Egremont's death in 1841, Tottenham went bankrupt. Fortunately for him, Louisa had an annual income of £400 (about £55k today) and also eventually inherited a vast fortune, which, as her husband, Tottenham had free right to access, thanks to the *jus mariti* law (*see text box, right*).

Jus mariti

jus mariti (latin - the right of the husband) was "the right of property originally invested in the husband on marriage in all his wife's moveables except her paraphernalia, ie clothes, jewelry and their receptacles". (Sc. 1946 A. D. Gibb *Legal Terms* 47).

"In the common law of Scotland there existed from medieval times until the nineteenth century a system of proprietary relations between spouses.... Marriage carried the moveable estate of the wife to the husband by an implied universal assignation known as the *jus mariti* ... During the marriage no steps were taken to protect the wife's interest and the husband could deal with the "goods in communion" as if she did not exist. ... The *jus mariti* could be expressly excluded by a third party conveying or bequeathing estate to the wife. (*The Effect of Marriage upon Property in Scots Law*, A E Anton, 1956)

In 1881, by the Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act, the *jus mariti* was abolished in the case of marriages contracted after the date of the passing of the Act.



Glenlee Park

But by 1851, Tottenham and Louisa, plus the children, Sophia the nanny and Sarah the cook, had moved to Galloway, Scotland - to a large country house at Glenlee Park, a small 18th-century mansion house on the banks of the Ken, opposite Dalry. The reason for the move and choosing this part of Scotland is not known, but one can imagine they wanted a fresh start away from Wakefield, and with Louisa's inheritance secured, there was no need to stay there for financial reasons.

In 1861 the family, with Sarah and Sophia, is recorded as living at Overton, another country house just north of New Galloway. Later they moved again to Glenlochar Lodge, a late-18th-century/19th-century manor house on the banks of the Dee near Crossmichael.

On 6 January 1869, Sophia died from influenza, aged 86, at Glenlochar, and her post-death inventory showed a total of £222 11s 6d (very approximately £30k today), most of which were her bank savings in England. Sarah is named in the inventory as next of kin, and as no one is mentioned as beneficiary, it's likely that she and her brother John inherited Sophia's money.

In 1871 Sarah was still living at Glenlochar with the family, but by 1881, whilst the Lees were still there, Sarah is absent from the census list there, and instead is recorded as living at Burnfoot Cottage. There she is "head" of the household, unmarried, and her occupation is given as "housekeeper". It's not clear if that means housekeeper in her own dwelling or still working for the Lees at Glenlochar. I wasn't able to establish where Burnfoot Cottage is/was located, but in the Kirkcudbrightshire OS Name Books 1848-1851, there's this listing for "Burnfoot":



Glenlochar Lodge

"About 16 Chains S W. [South West] of Kenmure Castle A farm house &. out houses all thatched and in bad Repair. with a large farm of land attached the greatest of which is Moorland. It is the property of the heirs of the late Lord Kenmure."

This is perhaps likely to be where Sarah's cottage was. Tottenham Lee's daughter Jane Crane was by now married to John Maitland - son of the Rev James Maitland of Kells and Louisa Bellamy Gordon (niece of Adam Gordon, 8th Viscount of Kenmure), and thus the heir to Kenmure Castle and estate.



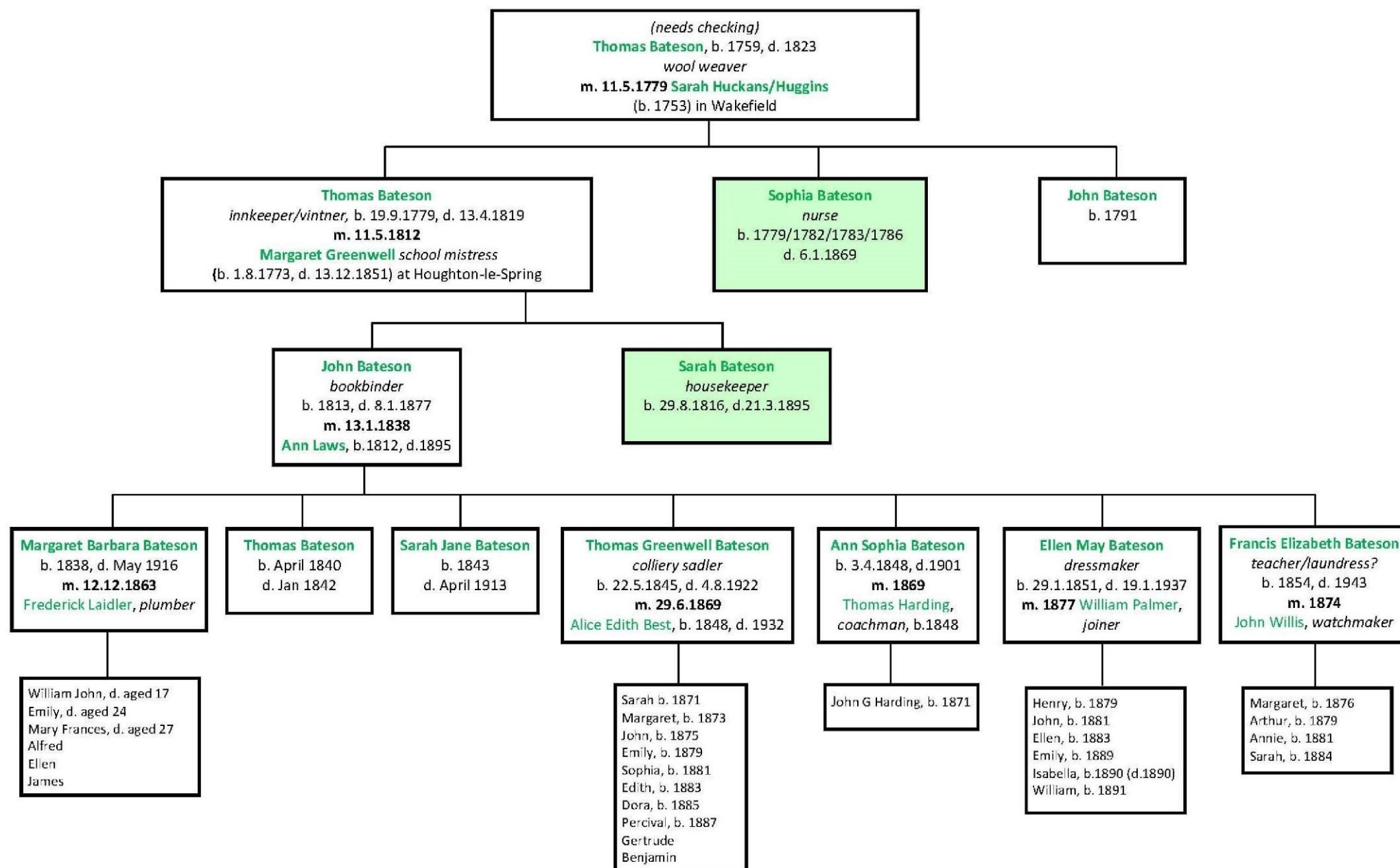
One can only guess why Sarah was now living alone in a cottage. In 1881 she is 65 years old, so perhaps this was provided for her by the Lees and/or the Maitlands as a retirement home.

Tottenham Lee died in 1888 aged 95, outliving his wife and five of his six children (Jane Maitland lived until 1928). In 1891 Sarah Bateson is listed in the census as living again with the family - but this time with Jane, her husband and other servants at Cairn Edward, a house just below the Kenmure estate, and for the first time as "annuitant" (similar to pensioner). Curiously though, in her will, written in 1891, Sarah also refers to "Catherine Keir, Sick Nurse of the Royal Scottish Nursing

Institute, Edinburgh, presently residing with me at Crossmichael Village". Possibly she was living in a temporary village home whilst in ill health?

On 21 March 1895, aged 79, Sarah died at Cairn Edward, of "senile decay" (this likely means old age). Present was her great-niece, nephew Thomas Greenwell's daughter, Sarah Annie Bateson (aged 24).

Family tree of Sophia Bateson and Sarah Bateson



Family discoveries

In the course of researching the lives of Sarah and Sophia, I decided to record all the details of their family members as a family tree diagram (see previous page). I limited the scope of this to two generations before and two generations after Sarah. Dates are sometimes approximate/uncertain and/or missing and occasionally several possible dates are given. A few details need to be rechecked.

At the top are Sarah's grandparents, **Thomas Bateson**, a wool weaver, and **Sarah Huckans/Huggins**. Their children were **John Bateson**, **Sophia Bateson** (Sarah's aunt) and **Thomas Bateson**, Sarah's father, who married **Margaret Greenwell** in Houghton-le-Spring on 11 May 1812. Thomas, an innkeeper/vintner, and Margaret lived in this mining town NE of Durham City, and Sarah may have grown up here. Sadly, Sarah's father died in 1819, when Sarah was only 3 years old and her brother John 6 years. Her mother Margaret was a schoolmistress and later lived in St Oswald's, New Elvet, Durham. She died aged 78 and was buried in St Oswald's churchyard.



John Bateson, Sarah's brother

Sarah's brother **John Bateson** became a bookbinder in Durham. He married **Ann Laws** in 1838, and they had 7 children (5 girls and 2 sons). Their first son, Thomas, died at just two years old. The family lived at number 4 Sidegate, in Framwellgate, Durham.

John seems to have been a prominent and well liked character in the town, as can be seen from his long and affectionate obituary notice, and also a later article appealing for funds to erect a tombstone on his grave (see newspaper clippings). He supported several local Benefit Societies, and was "a genial and humorous companion", of "kind and unassuming disposition, being ever ready to do a generous action to any who might cross his path in the hour of need". He is described as a good singer and mimic, and "to hear and see his comicalities was a treat not to be missed".



Ellen May Bateson, Sarah's niece



Framwellgate, Durham

DEATH OF MR JOHN BATESON. — Another very familiar face has paid the last debt of nature, namely, Mr John Bateson, bookbinder, of Sidegate, which took place on Monday morning last, after an illness of about a month's duration, from an attack of lumbago and rheumatism. Deceased served his apprenticeship with Mr Forster Brown, bookbinder, of Church Street, in this city, after which he was engaged at the *Durham Chronicle*, then under the management of the late Mr J. H. Veitch, where he remained until that gentleman's parting with the bookbinding business. For a number of years he was employed by Mr G. Walker, Saddler Street, and for the latter part of his life with the late Mr William Ainsley and his sons. John was endowed with a very retentive memory, and being so closely allied to the press he had great facilities for collecting information on various topics, for it was customary, when any election squibs, or other local events were struck off "to be sure and save Bateson a proof." These he carefully collected and preserved, which made him looked up to as "a book of reference." For about 40 years he had been connected with some of the Benefit Societies in this city, nearly the whole of which time he officiated as secretary. He likewise held the same office in several Women's Benefit Clubs. Being endowed with vocal abilities fair above mediocrity, likewise a mimic of no ordinary calibre, to see and hear his comicalities was a treat not to be missed; and it is perhaps not too much to say he would have been a great acquisition to any provincial music hall in rendering his inimitable buffo songs. At the numerous anniversaries of the various clubs with which he was connected, it was the stereotyped phrase that "Mr John Bateson, the worthy secretary, ably filled the chair." Those who for a number of years have visited these meetings, always looked forward for an evening's mirth at the hands of the ever-verdant president, whose sallies of wit and mimicry caused laughter to hold its sides. Who amongst them will ever forget his rendering of the celebrated "Country Fair," when he used to essay from the chair, and commence—

"Yes, yes, I own it's my delight
 To see the laughter and the fright,
 And such a merry motley sight,
 As at a country fair."

Mr Bateson was highly respected by a large number of citizens for his kind and unassuming disposition, being ever ready to do a generous action to any who might cross his path in the hour of need. Deceased leaves a widow, a son, and five daughters. He was interred on Wednesday afternoon in St. Cuthbert's churchyard, his remains being followed by a large concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends. He was in his sixty-third year. "May the grass grown green o'er his slumbering head."

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A correspondent writes to me saying that the present time is opportune for calling attention to an old bibliomaniac, a genial and humorous companion, a worthy citizen, and, taking him all in all, a man but rarely met with in his particular rank and calling in life. The person to whom he refers is Mr John Bateson, bookbinder, who died about three years ago. Mr Bateson, for the long period of forty years, discharged the duties of secretary to many of the benefit societies, as also to several women's benefit clubs, in Durham. Among many of the members of the existing societies it appears there is a disposition to mark their regard for his memory and worth by the erection of a tombstone above his remains, in St. Cuthbert's cemetery, if sufficient funds can be obtained. I gladly give publicity to my correspondent's desire that the matter should be made public ; for poor Bateson's wit and humour were ever verdant, as his disposition was kind and unassuming. I trust, therefore, the appeal now made will meet with the response it deserves.





Alice Best, Sarah's nephew's wife

John Bateson's son **Thomas Greenwell Bateson** lived in the mining village of South Hetton, working as a colliery saddler at the colliery there.

In 1858, aged 13, he had a bad accident (see newspaper clipping below) when he was run over by a bus and suffered serious internal injuries. This was no doubt a difficult and worrying time for his parents, particularly having already lost their only other son in babyhood.

Thomas married **Alice Best** and they had 9 or 10 children, the largest family of his siblings. All his sisters except one married and had children.



Sophia Bateson, Sarah's great-niece

Report on Thomas Greenwell Bateman's accident

Durham Chronicle, 27.8.1858

ACCIDENT ON THE NORTH ROAD.—On Wednesday afternoon, a young man named Bateson, son of Mr. John Bateson, bookbinder, was proceeding up the North Road to the Dryburn gates, and on passing the opening leading to the railway station he was knocked down and run over by the railway omnibus, on its way from the station. He was much injured internally, and was very ill yesterday. This is an extremely dangerous turning. Owing to the road being macadamized and the sharp curve on to the north road, passers-by have no intimation of the near presence of vehicles coming from the station; consequently the greatest precaution is necessary. We would suggest that a railing or a barrier of some sort should be erected round the angle of the house adjoining the road, so that vehicles may be necessitated to take a wider turning, and thus prevent the danger of further accidents at this place.



Hetton colliery

Sarah's will: intriguing revelations

Almost all the information I uncovered about Sarah and Sophia themselves was factual and impersonal. As women, and particularly as servants, virtually nothing was documented of them and their lives - articles, letters, diaries - or if these things existed, they haven't survived, as far as we know.

So I was delighted and enthralled to come across Sarah's will and testament, which not only gave me a welcome new raft of family information, but also suddenly something of her personality shone through. She briefly came alive, and I could hear her voice, and learn a little of her passions and feelings and relationships.

Four years before she died, Sarah wrote her will on 14 March 1891, then altered it just 2 weeks later on 27 March 1891, cancelling a bequest of £100 she had originally made to Durham Hospital and re-distributing it to her nephew and nieces. I will attach separately to this report the original full will and testament, and also a transcript of it, but here is the central part I found so interesting:

I, Miss Sarah Bateson, residing in Crossmichael Village, Kirkcudbright, with a view to the settlement of my affairs in the event of my decease, do hereby nominate and appoint Thomas Greenwell Bateson, residing at South Hetton by Sunderland, my nephew, to be my Executor with all the usual powers and I give bequeath, assign and dispoise to him as Trustee for the purposes aforementioned all and sundry the whole estate and effects heritable and moveable of every description, presently belonging or which shall belong and be due to me at the time of my death with the rents and produce, writs, titles and instructions of the same but in trust only for the following purposes viz (First) for paying my just debts, deathbed and funeral charges and the expenses of this Trust, (Second) for paying to the Treasurer for the time being of the Durham Hospital, City of Durham, England, the sum of One hundred pounds, free of expense, for the benefit of that Institution. (Third) I desire to be buried in Bamborough Churchyard and I direct my Executor to erect a tombstone over my grave at a cost of ten pounds, said stone to include the names of my Father and mother, Thomas Bateson and Margaret Bateson, and (Lastly) for paying and transferring the residue of my means and estate to the following persons viz: To my said nephew and executor Thomas Gemmel (sp??) Bateson: To my niece Mrs Francis Elizabeth Bateson or Willis presently residing in Durham and to my two nieces Jane Bateson residing at (blank space) and Ann Sophia Bateson both daughters of John Bateson, Bookbinder and that in such shares and proportions that my said nephew shall receive double the share of each of my said nieces and in the event of any of my said Residuary Legattees predeceasing me leaving lawful issue, such issue shall receive the share which their parent would have taken had he or she survived. And I exclude and debar the jus mariti and all other rights of the husbands of all females taking benefit under these presents. And I grant to my said Trustee and Executor all the powers, privileges and immunities conferred on or competent to gratuitous Trustees by law, including the power to sell and realize my Estate publicly or privately and I reserve my own ? and power to alter or revoke these presents at pleasure. And I revoke all previous wills and writings mortis causa by me. And I dispense with delivery hereof and consent to Registration for preservation.

In Witness whereof these presents written by Edward Herbert, apprentice to Alexander Scott, Solicitor, Annan are subscribed by me at Crossmichael on the fourteenth day of March in the year Eighteen hundred and ninety one before these witnesses Henry Maclellan, Agent of the Bank of Scotland, Castle Douglas and Catherine Keir, Sick Nurse of the Royal Scottish Nursing Institute, Edinburgh, presently residing with me at Crossmichael Village where these presents are subscribed. (signed) Sarah Bateson, Henry Maclellan, Witness, Catherine Keir, Witness.

I, Miss Sarah Bateson within named, having reconsidered the foregoing settlement do hereby make the following alterations. I cancel the bequest to the Durham Hospital and instead thereof leave the sum of One hundred pounds bequeathed to said hospital to my said nephew

Thomas Gemmell (sp??) Bateson and the residue of my Estate bequeathed under the last clause of the settlement, I leave to my said nephew and my said three nieces in equal proportions share and share alike.

In witness whereof this codicil written by Edward Herbert, Apprentice to Alexander Scott, Solicitor, Annan is subscribed by me at Crossmichael on the twenty seventh day of March Eighteen hundred and ninety one before these witnesses. Henry Maclellan, Agent of the Bank of Scotland, Castle Douglas and Catherine Keir, Sick Nurse of the Royal Scottish Nursing Institute, Edinburgh, presently residing with me at Crossmichael Village where these presents are subscribed (signed) Sarah Bateson, Henry Maclellan Witness, Catherine Keir, Witness.

South Hetton, May 25th 1895. This is the Trust Disposition and Settlement and Codicil of the deceased Miss Sarah Bateson referred to in my Deposition of this date to the Inventory of her Personal Estate (signed) Thomas Greenwell Bateson, Charles Hunting JP County of Durham.

The first interesting thing was that Sarah left her money - a sum of £146 15s 1d (very approximately £19,729 today) - to her nephew (and executor) Thomas Greenwell and three of her five nieces, Sarah, Ann and Frances. I wondered - why did she leave out her other two nieces (Margaret and Ellen)? it seems rather pointed, and hinted at perhaps familial disagreements or upsets. Or was it simply that she perceived the 4 named beneficiaries as more needy of the money? for example, Thomas had a large family to support, and Sarah Jane was working in service.

As a perhaps relevant aside, Margaret Greenwell (Sarah's mother) in her will had left £19 to her granddaughter Sarah Jane - and the same niece that Sarah had left money to - thus similarly singling her out from the 6 grandchildren. (Margaret left the remainder of her goods and money to her 2 children, John and Sarah.)

What also struck me was how Sarah firmly states: "I exclude and debar the *jus mariti* and all other rights of the husbands of all females taking benefit under these presents". (Although the Married Women's Property Act had abolished this law 10 years previously, it still applied to marriages that took place before the Act was passed, including those of Sarah's nieces. *See text box on page 1 explaining the jus mariti law.*)

This is a very passionate and clear statement, with strength of feeling behind it. She evidently wants to make absolutely certain that her money goes to and stays with each woman she is giving it to, and not to her husband. I wondered what was behind this - discomfort at witnessing her employer Tottenham Lee being rescued by and then living on his wife's vast inheritance, after failing spectacularly to make his own way in life and work? perhaps something more personal that she was aware of in her nieces' relationships with their husbands? or maybe just that she was a woman of strong principle? Go, Sarah!

Finally, Sarah clearly states her desire "to be buried in Bamborough Churchyard and I direct my Executor to erect a tombstone over my grave at a cost of ten pounds, said stone to include the names of my Father and mother, Thomas Bateson and Margaret Bateson". I was very curious to know what was behind Sarah's wish to be buried at Bamborough, 155 miles from where she lived and died, and a good 70 miles from Durham and her home area. I'd never come across the town mentioned in all the research, so can only think that perhaps she'd visited there and formed an attachment to the area or church.



Sadly, Sarah's simple and heartfelt wishes for her burial and reunification in inscription with her parents were almost certainly never carried out. I've corresponded with the Reverend Louise Taylor-Kenyon at St Aidan's church in Bamburgh, who told me there is no record of Sarah's burial there. I felt saddened by this, and made some attempts to locate her grave. (I'm assuming that Stone 16 at Kells kirkyard is a memorial stone only.) I've tried to find other cemeteries or graveyards with a similar name, without any success.

And of course I wondered why Thomas Greenwell did not apparently carry out his aunt's last wishes. It seemed heartless and disloyal to me, until it occurred to me that it may have simply been that he did not know the contents of her will, and did not learn of them in time. Unless he - or an official - had read the will before or immediately upon Sarah's death, he/they could not have acted upon this particular instruction.

I think it's likely Sarah is buried locally to where she died, so perhaps there is a small grave somewhere at Crossmichael or even Kells? I hope to explore further when I visit in July.

Sources: NLS, Find My Past, Family Search, Scotland's People, North East Inheritance, British Newspaper Archive, Free BMD, Ancestry UK, Sharon Course's report on the Lee family.

Inscription 23 – Philip

by Murray Johnston

Pirie Philip

This gentleman was the last incumbent of Kells parish featured in *Fasti Ecclesiae*, the well-known directory of Scotland's clergy, published up-to-date at the time of WW1. Born in Old Meldrum, Aberdeenshire in May 1851, he was the youngest child of James Pirie, a farmer. Pirie attended the local school, followed by Aberdeen Grammar and took his M.A. at the University of Aberdeen in 1871. For the census, claiming the age of 19, when living with his parents at Cairnmyre, Old Meldrum, Pirie added "M.A." under "occupation". For the next five years he was a schoolmaster at Lumsden, also in Aberdeenshire.

However, his true calling beckoned, and in 1878 he was licensed by the Presbytery of Hamilton, south east of Glasgow. Very soon after, he married Mary Lyall in Aberdeen, but returned south in 1879 to take up an appointment as Minister of Kells. The Rev. Pirie Philip, his wife Mary, and a local Kells-born lass are found living at Kells manse for the 1881 census.

By 1891, the manse of Kells housed Pirie, his wife and family of four children: Charles Lyall, Frederick Maurice, Alice Mary, and last but not least, Percy James Philip, born at the Manse of Kells, at 5am, 12 July 1886. Pirie's wife died in 1909, which left him a widower in 1911 at the manse with two of his adult children.



The Revd Pirie Philip

The eldest child, Charles, occupied senior positions in the Indian Civil Service, and served in WW1 with the Indian Regiments. He retired not long before WW2 and died at Hove on the south coast of Sussex. Frederick engaged in business in the East Indies, and died in Harrow, Middx. Their only daughter, Alice, never married, lived with her aging father, and was buried at Kells churchyard in 1952. That leaves only the youngest, Percy James Philip, whose story as a noted journalist covering both World Wars follows.

Following the Great War, and after 42 years as minister of Kells, in 1921 the Rev. Pirie retired with his daughter Alice to Edinburgh. By about 1930 father and daughter had moved to March in Cambridgeshire, where he remained during WW2. He died there only a few weeks before the end of the war in 1945.

Percy Philip

Picking up Percy Philip's story in 1901, he was a scholar boarding in Edinburgh together with his three siblings. During the following two years Percy took examinations and in 1904 enrolled at the University of Edinburgh in the School of Dentistry, probably at the behest of his father. However, the young Percy was already practicing his skills at writing; in 1902 aged 15 he was one of two winners of a competition entitled – "How I spent my Easter Holiday", and saw his effort published in the *Aberdeen Press & Journal* in April of that year.

The morning of the 11th April dawned to find at least one heart in Edinburgh overflowing with joy ... "Tonight I will be home!" ... the engine whistle seemed to shriek as he sped southward; and at last I heard my father's hearty welcome ... Whoever has as a boy been absent from home at school will know exactly how that night was spent ... Saturday and Sunday I spent in trying to make myself believe that at last after three long months, I was

home in "Bonnie Gallowa'." ... Alas! However, the 28th came only too soon, and the sadness of departure was only slightly alleviated by the thought that I might possibly see my home at the Coronation ... and at half past four I stood again in Auld Reekie.

Like his father before him, Percy did not take up the profession likely proposed for him by their respective fathers. Whereas Percy's father declined teaching and opted instead for the church, Percy rebuffed a medical career, "because he wasn't interested in people's bodies". After brief sojourns in a scholastic role and farm labour, he crossed to the continent in 1910 and began writing as a journalist.

Perhaps with some prophetic foresight, in June of 1914, only days before Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated, Percy married Marguerite Isobel Sayer in Edinburgh. She remained his lifelong companion.

From Belgium, France and eventually Holland, Percy wrote under his own by-line for the Daily News of London and other English newspapers. He took up residence in Paris, becoming fluent in French, and barely a month after the official declaration of war – "our Special Correspondent, Percy J. Philip", wrote one of his first war-time articles. From Tourcoing, France, on August 28, 1914:

It is ten o'clock on a wet, cold evening in mid-August. The little busy town of Tourcoing is shut up and everyone abed. No cafes are open and no one stirs in the streets. It is impossible to think that not ten miles away the fringes of the mightiest armies of all times are battling ...

Only a week later, September 3, Percy reports for his Daily News audience that the English residents in Brussels had been ordered by the military commander to leave the city within 24 hours. The residents travelled by train and crowded onto a boat. Railway communications "are now interrupted ...". Then, only 10 days later, Percy wrote an article that was the partial cause of much consternation:

For two days I have been on a long trek looking for the Russians, said Percy from Ghent, "and I have found them". Where and how many it would not be discreet to tell, he adds, and continues – but the published statement that they are here is sufficient, and of my own knowledge I can answer for their presence ... possibly theirs is not the only army reinforcing the already strong Belgians.

Appended to Percy's news item, a Welsh engineer told of travelling to Leith in a troopship with 3,500 Cossacks, part of a force of 70,000 Russians transported to Belgium. The very next day, several English newspapers published articles similar to the following:

"Rumours of Russians. On the authority of the Press Bureau it is announced that there is no truth whatever in the rumour that Russian soldiers have landed in or passed through Great Britain ... The above statement is particularly interesting in view of the large amount of discussion which was caused yesterday by the definite assertion of Mr Percy J. Philip ... that he had himself seen Russian troops in Belgium ...

Undaunted, in November 1914, examples of headlines from the Daily News' Special Correspondent Percy J. Philip included: From Northern France: "Fighting in Frost and Snow. Prince of Wales Tramps Through the Lines. Cool Daring of Artillery Scouts and Dispatch Riders." And in North Eastern France: "Battle for Converging Point of Nine Strategic Roads. British Army's 'Mad Minute'."

Less than eight years after WW1 ended, Percy wrote from his base in Paris – he had become a Paris correspondent of the New York Times in 1920 – a story about Carol, Crown Prince of Rumania. The editors of the newspaper set up Percy's article with the headline "Stranger than Fiction" ...

New light is thrown by Mr. Percy J. Philip in an article on the amazing drama in which the ex-Crown Prince Carol of Rumania is the central figure. We have been reminded frequently enough that royal personages in post war Europe have very little security ... The facts disclosed now might indeed have been borrowed from the pages of fiction. ...

Percy's three-column article spelt out the circumstances of Prince Carol's abdication, the involvement of the King and Queen (the Prince's parents), and two other "real movers in this drama". The pair were brothers-in-law, and had "become enormously wealthy". Percy writes: "Some months ago I talked to [the Prince] for over an hour of his plans for the improvement of education in Rumania ... his talk showed him full of enthusiasm and eagerness though lacking in balance, judgement, and any great strength of character." ... "The [Crown] Prince alone, abandoned by his father, in open conflict with his mother, consented" to sign his own abdication from the throne of Rumania.

Percy remained in Paris, but with the benefit of his local knowledge provided talks on local radio stations in England. After a Royal Philharmonic rendition of old music hall hits in 1934, Sheffield listeners heard Percy "tell us something about current events in the French capital." In 1938 Bristol, Mr. Philip discussed France under the heading "Athens or Sparta", the problem of politics in Europe "today" and the question of combining efficiency with the liberty of the individual citizen. At the end of 1938, *The Scotsman* guided readers to a talk on "Mediterranean France", by Percy J. Philip and another.

In May of 1940, nine months after the outbreak of WW2, another war correspondent wrote "They Arrested Me as a Spy", adding – the peril "especially threatens war correspondents with the French Army, who wear nondescript uniforms ... Several of my colleagues have been in trouble: two at least – Percy Philips of 'The New York Times',"

The Scotsman, on July 31, 1940 reported: "Narrow Escapes from Death, [a] Scot's Experiences ... in France. The Rev. Pirie Philip [in March, Cambs., formerly] a New Galloway minister, has received a letter from his son, Mr Percy Philip, giving a graphic account of his experiences in France and his narrow escapes from death [in May] when acting as a war correspondent."

Undoubtedly this experience and the fall of Paris in June 1940 decided Percy and Marguerite to make their escape from occupied Europe. Via Vichy, the pair made their way across the Pyrenees to neutral territory and on 2nd October, 1940, Percy and Marguerite sailed from Lisbon, Portugal across the Atlantic to New York. From the manifest, we know that Percy was 6' 1" tall, had fair hair and grey eyes. Percy and his wife travelled north to make their new home in Ottawa, Canada.

Mr Philip says that his experience on leaving Cambrai for Paris was that the life of every American and British journalist was in danger, not from the Germans, but from the French crowds. The latter were possessed with the idea that everyone was a spy or parachutist. Mr Philip describes how he eventually boarded a train filled with refugees and soldiers. His uniform excited comment and question, and whenever the train stopped, he, with others, got down to sit on the grass. Two men dressed in the uniform of Customs officers and armed with revolvers asked him who he was and demanded to see his papers. They were very aggressive, and informed Mr Philip that he was under arrest. A crowd soon gathered, and the general opinion was that he should be shot at once as a German parachutist. Twice the Customs officers went through his papers and threatened to shoot him. He was almost completely undressed, even to taking off his boots for examination. When a captain came up he was even more hysterical than the others, and immediately pulled out his revolver. Mr Philip thought that a French soldier had telephoned to the police, and after a Customs officer had thrown his boots on the line and told him to prepare for execution, he addressed the people and told them that everyone had a right to be tried. To gain time he asked to be allowed to put on his boots, saying that a Scot liked to die in his boots. The two minutes he thus gained saved his life, for two policemen arrived, and he was marched off amid the jeers of the crowd. At Liancourt his papers were properly examined, and he was allowed to resume his journey to Paris.

*The Scotsman, July 31, 1940.
From the British Newspaper Archive*

Reports written in the following year confirm that Percy “was the last British journalist to leave France after her collapse.” Upon arrival in Ottawa, late in November 1940, with considerable passion Percy declared to the Empire Club in Ottawa, as published in the Halifax (Yorkshire) Evening Courier, that France would never aid the enemy against the British. Only days later, Percy made a rousing speech by radio to the entire Canadian nation, concerning the pleasant land of France and its people with perhaps too much freedom to criticize. They had already lost their war because France “was disunited without discipline and strong leadership at a crucial time ... It is for us who are still fighting ... to learn a lesson instead of wasting time criticising others ...” A French border guard told Percy: “Tell them we aren’t finished yet. We have been beaten, but we aren’t conquered.”

In May 1941, Percy wrote, “France in Defeat”, which was extensively referred to in the UK in newspapers and even “*The Illustrated London News*”. His “little book” drew from his experiences in newly defeated France. Percy spoke of the faith the French people had in a British victory, and told of “shopkeepers who leaned across their counters when they found he was British and whispered: ‘God Bless you.’” And of a gendarme after ending an interrogation of Percy and fussing over his paperwork: “All right, you can go; and Vive l’Angleterre, Monsieur!” A reviewer opined: “Mr Philip ... stayed in Paris long after his colleagues had left and is therefore better entitled than most to offer a judgement on France in defeat.” Perhaps his courage in the face of the enemy and unfailing support of the French was what engendered the Legion d’Honneur awarded to Percy. This medal is the highest French order of merit, both military and civil, established by Napoleon Bonaparte, for demonstrated outstanding merit in the service of the French nation, for at least twenty years.



Medaille Legion d'Honneur

Not deterred by U-Boats patrolling the Atlantic, in May 1944 Percy returned to London as one of an invited group of 13 journalists from the Ottawa Parliamentary Press Gallery, of which he was President. They visited Kelmsley House, from where the Sunday Times amongst other British newspapers was published. Percy and friends sailed back to North America landing at Boston in June, 1944.



*From The Ottawa Citizen,
10 Nov 1956*

In the peacetime of July 1946, Percy, now aged 60, and Marguerite sailed from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to France, no doubt to visit friends. Just before leaving, on Canada Day, July 1st, the civil list for Canadian awards in WW2 included Percy J. Philip granted the Order of the British Empire, “for services to the cause of the allies in WW2”.

Percy and Marguerite visited France once again in 1953 on the occasion of his retirement. He died and was buried in November 1956 in Gatineau, Quebec, said to have been “a Britisher to the core”. Gatineau is effectively part of the capital city of Canada, just across the Ottawa river in Quebec province, where French is the common language spoken. Sadly, his widow Marguerite died only a little more than a month later, in December 1956. Obituaries for Percy were published widely across Canada and the United States.

Percy's passing was commemorated on the family memorial stone in Kells churchyard together with his parents and siblings. He is buried in Gatineau, Quebec with his wife.



*Memorial for Percy and Marguerite Philip, Gatineau, Quebec, Canada.
Photo courtesy Dennis Guertin*

Inscription 43 – Maxwell

by Sandra Williamson

Archibald Basil Henry MAXWELL

Only child of Col. Archibald BOYD MAXWELL, late of the Manchester Reg't and

Helen Francis his wife,

Born 4th May 1888, died 24th Dec'r 1910.

Thy will be done.

Taken from the *Gloucestershire Echo*, 27th December 1910:

"Archibald was educated at Rugby and then became a student at the Institute of Civil Engineers London. There he played Rugby Football for the London Irish. Last Easter while spending his holidays in Cheltenham with his grandmother and Aunt he was induced by one of their male servants connected with the Cheltenham Club to help the Cheltonians in their matches against Bristol and Lennox and he was largely instrumental in the town's victory over the Londoners. He was only 22 years of age when he tragically died."

Hawes Junction, 24th December 1910 - In the early hours of that morning the London to Glasgow sleeping car express ran into the back of two light-engines. The resulting collision was not so severe. However, two of the coaches caught fire due to the escape of compressed oil gas, used for lighting. The death toll was 12.



Gravestone of Archibald Basil Henry Maxwell

Scotch Express Disaster (*The Northern Echo*):

"He left London on Friday night to spend four days Christmas holiday with his father Col. Archibald Boyd Maxwell of Ken Bridge, New Galloway and whose remains were so charred that identification was impossible save by a trousers button bearing the name of the deceased tailor. He was the only son of Col. Maxwell who led the 2nd Manchester Regiment in the Boer War and was mentioned in despatches for his excellent services."

***The Northern Echo* on the centenary, 9th December 2010 - The Wrecking Of The Christmas Eve Express:**

"Twas midnight at St. Pancras As the Scotchman was due away, With a happy load of passengers Bound north for Christmas Day"

Shortly before 5am on Christmas Eve, 1910, the London to Glasgow train sped double-headed past Hawes Junction, where the Wensleydale branch of the North Eastern Railway met the Settle and Carlisle line, and the Midland.

The Helm wind whipped across the high fell, the rain lashed against the windows of the box where signalman Albert Sutton was nearing the end of a ten-hour night shift made busier yet by the extra trains ferrying folk felicitously towards their families.

*"Go tell Bunce that I am
afraid I have wrecked the
Scotch Express."*

Simpson, the relief man, was already in the box when Sutton realised that he had made a terrible mistake. Two light engines, coupled together and heading north towards Carlisle, had been allowed onto the main line just ahead of the fast train and on the same section of track.

Twelve people, including a little girl died in the collision and inferno that followed. Sutton's instruction to Simpson is still chillingly recalled:

"Go tell Bunce (the station master) that I am afraid I have wrecked the Scotch Express."

Drifffield Times Sat. 14th January 1911

"The inquest in the Scotch Express Disaster concluded on Thursday. The jury found a verdict of "accidental death" and called attention to the violation of the rule requiring drivers to inform signalmen when engines are standing on the line, and suggested that the Board of Trade should make strict investigation into the peculiar working at Haws Junction and that light engines should start from the signal box. The evidence on Thursday was thought a fireman had gone to the signal box and an excursion train was mistaken for the Scotch Express but one driver said he did not trouble to look at his book although he was not certain when the Express was due."

The Westmorland Gazette, 4th December 2013:

"The legacy of one of the worst train disasters in Britain has been recognised as part of a drive to safeguard the nation's railway heritage...the government-backed Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) has announced that the station's signal box, which was renamed Garsdale in 1932, has been awarded Grade II listed status..."Hawes Junction played a major role in one of the biggest railway disasters in the Edwardian period and had major ramifications across the country," said John Minnis, senior architectural investigator for English Heritage.

As a result of the disaster, the rail operator changed signalling practices across its 900 services to prevent similar accidents occurring."

Description of the event can also be found in detail on [Wikipedia: Hawes Junction rail crash](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawes_Junction_rail_crash).

Dave Goulder's song about the famous Christmas Eve train crash can also be found on YouTube: [1910 Christmas Eve at Hawes Junction](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1910ChristmasEveatHawesJunction).

Photographs of the Hawes Junction accident (taken from *Railways Archive*):



Image source: <https://www.railwaysarchive.co.uk/mastereventimages/event78.jpg>

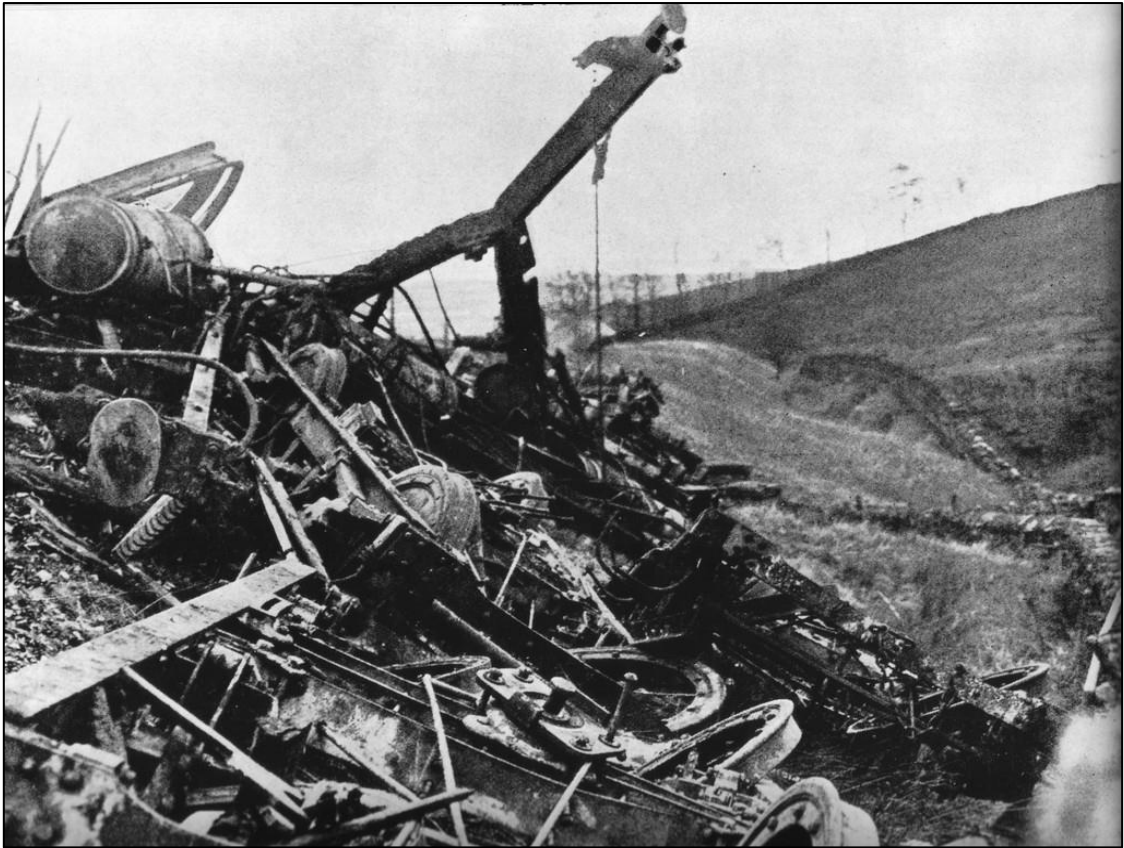


Image source: https://www.railwaysarchive.co.uk/mastereventimages/event78_1.jpg

Inscription 45 – Kennedy, Hope & Hyslop

by Jennifer Roberts

Alexander Kennedy, who was born around 1768, was the second son of Robert Kennedy of Knockknalling. His memorial mentions that he was formally of Jamaica. An Alexander Kennedy worked as an overseer at the Golden Valley Plantation in Jamaica in the years around 1799-1807. Sugar cane was grown on the Plantation, some of which was made into rum. Alexander was overseer to many scores of enslaved people working on the Plantation. At some point on returning to Scotland Alexander took out the tenancy of Kenbank at St. John's Clauhan [sic], Dalry, where he died on the 20th January 1839 at the age of seventy-one.



Inscription 45

Isabella Hope, his wife, was probably born on the 14th February 1778 at Wamphray, Dumfriesshire. Her parents were James Hope and Jean Proudfoot. By 1841 Isabella, a widow of three years, was still living at Kenbank. In the census she is described as a farmer, and as women at that time are usually described as farmer's wife or daughter it may mean she was actually involved in running the farm. At the time of the census, her niece Isabella Hyslop and Robert Hyslop, a minister, were staying with her. Jennet Landsburgh was also living in the house, as were two female servants.

Isabella Kennedy died before the next census on the 19th March 1851. She died intestate with a Scottish estate valued at £170.1s.10d. She had stock in the Manchester and Salford Banking Company valued at £405. The Rev. Charles Hope as her nearest relative was her executor. She must have been a generous woman helping out her male relatives with handouts, as at the time of her death the Rev. Robert Hyslop of Kirkholm owed her £18, James Hyslop of Glenlees £27.10s, and James Hyslop Jnr. £16.18s.

Isabella Hyslop, her niece, was born on the 9th October 1817 at Leaths, Buittle. Her parents were Margaret Hope and James Hyslop. Isabella was baptised ten days later.

As has been seen in the 1841 census, Isabella, aged twenty, was staying with her aunt at Kenbank. At the time of the next census Isabella was at Glenlee Mains with her family. Her father, a widower of seventy-nine was a farmer of 1242 acres, employing five labourers. His son James was employed to run the farm. Living on the farm with James was his son James and his grand-son James, his grand-daughter Margaret, Isabella and her sisters Mary and Clementine, as well as three agricultural labourers, a house servant, nurse and dairymaid.

At the time of the 1861 census, Isabella was living in the High Street of New Galloway with her ten-year-old nephew James. She is described as an annuitant. By the time of the next census in 1871 her address is more specific. She is recorded as living at 27 High Street, and now at fifty-three she is described as being a farmer's daughter. Staying with her were her widowed sister Agnes Sinclair and her two daughters Margaret and Agnes.

In 1881, although still living in the High Street of New Galloway, Isabella is recorded as living with her widowed sister Agnes Sinclair. Margaret Sinclair is living at home and working as a private teacher. The women have Christina Barclay a salaried companion, living with them. Although in this census Agnes and Isabella are recorded as annuitants, another unmarried young woman, Grace Brown, living with them, is described as a farmer's daughter.

Isabella Hyslop died at six thirty in the morning of 17th November 1889 of fatty degeneration of her kidney and of dropsy. She had been ill for two months before this. She died at Ashburn Cottage, New Galloway.

When Isabella died the value of her estate was £1599.10s.10d. Her money was left to her widowed sisters: Mary McMillan of Gordon Terrace, New Galloway and Agnes Sinclair of Ashburn Cottage, New Galloway.

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Scotland National probate Index 1890, p378

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Scotland Parish Deaths and Burials, Dalry OPR 865/3

Statutory Register of Deaths OPR 868/15

Inscription 46 – Barbour & Hope

by Jennifer Roberts

James Barbour was born in the Parish of Kells around 1788. His father John was a shoemaker and his mother was Margaret Murray.

He married Isabella Hope but was a widower by the time of the 1841 census. In 1841 he is recorded as a fifty-year-old widower farming at Ringour. He had his children living with him: Charles, Susanna, Jane, Margaret, Isabella and James. Charles the eldest was twenty-two, James the youngest was seven.

The 1851 census is more detailed in its records. James is now recorded as being sixty-three. Ringour Farm is described as having fifty acres of arable land and one hundred acres of heath. James employed two labourers. Most of James's children were still living at home: Charles, Susannah, Margaret, Isabella and James Jnr.

By the time of the next census, James at seventy-three had retired and moved to the Boat of Rhone. Three of his daughters still lived at home: Susanna, Jane and Margaret. His youngest son James is described as a ploughman.

James Barbour died on the 27th April 1861 at one thirty in the afternoon at the age of seventy-three, whilst living at the Boat of Rhone. He died of asthenic pneumonia which he had suffered from for five weeks previously. His death was certified by Dr McKinley Millman.

There is a family tradition that her father, possibly called John Hope, had gone to India to seek his fortune and whilst there had married an Indian princess.

Isabella Hope was born around 1800. There is a family tradition that her father, possibly called John Hope, had gone to India to seek his fortune and whilst there had married an Indian princess. Isabella's parents had both been killed around 1800, leaving her as a young baby in charge of a person who brought her back to Scotland to be brought up by the Hopes and then absconded with her fortune.

Isabella, whatever her origins, married James Barbour and lived with him at Ringour. During her short life she gave him at least six children. Isabella died on the 4th of April 1834 at the age of thirty-four, possibly during or soon after the birth of her son James.

Margaret Barbour, the third daughter of James and Isabella, was born in the Parish of Kells in 1826. In 1863 at the age of thirty-seven, or thirty-four as mentioned on her marriage certificate, she married Birket Nicholson from Hawkshead at Boat of Rhone on the 1st June. Birket, twenty-four at the time of his marriage, was at least ten years younger than Margaret.

Margaret died probably in giving birth to her daughter Isabella less than two years later. She died on the 16th April 1865, according to her memorial at the age of thirty-six. She was buried on the 19th April at Crosthwaite in Cumberland.

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Not another Indian Princess by Edgar F Morris

Inscription 58 – McCubbing, McQueen & McNairn

by Jennifer Roberts

Margaret McQueen, Alexander's first wife was born in 1865 in Balmaclellan, the daughter of Jane Connan and James McQueen, a blacksmith. On the 1871 census Margaret, aged six was going to school with her siblings, John aged eleven and Jess aged nine.

On the 1881 census Margaret, now aged fifteen, was working as a general servant for William and Jessie Hunter. They lived at Dundough, Carsphairn. William Hunter was a shepherd. By 1891 Margaret was living at home with her widowed father and younger brother Thomas. She was a general (domestic) servant. They lived in the High Street of New Galloway.

Alexander McCubbing was born on the 23rd February 1866 in New Galloway. Alexander was illegitimate, his birth is registered under his mother's name McNairn. His mother Sarah was working as a domestic servant at the time of his birth. Sarah was compeared² at the Kirk Session for the sin of uncleanness with Alex McCubbin and absolved. On Alexander's marriage certificate his father is described as a farmer. It may be that Sarah called her son after his father. On Alexander's death certificate his father is mentioned as also being called Alexander McCubbing.



Inscription 58

Sarah was compeared at the Kirk Session for the sin of uncleanness with Alex McCubbin and absolved.

By the 1871 census Alexander had the surname McCubbin (later changing it to McCubbing). He lived in Durness Close with his with his grandmother Mary McNairn and mother Sarah. His grandmother was described as an annuitant in the 1871 census, but after being left a widow by the death of her much older husband, is described on the 1851 census as a pauper. At the time of the 1871 census, Alexander's grandmother was seventy and his mother was thirty.

By the time of the 1881 census, Alexander was working as a servant for John McTurk at Barsheoch Mains.

Ten years later, on the 1891 census, Alexander is described as a mason. He was boarding in the High Street with Marion Kidd, a sick nurse, and Isabella, her unmarried daughter who worked as a letter carrier.

When Alexander McCubbing was twenty-seven he married Margaret McQueen, aged twenty-eight, on the 1st December 1893 at the Manse of Kells. Both resided in New Galloway. On his marriage certificate Alexander is described as a journeyman mason. This was Alexander's first marriage.

Alexander and Margaret's first child Jane, or Jeanie as she was known, was born on the 25th April 1894 at 11:30 a.m.

On the 1901 census Alexander, aged thirty-five, was working as a stone mason. He and Margaret had two children: Jane aged seven attended school, while their son John, aged five, was still too young. They lived in the High Street of New Galloway. Isabella their second daughter was born on 21st May 1901. Three years later Jeanie, their eldest daughter, died aged ten.

Margaret McQueen died on the 26th May 1909 at the age of forty-three of pulmonary tuberculosis.

² Appear before a congregation, minister or Kirk session, especially for rebuke.

By the time of the 1911 census Alexander, now a widower aged forty-five, was described as a mason contractor and an employer. His son John at fourteen was a message boy, Isabella at nine was at school and his son Alexander was four. He employed a housekeeper Jane Laurie to look after them all.

In 1925 Alexander, aged fifty-nine, remarried after having been a widower for sixteen years. He married Annie Stewart his housekeeper. Annie was at thirty-one a lot younger than Alexander. They lived at Wylies Brae in New Galloway. Alexander outlived three of his four children, only the youngest, his son Alexander, survived him.

Alexander McCubbing died on the 5th November 1928 of pneumonia at Wylies Brae. He was aged sixty-two. On his death certificate he was described as a master builder. Alexander died intestate. On the 22nd May his estate of £548.9s.4d went to his relict Annie McCubbing.

John McCubbing was born in 1896. After working first as a messenger boy and then as an apprentice in his father's firm, he joined 'A' Company of the 7th Battalion Cameron Highlanders. On Saturday 16th September there was a report concerning John, aged just twenty, in the *Dumfries and Galloway Standard*:

A New Galloway Man Missing

Mr M'Cubbing of the firm of Messers Murry and M'Cubbing, builders, New Galloway, has received official information that his son, Lance-Corporal John M'Cubbing, has been missing since the 17th August. Lance-Corporal M'Cubbing, who is 18 [sic] years of age joined the Cameron Highlanders in January, 1915, and has been over a year at the front. Before the war he was engaged as an apprentice with his father's firm.

John was reported missing in action during an attack by the Cameron Highlanders on a Switch Line and the taking of the Elbow during the Battle of the Somme. John has no known grave, but he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial in France (Pier and Face 15B).

Alexander built the War Memorials, designed by Dodds of Dumfries, for New Galloway and Kells. His own son is commemorated upon the one at Kells.

Sarah McNairn was born in 1837 or 1834. Sarah never married but continued living with her widowed mother Mary McNairn until Mary's death. Sarah continued working as a domestic servant, as reported on each census, or as an agricultural labourer, as reported on her death certificate. During her adult life she lived in the High Street. Sarah died on 16th March 1890 at eleven o'clock in the morning of bronchitis, from which she had suffered for the previous fourteen days. At the time of her death Sarah was described as a pauper.

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Inscription 95 – Williamson

by Laura Anderson

In Memory of Dora Wordsworth Williamson wife of J.C. Maitland Gordon of Kenmure who died at Kenmure Castle 25th February 1903

Dora Wordsworth Williamson was born in 1850 to Dugald T Williamson and Julia Curwen Williamson. Her father was the Minister of the Established Church in the 1851 census and her mother was noted as a 'Ministers Wife'. Dora had four older siblings: Henry, John, Julia and Isabella. There were four servants present in the household in 1851.

In the 1861 census, a different story is told. The family members are noted only by their initials. Dora's mother is a widow at age 50, she notes that she is an 'EC minister's wife' and that she was born in Wales. Her mother Elizabeth Stanley, also widowed and aged 77, lives with the family and is noted as a 'Naval Officer's wife', she was born in England. Henry is noted as a 'Scholar of St Mary's Hall in Oxford', with his sisters Julia and Dora surviving and Dora noted as completing 'Home Tuition'.

Sometimes on records, Dora's father is called Dugal Williamson. He was born in 1903 in Twynholm and his father was also a Reverend, John Williamson. Dora's mother was born in Gwaenysgor in 1810 to Henry and Elizabeth Stanley.

Dora Wordsworth Maitland Gordon died on the 25th of February 1903 at 9.50pm. Her father and mother were deceased at the time of her death. Her cause of death was noted as Intestinal Obstruction due to [??] construction in [spleen?] of Colon. Possibly related to an operation colectomy.

There was no record of Dora and James having children.

—Page 2—

1903. DEATHS in the District of <u>Kells</u> in the Stewartry of <u>Kirkcudbright</u>								
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	(9.)
No.	Name and Surname. Rank or Profession, and whether Single, Married, or Widowed.	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname, & Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature & Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
L 4	Dora Wordsworth Maitland Gordon Married to James Charles Maitland Gordon Landed Proprietor	1903, February Twenty-fifth 9.50 P.M. Kenmure Castle	F	50 Years	Dugald Williamson Clergyman (Deceased) Julia Williamson M.S. Stanley (Deceased)	Intestinal obstr- uction due to amul- constriction in sple- Fistula of Colon Operation (Colectomy) Death in 60 hours 8 days as Cert. by John Curwen M.B.C.M.	Dora Gordon Kenmure (present)	1903, February 26th at New Galloway Thomas Duff Registrar.

Record of Dora's death

Inscription 104 – McCheyne & Mulholland

By Tamara Fulcher

In Loving Memory of James McCHEYNE who died 31st May 1933 aged 79 years. Mary MULHOLLAND wife of James McCHEYNE who died at New Galloway 12th Jan'y 1904 aged 48 years. Also of their family, Isabella died at New Galloway 26th Feb'y 1903 aged 25 years. Thomas MULHOLLAND died at New Galloway 21st June 1904 aged 20 years. Pte. Alex J. McCHEYNE, 7th Cameron Highs., killed at Vermelles 28th April 1916 aged 19 years. Mary McCHEYNE, died at St Quentin Nov'r 1916 aged 36 years. Cpl. David McCHEYNE, 7th Cameron Highs., killed in action 13th March 1917 aged 22 years. Q.M.Serg't., James McCHEYNE, K.O.S.B. killed in action in Belgium 3rd Oct'r 1917 aged 27 years. Frances W. McCHEYNE lost at sea with H.M.T.B.D. Narborough 12th Jan'y 1918 aged 19 years. RIP.

James McClaymont McCHEYNE is recorded living at Back Street, Kells, with his wife Mary, in the 1901 census; the year of birth for both is given as 1855. James' occupation was given as 'General Carter'. He was born at Glasserton in the Machars, 38 miles from Kells.

Ten years earlier when James he resided at Kilquhanity Cottage, Kirkpatrick Durham, and was working as an agricultural labourer. His and Mary's years of birth were different – 1854 and 1856 respectively.

Mary MULHOLLAND was born on 18th April 1855 to Isabella Campbell and Thomas Mulholland at Crossmichael, and was baptised as a Roman Catholic at Dalbeattie (St Peter's). In the 1861 census she was 5 yrs old, living in 'Hotel' at Crossmichael. Her father is recorded as an Irish quarryman.

In the 1901 census Mary was aged 46, with no occupation given. It appears she had eleven children, the first being born when Mary was around 23 years old and the last when she was 44.

James and Mary's first child was a daughter, **Isabella McCheyne**, born in 1879 at Crossmichael. At the time of the 1881 census she was 2 yrs old, and when the census-taker visited she was staying at grandparents' house in Crossmichael with her mother Mary, who was 25 y-o and recorded as a 'farm labourer's wife'. Also present were Isabella's younger sister Mary McCheyne (an infant – age 0), and her grandmother Isabella Mulholland (a 67 y-o, widow, occupation given as 'general labourer'). Isabella is recorded again in the 1891 census at 12 yrs old.

Thomas MULHOLLAND McCheyne was born on 17th January 1884 and baptised as a Roman Catholic at the church of St John the Evangelist, Castle Douglas. He was given his mother's maiden name as his middle name. Thomas died aged 20, died five months after his mother.

Private **Alex J McCHEYNE** was born 10th April 1897 and also baptised at St John's in Castle Douglas, on 16th April. He was killed at Vermelles on 28th April 1916 aged 19, while serving with the 7th Cameron Highlanders. His full name, Alexander Joseph McCheyne, is recorded on cwgc.org. Alexander is commemorated on the Loos Memorial at Pas de Calais, which names 20,592 casualties. Also noted on CWGC is that Alexander had three brothers also killed in the war.

Mary McCHEYNE was born at Crossmichael on 25th April 1880 (the year was given elsewhere as 1881). There is no record of her having married. She died in November 1916 aged 36 at St. Quentin; if this is in France, it could be that she was abroad in association with the war effort, as St Quentin was a key region in fighting from 1914 onwards. However, Mary is not recorded on cwgc.org so if she was there, she did not die on active service or for any associated illness or injury.

*it could be that [Mary] was
abroad in association with the
war effort, as St Quentin was a
key region in fighting from
1914 onwards*

Corporal **David McCHEYNE**, who was born in Kells parish, died of wounds on 13th March 1917 aged 22. Like his brother Alexander, he had enlisted in the 7th Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. David is interred at the Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, also at Pas de Calais. Interestingly cwgc.org names David's three brothers who fell in the war but states that he is the son of "James and Mary McCheyne of Richmond Hill, Miniota, Manitoba, Canada." There is a McCheyne family recorded in Manitoba at this time but perhaps the records are confused.

Quartermaster Sergeant **James McCHEYNE** was born in 1890 and was a career soldier, having joined up in 1906 aged 16 (at attestation he gave his age as 18 yrs 2 mo, which wasn't true; the very reliable Roman Catholic baptismal records show James was born on 18th January 1890 and baptised at Kirkcudbright in February). James was killed in action in Belgium on 3rd October 1917 while serving with the King's Own Scottish Borderers, and he is interred in Bleuet Farm Cemetery, Belgium. His age at death is given as 26 on cwgc.org (the headstone says he was 27). James was married and is recorded on cwgc.org as the husband of Janet Mc Cheyne, of 24, Rolland St., Maryhill, Glasgow. The personal inscription that Janet chose for James' headstone in Belgium reads: ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE LOVED AND LOST CAN UNDERSTAND WAR'S BITTER COST.

Frances W McCHEYNE died in World War I, on 12/01/1918 when he was aged 19 – lost at sea when serving aboard HMS Narborough. This was an M-Class Destroyer built for the Royal Navy. On 12th January 1918, she and her sister ship, HMS Opal, were wrecked on the cliffs at Hesta Rock, just to the north of Windwick Bay, South Ronaldsay. Only one sailor survived; 188 were killed. Most of the casualties were never found and are commemorated on the Portsmouth Memorial. On cwgc.org the record states that Ordinary Seaman Francis Wallace McCheyne is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

James and Mary had other children who are not named on this headstone:

Agnes Nan McCheyne, born in 1888 at Tongland was a 13 y-o scholar in the 1901 census. Frederick W McCheyne (also known as William Frederick McCheyne) was born 1892 at Kirkpatrick, and was 9 y-o and also a scholar in 1901. Both died in 1962. John McCheyne was born in 1882 and Margaret McCheyne in 1885.

Inscription 115 – Brown & Murray

by Laura Anderson

In Loving Memory of Alexander BROWN late Serg't Major, Galloway, R.V., who died at Carlisle 3rd Jan'y 1905 aged 71 years. And Anne MURRAY his wife who died at New Galloway 23rd July 1872 aged 36 years. Also Mary their daughter, born 8th Dec'r 1870, died 22nd April 1871. Also their granddaughter Elizabeth RUSSELL BROWN who died at Knockallan 25th Feb'y 1929 aged 25 years.

Within the village of Minnigaff in 1834, Alexander Brown was born to William and Mary Brown. His father is noted to be from Wigtownshire whereas his mother's birthplace is narrowed down to Kirkcowan in Wigtownshire. Alexander is noted as the only child living with his parents in the 1841, 1851 and 1861 census, however his parents were aged 42 and 38 respectively when he was born, so it is possible that Alexander had siblings that had left the home before the 1841 census. Interestingly, in the 1861 census, 12-year-old Mary McGarvah is noted as a granddaughter within the household. No previous record of a Mary McGarvah is noted within the surrounding area; however this is possibly hindered by the spelling of the surname which may be a mistake by the census taker.

Alexander lived with his parents in Dalnotry, Minnigaff in the 1841 census. The family moved to Craigdews when Alexander was 17 and they resided within Graymarestail when Alexander was 27.

Alexander's military record listed him in 1852 as a Driver with the Royal Horse Artillery, his record shows him attesting to 17 years and 4 months of service within the regiment.

William Brown is noted as a 'Labourer road repairer', a role that his son initially joined him in with the 1851 census noting him as a 'Road labourer'. However, a change of career occurred during the 10 years between 1851 and 1861 with the 1861 census registering Alexander as a 'Solider Serijt Instructor of Volunteers'. Alexander's military record listed him in 1852 as a Driver with the Royal Horse Artillery, his record shows him attesting to 17 years and 4 months of service within the regiment. We know from the credentials listed on his grave that Alexander Brown died as a Sergeant Major within the Galloway Royal Volunteers regiment.

In June 1862, Alexander Brown married Anne Murray within the Parish of Kells. Alexanders parents were present with his father named as a 'Roadman labourer' as was Anne's parents, David Murray, a 'shepherd' and Agnes Murray (Nee Logie). Alexander was 28 whereas his new bride was 26; the two resided within New Galloway and Alexander had been promoted to Government Drill Sergeant of the Royal Volunteers.

Page 1.							
1862. MARRIAGES in the District of <u>Kells</u> in the County of <u>West Lothian</u>							
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	
No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signatures of Parties. Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signatures of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Declarator, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
10	1862. Orthodox Church	(Signed)			William Brown	(Signed)	1862
	Observed by	Alexr Brown	28	New Galloway	Roadman labourer	Alp. Brown & M. Brown	Chap. 3
	Present in the	Government Drill			Mary Brown	Minister of the P.	at
	Parish of Kells	Sergeant of Volunteers			M. S. Brown	Church of the P.	New Galloway
	West Lothian	Private				West Lothian	
	After having accord-	(Signed)			David Murray	(Signed)	John Muir
	ing to the terms	Anne Murray	26	New Galloway	Shepherd	Robert Murray	Registrar
	of the Church of	Single			Agnes Murray	Minister	
	Scotland				Paul Logie	Minister	
						Minister	

Marriage record of Alexander Brown and Anne Murray

The following year of 1863, their first-born child William was born in February. William was born in the parish of Kells. William was followed by six siblings, five of which were noted in the 1871 census. William was noted as 8, David Brown was noted as 6, John Brown was noted as 5, Anne Brown was noted as a 4, Alexander Brown was noted as 2 alongside newborn Mary Brown. The older children were noted as 'Scholars', presumably attending a nearby school. Their father was 37 and held the role of Sergeant Master Rifle whereas their mother was 34. All children were registered as having been born in New Galloway.

1863	William Brown	February	Alexander Brown	Anne Brown	1863
		Eleventh	Drill Sergeant	Matthew	March 11th
8		gh. am. a. m.	Anne Brown		New Galloway
		New Galloway	Mat. Murray		John Muir
			1862 June 2nd		Registrar
			New Galloway		

Record of William Brown's birth

The 1881 census paints a far different picture, one filled with loss and hardship. Anne Brown, nee Murray, passed in 1872, a year after the previous census was noted. Three children were lost: David, John and Mary. Mary Brown was noted on the gravestone alongside her parents as she was lost in infancy. A new child is noted in the 1881 census: Helen Brown aged 8. Alexander is 47 during this census and holds the same role, his eldest son William is 18 and works as a 'Shoemaker Apprentice'. Alexander Junior is 12 and is still a scholar, his sister Annie is 14 and is a 'Dressmaker Apprentice'.

Sourcing information after the 1881 census was incredibly difficult! I could not source whether any of Alexander's children survived to adulthood, other than Alexander Junior who was the father of Elizabeth Russel Brown who is also listed on the gravestone.

Anne Murray was born in the parish of Kells in 1836, she was baptised on the 13th of November 1836. She died at age 36 after having seven children with her husband Alexander Brown. In the 1861 census, it is revealed that her father David Murray aged 83 was also born in the parish of Kells, whereas her mother Agnes aged 67 was born in Glasgow. Anne is 24 and was noted as a 'Dress Maker'. She had two older siblings living at home with her, an older brother James and a sister Jane. The family lived in High Street, Kells in Kirkcudbrightshire.

Anne's daughter Helen was born in May of 1862, just two months before she passed away. When Anne passed in July of 1862, both her parents were deceased. Anne passed from Phthtisis Pulmonalis, more commonly known as Tuberculosis. The duration of the disease was acknowledged as 9 months and Anne passed in New Galloway.

Mary Brown was born to Alexander and Anne Brown, she was born on 8th December 1870 and died at age 1 on the 22nd of April 1871. Her death record notes that she died from diarrhoea and vomiting that lasted for 12? Hours.

Elizabeth Russel Brown was difficult to source. The only piece of information I could find was her death certificate. Elizabeth died in Knockallan on the 24th of February 1929. Her profession was noted as 'Domestic Servant' and she was single at the time. Her father was Alexander Brown (Junior) who was a 'Draper' and deceased at the time of Elizabeth's death. Her mother was Ellen Jemina Brown, nee Byers, who was still living. Elizabeth possibly died from a condition called Chronic 'parenchymatous nephritis'. From what I've seen the disease is a type of chronic kidney disease and could have been improved with a better diet.

Inscription 136 – Hewitson

by Sharon Course

In Loving Memory of Samuel HEWITSON who died at Cottage Hospital, Castle Douglas on 25th May 1908 aged 54 years. Also James, his eldest son, M.M., 9th Loyal North Lancs. Regt. Missing Flanders 25th April 1918 aged 30 years. Also Elizabeth THOMPSON, his wife, who died at Carnearie, Parton 9th Dec'r 1943 aged 79 years. Also Thomas, their son, who died in New Zealand 5th Aug 1954 aged 64 years. Also Jessie CAMPBELL HEWITSON, their daughter, who died 14th Nov 1972 aged 80 years. Also Agnes HEWITSON, their daughter, who died 7th May 1976 aged 89 years. Erected by his widow and family.

SAMUEL and ELIZABETH HEWITSON

This surname is often spelled Hoatson on the census, possibly due to how it was pronounced locally.

Samuel was born in 1857 near Dalry, to James (a shepherd) and Agnes nee McMillan.

He married Elizabeth Thompson, born 1863, of Carsphairn, in 1885, when he was 28 and she was 22. They lived at Culmark farm, near Dalry. By 1901, the family had moved to Drumbain farm. They had the following children:

1887 Agnes

1888 James

1890 Thomas Hastings

1892 Jessie Campbell

1894 Albert (died in 1980 in Castle Douglas)

JAMES (1888 – 1918)

James was reported missing, presumed killed, on April 25th at the Battle of the Lys, known as the 4th battle of Ypres. This was part of the German final push to break through to Ypres. The battle advanced the German line 15km but ultimately this couldn't be sustained and they withdrew. Both sides suffered 120,000 deaths/missing for those 15km.

Between April 10th and April 14th, Allied troops were in a precarious position and Field Marshall Douglas Haig issued his famous order, which James would have been told about. "With our backs to the wall, and believing in the justice of our cause, each of us must fight on to the end." James, who had been in France/Flanders for a year, fought bravely during the battle and was posthumously awarded the Military Medal. His body was never found and he is commemorated on Tynecot Memorial in Flanders, as well as in Kells.

*"With our backs to the wall,
and believing in the justice
of our cause, each of us
must fight on to the end."*

James left a widow, Euphemia Hewitson (nee Middleton), who was born in Kirkcudbright and worked as a domestic servant. Before the war, he worked as a steam train driver. He signed up for service in 1915. His army record reports he was 5ft 6ins, 11 stone, in good health. He and Euphemia married on 21st April 1917 in Kilmarnock, and four days later he was sent to France. She never saw her husband again. He was 27 and she was 35. They had no children.

He left her 256 pounds in effects, which included 30 pounds backpay from the army.

Euphemia received his Military Medal in 1922. She never remarried. In 1928, she moved to Barre, Vermont, USA, to live with her sister Janet (two years younger) and her husband Gordon Watson, and their two little girls.

She died in 1961 in Barre, Vermont, and is buried there.

THOMAS (1890 – 1954)

Like his brother James, Thomas served in WW1, as a rifleman in Kings Royal Rifle Corps and tank corp. Before and after the war, he worked as a shepherd, like his father. In 1926, Thomas emigrated to New Zealand and settled in Wellington, where he worked as a storeman and a labourer.

Thomas got into trouble in Wellington for 'obscene language'. He was arrested and fined two pounds.

Thomas got into trouble in 1932 in Wellington for 'obscene language'. He was arrested and fined two pounds. On his arrest record, he is described as 5ft 5 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches, fresh face, auburn hair going bald, blue eyes, tattoo of a woman on his right arm and an anchor on his left, plus scars on arms.

In 1935, Thomas found love. He married Iva Esther Merson, aged 48, who had been married in 1905 to a Thomas Merson and had three grown-up children with him. Thomas Merson divorced Iva in 1928 on the grounds of adultery and drunkenness. The couple had

been separated for some time but Thomas Merson heard that Iva had been seeing a man called Frederick Smith. He went to her house and caught in her bed with Smith, telling the judge at the divorce hearing that she had been drinking. As was usual for those days, the case was fully reported in the newspapers. She did not continue to see Smith. She then met and married Thomas Hewitson.

It seems to have been a stable marriage, with the couple living a quiet life in suburban Wellington.

On 6th August 1954, the Press newspaper reported that Thomas, then 62, was riding his bicycle home from work and was in collision with a half-ton truck on the corner of Willis and Te Aro Streets at about 6.30pm. It was raining heavily with a strong southerly wind and visibility was poor. He died immediately of his injuries.

Iva died in 1960 and is buried in Karori Cemetery, Wellington. No record of Thomas being buried with her. His record simply says Wellington.

AGNES (1887 – 1976) and JESSIE CAMPBELL (1892 – 1972)

In the 1901 census, at the age of 14, Agnes was working as a servant at Barskeoch Main farm near Dalry. In 1911, Jessie Campbell was also a servant, at Manse of Kells, where she worked for Kells minister Pirie Philip. He had lost his wife Mary two years earlier. Two of his children, Mary (25) and Percy (24) were also living at the manse. Agnes and Jessie seem to have led quiet lives. They never married or had children. 'Maiden aunts' were not unusual after WW1 and the loss of so many young men. Agnes appears in the 1939 census at a seafront hotel in Brighton, probably on a holiday. Both sisters lived long lives and are buried with their parents in Kells.

Inscription 144 – Muir

by Jackie Carson

From the grave inscription:

Died in New Galloway 15th February 1864 aged 68 (born 1796)

Son William (teacher) died 8th November 1852 aged 21 (born 1831?)

Daughter Jane died 7th August 1861 aged 25 (born 1836)

Son John (accountant) died at Denny 14th September 1864 aged 26 (born 1838)

Son Archibald (writer) died in Edinburgh 17th January 1865 aged 30 (born 1835?)

Son Peter (M.D.) died Wombwell Yorkshire 22nd October 1870 aged 31 (born 1840)

Wife Jessie Douglas died 13th July 1874 aged 68 (born 1805)

National Library of Scotland:

1841 Census living in schoolhouse, Kells. Birth year listed as 1801! With:

Wife Jessie born 1806

Daughter Elizabeth born 1833

Son Archibald born 1835

Son John born 1838

Daughter Jane born 1837

Son Peter born 1840

Anne Robson

1851 Census living in High Street New Galloway - Bailie parochial schoolmaster and post-master, farming 7 acres with:

Wife Jesse born 1805

Daughter Jane born 1836

Son John born 1838

Son Peter born 1840

Daughter Jesse born 1842

Mary Hope - servant

In 1851 Archibald aged 16 is a boarder with Margaret Paterson in Twynholm. Trade is apprentice writer.

No mention of Elizabeth but she pops up in 1871 and 1881 as Elizabeth Cowan - 7 High St, Kells with her husband and 3 kids. Trade is dressmaker. Dies in 1885 and is buried in Kells churchyard

1861 Census living in the school house in New Galloway - teacher with:

Wife Jesse Muir born 1805

Elizabeth Campbell - servant

William Craig - boarder

Baptism record 24th Feb 1796

Mother - Elizabeth McCulloch

Father - William Muir

Marriage Record

Jessy Douglas 26th April 1830

Jessie Muir turns up in 1871 as a widow (aged 65) at 1 High St Kells living with daughter Jessie Isabella who is a schoolmistress.

Inscription 149 – Lee

by Sharon Course

In memory of Louisa EGREMONT LEE wife of Tottenham LEE died at Overton 19th November 1860 aged 61. Lieut. John Egremont Lee killed at Tirowlee in Oude 22nd March 1858 aged 27. Lister HARTER LEE died at Overton 14th April 1856 aged 20. Also of Tottenham Lee, formerly of St. John's, Wakefield, husband of the above Louisa LEE who died at Cairn Edward in this Parish on the 28th August 1888 in his 95th year.

Tottenham Lee was born on 2 February 1794 in Wakefield, Yorkshire.

His father John Lee was a wealthy philanthropist, industrialist, lawyer and entrepreneur. John built the prestigious St John's area of Wakefield, beautiful Georgian redbrick terraces in the centre of the town, which expanded hugely with mills and factories during the Industrial Revolution. Ahead of his time, John built St John's with fancy, expensive facades but basic open interiors made of cheaper materials. Buyers could add walls and rooms to suit themselves.

John Lee also created Britain's first public railway, the Lake Lock Company, which anyone could pay to use. Until then, railways were created by companies to move their own goods. LLC was 3 miles long, horse drawn, and used by coal companies mainly. John Lee raised the money to build it by selling 126 public shares. The investors included John's sons, Tottenham and John Junior. It closed in 1836 when bigger public railways were created.

John Lee has a blue plaque on his former offices in St Johns.

Tottenham's unusual name does not come from the London borough. It appears to be in honour of an Irish aristocrat and industrialist called John Tottenham, an associate of John Lee in Wakefield.

While his father and namesake both had the 'golden touch' with investments and ideas, Tottenham did not inherit his business sense unfortunately.

Initially, like two of his brothers, he became a lawyer and signed an Article of Clerkship in 1820 to train under his famous father. While his brothers became well-known lawyers (one was the coroner for West Yorkshire), Tottenham invested in a worsted yarn factory and other ventures.

On 6th October 1829, Tottenham married **Louisa Egremont** in York.

Louisa (also on Gravestone 149, Kells) was from a wealthy family in Goole, Yorkshire, and was heiress to a considerable fortune.

In 1841, the couple lived in a fine town house called Newton Lodge in Wakefield³ with their six children – Louisa (11), John (9), Tottenham Junior (7), Jane (6), Lister (5) and Edward (3). Also living at the property was their nanny called Sophia Bateman and her niece Sarah (see *Inscription 16*), who worked as cook, plus three other servants.

To fund this lifestyle and his investments in the 1830s, Tottenham borrowed from his father-in-law, John Egremont. When John Egremont died in 1840, Tottenham owed him 4500 pounds – a huge amount.

In 1841, without ongoing loans from his father-in-law, Tottenham's worsted yarn venture failed and he was bankrupted. There was still hope for Tottenham though – Louisa had an annual allowance of 400 pounds, and she and her two brothers were about to inherit her father's fortune, split three ways.

³ This does not appear to have any direct correlation to the current 'Newton Lodge' psychiatric hospital in Wakefield, which sits at some distance from where the town house was located (pers. comm. Sue Taylor, 9th May 2022).

John Egremont, Louisa's father was a wealthy farmer from Goole. He built a stately town house in Wakefield in 1811, Egremont House, which until recently was Wakefield's registry office. His wife Hannah brought with her a huge fortune.

But the money also brought a dark guilt for Hannah Egremont, which would haunt the family for two more generations.

Hannah's father, Thomas Crowther (1730 - 1810), was a wool stapler (buying fleeces, grading them, then selling to manufacturers), and at the time of his death owned a warehouse, the Woolpacks Inn on Wakefield, and other land and tenanted properties.

Handsome but not rich, Crowther was described by his wife's family as 'not a finished gentleman'. Hannah (Hall) Heatherington, a young widow, brought to the marriage in 1768 a large inheritance from her first husband, plus a young daughter, Mary (b.1765). The couple had only one child together, a daughter Hannah (b.1770).

Crowther ignored Mary and openly favoured his own daughter. Mary ended up running away to marry John Barker, also a wool stapler.

When Crowther died, he left his whole estate to Hannah, including all the money his wife had inherited from Mary's father.

Hannah felt bad about this injustice but could do nothing as her money belonged to her husband, John Egremont. After Hannah's death in 1827, her daughter Louisa found a letter, urging her to "do any kindness possible to any of the Barker family" as reparation for the wrong Crowther had done to them. On the night Crowther died in 1810, there was a violent thunderstorm. When his will became known, people said the storm was the devil waiting for Crowther's soul.

On the night Crowther died in 1810, there was a violent thunderstorm...people said the storm was the devil waiting for Crowther's soul.

Crowther and John Egremont's fortunes were supposed to be split three ways between Louisa and her two brothers. The brothers contested the will, saying that Tottenham's huge debt to John Egremont should be taken out of the amount Louisa inherited. The court case went on for six long years, ending up in the Chancery. It was ruled that Tottenham's bankruptcy a year before his father-in-law's death meant that it could not be taken out of the inheritance.

After the court case, Tottenham and Louisa, plus the children, Sophia the nanny and Sarah the cook, moved to a large country house at Overton, New Galloway⁴. The reason for the move and choosing New Galloway is not known. Possibly, they wanted a fresh start away from Wakefield. Also, Lister was chronically unwell with chronic abscesses and ulcers, and country air might have been recommended over the industrial smog of Wakefield. With Louisa's inheritance secured, there was no need to stay in Wakefield for financial reasons.

Louisa died at Overton in 1860 from a stroke after losing two of her sons.

Lister Harter Lee (also on Gravestone 149, Kells) died at Overton in 1856 aged 20, having suffered from his terrible skin condition for five years.

Eldest son **John Egremont Lee (also on Gravestone 149 Kells)** was killed at Fort Tirowlee in Oudh (spelled Oude on the gravestone), North India, aged 27.

⁴ It is possible that the family owned multiple properties in New Galloway at one time, which included Glenlee Park and Glenlochar Lodge (pers. comm. Sue Taylor, 9th May 2022).

John was a Lieutenant in the 32nd Bengal Native Infantry during the Indian Mutiny (First War of Independence). The gravestone records 22nd March 1858 as his date of death but military dispatches report 21st March. By March 1858, most of the fighting had ceased and there is little information about the attack on this small fort. John was the only officer killed during the attack.

His grave in India cannot be traced. Many cemeteries from the time of the mutiny have been demolished due to rapid expansion in the area and records were often destroyed after independence.

John's sister Jane married John Maitland of Kenmure, who was with the 46th Madras Regiment at the same time John served in India. The Madras regiments did not take part in the fighting. John had a distinguished career, notably as Colonel of the Galloway Rifles.

Jane erected a memorial plaque to John Lee and John Maitland inside Kells Church with the Maitland arms on it (photo).

Three of the Lees' other children are commemorated on Gravestone 18 in Kells.

Youngest son **Edward Llewellyn Lee (Gravestone 18)** died at Havanna Harbour, New Hebrides (now Vanuatu) in 1871. From the 1860s, plantation owners in the Pacific needed labourers and began contracting ship owners in a slave trade called "blackbirding". At its height, around the time Edward was there, more than half of the adult male population was kidnapped to be sold into work overseas. It is unknown if Edward was there as part of this lucrative trade.

Tottenham Lee Junior (Gravestone 18) never married and died of a stroke, aged 50, in 1884 in New Galloway. He is described as 'an Australian sheep farmer' on the death record.

Eldest daughter Louisa Egremont Lee (Gravestone 18) also did not marry. She died at Cairn Edward, where the family moved to after Overton, in 1887 aged 56. She had a brain haemorrhage and was paralysed for 8 months before her death.

Having outlived five of his six children, and his wife, Tottenham Lee died in 1888, aged 95, at Cairn Edward. His cause of death was simply given as 'old age'.

The family's two servants, Sophia Bateson (d. 1869) and her niece Sarah (d.1895), who moved from Wakefield to New Galloway with the Lees, outlived them too, and have a memorial stone in Kells (see *Inscription 16*).

Second daughter, Jane Maitland, known as 'Nin', was the only surviving member of Lee/Egremonts. She and John Maitland (**both Gravestone 17**) had no children. Exactly 101 years after her grandmother Hannah Crawford's heartfelt letter was found, pleading for her half-sister's wronged family be recompensed, Jane did exactly that. When she died in 1928, she bequeathed her estate, worth 15,251 pounds, to Hannah's eldest surviving great-grandson, Freddie Barker but with one condition that he was happy to accept – that he changed his name to Egremont-Lee and continue Tottenham and Louisa's legacy.

References:

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Inscription 154 – Hobbs & Maitland

by Murray Johnston

Mary Hobbs, nee Maitland

Mary was a daughter of the Rev. John Garlies Maitland, minister of Minnigaff (abutting Kells), and sister of James Maitland, who became minister of Kells Parish. Mary and James were both born in Minnigaff, she in 1799 and her brother, nearly five years before.

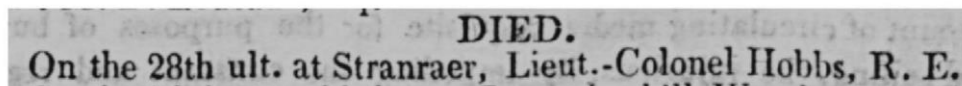
In keeping with tradition, Mary was married in her home parish of Minnigaff on the 20th Nov 1821. Her husband was Captain John Hobbs of the Royal Engineers. The Corps of Royal Engineers, usually known simply as the Royal Engineers (RE), and commonly as the Sappers, is a corps of the British Army, which provides military engineering and other technical support to the British Armed Forces.

John Hobbs, "Gentleman", ascended to the rank of Second Lieutenant in 1804. Appointments and promotions in the British Army were regularly posted in the newspapers of the time. For the Royal Engineers, such news came from the "*Ordinance Office*". In 1809, John Hobbs was promoted to Second Captain, and in 1813, to full Captain. Then in 1826, Captain John Hobbs was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. Most likely, he had been stationed at the army base in Ayr.

Four Hobbs children were born in Ayr or nearby Dalrymple, in Ayrshire. One of the four died a teenager.

Frances	1823		Died Oct 1841 aged 18, buried at Kells churchyard.
Elizabeth White	1825		
Garlies Maitland	1827		
Mary Jane	1828		

Unfortunately, Mary Hobbs was left a widow when in October 1828 John Hobbs died, only four months after his last child, Mary Jane, was born. Other than a mention in a London newspaper, only Blackwoods magazine added a few details. These included "aged about 40" and the word "suddenly", strongly suggesting an accident occurred while Lt-Col Hobbs was about the performance of his duties.



The New Times (London), November 8, 1828

A round of promotions widely reported throughout England and in the Edinburgh Evening Courant a month later included a captain promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in place of "Hobbs deceased". Lt-Col John Hobbs was buried in Stranraer, Wigtownshire.

Some time after John's death, Mary moved to Meadowbank House in New Galloway, Kells, which was built around 1820. She was living there in 1841 with her three daughters, a sister-in-law and two servants. Her son, Garlies M. Hobbs, was attending school across the border in Cumberland.



*Photo from "The Ken Valley"
by Jack Hunter. Photo c 1920*

**Meadowbank House,
New Galloway.
Built c 1822**



Photo by Galbraith. Photo 2022

Mary's eldest surviving daughter, Elizabeth, married the Edinburgh-born John Maitland, M.D., at Kells in 1846, when he was 24 years old. He had qualified in 1845 and requested a post with the East-India Company as Assistant Surgeon in Madras, India. Consequently, Elizabeth, like her sister (see below), lived in India. Sadly, John Maitland died quite young in Utakamand, India, in 1861. Elizabeth returned to England where she died in Kensington, London, in April 1880. She left her small estate to her only son, John, who was in India at the time.

For some time at least, Garlies M. Hobbs was a sailor – in April 1851 he was living at the Spalding Arms Inn at Ken Bridge, Balmaclellan, describing himself as “formerly sailor”. However, in the meantime, March 1845, Garlies and a friend managed to get themselves into trouble.



*The old Tolbooth, Kirkcudbright. Built c 1630. Photo taken 1936.
From www.canmore.org image #1207467*

Both the Dumfries and Galloway Standard and the London Journal and Pioneer covered the case in Criminal Court, Kirkcudbright ... the Journal perhaps a little less severely. The pair had “wickedly, violently, and maliciously broken and pulled down the churchyard gate ... of Kells, and [did] break into and enter the parish church ... pull down and break to pieces the pulpit ... together with a portion of the railing ... The prisoners pleaded not guilty ...

After hearing the evidence, which was principally circumstantial, and indicated a drunken frolic ... the jury having retired for about ten minutes ... brought in a verdict of guilty. ... The Steward ... having solemnly addressed them on the nature of the crime ... ordained them to be incarcerated in the tolbooth of Kirkcudbright ... for ... four months.” However, Garlies again turned up in the courts. Shortly after the 1851 census, in December, Garlies Hobbs was charged with yet another offence, his fourth, this time for assault. After 103 days in prison, he was released in March 1852. Garlies Hobbs sailed from Glasgow to New York in June 1852, apparently never heard of again.

Mary Hobbs, nee Maitland, herself died a widow in 1846 and was buried in Kells churchyard. It was left to the Hampshire Advertiser in August to record the event in “North Britain”:

DIED: On the 4th ultimo [of July], at Meadow Bank, North Britain, Mary, relict of the late Lieutenant-Colonel John Hobbs, Royal Engineers.

Soon after Mary's death, Meadowbank was advertised *To be Let*. The advertisement (in the *Liverpool Mercury*) provides the following description of the “desirable residence” at the time: “... pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ken, in the Parish of Kells ... The country around abounds with the best Fishing Streams. The Post-office is at hand. A Coach running between Ayr and Kirkcudbright passes through New Galloway twice a day, at the end of which town the House stands. It contains a Parlour, Dining-room, Drawing-room, four Bed-rooms, two Kitchens, good Attics, &c, also an excellent Garden, and there is a Field of about one and a half acres attached to the House.”

Mary's youngest child, Mary Jane Hobbs, within a year or so of her mother's death, made her way to India for a purpose or under whose sponsorship remains unknown. There, in November 1848, aged 20, she married Arthur MacDonald Ritchie, born in 1819 in Agra, India, the son of Alexander MacDonald Ritchie. Alexander was a merchant in India and had died in 1826 at sea on a ship sailing from Calcutta to Liverpool. Three years before he died, Alexander had a grant of 2,000 acres of land reserved for him in the Hunter region, north of Sydney, Australia, by Sir Thomas Brisbane in 1825. So in 1836 the young Arthur and his two siblings put in an appearance in NSW to be granted the land the right for which had been transferred to Alexander's widow in 1831. Alexander must have earned the right to the land by his service in colonial India.

Arthur went to a private school in Middlesex, and was admitted to the Middle Temple in London in 1837, and to the Bar in 1845. However, his long-term practice was in India: he was chief clerk of Madras Debtors Court and practiced in the High Court of Madras.

Arthur and Mary had six children in India. At some point Arthur left his post in India and travelled to Australia, though to Tasmania, not New South Wales. Arthur died in Launceston, Tasmania, in 1878. Mary returned to England. She is in Seven Oaks, Kent, in 1881 and in Kensington, London in both 1881 and 1891. Mary Jane Ritchie died at St George, Hanover Square, London in 1895.

Inscription 162 – McLachlan & Greggan

by Tamara Fulcher

Erected in memory of Michael McLACHLAN who died at Glenlee May 31st 1871 aged 65 years. Also Thomas his son who died in the Crimea June 10th 1855 aged 22 years. Also Samuel his son who died at Glenlee March 15th 1866 aged 24 years. Also Margaret GREGGAN his wife who died at New Galloway 13th Feb'y 1880 aged 84 years.

Michael McLACHLAN's DOB is given variously as 1806 or 1807 in Ireland. He married Margaret GRIGGAN (or Greggan) on 23rd November 1826, i.e. when he was 19 or 20 years old.

In the 1851 census Michael is a 44 y-o agricultural labourer living at Old Glenlee. His wife and two sons, David (aged 11) and Samuel (aged 9), both scholars, were present when the census-taker came round.

Ten years later Michael and his family have moved to Porters Lodge – still on the Glenlee Estate – and Michael's occupation is given as 'wood forester'. By this time Samuel is nineteen and working as an agricultural labourer. The family have taken in boarders, two plasterers from Ireland and Midlothian.

By the next census in 1871 Michael is 64 years old and still working as a 'woodforrester'. Interestingly the only other person at home for this census apart from Michael and Margaret was John McLACHLAN, their 11 y-o grandson, born 1860 in England.

Margaret GREGGAN (or GRIGGAN's) DOB varies across a ten-year span across the records. The headstone inscription indicates she was born before 1800 but the only census that agrees with this was the one taken in 1871, when she is described as 74 y-o, having been born in 1797 in Borgue, Kirkcudbrightshire. This date makes Margaret approximately ten years older than her husband, Michael McLachlan. In previous census records Margaret's DOB/POB was recorded as 1805 in Dalry. To speculate: either the ten-year age gap had been reduced (for appearances' sake?) on the first two occasions, or Margaret was affected by confusion in 1871 and gave the wrong date.

Michael and Margaret's son **Thomas McLACHLAN** was baptised 26 April 1833 at Kells. In the 1851 census he was living at High St, Kells as an apprentice shoemaker in the household of widower John CROSBIE (b.1795), a master shoemaker employing 4 men. John had one son (also a shoemaker) and five daughters – quite a crowded house. Thomas McLachlan is listed as an unmarried male aged 17 (his birth year given as 1834).

Thomas signed up for 10 years' service and in response to the question "For what bounty did you enlist?" he answered "Four pounds."

Thomas's military service record states that he was born in New Galloway. He joined the Scots Guards, his attestation taking place at Castle Douglas, at 10am on 2 October 1854 when he was aged 21 yrs 6 months. He was unmarried and gave his trade as 'Shoemaker'. Thomas signed up for 10 years' service and in response to the question "For what bounty did you enlist?" he answered "Four pounds." At his attestation Thomas was 5' 8" and a quarter, and described as having a "fresh complexion", grey eyes and dark brown hair.

The record continues by saying that Thomas was "In the East from 13 April 1855" and "Present at the siege of Sebastopol." He died in the Crimea of cholera on 10th June 1855, having served 251 days.

Thomas's younger brother **Samuel McLACHAN** was baptised on 27th December 1841 at Kells. He died at Glenlee on 15th March 1866 aged 24 yrs. He followed Thomas into the army.

There is good information on Samuel from his military record which confirms his year of birth as 1841. His attestation date was 28th January 1862, when he was aged 20. Samuel is described on that date as 5'11" (and 5/8"!) with a fresh complexion, blue eyes, and light hair. His trade is given as 'gamekeeper'.

Samuel was discharged as a Corporal in 1st Battalion Scots Fusilier Guards on 22nd December 1865 after 3 yrs, 329 days with no service abroad. This was in consequence of "his being unfit for further service." His discharge was confirmed 9th January 1866, with the further explanation of "being unfit for further service from consumption, constitutional, excited by the service."

On his discharge forms Samuel is described as a "good and efficient non-commissioned officer zealous in performance of his duties, trustworthy and sober...he is in possession of one good conduct medal since 28th January 1865...has never been tried by court martial." His military rank was Private from 28th January 1862, and Corporal from 28th April 1864

The reason for his discharge was further explained as 'Phthisis Pulmonalis' aka pulmonary consumption (Phthisis pulmonalis frequently takes place in consequence of neglected pneumonia, influenza, and measles. It was described in 18th and 19th centuries as a wasting disease with destruction of the lungs).

The copperplate handwriting in Samuel's military notes is not easy to read but says approximately: *"In April 1865 was attacked with H.... Since which period he has drawn no regular duty. He is now in an advanced stage of the (disease?), although there are no active symptoms. He has an excellent character and has a good He is quite to contribute towards his limitations. The disability is, excited by the service".*

Inscription 176 – Murray

by A. B. Hall

This imposing family plot consists of four gravestones surrounded by a sandstone kerb once fitted with iron railings. This forms a memorial to 26 members of the Murray family – 17 men and 9 women. Many of these will have been buried elsewhere.

They were descended from John Murray and his wife Isabella Aitchison who are commemorated on the stone sadly lying broken in the enclosure. He died 11 August 1812 aged 90 and she died 17 July 1807 aged 74 years.

Their eldest son John was Provost of New Galloway and laird of Troquain in Balmaclellan parish. The house is described by John Gifford as “very plain and rather altered house of the earlier C. 19. In the garden, a sundial, its baluster shaft provided in 1855. The head, dated 1616 is cubical but with chamfered corners. Dials on the faces, carved human heads on the corners”. “It is said he was one of the best judges of horses, sheep and cattle in the province, and his decisions on such subjects were rarely appealed against. He was held in such estimation by his fellow-townsmen that when the handsome granite bridge of five arches over the Ken at New Galloway was opened [1822] he was chosen to cross it first of all, followed by Viscount Kenmure in his carriage.” He died 13 March 1830 aged 64.

“It is said he was one of the best judges of horses, sheep and cattle in the province...He was held in such estimation by his fellow-townsmen that when the handsome granite bridge of five arches over the Ken at New Galloway was opened [1822] he was chosen to cross it first of all”

John Murray’s first wife was Isabella Douglas who died aged 33 on 24 May 1799. Their eldest son Peter inherited Troquain. He died in Armagh 1 December 1849 aged 55. Their second son was John who died in Jamaica in 1817 aged 22. Adam their third son was born in 1799, the year his mother died. He died in October 1838 in the State of New York.

John Murray’s second wife was Agnes Manson. She had six children and died 24 December 1821 aged 37.

Isabella 1805 – 1892

Anne 1808 – 1893

George 1812 – 1881

Margaret 1815 – 1905

William died in infancy

James 1820 – 1850.

He died a Captain in the East India Company
on the Indus, near Mooltan aged 29.

George Murray son of John Murray and his second wife, Agnes Manson, was born in New Galloway on 4 June 1812. “George Murray’s birthplace is not now in existence, having been pulled down several years ago, after serving for a lengthened period as the post-office of the burgh. It stood near the southern termination of the main street of New Galloway, and was a respectable-looking self-contained house, consisting of a storey and a half, with dormer windows inserted in a long sloping roof, and had a garden flower plot and paling between it and the public road. When inhabited by the Murrays, it was the most imposing house in the place . . . when they left it for the large, two-storied residence called Meadowbank which they also owned.” He

was educated at Kells School and the University of Edinburgh. He was the Minister of Girthon parish in 1843 and acted clerk to the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright 1843-68. In 1851 he moved to Balmaclellan. Two years earlier he inherited Troquain from Peter Murray, the eldest son of John Murray and his first wife, Isabella Douglas.

In 1843 George married Elizabeth Murray Hyslop, daughter of James Hyslop of Glenlee. She died at the Manse of Balmaclellan 25 March 1879 aged 57 years. They have a memorial inside the Church at Balmaclellan.



Rev. George Murray

Their children were:

Margaret Hope born 17 Jan. 1845 married J. R. Hope MD.

Dr. John born 12 Sept 1846. A surgeon on the 'Vicksburg', a Dominion Line steamer, which foundered on 1st June 1875 after hitting an iceberg while travelling from Quebec to Liverpool. Five men were picked up from a boat on 3rd. Two other boats containing about 40 people were successfully launched but were lost. The captain and between 40 and 50 others went down with the ship, including one man from Annan and another from Dumfries.

Agnes Isabella born 25 April 1848. Married James Ewer Gillespie, Minister of Kirkgunzeon, She died at Halkyn, Dumfries on 15 July 1923.

James of Troquain born 30 Nov. 1850. He worked for the Manchester and Salford Bank in Manchester and died 26 Dec. 1914 at Meadow Bank, New Galloway.

Rev. George 1 Oct 1852. Minister of Balmaclellan 1915-20.

Adam born 27 April 1854. A calico printer died at Southfield, Lennoxton, 26 July 1925 aged 71. His wife was Edith Eleanor who died 28 Oct. 1947 aged 87. Both are commemorated on a Celtic cross in Balmaclellan churchyard.

Eliza Jane born 24 June 1856 died 17 Jan 1940.

Dr. Robert Alexander born 24 June 1858 died at Apsley, Stockport 4 Oct. 1931 aged 73.

William Charles born 2 Dec. 1860 died at Shanghai, China 3 April 1911 aged 50.

Ann Clementina born 25 Aug 1862 died 11 June 1932.

Thomas Patrick born 1 Sept. 1865 died 22 Nov 1873 at Balmaclellan Manse aged 8 years.

George Murray "was the model of a country clergyman; devotedly attached to his flock, and shared in all their joys and sorrows; passionately fond of rural sports . . . he was a zealous antiquary, an accomplished botanist, and an adept in agriculture."

He wrote the Balmaclellan entry for the New Statistical Account, 1845. He was buried in Kells in April 1881.

George Murray 1852-1920 was the third son of the Rev. George Murray and Elizabeth Hyslop. He was born on 1 Oct. 1852 and was educated at Balmaclellan, Ewart High School, Newton-Stewart and Edinburgh University M.A. and B.D. He also went to Leipzig. From 1888 – 1915 he was Minister in the parish of Sauchie, near Stirling and "acted as clerk to the Presbytery of Stirling . . . He was also Senior Chaplain to the Argyll and

Sutherland Highlanders, and received the Territorial Decoration.” He was Minister for Balmaclellan from 1915 until his death on 20 April 1920. He married Elizabeth daughter of Edward Lumsden, minister of Midmar on 21 August 1895.

Their children were:

Enid Elizabeth born 18 June 1896

2nd Lieut. John born 16 Nov 1897 killed in action 16 Aug 1917. He was educated at Dollar Academy and Fettes College, where he was in the Cadet Corps. He was commissioned into the King’s Own Scottish Borderers and went to France in December 1916 and joined the 1st Battalion. On the night of 15th/16th August 1917 he was out marking ground prior to an attack when he was killed by a sniper. This was the battle of Langmarck “the most successful we ever had”. “2nd Lieut J. Murray (of the 5th Battalion) was the only officer killed, but 25 O.R. fell”. C.S.M. J. Skinner and C.Q.M.S. W. Grimaldeston were both awarded the V.C.

He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot memorial in Belgium, a stained-glass window in Balmaclellan Church and on a stone cross on the west side of Loch Ken.

Evelyn Hope born 18 March 1899. Married 26 Aug. 1924, Thomas Kennedy Johnston, Minister of Balmaclellan.

George Murray inherited the Troquain estate from his brother James in 1914. The pall bearers at the funeral of James Murray were:

Rev. George Murray (brother)
Adam Murray (brother)
Dr. Robert Murray (brother)
Rev. J. E. Gillespie (brother-in-law)
Dr. Hope M. Gillespie (nephew)
Mr. Murray (nephew)
Mr. G. R. Murray of Parton
Hector Stewart (valet)



Gravestone of George and Elizabeth Murray and their children in Balmaclellan



Gravestone of John and Kate Murray at Balmaclellan

He was buried in Balmaclellan churchyard alongside his wife Kate Hollins who died 16 March 1913.

Both George Murrays would probably liked to have been described as men of letters as they wrote poetry, articles on curling and biblical stories. The verse below is taken from a song that refers to his fishing exploits at Lochinvar:

*Let Criffel boast of Kindar's lake
Hard by the Solway sea,
Lone Lochinvar, 'mid lofty hills,
Is dearer far to me.
When purple heath and brackens green
Adorn thy mountain side,
Then let me drift past Helen's Isle
And rock upon thy tide.*

In Balmaclellan churchyard there is a gravestone for Rev. George Murray B.D. of Troquain. Born 1 Oct. 1852 Died 20 April 1920.

Elizabeth Lumsden died Meadowbank 22 April 1945 aged 76. Their daughters Enid Elizabeth 1896-1995 and Evelyn Hope 1899-1987 and only son John 1897-1917 killed in action.

In New Galloway Meadowbank is described "At the s. end of the High Street, the white-harled Meadowbank of c.1800 on the E, its stone portico a Victorian addition. It is set well back, the approach guarded by a pair of early C19 bowended cottages".

Adam Murray 1767-1818 was the second son of Provost John Murray and Isabella Aitchison. He was apprenticed to Cannon and Smith aged 13 at Chowbent, Leigh, Lancashire, making cotton spinning machinery until 1787. After three years as a machinery maker in Chowbent he moved to Manchester where he erected an eight-storey mill. In 1798 he was joined by his brother George 1772-1855 and between 1801 and 1804 the partners built another eight-storey building followed by two four-storey blocks. The machinery was driven by steam. The area at Murray Street was the largest in the world, which in 1815 employed 1,215 hands.

Adam never married and lived in Newton Street until he built Rosehill, Manchester. He also owned Clugston in Wigtonshire. He died on 26 June 1818 and was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Manchester. The sarcophagus gravestone is no more but the recycled inscription survives including a coat of arms. Adam left a legacy but not a dynasty. His name is not on the family memorial in New Galloway churchyard.

James Murray was the third son of John and Isabella Murray. He was a cotton spinner and was married to Miss E. Stewart. He operated independently from A. and G. Murray in a mill on their premises. He died on 29 July 1821 aged 51.

Their only sister Margaret, c.1766-c.1830, married 1796 Archibald Carruthers, 1766-1840, who had a substantial business in Manchester by 1815. They bought Craig estate, Balmaclellan c.1820.

The area at Murray Street was the largest in the world, which in 1815 employed 1,215 hands.



Ancoats Hall, Image © Manchester Archives Plus

George Murray 1772-1855 was the fourth son of John Murray and Isabella Aitchison. He went south and served an apprenticeship with Messrs Cannan and Smith as a textile machine maker. In 1798 he joined his older brother Adam in the partnership A. and G. Murray. Adam already had three working premises. They now embarked on another eight-storey mill with machinery driven by steam. This was followed by more buildings in a rectangle in the centre of which was a canal basin linked by a tunnel to the Rochdale canal.

George married Jane Cannan of Leigh 11 Sept. 1802 and they were to have 14 children. By 1813 they had bought Ancoats Hall which they demolished and built a new house on the site.

As Adam died in 1818 George continued to run a successful enterprise until 1850 when he sought help from Sir W.H.H. Houldsworth. The business prospered again and was taken over by two of George's sons: James who died in London 1889 and Benjamin Rigby who bought the Parton estate and died in July 1921. Three of their brothers represented the Company abroad. John who died in 1851 in Colombo, Ceylon; William Cannon died in 1856 in Charleston, South Carolina and Adam on returning from India died in London in 1844.

George Murray died in 1855 aged 83 and his wife died in 1878.

MURRAY

Three suggestions about the origin of the Murray family in New Galloway have been published.

1. John Murray the game-keeper who died in 1777 is supposed to have come with his family from the Moffat area because of his Jacobite sympathies and sought shelter with Gordon of Kenmure (W. Kennedy p 95). He was appointed game-keeper and made a name for himself by luring the 72lbs pike to his rod and delivering to the castle. Buried in Kells no. 313.

His son John 1725 – 1812 worked on the farm becoming foreman. He then became a shopkeeper in New Galloway and became a Baillie of the Burgh.

He married Isobell Aitchison and their son John 1766 – 1830 was also a shopkeeper and became Provost. (Lands and their Owners pp 69-74). He was also able to buy Troquain estate in Balmaclellan parish in 1819 from James McConnel.

2. The Murrays in Annandale were a cadet branch of the Murrays of Philiphaugh near Selkirk. They were a family of well-respected lawyers. When Adam Murray died in 1818 and was buried at St. Mary's Manchester it was perhaps the Philiphaugh Murray coat of arms which was utilized on his tomb.
3. The Murrays had a farm in Annandale belonging to the Murrays who as earls of Annandale had (East Galloway Sketches pp 327 -332) property in Drifesdaile.

All these suggestions could be correct.

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W. Kennedy, 2016

Balmaclellan Parish M.I.

D. and G.F.H.S.

Ancoats Hall Manchester

Wikipedia

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Glenkens Gazette Issue 96 Oct/Nov

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Lands and their Owners

P.H. McKerlie, 1877, Vol.3 pp 69-74

The K.O.S.B. in the Great War

Captain Stair Gillow, 1930

Inscription 184 – Reilly

by Michelle MacIver

Charles Henry Reilly, Captain Royal Artillery, Eldest son of Colonel...Reilly, Engineers, who Died at New Galloway August 1876 aged 35 years

Charles Henry Reilly, possibly born 30th January 1841, Father Lt Colonel B G Reilly. Enlisted in 1855 (14 years old) and commissioned in Bengal.

Transcript of Charles Henry's record				Copy to clipboard
First name(s)	Charles Henry	Father's first name(s)	B G	
Last name	Reilly	Father's last name	Reilly	
Birth year	1841	Father's death date	-	
Birth date	30 Jan 1841	Archive reference	L-AG-23-7-7	
Year	1841	Catalogue description	Bengal Military Orphan Society lists of orphans	
Admission year	1855	Record set	British India Office Army & Navy Pensions	
Place	Bengal	Category	Military, armed forces & conflict	
Country	India	Subcategory	Regimental & Service Records	
Father's title/rank	Lt Col	Collections from	Great Britain, UK None	

The admissions record contains errors. The discharge date is incorrect, and his father's initials are different.

Transcript of Charles Henry's record				Copy to clipboard
First name(s)	Charles Henry	Father's name	Lt Col B M Reilly	
Last name	Reilly	To whom pension payable	Dr Burney	
Birth year	1841	When written to about early settlement	-	
Birth date	30 Jan 1841	Record set	British India Office Army & Navy Pensions	
Year	1855	Category	Military, armed forces & conflict	
Admission year	1855	Subcategory	Regimental & Service Records	
Admission date	28 Jun 1855	Collections from	Great Britain, UK None	
Discharge date	6 Mar 1855			

There is no information about Charles Reilly in the census records and initial searches suggest that he may have been born in Delhi, probably due to his father already serving as an officer.

Inscription 201 – Herese & Corson

By Tamara Fulcher

RC MB 1707 – Here lyes the corps of Agnes HERESE spous to Robert CORSON, also Mary, Agnes & Marion, Margrat, at one birth. Rob't, Andrew, James, at one birth. John, Allxr CORSONs, children to Rot. CORSON, BBURCES in, New Toun of Galloway & Agnes McBURNY his spous.

This is a unique headstone in Kells Churchyard with Adam, Eve and the Tree of Life sculpted in deep relief on the reverse. However because it is such an early date, information about the family buried here is hard to track down.

There are no birth, marriage or death records for **Agnes HERESE**. The spelling of that surname within the inscription may not be correct, although it is known elsewhere in Scotland during the 17th and 18th centuries: Jonet HERESE married James BAXTER 13 Feb 1631 at Monifieth, Angus; Jannet HERESE married George RUNCIMAN 25 Feb 1709 at Cargil, Perthshire; and Christian HERESE married David THOMSON 14 June 1730 at Dron, Perthshire. This surname is also recorded within the same timeframe in Yorkshire and Middlesex.

The phrasing of the inscription implies Agnes Herese had two sets of multiple births with deaths in infancy: four daughters 'at one birth' then three sons, also 'at one birth'.

The phrasing of the inscription implies Agnes Herese had two sets of multiple births with deaths in infancy: four daughters 'at one birth' then three sons, also 'at one birth'. Agnes predeceased her husband, **Robert CORSON**.

Robert Corson, Burgess in New (Town of) Galloway, married twice, and his second wife was also called Agnes. Robert and **Agnes McBurny** lost two sons, John and Alexander.

McBURNY is fairly well recorded as a surname in Dumfries & Galloway with several named Agnes, although none of their dates clearly correspond to this headstone. Two Agnes McBurnys were baptised in Girthon, Kirkcudbrightshire in 1706 and 1731; at only 21 miles from New Galloway it is not inconceivable that Agnes McBurny who resided in New Galloway was born into the same family.

CORSON is even more well known as a surname in southwest Scotland. There are several branches of the Corson family recorded at Crawford and Leadhills in Lanarkshire through baptisms, marriages and burials. Within D&G Corsons are recorded at Dalry, Balmaghie, Dumfries, Glencairn, Colvend, Caerlaverock, New Abbey and Thornhill during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Inscriptions 209 & 210 – Kennedy

by Jennifer Roberts

John Kennedy was born around 1668, possibly in New Galloway, and died on the 7th December 1732 at the age of sixty-four, possibly in Ayrshire. Very little is known about him. It is possible that his parents were Hugh, and Jean, a daughter of Major Thomas Kennedy of Baltersan, and that he married Marion Campbell a daughter of the Provost of Ayr.

The National Archives has a record of a case mounted by Sir John Kennedy of Culzeane against a Hugh Arbuthnot to verify the title of the land of Baltersan conveyed by Hugh Kennedy of Ardmillan and Baltersan to his son John Kennedy in February 1701.

In 1709, a John Kennedy, son of Major Thomas Kennedy of Baltersan, had sasine of the lands of Baltersan (Roberts 2022).

As the Ardmillane Arms are on John's tombstone it is possible that this is the same John Kennedy as David Kennedy's father.

David Kennedy was born around 1695 in Ayrshire.

David married Elizabeth Chapman. They had several children who died at a young age and are mentioned on the tombstone.

Marrion died on the 25th of June 1732 aged five, Agnes on the 4th March 1735 aged three and Elisabeth on the 15th September 1735 aged six.

David Kennedy bought Knocknaling from his cousin William Kennedy in 1740.

He died on the 15th April 1768 at the age of seventy-three. David Kennedy is described as a Merchant in New Galloway.

It is probable that David and Elizabeth were the parents of the famous Manchester manufacturer John Kennedy, who according to Pigot's Directory was going to open a woollen factory in New Galloway. This extract from Samuel Smilies *Industrial Biography* certainly suggests this, although he downplays their origins:

John Kennedy's parents were respectable peasants, possessed of a little bit of ground at Knocknalling (in the parish of Kells), in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, on which they contrived to live, and that was all. John was one of a family of five sons and two daughters, and the father dying early, the responsibility and the toil of bringing up these children devolved upon the mother. She was a strict disciplinarian, and early impressed upon the minds of

her boys that they had their own way to make in the world. One of the first things she made them think about was, the learning of some useful trade for the purpose of securing an independent living; "for," said she, "if you have gotten mechanical skill and intelligence, and are honest and trustworthy, you will always find employment and be ready to avail yourselves of opportunities for advancing yourselves in life."

Elizabeth Chapman died on the 16th December 1782 at the age of ninety-one.



Inscription 209

"if you have gotten mechanical skill and intelligence, and are honest and trustworthy, you will always find employment and be ready to avail yourselves of opportunities for advancing yourselves in life."

References

Livingstone, Alistair, The Glenkens, Cattle, Cotton and Capitalism Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society Vol. 90 pp67-78

Pigot and Co. New Commerical Directory 1825-6, London, 1825, page 485

Roberts, J. 2022 John Kennedy [online] available

at John Kennedy (bef.1681-1732) | WikiTree FREE Family Tree

Smiles, Samuel *Industrial Biography: Iron workers and Tool-makers* John Murray 1864

Inscription 257 – Jardine

by Jackie Carson

From the grave inscription:

Margaret Jardine spouse to Samuel McChesnie (late bailie of New Galloway)
Died July 15 1702

Samuel McChesnie died 1st March 1723

Margaret McChesnie - child

William McChesnie - child

Mention of 2nd Spouse Susanna Roe

National Library of Scotland:

Margaret Jardine

Only mention is grave inscription as above

Two entries with one having date of death as July 15 and the other July 16th
Spelling differences Margaret/ Margaret and lies/lys

Margaret McChesnie

Only mention is grave inscription as above

Samuel McChesnie

Only mention is grave inscription as above

William McChesnie

Only mention is grave inscription as above

Scotland's People:

Nothing

Inscription 264 – Ewart

by Murray Johnston

Andrew Ewart

The Ewart name is one of the older and more well-known in Galloway, although the family came originally from Dumfriesshire and/or Roxburghshire. The principal land holding of the Ewarts was Mulloch, purchased in 1611, situated on the south coast of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. John Ewart was Provost of Kirkcudbright in 1649, later Chief Magistrate and a commissioner for the first parliament of Charles II after the restoration. He was a merchant who had a great trade with Holland. His son, John, married Marian Brown of an old and wealthy family. For his sympathy with the Covenanters and his refusal to act as Provost under the Episcopal Government John was, in 1663, carried as a prisoner to Edinburgh. Later, and once again free, he represented Kirkcudbright in the parliament of King William of Orange. John was succeeded at his death in 1697 by his eldest son, Andrew Ewart, born probably 1660.

Andrew Ewart took his M.A. at Edinburgh University in 1679. In 1691 he was ordained and took up the appointment as Minister of Kells parish in the same year, which he continued for the next 48 years. He was the first minister of Kells after the recognition of the Presbyterian religion in 1690 by William of Orange. There had been at least eight ministers of the parish before that time.

As the lord of Mulloch (or Mullock) Andrew was financially independent and not reliant on his church stipend. He married twice; first to Maria Cannan who died after bearing a daughter. Second, Andrew married Agnes Grierson about 1704 and had a large family. Agnes died on the 8th (buried on the 12th) December 1758 in Dumfries aged 75. (As a footnote, the latter date, ref Agnes, has been erroneously quoted as the date Andrew Ewart died. Such sources include *Kirkcudbright History*, itself taken from *The Scottish Nation* published 1863.)

A Commission of the Church in April 1709, not long after the Treaty of Union, considered several “weighty affairs, which they cannot overtake”, and proceeded to appoint a number of their Reverend Brethren. One of these was Andrew Ewart in Kells.

But other affairs also involved the good Reverend. In the year 1695, events took place which became known as “... the most remarkable in the annals of Scottish demonology”, as described by *The Scots Magazine*, showing the extraordinary superstition of the age.

The story was told by the Rev. Alexander Telfair, minister of the parish of Rerrick, concerning the “apparition, expressions and actings of a spirit” which infested the house of Andrew Mackie who lived in the parish. As time passed, the “manifestations” increased in frequency and severity. In March of that year stones were being hurled all over the interior of the house, but it could not be discovered whence they came or by what or whom they were thrown.

The spirit became more active and more abusive than ever. Not only the Mackie family, but also neighbours who came to visit them, were stoned and beaten with staves. Andrew Mackie received an injury to his brow and was gripped by the hair and scratched.

Mackie attended a meeting of ministers at nearby Buittle and gave them an account of the matter. Two of the ministers, Andrew Ewart of Kells and John Murdo of Crossmichael, visited the house and spent a night there, fasting and praying. They, too, had a rough time. Great stones, some of them seven pounds in weight, were thrown at them, Mr Ewart being wounded twice in the head to the effusion of blood while Mr Murdo received several sore strokes.

The family of Andrew Ewart included sons John and James. James, the elder and successor to Andrew to hold Mulloch, became sheriff of Dumfries. The younger, John, became minister of Troqueer and had 12 children. It is related that, when the Duke of Cumberland's Army was entering Scotland in 1745, the Rev. John Ewart rode out at the head of his whole parish to welcome it. The Rev. John Ewart of Troqueer was godfather of the future prime minister, William Ewart Gladstone. One of John's sons, Joseph, became active in the British foreign service, and among other posts was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Prussia.



William Ewart (1798-1869)

Another of John's sons, William Ewart, moved to and became a general commission merchant in Liverpool, described as 'unquestionably the most powerful commercial man in Liverpool'. This William, in turn, had a son born 1798 also named William, therefore a great grandson of Andrew Ewart. This William Ewart was an MP in England for several constituencies, and lastly for Dumfries Burghs 1841 – 1868. He introduced a bill which led to the Public Libraries Acts of 1850 (England) and 1853 (Scotland). This allowed free libraries to be funded from local taxes, although Dumfries did not get one until the Ewart opened in 1904. When the Scottish-American steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie offered £10,000 for the Dumfries library building in 1898, he suggested that the library be named after William Ewart (left), the former Member of Parliament for Dumfries.



*Lower part of monument 264,
Kells parish churchyard*

The Rev. Andrew Ewart died and was buried in the churchyard of his parish, Kells. His stone lies in an area near the SE corner of the church, which contains some of the oldest stones in the churchyard – including an incumbent minister of Kells before Andrew. His eldest son, James, erected the monument in memory of his father. The monument is a raised, flat, table stone, which is relatively unusual. In addition, at the lower end of the stone there is a carving of a Ewart armorial – a shield featuring a heart at the base, with two swords pointed down angled but not crossed, a third central shaft vertical perhaps a sceptre, and a fourth transverse possibly a spear-end, all crested with helmet and mantling. Notably, this armorial is different to modern commercial renditions of the Ewart shield, some of which feature two crossed swords pointed up, a third sword transverse, and in some cases a hand instead of a heart sits at the base.

According to one reading of the inscription, Andrew's death occurred on 10 January 1739 aged eighty years. However, a history of the family proposes the date August 1739, while Burke's Peerage suggests February 1740. Burkes may have converted the year 1739 under the old calendar to 1740 according to the modern (Gregorian) calendar, used since 1752. On the other hand, Fasti declares Andrew was born in 1650, suggesting he died aged 90, not 80. Nonetheless, evidence from the church register also suggests Andrew died in January 1740 per the *modern* calendar. This, because the register records baptisms carried out by Revd Ewart later in the year 1739, the same whether by the old or modern calendar. One such entry indicates Andrew was active in his parish to the end:

"July 24th 1739 This day William Barber in Upper Barskeoch had a child born. Afterwards upon the 9th day of September baptized at Knockreoch after a lecture by Mr Ewart."

Inscription 271 – McKay

by Jennifer Roberts

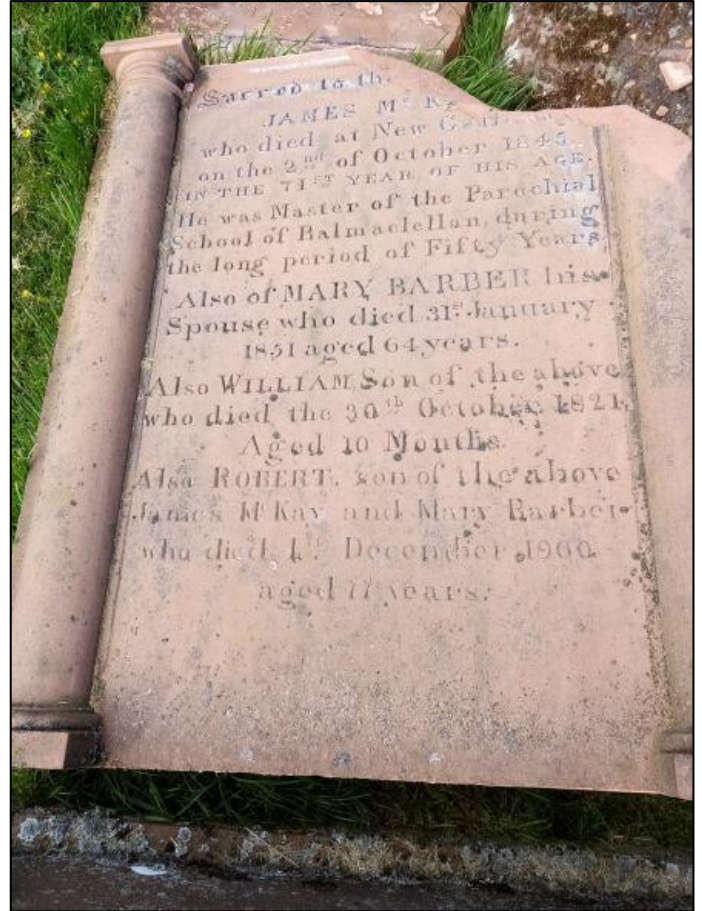
James McKay was born in either 1774 or 1775 in the Parish of Kells and died on the 2nd October at Naugahway in 1845 at the age of seventy one. He was the school master at Balmaclellan for fifty years.

He married Mary Barber of Dumfries on the 28th March 1820 at Kells. They had two boys, William who died aged ten months on 30th October 1821 and Robert who was born in 1823 and died aged seventy seven in 1900.

In the First Statistical Account of 1792, the Rev Thompson wrote: 'In addition to the legal school salary of this parish amounting to about 11l Sterling or thereby, there was a few years ago a donation made of 500l by a native of this place, a Mr Murdoch late merchant of Glasgow. This fund is secured on land, which, at present, is said to yield more than 5 *per cent*; so that the school salary of this parish now amounts to nearly 36l. This, however, is the whole income of the master, the terms of the donation not permitting him to receive wages.' In the Second Statistical Account of 1845 the Rev George Murray wrote of the education in Balmaclellan: 'The parish is remarkably well supplied with schools. Three are parochial, and a fourth is undertaken at the teacher's own adventure. In the principal school, no fees are exacted. This arrangement was made in consequence of a bequest to that effect of L.500. This sum was laid out in the purchase of a small landed property, which now yields about L.70 per annum. The teacher has also the yearly allowance of one chalder,⁵ or L.17, 2s 2d., as well as a house and garden. The whole number of scholars in the parish at the last Presbyterial examination amounted to 218.' James McKay is the only school master mentioned in Pigot and Co.'s Directory of 1825-6.

In the 1841 census the family were recorded as living in the High Street of New Galloway. At the time of the census James at sixty-six and was still working as a school master. His son Robert is not recorded as having an occupation, despite being 18 at the time.

James McKay died intestate. The inventory of his Personal Estate records him as being the school master at Balmaclellan and residing in New Galloway. He appears to have been quite a wealthy man. He had several bank accounts, one at the British Linen Company at their Castle Douglas Branch was worth £945; he also had £320 in another account at the bank and his wife Mary had an account with £400 in it. Mary's money was regarded as part of her husband's estate. Another account in the new Galloway branch of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Bank had £170 in it. He was owed salary from Whit-Sunday to Martinmass 1845 by the heritors of Balmaclellan Parish, that included the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Kenmure £6.3s.3d, James Murdoch of Drumwhirn 17/6 and James Barbour of Barlae £1.5s.9d.



Inscription 271

⁵ A chalder was: 1) a measure of grain equalling sixteen bolls, frequently as part of a ministers stipend; the stipend itself; 2) a variable quantity of salt, lime or coal. A boll was a dry measure of weight or capacity according to the commodity and locality, but frequently equivalent to six imperial bushels.

*James McKay's effects were
valued at £2188.12s.
[equivalent of £283,469.41
in 2022 values]*

James and Mary were also renting out the school house in Balmaclellan to several men. James Caver who owed 1/-, James [.]ouimer owed 3/-, Robert Fingland 12/- and the Kirk Session of Balmaclellan 1/-. At his death James was also owed six months rent from Kirkstyle Farm in Kirkpatrick Durham amounting to £37.

James had stock, crop and implements of husbandry worth £107.13s.8d, whilst his furniture, body clothes and other effects were valued at £64.13s.6d. He also had £40 cash in the house.

Several people owed him money, which the Kirkcudbright Sheriff Court thought unlikely to be paid. David McMillan in Viewfield owed £132, George Anderson formally of Little Craig owed £250, rent arrears by James Wilson for Kirkstyle Farm amounted to £386. An unsecured debt for expenditure on the Balmaclellan school house was £50. In all, including interest, James McKay's effects were valued at £2188.12s. [equivalent of £283,469.41 in 2022 values] (Roberts 2022). His nearest kin, his son Robert (not his wife Mary), signed the document detailing his estate on 12th April 1846.

Mary lived another six years, dying on 31st January 1851, at the age of sixty-four according to her memorial or sixty-six in the Parish Records.

Robert remained single throughout his life. He continued living in the High Street of New Galloway, sometimes with an assistant to help in the shop. He is recorded in the 1851 Census as being a draper, grocer and distributor of stamps as well as being a farmer of sixty acres. In the 1861 and 1871 Census, he is recorded as being a grocer employing an assistant, and a farmer employing two men. By 1881 he is recorded as a general merchant. For many years he employed Elizabeth McGill as his housekeeper.

Robert McKay died of a cerebral haemorrhage on the 4th December 1900 at twenty past two in the afternoon at the age of seventy seven.

References:

Census:

1841 Census 868/ 7/ 3 Page 3 of 21

1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 (ref not given on Find My Past)

Concise Scots Dictionary, 2nd Edition E.U.P 2017

Pigot and Co. New Commercial Directory 1825-6, London, 1825, page 465

Roberts, J. 2022 'Value of 1845 British pounds today/UK Inflation Calculator [online] available at <https://www.in2013dollars.com/uk/inflation/1845> [accessed 4 April 2022]

Scotland's Parish Marriages and Banns 1561-1893

Statistical Account of Scotland

OSA Vol. IV 1792 page 231

NSA Vol. IV 1845 page 107

Statutory Register of Death – 868/20 page 7; 868/2 page 4

Wills and Testaments Record SC16/41/14 Kirkcudbright Sheriff Court, Image 421 page 420

Inscription 288 – McCandlish

by Thais Poyo-Gonzalez

McCANDLISH, WILLIAM, of Dalry, Kirkcudbrightshire, designed GLENCAIRN CHURCH, DUMFRIESSHIRE, 1836, in an elementary Gothic style enlivened by a dramatically arched north transept [S.R.O., HR 116/1].

Basic Biographical Details

Name:	William McCandlish
Designation:	Architect
Born:	1779
Died:	12 December 1855
Bio Notes:	William McCandlish was a native of Kirkcudbrightshire. He had a large business as a builder and joiner in New Galloway, Kells Parish as by 1851 he was employing 28 men. Colvin notes that his rather elementary Gothic church at Dalry and Glencairn is enlivened by a dramatic arch at the end wall of the transept. His wife was Janet Thomson who died in New Galloway in 1846 after a long illness. They had a number of children including James McCandlish who became an architect-builder in Kirkcudbright. His death on 12 December 1855 aged 76 is recorded on a tombstone in Kells Churchyard.

Private and Business Addresses

The following private or business addresses are associated with this architect:

Address	Type	Date from	Date to	Notes
▶ New Galloway, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland	Private/business			
▶ Greenhead, High Street, Kells, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland	Private	Before 1841	After 1851	

Buildings and Designs

This architect was involved with the following buildings or structures from the date specified (click on an item to view details):

Date started	Building name	Town, district or village	Island	City or county	Country	Notes
▶ 1822	Kells Parish Church	New Galloway		Kirkcudbrightshire	Scotland	<i>Inscription attributes this to McCandlish.</i>

▶ 1830	Dalry Parish Church	St John's Town of Dalry		Kirkcudbrightshire	Scotland	
▶ 1833	Balmaclellan Church	Balmaclellan		Kirkcudbrightshire	Scotland	<i>Alterations</i>
▶ 1836	Glencairn Parish Church	Kirkland		Dumfriesshire	Scotland	
▶ 1841	Kenmure Castle	New Galloway		Kirkcudbrightshire	Scotland	<i>Alterations</i>
▶ 1846	Ballochmyle Railway Viaduct	Mauchline		Ayrshire	Scotland	

References:

Bibliographic References

The following books contain references to this architect:

Author(s)	Date	Title	Part	Publisher	Notes
▶ Colvin, H M	1995	A Biographical Dictionary of British Architects 1600-1840	3rd edition	New Haven and London: Yale University Press	
▶ Colvin, Howard	2008	A Biographical Dictionary of British Architects 1600-1840		London: YUP. 4th edition	

Periodical References

The following periodicals contain references to this architect:

Periodical Name	Date	Edition	Publisher	Notes
▶ Dumfries and Galloway Standard	18 November 1846			

Archive References

The following archives hold material relating to this architect:

Source	Archive Name	Source Catalogue No.	Notes
▶ Census records online	Censuses		

Inscription 292 – Kennedy

by Sharon Course

In memory of Anna KENNEDY daughter to William KENNEDY late of Knocknalling, 1771.

Here youthful bloom fair as the Morning Rose.

Sleeps in the silent dust in soft repose.

Great was her soul, Integrity of Life.

Adorn'd the Maid and Dignified the Wife.

And now beyond where Stars and planets shine,

She dwells in light and Love and joys divine.

Suns may decay stars may lose their Light,

And falling Worlds sink in Eternal Night.

Whilst thro Eternity She wafts her way,

And basks in Beams of Everlasting Day.

From the limited records available, Anna appears to be the granddaughter of William Kennedy (Snr) (DOB c1700) and his wife Margaret Blair.

William inherited the farm of Knocknalling, which had been in the Kennedy family for many generations. But he also inherited large debts from his late father, which had to be paid, and he had to give his only sister Elizabeth 2000 merks as a dowry. In 1740, he sold Knocknalling to his cousin, David Kennedy, plus another family property, Knockreoch.

He retained ownership of a third inherited property, Mardrochwood near Carsphairn, and was living there in 1747.

William had two sons also called William. The first was born in 1730 but died in 1731.

The second son was born in 1732 and was also called William, to ensure his father's forename lived on. It is this William who was the father of Anna and had this poetic memorial created.

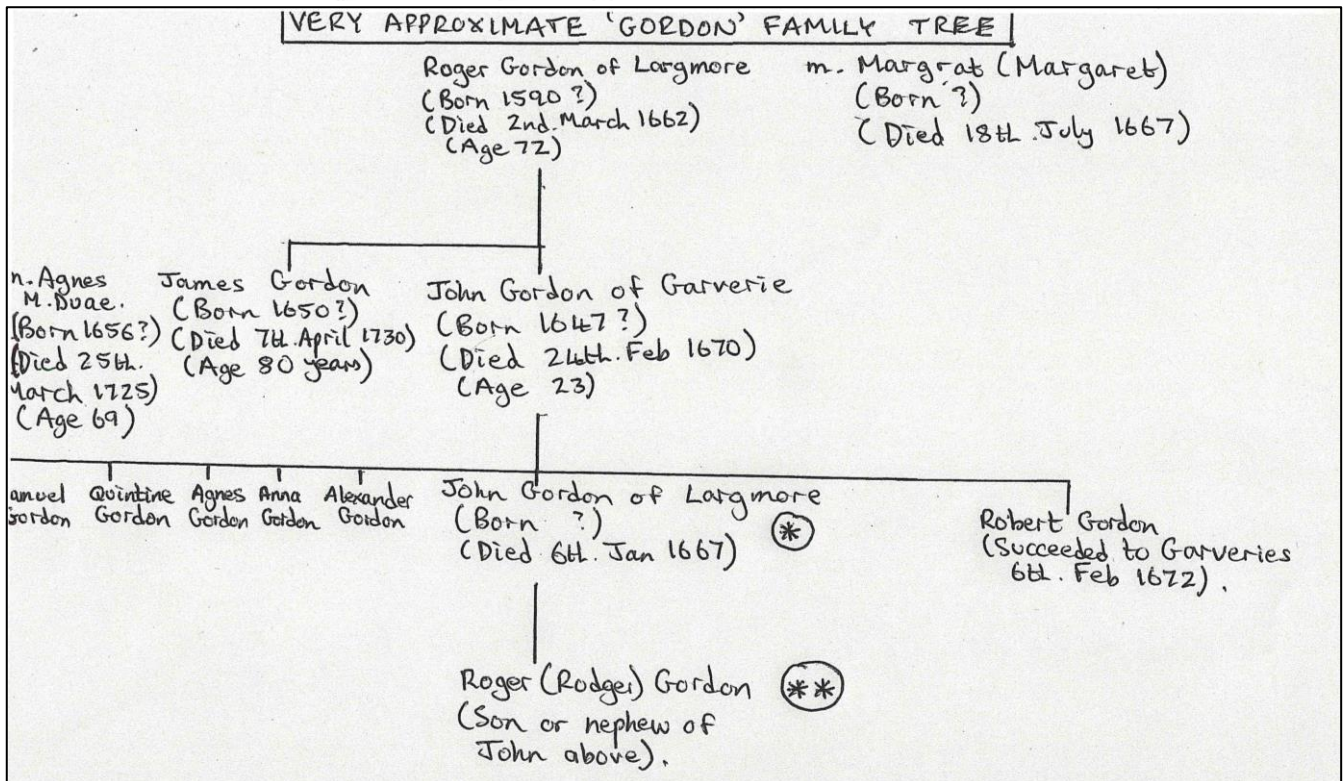
It is difficult to know how old Anna was, as there is no record of her birth, only the date of her death. The poem, in the Romantic style, talks of her youth and how 'Great was her soul, Integrity of Life. Adorn'd the Maid and Dignified the Wife'. This suggests she was married when she died and may have records under her married name. However, I cannot find any Anna Kennedy/similar within the timeframe. The poem seems to be an original for the headstone as it does not appear on any searches.

There is a record that suggests William was also buried in Kells in 1771 but confirmation can't be found. It is possible that 1771 refers to his death and the stone to Anna was put up later.

Inscription 293 – Gordon

by Keith Hamblin

[Flat Stone] Here lyes the corpse of Roger GORDON of Largmore who dyed March 2 1669 aged 72 years. And of John GORDON of Largmore his grand-child who dyed January 6 1667 of his wounds got at Pentland in defence of the covenanted reformation and of Margaret GORDON spouse to the said Roger who dyed July 18 1667. And of John GORDON of Garverie their son who dyed February 24 1670 aged 23. And of Samuel, Quintine, Agnes, Anna, Alexander and Samuel GORDON's their grand-childring (sic). As also the corps of Agnes M DUAE, spouse to James GORDON son to Roger GORDON of Largmore, who dyed March 25 1725 the 69 year of her age. Also the corps of the above James GORDON who died the 7th of Aprile 1730 aged 80 years.



* John, along with his brother-in-law, William Gordon of Robertson, were both at Rullion Green, near Pentland, on 28th November 1666.

50 Covenanters were killed by Royalist troops (among them William).

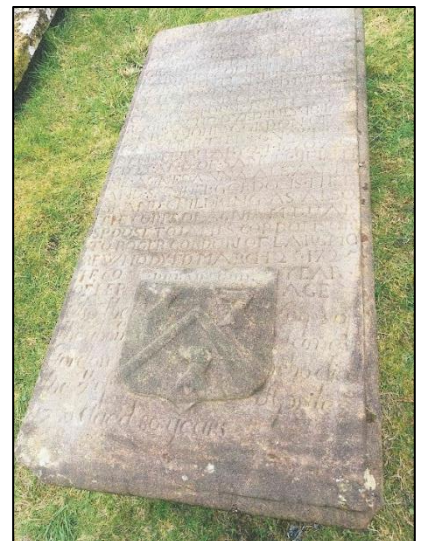
150 Covenanters were taken prisoner.

John made his escape, severely wounded. His loss of blood and his lying in the fields for some nights after the battle, so brought him down that after he got home to Largmore, he died soon afterwards, on 6th January 1667. John Gordon of Largmore was apparently buried beside his grandfather who had died 5 years earlier.

** Roger fought at the Battle of Bothwell Bridge on 22nd June 1679 and had many narrow escapes from dragoons subsequently.

Roger became Laird of Largmore of the death of John (his father or uncle).

*** John Gordon in Nov 1690 had sasine of Largmore. He was succeeded by John Gordon on 16th August 1695.



Inscription 293 - The stone shows the Gordon motto "Dread God" along with three boar heads

LOCAL HISTORY

THE GORDONS OF LARGMORE

The Pentland Rising in late 1666, led by men from the Glenkens area, and in particular men from Dalry, ended in a crushing defeat at Rullion Green. The Covenanters were met by 3,000 well-armed Government troops, and many lost their lives. The survivors, many of them wounded in the battle, admitted defeat and headed for home. John Gordon, of Largmore in Kells parish, was seriously wounded but managed to reach home.

Sir William Bannatyne was sent to Galloway with a regiment of 400 foot soldiers and 80 horsemen soon after the Pentland Rising, and most were stationed in the Glenkens. They set about persecuting any local people whom they suspected were sympathising with the Covenanters. Fines were imposed, and goods and stock seized where fines could not be met. Women and children were molested, houses were burned down and many were made homeless. Bannatyne was notorious for the atrocities he and his men committed.

When Bannatyne heard that John Gordon was home at Largmore, he ordered that he should be brought to him, dead or alive. A cart was taken as the soldiers knew John Gordon would not be fit to ride or walk. When they came to Largmore with their message from Bannatyne, John painfully raised himself up on his bed. He said he defied Sir William Bannatyne and all his persecutors, but he forgave them, adding that he would soon be in better company. He lay back in his bed and shortly afterwards he breathed his last. He was buried in Kells Kirkyard beside his grandfather who had died five years earlier, aged 72 years.

Roger Gordon, who seems to have followed John as laird of Largmore, was also a well-known Covenanter. He may have been a son of John, but it is possible that he was a nephew, being descended from an elder brother. Roger Gordon was at the battle of Bothwell Bridge in 1679, when the Covenanters were again defeated. He fled south with some friends and eventually they reached Monialve where they spent some time with friends. At nightfall they set out to resume their journey and as they made their way up Castlefain Water they suddenly saw a company of troopers who had been sent to Craggy Mains to disperse a conventicle. Roger and his friends fled to the home of a friend at Knocktaughley on Craigdarroch Water and were soon sitting down to a hearty meal by a roaring fire, and sharing all the latest sad news. Suddenly the sound of horses' hooves was heard outside the cottage.

The lady of the house quickly led Roger and his friends to a small dairy room at the back of the house, hidden behind furniture, and ushered them through a hidden trapdoor in the floor which led to a concealed cellar. She pulled a mat over the trapdoor while her husband went to meet the soldiers. They searched the house and although they found the hidden dairy room they did not find the trapdoor. Roger Gordon and his friends were saved and the next evening they made their way back home to the Glenkens.

Some time later Roger and his wife were walking with friends across the moors to a conventicle near Minnigaff when they suddenly came

upon a company of foot soldiers. There were similar numbers of men on each side and a conflict ensued. The soldiers had their swords, while the Covenanters had only sticks and clubs with which to fight, but they defended themselves well and bravely. Roger was a very strong man and he attacked the leader of the soldiers with such energy that everyone else stopped to watch the fight. Roger broke his opponent's sword then struck him a heavy blow with his club which rendered the man's arm useless. He then threw him to the ground with great force where the soldier lay motionless. Roger's friends shouted triumphantly and they all continued their way across the moors to the conventicle, leaving the soldiers to gather round their disabled commander!

Roger's house was frequently visited and searched by the troopers after this event, and Roger only rarely ventured home under cover of darkness. On one of his rare visits to Largmore he had barely arrived when a company of dragoons rode up to the door. Roger quickly donned some coarse and tattered clothes of a farm servant and went to meet the soldiers. He held their horses while they dismounted and led the animals to the stable. He helped one of the dragoons to fodder the horses, and the soldiers, assuming he was a servant, went off to search the house. In the darkness and confusion Roger took a pitcher and under the pretence of fetching water for the horses he headed quickly to his favourite hiding place up on the side of Melide Milliea, a fine mountain in the Rhinns of Kells. The soldiers were furious when they realised he had tricked them, but they had no idea where to search for him.

Some time later Roger and a friend were lying low in the wild moorlands when an informer discovered them and led a party of dragoons to their hide-out. Fortunately they saw the horsemen coming and had time to conceal themselves in a deep ravine where there was a cavern in which they hid. They had just arrived in the cavern when the leading horseman, quite unaware of the deep ravine which was only visible from a few yards distance, came charging down the slope. He was too late to rein in his horse, and they both crashed down the steep side of the ravine to be dashed to pieces on the rocks below, close to where Roger and his friend were hiding. All thoughts of the chase abandoned, the troopers retrieved the body of their comrade and the harness from his horse, and returned home saddened by the accident.

Roger was caught on another occasion while visiting his family. As the troops entered the farmyard by one gate, he was disappearing out at the other end. They apprehended him, suspecting that he was the man they were seeking. One soldier asked if he was the laird of Largmore, to which he replied he was the laird of Shinmount. His answer confused them and they let him go, unaware that Shinmount was the name of a prominent hill to the north of Largmore and in those days it was on his estate! Through his quick thinking and possibly a fair share of luck, Roger Gordon survived the persecutions and lived on at Largmore for many years to enjoy a peaceful life with his family.

© Helen Bolton, July 2010



Largmore, in the Garroch Glen - Home of John Gordon (and son Roger Gordon) who only just survived the Pentland Uprising

Image - DAC, "Largmore, in the Garroch Glen," Carsphairn Archive, accessed August 19, 2022,

<https://www.carsphairn.org/CarsphairnArchive/items/show/3224>

"Pont, on his map, spells the name of thus farm Largmoir, thereby confirming it being from the Gaelic lairic or lairig, a moor, a hill and mor, big or large."

RANDOM POST FROM JIMMY FISHER, A SCOTTISH CHURCH HISTORIAN

In Kells Kirkyard is the grave of the Gordon's of Largmore, a family from Dumfries and Galloway who suffered much during the Covenanting times.

One of the names on the gravestone is that of John Gordon. John and his brother-in-law William had been with the Covenanters when they were defeated at Rullion Green. William was killed on the field and John was severely wounded. John lay in the open for several night before dragging himself homewards. He managed to make it but suffering from loss of blood and exhaustion he died within a few days.

John's son Roger also grew up strong in his faith for he would later go on to fight at the Battle of Bothwell Bridge where he escaped the slaughter. However he was now a wanted man and was chased and harassed for many years afterwards and there are many tales of narrow escapes and his encounters with the dragoons. On one occasion, and a group of friends, including their wives, were on their way to a conventicle when they were met with some dragoons who were in the area hunting Covenanters. The scene that happened next is described here:

"The Covenanters had neither swords nor fire-arms with which to protect themselves, but with the weapons which they had, consisting of sticks and clubs, they made a stout resistance. Roger Gordon, who was a strong and sturdy man, assailed the leader of the party with great bravery; and so stiff and dubious was the contest, and so full of interest in both parties, that the other combatants, forgetting their own strife, stood mute and motionless, viewing the terrific onslaught on the issue of which so much depended.

At length Roger Gordon, having broken the sword of his opponent, struck him with the ponderous club on the arm, which instantly fell powerlessly by his side. He then seized him in his arms and flung him

with vehemence on the ground, the stunning effect of which was so great that the man appeared to be killed. When Gordon's friends perceived the result of the conflict, they raised a shout of triumph, which resounded through the moorland. The friends then went on their way, and left the soldiers to assist their disabled commander. They reached the Conventicle without further interruption, and engaged with their brethren who, in equal peril with themselves, had met to worship in the wilderness.

Despite the government's best efforts, Roger was never captured and survived the persecution and went on to live a long, happy and peaceful life afterwards."

Inscription 308 – Millman

by Jennifer Roberts

Alfred McKinley Millman, born in 1849 in New Galloway, was the young son of Alfred McKinley Millman MRCSB, M.D. and Provost of New Galloway. Alfred died on the 14th December 1855 at twelve thirty in the afternoon at Kenview in New Galloway. He had been ill for nine days with acute otitis, an infection of the middle ear which now-a-days can be treated with antibiotics. He was tended by his father, who also signed the death certificate.

Mary Anne or Marianne Millman was just seven months old in the 1851 census. She lived at Rose View Cottage in New Galloway with her parents Alfred and Jane Metcalfe, her Grandmother Jane Metcalfe and elder brothers William (see below) and Alfred (see above) and sisters Mary and Emma. Their mother Jane must have been busy with five young children as the eldest Mary was only seven years old.

By the time of the next census in 1861 the family had moved to Ken View, in New Galloway High Street. Jane had had another four children by then, Charlotte, Frederic Richard, Sophia and the youngest Georgina who was one. William is not mentioned as living at home.

Marianne Kenmure Millman married Robert Seaton Muir a teacher at Ken View on the 27th December 1871. Marianne was twenty-one, Robert ten years her senior. She died less than a year later on the evening of the 15th November 1872 at Sinclair Terrace, Pulteneytown, Wick. Marianne died of peritonitis, a serious infection which can be treated today with antibiotics. It is possible that Marianne had a child before she died, as on the 1881 census a Fanny M. Muir aged eight was staying at Kenview with her grandparents, however the census does record that she was born in 1873.

William Hockin McKinley was born on the 25th October 1842 at Arthurstown, Co. Wexford, Ireland. At some stage he emigrated to Canada West landing first at Halifax, Nova Scotia. He married Sarah Elizabeth and they had four sons, Hartley, Turville, Ontario and William. The inscription on William's memorial at the Woodland Cemetery, London, Middlesex County, Ontario says '*William was a travelling agent. William's head was struck by falling timbers after he had secured Ontario (8) and Turville (6) in his arms. They were brought ashore still in their father's arms.*' William was thirty-eight years old.

For an account of the steamboat incident in which they died see below.

he became the Provost of New Galloway, the Parochial Medical Officer of Balmaclellan, Dalry and Kells...worked on public vaccinations, was an Honorary Assistant Surgeon for the 3rd Kirkcudbrightshire Rifle Volunteers, and...worked for the Hope Assurance Society in a medical capacity

Alfred McKinley Millman, the father of Alfred Junior, Mary Anne (or Marianne) and William was born on the 2nd April 1819 at Stone House, Plymouth, Devon, where his father was a clerk in the Royal Naval Hospital. His mother was called Mary. He became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England in 1841. He worked in Coombe Hospital in Dublin the same year and later worked at City of Dublin and Mercers Hospitals, where he became a member of the Irish Royal College of Surgeons. Whilst working in Ireland he married Jane Elizabeth Metcalfe in 1842, by marriage licence.

He became an M.D. in 1860 at Aberdeen University. Later he became the Provost of New Galloway, the Parochial Medical Officer of Balmaclellan, Dalry and Kells. He worked on public vaccinations, was an Honorary Assistant Surgeon for the 3rd Kirkcudbrightshire Rifle Volunteers, and as well as all these duties he worked for the Hope Assurance Society in a medical capacity.

Alfred died on the morning of the 19th July 1881 at Kenview of apoplexy and paralysis, the old term for a stroke. He had suffered for some hours before his death. The obituary column in the local paper mentioned

his death and the date and time of his funeral at Kells Churchyard. After his death Alfred left his estate to his widow Jane. The value of his estate was £817.8s.9d.

After her husband's death, Jane Metcalfe went to live with her widowed daughter Emma Hawthornthwaite and grand-daughter Ada, at Seaforth in Lancashire. Emma let apartments. Jane died in early summer 1905 at the age of eighty-six.

References:

Census: 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901

Ancestry:

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https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/146912758/william-hockin_mckinley-millman [accessed April 2022]

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Galloway News and Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser Friday 22nd July 1881

www.medicinenet.com/apoplexy/definition.htm [accessed April 2022]

NHS Inform

Scotland national Probate Index 1881 page 383

Statutory Registers Births

Statutory Registers Marriages 868/6

Statutory Registers Deaths 868/1, 043/222, 868/15, 868/15

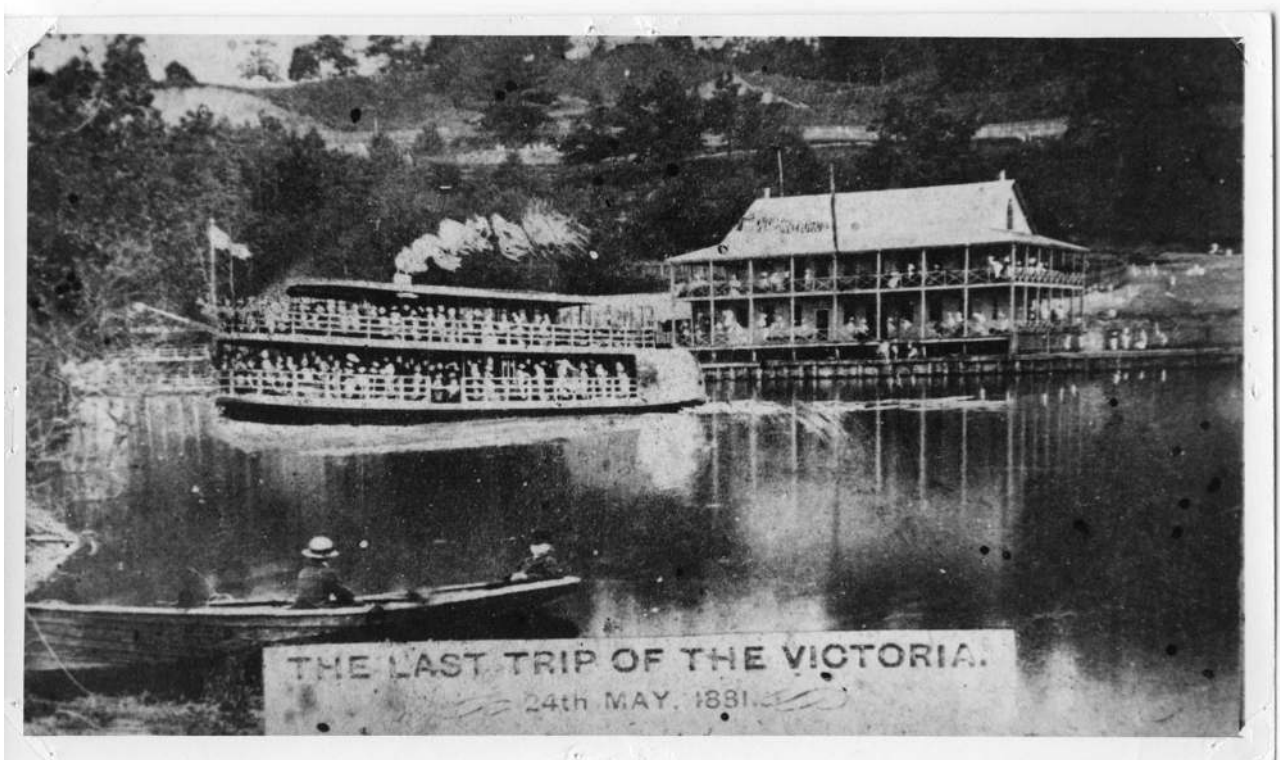
The Medical Directory for Scotland 1875 page 683

Inscription 308 – The Sinking of the Steamer Victoria on the River Thames, London, Canada West 1881

by Jennifer Roberts

This account is taken from reports in the British Press at the time of the incident.

On Monday three boats of the River Thames Navigation Company took excursionists down the River Thames to celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday. The four-mile voyage took the holiday makers from London to the Woodland Cemetery, then to Park Wards Dock and then on to Springbank. The company even lowered their fares to help with the celebrations. On Tuesday the steamer took an even larger number of passengers down to the groves at Springbank. The woods were crowded with people enjoying the holiday.



A photograph of an artist's impression of the steamship Victoria. It is possibly two photos superimposed upon each other. © Ivey Family London Room, London Public Library, London, Ontario, Canada

At six o'clock on Tuesday May 24th, the three steamers began to take the excursionists home. The steamer Victoria was the oldest of the three boats, but that spring had undergone a refurbishment and the machinery had been repaired. It had passed its trial trip on the Monday. When the Victoria left Springbank she had around four hundred people on board. At Wards Dock, the next stop, the steamer became overcrowded and according to reports somewhat shaky. On the open deck some of the band of the 7th Fusiliers were playing music to entertain the passengers, at an attempt to clear a space for dancing the crowd were pushed forward to the bow part of the steamer.

At the next stop, at the landing place of the woodland park, another two hundred people pushed on. An eyewitness Mr Duffield said, 'I saw that the upper deck was too full, but had the idea that the lower was in the same condition. No one could move' As the Victoria left the landing place she had to swing out to avoid the railway bridge, about one mile from London, she heeled over, and according to Mr Duffield, as the lower deck sunk below water level, people on that side got their feet wet, so there was a rush to the other side of the steamer, Captain Rankin described how there was also a rush to climb onto the upper deck. The steamer lurched and sunk in twelve feet of water. Mr Duffield then went on to describe how the movement of people caused the boiler to shift and go through the side, cutting through the timber supports of the upper deck. This action caused the upper deck to collapse crushing the passengers underneath it wedging them in the water. Mr Duffield said, 'I heard a great screech, a hissing sound then silence.'

The steamer broke up so quickly that passengers were unable to use the life jackets and life boats.

There were several small boats and skiffs in the area and they rushed to the Victoria to help rescue people. The current was swift and many people were swept away before they could be rescued. Many people drowned in family groups. Some lucky passengers were able to grab some of the wreckage. The foggy weather did not help the rescue attempts, which were somewhat chaotic. The city emptied as people rushed to the river banks and bridges in an attempt to help. Fires and petroleum barrels were lit to light the scene as darkness fell. That evening one hundred and seventy people bodies were brought ashore, another hundred were missing presumed drowned. An eye witness described the heart breaking scenes and the wails of anguish as bodies were brought ashore. Over one thousand local families were represented in the casualty list and many 'prominent citizens' had perished.

Captain Rankin, an old Mississippi River Navigator, blamed the accident onto the behaviour of the passengers. He said at the that the passengers had rushed on, jumping in and climbing over the sides. He ordered them off, but the crowd did not leave. He said that he would not go until the extra passengers left, but still they did not leave. Later on during the trip he said that the passengers were making a lot of noise, singing and moving around, this caused him to notice a different action on the wheel, so he sent a boy to check with the engineer. The engineer said that unless the boat could be straightened she was in danger. Captain Rankin said that a couple of racing row boats came alongside and the crowds rushed to the other side to see them. The engineer sent up a message to the captain to ask the people to move as water was coming in, at that moment the water was half an arms depth. The vessel then lurched and the port bow went down, the boiler shifted and went through the side. The Captain went on to say that there were four hundred and fifty people on board, which rather contradicts his earlier statement. He said all the pumps were working.

Mr George Parish the manager of the company said the accident was caused by overcrowding.

By Wednesday evening two hundred and thirty eight bodies had been recovered, but it was believed that there were many others beneath the wreck of the Victoria. The Stroud Journal reported that the 'whole town was in morning', while the Northampton Chronicle and Echo (NC&E) reported that the steamboat disaster had cast 'a gloom over all persons in the Dominion resident in England [sic].'

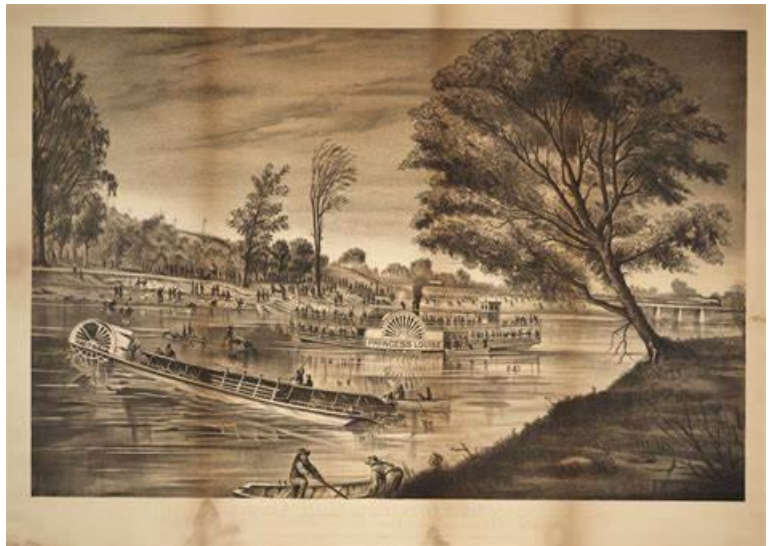


Image courtesy of Toronto Public Library

The day after the accident the Common Council for London voted \$2000 for a relief fund. The English Lakes Visitor reported that the whole city of London was in mourning, 'nothing was done except funerals...clergymen and undertakers are worn out...coffins are being imported...some are unburied...burials continued until midnight.'

On the following Saturday the inquest on the bodies of the people who drowned was opened. Mr Bell engineer of the Princess Louise (one of the other company boats) gave evidence that was condemnatory of the Victoria. Samuel Beters an architect had examined the wreck and found the accident was caused by leakage and insufficient stanchions. George Parrish said that he had spent a lot of money fitting the Victoria out and although it emerged she had been sailing without a certificate, he maintained that 'he could not charge himself with neglect or carelessness in any way.'

The jury found a number of reasons for the cause of the accident:

- the capsizing was caused by water in the hold, possibly from a snag in the river
- the boiler was not securely fastened, the stanchions were too slender and not properly braced
- the engineer was guilty of negligence in letting the boat sail with water in the hold
- the captain was guilty in accepting the dual role of position of captain and wheelman, so could not give sufficient attention to the management of the boat
- there was no proper examination of the boat
- she did not carry sufficient hands (a captain, engineer, fireman, two deck hands and a purser)
- she had no certificate

At the close of the inquest Rankin and Parrish were arrested in the lobby of City Hall on a charge of manslaughter. They were committed for trial.

Rankin and Parish were later released, each paying \$3,000 bail. The case came before the Middlesex Grand Jury during the autumn assizes in September 1881. When the grand jury handed down its verdict on the twenty-second of September it had refused to indict either man. Rankin and Parish were freed.

Amongst the dead were William Hocken McKinley Millman aged thirty-six and his two eldest sons Ontario and Turville. William was the son of Alfred McKinley MRCSB of New Galloway and his wife Jane Metcalfe.

N.B. The name Parrish is spelt variously in the articles.

References:

National Newspaper Archive [online] [accessed April 2022]

Aberdeen Evening express Tuesday 28th June 1881

Diss Express Friday 3rd June 1881

Dundee Courier Friday 22nd July 1881

English Lakes Visitor Saturday 4th June 1881

Northampton Chronicle and Echo Monday 30th May 1881

Stroud Journal Saturday 28th May 1881

[Victoria \(Steamboat\), capsized, 24 May 1881: Maritime History of the Great Lakes](#) [accessed 10th August 2022]

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer Saturday 28th May 1881

Images [online] [accessed 16th April 2022]:

1st image An artistic depiction of the "Last Trip of the Victoria", Springbank Park, London, Ontario: Ivey Family London Room Digital Collections (ourontario.ca)

2nd image Wreck of the Steamer "Victoria" – All Items – Digital Archive : Toronto Public Library (tpl.ca)

Inscription 314 – Murray

by Sue Taylor



[Top of stone decorated with a Gun, Powder, Casket, Dog and Bird.]

In memory of John MURRAY who died at Kenmure Janr 3d 1777 aged 61 years, and who for 46 years had been a faithful servant to the family of Kenmore. Erected by the Honourable Cap. John GORDON.

[Reverse]

Ah John what changes since I saw thee last.
Thy fishing and thy shooting days are past.
Bagpipes and Hautboys thou canst sound no more.
Thy nods, grimaces, winks and pranks are o'er.
Thy harmless, queerish, incoherent talk,
Thy wild vivacity and trudging walk,
Will soon be quite forgot. Thy joys on earth -
A snuff, a glass, riddles and noise of mirth -
Are vanished, all. Yet blest I hope thou art
For in thy station, weel thou play'dst thy part.

As described on his tombstone, John Murray died on 3 January 1777, aged 61 years. For 46 years he had been employed by Lord Gordon at Kenmure Castle as factor/gamekeeper. The affectionate poem on the reverse of the tombstone shows him to have been well valued and loved by the family, and gives much information in a few short lines about him. He seems to have been a popular jovial character with an infectious sense of humour, skilled both as huntsman and a musician (hautboy is an oboe).

A competition was held by the Honourable John Gordon, Murray's employer, to compose this epitaph poem, which was won by the local minister, who was either Rev John Gillespie or Alexander Macgowan of Dalry, depending on which account you read.

Despite a fairly extensive search - on ancestry websites, such as Ancestry UK, Find My Past, Wikitree and Scotland's People, and in the newspaper archives - I was unable to find any further details about John Murray and his family, not even whether he had a wife and children - very frustrating. All available information was in connection with his employment with the Gordon family at Kenmure.

A fishy tale: John Murray's pike

However, there is one magnificent story featuring Murray that is mentioned in several places - his capture in 1774 at Loch Ken, after a long and fierce struggle, of a monster pike fish, at 72 lbs (again, this varies between accounts) and some 7ft long, the largest pike on record ever captured. According to *Monuments and Monumental inscriptions in Scotland, Vol 3* (see below), " ...elated by his achievement, John walked into the dining-room holding the pike's head over his shoulder, while the tail dragged on the floor. Stepping up to his master, he threw down the fish before him, saying, 'You may catch the next yourself', my lord.' No such pike has before or since been caught in any part of Britain."

I found various (and varying) accounts of this momentous feat by John Murray. Below I have listed these - some are copied extracts, others are links to an account. All are well worth reading. The first article - by Frederick Buller on the American Museum of Fly Fishing website - is particularly full and informative,

relating several accounts by others and tracing the interesting tale of the pike fish itself, from its capture to the sad eventual crumbling disintegration of its skull in a New Galloway outhouse. Buller spent much time and personal effort tracking down the remains of the fish.

Also included below are further references I found to Murray's beautifully executed gravestone.

John Murray's pike, by Frederick Buller

<https://www.amff.org/john-murrays-pike/>

Canmore

<https://canmore.org.uk/collection/789865>

Description View of gravestone to James Murray, factor, 1777.

Date c. 1980

Collection Betty Willsher

Catalogue Number SC 789865

Category On-line Digital Images

Scope and Content Gravestone of James Murray, Kells Churchyard, Kells, Dumfries & Galloway. This beautifully designed and intricately carved stone features a neatly bordered panel containing belongings of the deceased, which describe his trade. They are a gunpowder flask (top left), fishing rods and flintlock sporting gun (centre and right), a mournful hunting dog with downcast head, and a partridge¹. The epitaph on this stone gives a vivid picture of the lighthearted and jovial character of the deceased, whilst the tools of his trade and dog describe his working life.

A competition was held to compose an epitaph for this popular man, which was won by the local minister². The gravestone was erected by the deceased's employer, the Honourable John Gordon. This shows the gravestone of James Murray, factor (estate manager) to the Kenmore family for over 46 years, who died in 1777. It is inscribed with the following epitaph:

'Ah John what changes since I saw thee last/Thy fishing and thy shooting days are past/Bagpipes and hautboys, thou canst sound no more/Thy nods, grimaces, winks and pranks are o'er/Thy harmless, queerish incoherent talk, Thy wild vivacity and trudging walk/Will soon be quite forgot; thy joys on earth/A snuff, a glass, riddles and noisy mirth/Are vanish'd all. Yet blest I hope thou art/For in they station, weel thou play'dst thy part'. Source: RCAHMS contribution to SCRAN.

External Reference BWA/73/S

Permalink <http://canmore.org.uk/collection/789865>



*The Lock Ken bay where John Murray caught his pike
(image: Frederick Buller)*

My notes:

1. Should be pigeon, according to Frederick Buller's article (above) about the pike caught by JM.

2. Rev. John Gillespie, minister of the parish at Kells, who had won a guinea offered (presumably by John Gordon, younger son of Viscount Kenmure) for the most suitable epitaph.

From Malcolm McLachlan Harper's "Rambles in Galloway", published in 1876, on the Kirkcudbright.co website:

<http://www.kirkcudbright.co/historyarticle.asp?ID=193&p=7&g=5>

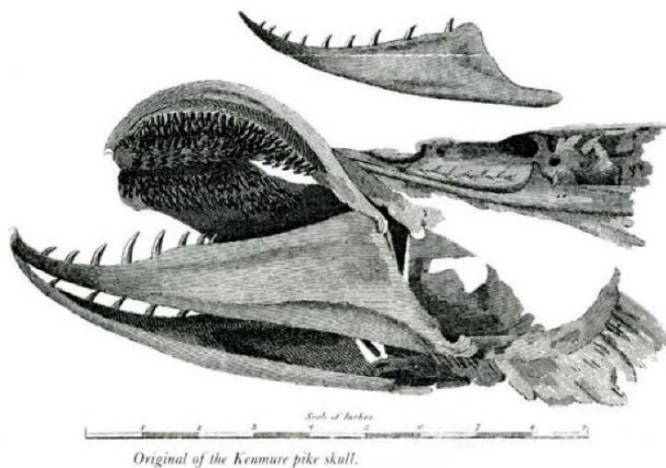
"An inscription on a tombstone to the memory of John Murray is sufficiently curious to be worthy of reproduction. On the one side is the inscription, "To the memory of John Murray, who died at Kenmure, Jany. 3, 1777. Erected by J. Gordon." A gun, fishing-rod, dog, and partridge are carved in relief below. On the other side is the quaint epitaph written by the Rev. Alexander McGowan of Dalry, his lines being preferred by Captain John Gordon, who offered a guinea for the best on the subject: (*epitaph poem*)

The John Murray whose epitaph is given above was famed as being the fortunate catcher of the largest pike on record. He caught it in Loch Ken; its weight was seventy-two pounds, and it measured about seven feet in length. John Murray was gamekeeper to Lord Kenmure..... The skeleton of the head is still preserved at Kenmure along with one which weighed twenty-seven pounds, and which is quite small in comparison."

Annals of Scottish Natural History

Issues 1–4, 1892 pub. D.Douglas

".....list of large ones that have been recorded from time to time. First and foremost is the monster taken in Loch Ken towards the end of last century by John Murray, gamekeeper to John, Viscount Kenmure. It is said to have weighed 72 lbs, and, as the old sportsman carried it along for presentation to his master, its head rested on his shoulders, while the tail swept the ground. The skeleton of the head is still preserved in a case in Kenmure Castle, where I have seen it, along with another head of a pike which is very small by comparison, and weighed only 27 lbs."



Monuments and monumental inscriptions in Scotland

Volume 3

By Charles Rogers · 1871

https://books.googleusercontent.com/books/content?req=AKW5Qae6ovRrQdR9tyx9JHQ5xTX48caCh0dp44uZpTxxhm4cq1ofunVc4Dep9bAYB7w5bpfKbSNiYToD0W4xPk2l4ErSf4qOh3F9DGot8Jagoei-TNvYboRmLIQ321WSSsE3lfhVa7h6TPJ41brQR-v0dwpsJO3ZRLQdc2r0dVrQOHgYKWXoINUZ7qlhzyYAN7uj_ftZdgBjXMcv4lgLprAOjkfRDWWRivrup6lqPtEDyCv38_vJDE9ILFlzq72dDjg8GmMxEE0FG7rwI2d4FK_pzE6CqgSrw

p.333

Metrical epitaphs commemorate two ministers of the parish, father and son. The **Rev. John Gillespie** was tutor at Lundin, Fifeshire. He was ordained minister of Kells, 29th March, 1764, and died 29th April, 1806, in his seventy-sixth year, and forty-third of his ministry.

p.334

"John Murray, gamekeeper to Viscount Kenmure, a provincial humorist, is celebrated by the following epitaph: "Ah, John, what changes since I saw you last! Thy fishing and thy shooting days are past. Bagpipes and hautboy thou canst sound no more; Thy nods, grimaces, winks, and pranks are o'er; Thy harmless,

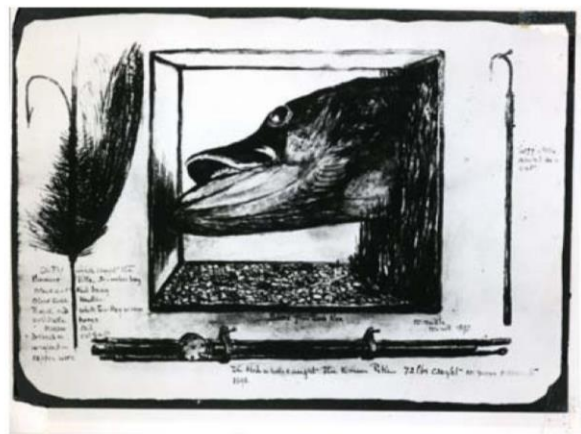
queerish, incoherent talk, Thy wild vivacity, and trudging walk Will soon be quite forgotten. Thy joys on earth A snuff, a glass, riddles, and noisy mirth Are vanished all, yet blest I hope thou art, For in thy station weel thou played thy part. A.D. 1777." John was a noted angler. He caught with the fly a pike weighing forty-two pounds, the skeleton of which is preserved in Kenmure Castle. Elated by his achievement, John walked into the dining-room holding the pike's head over his shoulder, while the tail dragged on the floor. Stepping up to his master, he threw down the fish before him, saying, " You may catch the next your sel', my lord. " No such pike has before or since been caught in any part of Britain."

Curiosities of Animal and Vegetable Life

1872

Ed John Timbs

"We find the following in the Dumfries Courier :-Towards the close of last century, a feat almost unparalleled in the annals of angling was performed by John Murray, gamekeeper to John, 49 Viscount of Kenmure, himself a remarkably keen and successful angler. With a single rod and line, and a fly dressed with a feather from a peacock's tail, he hooked a pike in the lake, and killed him after a long and exciting struggle. He had attained the enormous weight, not of 65 lbs., but of 72 lbs. The head was carefully preserved and placed in a glass cover, and may still be seen by the curious at Kenmure Castle. The fact is recorded in Daniell's Field Sports. Murray was an eccentric character, and excelled in all such matters. When he died, he was buried in Kells churchyard, and his master erected a tombstone to his memory, having a rod and gun, and other quaint devices wrought thereon, and bearing the following description of his character, composed by a neighbouring clergyman, the late Alexander Macgowan of Dalry."



Painting by W. Meikle of the Kenmure pike

Scotlands Places/Namebooks

<https://scotlandspplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/ordnance-survey-name-books/kirkcudbrightshire-os-name-books-1848-1851/kirkcudbrightshire-volume-39/11>

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loch_Ken

"At the northern end of the loch stands Kenmure Castle. John Murray was gamekeeper to the Gordons at Kenmure Castle and is remembered for having caught in the loch the largest pike on record, the head of which rested on his shoulder, with the tail trailing on the ground. Its weight was seventy-two pounds, and it measured about seven feet in length.

The skeleton of the head was for many years preserved on display in the Billiard Room at Kenmure where it was studied and measured by Charles Tate Regan ichthyologist of the Natural History Museum. Murray died in 1777 and is buried at Kells Churchyard; on his tombstone are carved in relief a gun, powder pouch, fishing-rod, dog and pigeon."

Inscription 354 – Maitland Gordon

by Laura Anderson

James Charles Maitland Gordon of Kenmure, born Jan 24 1850, died Nov 12 1915

James Charles Maitland Gordon was baptised on the 14th of February in 1850, his mother was noted as Louisa Bellamy and his father as James Maitland. Their residence was noted as Carpshairn. In the 1861 census, James C Maitland was 11 years old and resided away from his parents with a Mary J Compton and Helen L Compton who were teachers residing at Talbot Place in St Cuthberts, Newington.

His parents were married on the 7th of September 1837 in the parish of Kells.

The 1881 census shows James C Maitland aged 31 living with his grandmother, Louise Gordon Bellamy Munro. His mother is noted as a landed proprietress and as a widow. Also in the house is Harriet F Copland, the daughter of Louisa who was 61, also a widow and who was born at sea. James was joined by two of his siblings: his elder brother John G Maitland who was married, aged 42 and was a Colonel of Volunteers, and his elder sister Louisa Maitland who was 33. Also noted in the household as a visitor was Dora Williamson, James C Maitland's future wife.

James C Maitland and Dora Wordsworth Williamson were married in 1892 within Wandsworth, London. James identified himself as a landed proprietor who was living at Kenmure Castle.

After his wife passed in 1903, James may have married again to either a Florence Broomfield or Dorothy Trenna Curwen in Marylebone London in 1905.

James Charles Maitland Gordon passed aged 65 in Richmond, Surrey.

Also at Kells graveyard is the Gravestone of James's elder brother, erected by his wife Jane G. Maitland. The gravestone notes that John and therefore James was the "son of Louisa Maitland Gordon of Kenmure by her marriage with the Rev. James Maitland. Minister of Kells".

*James identified himself as a
landed proprietor who was
living at Kenmure Castle.*

Inscription 355 – Maitland

by Sandra Williamson

NORVEL FALCONER MAITLAND

Born 8th September 1851

Baptised 2nd October 1851 at Kells

Died 13th December 1916 aged 65.

Norvel's father was Rev. James Maitland of Kells Parish Church.

His mother was Louisa Bellamy Maitland born in the East Indies (British subject)

Norvel was a brother to 7 siblings:

John, Louisa, Frances, Eleanor, Jane, James and Louis.

Norvel married Manuela Louisa Gadino (daughter of the Captain of the Peruvian Navy) in the town of Iquique in Northern Chile in 1886.

Norvel married Manuela Louisa Gadino (daughter of the Captain of the Peruvian Navy) in the town of Iquique in Northern Chile in 1886.



Gravestone of Norvel Falconer Maitland

Their first child Mary Louise was born in 1892 in Kenmure Castle, Kells. Thereafter the rest of their children were born in Chile.

Their son William Kenmure Maitland was born in 1896 was a second Lieutenant 5th Battalion Middlesex Reg attached to the 63rd Trench Mortary Battery at the age of 20. He was commissioned in the 5th Middlesex in February 1915 and went to France in July 1915.

Inscription 361 – Nodwell

by Jackie Carson

From the grave inscription:

Died Yorkhill 19th Nov 1918 aged 24 (born 1894?)

Father Samuel Nodwell died New Galloway 5th March 1921 aged 57 (born 1864?)

Mother Janet Lockerbie died Dalbeattie 21st May 1931 aged 67 (born 1864?)

Mary Lockerbie died Hardgate 17th Dec 1955 aged 63 (born 1892?)

National Library of Scotland:

Jane Lauder – nothing

Jane Nodwell – 1901 census record, born in Hawick, listed as scholar living in Black Bull hotel in Moffat with:

Father Samuel born 1864 (hotel keeper and post master)

Mother Janet born 1864

Mary born 1892

James born 1897

Janet born 1898

3 others

Samuel Nodwell – Grave 361 inscription

Janet Lockerbie – Mother Mary Lowther and father John Lockerbie. Death record with grave 361 inscription

Found a Janet Lockerbie in **1871 census** in Southwick Road, Urr, Dalbeattie aged 2 (Mother Margaret). Birth date listed as 1869.

Mary Lockerbie

Scotland's People:

Jane Lauder Nodwell **1911 census** living in Kells – age 17

Birth record Hawick 1894

Samuel Nodwell **1911 census** living in Kells – age 47

1901 census in Moffat – age 37

1891 census in Roxburgh – age 27

Valuation rolls: 1905 Black bull hotel Moffat

1895 Washing Houses/ Spirit Shop Hawick

Wills and Testaments: Spirit Merchant, Cross Keys Hotel, New Galloway⁶

Janet Lockerbie (as Nodwell) **1911 census** living in Kells - age 47

Other (Google):

Jane Lauder Nodwell

New Galloway war memorial

Dumfries Academy war memorial



Dumfries Academy Memorial, Column 1

<https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/273925/>

⁶ <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/record->

[results?search_type=People&surname=Nodwell&forename=Samuel&forename_so=starts&from_year=1864&to_year=1922&surname_so=exact&record_type=wills_testaments](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/record-results?search_type=People&surname=Nodwell&forename=Samuel&forename_so=starts&from_year=1864&to_year=1922&surname_so=exact&record_type=wills_testaments)

Voluntary Aid Detachment



NODWELL.—On the 19th inst., at Yorkhill War Hospital, Jane Lauder, second dearly beloved daughter of Mr and Mrs Samuel Nodwell, Cross Keys Hotel, New-Galloway. — Funeral from Cross Keys Hotel To-Day (Saturday), to Kells Churchyard, at One p.m.

ROBERTSON.—On the 27th April 1918 died from

77

Inscription 410 – Robertson

by Claire Williamson

In Loving Memory of Jessie Agnes Robertson died 15th Feb 1936. Cecil David Robertson, Sergt. RAF VR missing 5th May 1941. Agnes Robertson died 30th March 1946.

Agnes Robertson 1868 – 1946

Jessie Agnes Robertson 1897 – 1936

Cecil David Robertson 1921 – 1941

Agnes Robertson

Agnes was born in 1868 in Kelton, Kirkcudbrightshire to her parents, farm-worker William and his wife Agnes.

By the time of the 1891 census, our Agnes had moved out and was now living by herself at No. 1 Auchengassel Cots in Twynholm. She was 23, unmarried, and her own boss working as a Dressmaker.

In 1897 Agnes gave birth to her daughter, Jessie Agnes Robertson. Jessie's father was never named and Agnes never married.

*Agnes was 23, unmarried,
and her own boss
working as a Dressmaker.*

By the 1901 census Agnes, now aged 33, and her daughter, now 4, had moved in with her brother James and his family at Balquhairn, Dalry, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Her brother James is a widower and Farm manager, aged 36, living with his four children – James (scholar aged 8), William D. (scholar aged 7), May A. (aged 2) and Maggie J. (aged 1) – and

was probably glad of the help. Also in the household was Agnes's and James's mother, Mrs William Robertson, by this time a widow aged 72.

There were also two servants: Elizabeth and Oswald Ferguson. Elizabeth is 19 and recorded as a 'General serv (domestic)' and Oswald is 17 and a 'Worker'.

By 1911, Agnes had moved again. This time living in Clydoch, Balmaclellan: a house with at least four rooms. She is living there with her 14-year-old daughter Jessie and also her niece, Maggie J. Robertson, aged 11, who must have moved out of her father's house to live with her. Agnes is also back to working for herself as a Dressmaker based in her own home.

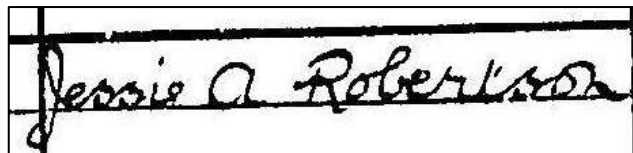
By 1921, Agnes and her daughter had moved to live on the High Street in New Galloway which is where they chose to live out the rest of their days.

Agnes died at home in New Galloway on the 30th March 1946 (the recorded transcription has it as 1948, which appears to be an error). She died of Hemiplegia, which is the paralysis of half of the body often caused by a stroke. She was recorded as being 75 years old on her death certificate, but this does not quite match with her birth year as being 1868 (as it is recorded on the census), which would make her a few years older. Her death was registered by her niece Maggie.

Jessie Agnes Robertson

Jessie was born in 1897 in Twynholm, Kirkcudbrightshire and lived with her mother Agnes in Dalry and Balmaclellan before they settled in New Galloway.

Jessie gave birth to her son Cecil in 1921 at their home on the High Street. She never married and Cecil's father is not named on the records. Jessie worked as a Post-Office Assistant and raised Cecil alongside her mum (Cecil's gran) Agnes.



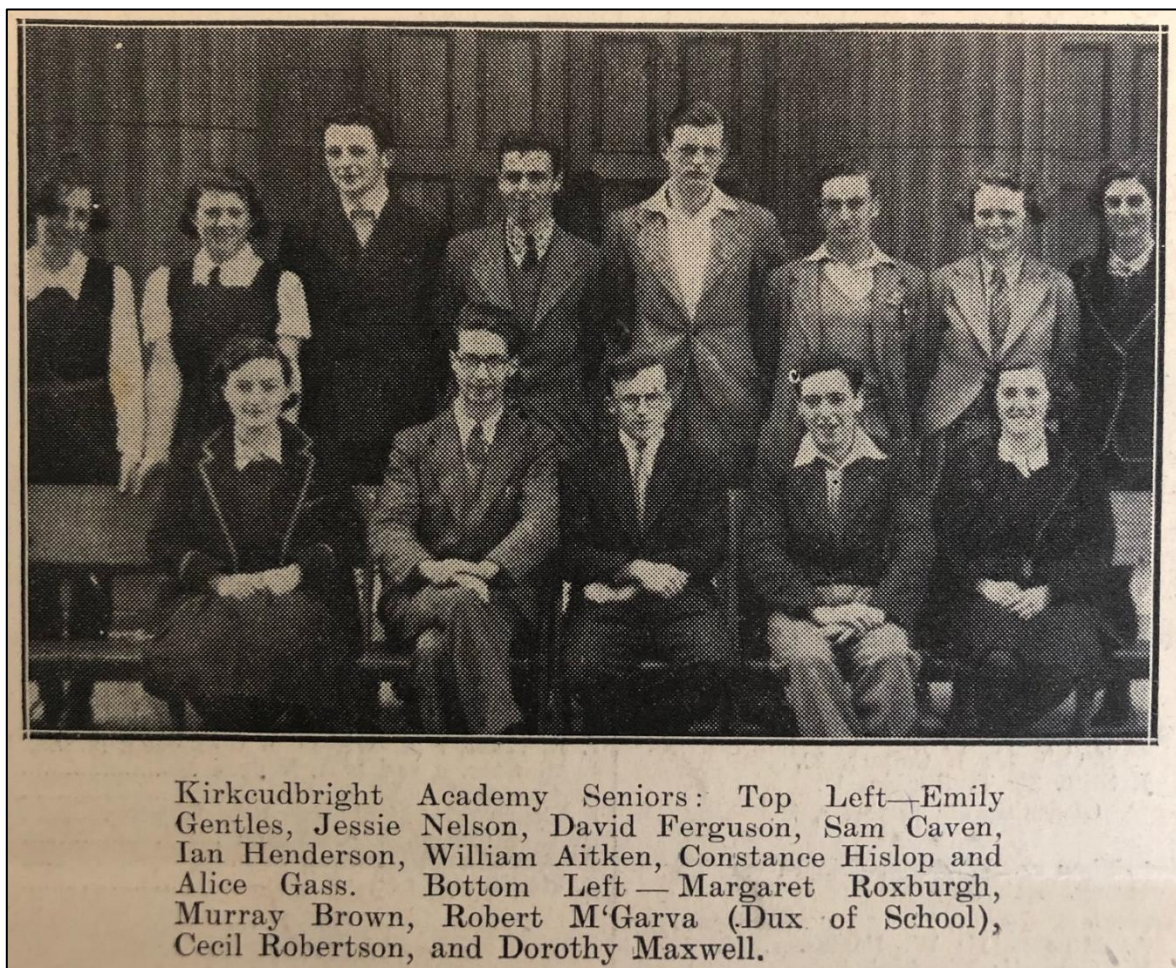
Jessie's signature on Cecil's birth certificate

Jessie continued to work as a Post-Office Assistant until she died on 15th February 1936, aged 39. She died of pneumonia while at home in New Galloway.

Cecil David Robertson

Cecil was born on 10th June 1921 at 5:15am to Jessie Agnes Robertson at home on the High Street in New Galloway. His father is not named on his birth certificate.

Cecil first attended New Galloway School and then went on to Kirkcudbright Academy. While at Kirkcudbright, Cecil seems to have come 3rd in the William Lidderdale Hornel prize, as reported by the *Dumfries and Galloway Standard* on Wednesday 5th July 1939. According to *The Galloway News* on Saturday 1st July 1939, he also won sports' prizes including the "Trophy Caps for Rugby Football", the "Inter-house championship" for Stewart House and "The M'Kerrow Cup for All-round Excellence" (scholarship, leadership, athletics).



Photograph of Cecil Robertson, bottom row, second from the right – many thanks to Helen of the Kirkcudbright History Society and David and Hazel from Broughton House for finding this image

In 1940, Cecil joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve where he was noted as "very popular with all the ranks" and quickly earned promotion to the rank of Sergeant Observer (Service Number: 970095).

By May 1941, Cecil was in the 235 Squadron, which by that time had been transferred to Coastal Command for fighter-reconnaissance duties.

At 8:30am on the 5th of May 1941, Cecil joined two other crew members, Sgt B.L.T. Crawforth (742675) and Sgt W.K. Blackford (944341), as they took off from Bircham Newton for a 'Danish Sweep'. They were flying a Blenheim IV Z5742 and were one of a section of three aircraft on patrol near the Danish coast.

The three aircraft became engaged with enemy fighters off Borkum before the other two aircraft lost sight of Robertson's plane. Robertson was reported as missing to his grandmother, Agnes, who lived on the High Street in New Galloway at the time.

At 8:30am on the 5th of May 1941, Cecil joined two other crew members...as they took off from Bircham Newton for a 'Danish Sweep'.

The aircraft had been shot down by Me 110s and crashed in the sea off the coast of Denmark. In June 1941, Mrs Robertson received a letter from Cecil's commanding officer that, according to the International Red Cross Society quoting official information from Berlin, Cecil had been picked up seriously wounded in the North Sea. He did not recover from his wounds and died on the 5th of May 1941 at the age of 19. He was buried in the cemetery at Wilhelmshaven, and he was recorded as the son of Jessie Agnes Robertson and the nephew of Maggie Jane Livingston of Barrhead, Renfrewshire: his mother's cousin who lived with them in 1911 at Balmaclellan and who must have remained close.

Today, Cecil rests in the Sage War Cemetery (Location: 8. A. 3) in the north of Germany. The cemetery is cared for by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



Sage War Cemetery

Inscription 436 – Kennedy

by Michelle MacIver

In Memory of John Murray Kennedy of Knocknalling born 5th April 1876 fell asleep 24th March 1928.

John Murray Kennedy was the grandson of John Kennedy of Knocknalling (1769-1855) (see picture below), who made his fortune in cotton mills in Manchester and introduced steam power into the mills.⁷



John Kennedy of Knocknalling

⁷ For further information on John Kennedy of Knocknalling see *Inscriptions 209 & 210* and links: <https://www.artwarefineart.com/gallery/portrait-john-kennedy-laird-knocknalling-new-galloway-1769-1855-textile-manufacturer> and <http://www.kirkcudbright.co/historyarticle.asp?ID=154&p=7&g=4>

Inscription 437 – Kennedy

by Michelle MacIver

In Memory of Violet Frances, Daughter of John Murray Kennedy of Knocknalling, beloved wife of Archibald James Murray St Clair, 16th Baron Sinclair, born 21st September 1881 died 7th November 1953

Violet Frances Kennedy was born to John Murray Kennedy and Frances Eleanor Catherine Brandling Kennedy on 21st September 1881. Her address was listed as 35 Grosvenor Place in London. She was 24 years old.

Violet married Archibald James Murray St Clair at St Peter's, Pimlico in London on 31st January 1906. Archibald was a baron and Violet became Lady Violet St Clair.

She appears in the 1918 Electoral register for Queens Gate, Kensington, London.

Her name appears, alongside that of her husband, on the incoming passenger list for the Majestic, a White Star line boat that left New York and arrived in Southampton on 10th August 1928. Her address is listed as Milton Park, Dalry Kirk. According to the Kirkcudbrightshire OS name book, the Milton Park property belonged to her father.

Violet died in 7th November 1953 in Kirkcudbrightshire.

Inscription 438 – St Clair

by Michelle MacIver

In Memory of Archibald James Murray St Clair, 16th Baron Sinclair born 18th February 1875 died 25th November 1957

Archibald James Murray St Clair was born to Lord Charles W St Clair and Lady Margaret J St Clair on the 18th February 1875.

Listed on the 1881 census, aged 6, as "The Master of Sinclair", living in Onslow Square, St Mary Abbots, Chelsea, London.

He commissioned in the Royal Scots Greys as a 2nd lieutenant in 1896. He became lieutenant in 1899 and Captain in 1901. He served in both the Boer war and WW1. From 1914 to 1938, he served as Extra Equerry (a position of honour) to Prince Arthur of Connaught, the Colonel in chief of the Scots Greys. From 1923 to 1957 he was a member of the Royal Company of Archers (performing duties at the request of the Monarch and in ceremonial occasions). The photo below shows him in 1898 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Scots Greys.

In 1918 he was accepted as a member of the Royal Victorian Order and around 1919 he was awarded the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun.

In the 1911 census, he was recorded as residing with his wife in Yorkshire, East Riding. No children after 5 years of marriage.

He became the 16th Baron Lord Sinclair on 22nd April 1922. He was Justice of the Peace in Kirkcudbrightshire.



Archibald James Murray St Clair

Listed as an outward passenger, (Sinclair) with his wife in 1938 heading for Port Said. Address is listed as 26 Curzon Street. His daughter Patricia Mary St Clair and a servant (who travelled 2nd class) are also listed.

In 1918 he was accepted as a member of the Royal Victorian Order and around 1919 he was awarded the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun.

He died on 25th November 1957 and was succeeded by his son Charles (born 21st June 1914: died 1st April 2004) and daughter Patricia (Born 17th March 1912: Died 13th December 1996).

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
ST CLAIR	H. Q. 1 st Army	Capt.	
Archibald James Murray (Son of Sinclair) (The Hon)	Canadian Corps 2 nd Division		
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	21 R. S. off 66	9	1. v. x/6946 dt. 16.2.22. NW/8/441
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in France			
Date of entry therein June 1916			
NW/8/441			

Medal roll Card for Capt. A J M St Clair

1906 Marriage solemnized at The Parish Church in the Parish of St Peter & Paul in the County of Middlesex							
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
498	31 st January 1906	Archibald James Murray St Clair	30	Married	Master of the House	55 Princes Street	Charles William St Clair
		Violet Frances Kennedy	24	Spinster		55 Princes Street	John Kennedy
Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Rev. Canon R. Kennedy or after Banns by me, Rev. Canon R. Kennedy.							
This Marriage was solemnized between us, Archibald James Murray St Clair in the Presence of us, Violet Frances Kennedy.							

Rev. Canon R. Kennedy
Margaret Sinclair
John Kennedy

Marriage Certificate of A J M St Clair and Violet Frances Kennedy

Inscription 464 – Stokes

by Thais Poyo-Gonzalez

Alfred Stokes

1860-1931

Alfred was born on 14 October 1860, the son of John Stokes and Henrietta de Villiers Maynard, in Galatz, Roumania. He became a British Subject, and was a career Army Officer, rising to the rank of Brigadier General.

Margaret Dunbar Laing

1868-1957

Margaret was born on 9 January 1868, the daughter of James Laing and Theresa Talbot Peacock, at Sunderland, County Durham.

When Margaret Dunbar Laing was born on 9 January 1868, in Bishopwearmouth, Durham, England, United Kingdom, her father, James Laing, was 45 and her mother, Theresa Talbot Peacock, was 36. She married Alfred Stokes on 11 August 1891, in Ford, Northumberland, England, United Kingdom.

Marriage

1891

Alfred Stokes

Margaret Dunbar Laing

Ford, Northumberland

1891 3Q Glendale 10b 619

1901 Census	RG13-564	1 April 1901	Woolwich, London		
59 Woolwich Common					
Alfred Stokes	Age 30	Major in Army	Galatz	Roumania	14 Oct 1860
Margaret D. (Wife)	Age 23		Sunderland	Durham	9 Jan 1868
Letitia E. Cameron (Visitor)	Age 36		Durham	East Indies	abt 1864
Plus 2 Servants					

She lived in Ford, Northumberland, England, United Kingdom in 1891. She died on 12 September 1957, in Eastbourne, Sussex, England, United Kingdom, at the age of 89.

Not identified any children.

STOKES, ALFRED, Major, was born 14 October 1860, son of Lieutenant General Sir John Stokes, KCB, of Ewell, Surrey, and Henrietta Georgina de Villiers (who died in 1893), second daughter of Charles Maynard, of Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope. He was educated at Cheltenham, and joined the Royal Artillery, as a Lieutenant, 18 February 1880, serving in South Africa in 1881; in the Bechuanaland Expedition 23 December 1884 to 12 March 1885, and was honourably mentioned in Despatches. He became Captain 25 April 1888, and Major 25 December 1897. Major Stokes served in the South African War from 1899 to 1900; was present at the Relief of Ladysmith, including the operations of 17 to 24 January 1900, and action of Spion Kop; operations of 5 to 7 February 1900, and action at Vaal Kranz; operations on Tugela Heights 14 to 27 February 1900, and action at Pieter's Hill; operations in the Transvaal, May and June 1900; operations in the Transvaal, west of Pretoria, July to 29 November 1900; operations in Cape Colony, north of Orange River, including action at Ruidam.

He was mentioned in Despatches [London Gazette, 8 February 1901]; received the Queen's Medal with five clasps, and was created a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order [London Gazette, 19 April 1901]: "Alfred Stokes, Major, Royal Artillery. In recognition of services during the recent operations in South Africa". The Insignia were presented by the King 3 June 1901. He became Lieutenant Colonel 14 November 1905; was given the Brevet of Colonel 14 November 1908, and was promoted to Colonel 14 November 1910. Colonel Stokes was Temporary Brigadier General, commanding Royal Artillery in India, from 22 December 1911, and served in the European War from 1914; was mentioned in Despatches, and created a CB in 1915, and a CMG in 1916. He retired from the Staff 2 September 1918, with the rank of Brigadier General. Brigadier General Stokes married, in 1891, Margaret Dunbar, daughter of Sir James Laing, of Etal Manor, Northumberland.

Source: DSO recipients (VC and DSO Book)

Inscription 482 – McLeod

by Pat Swiatek

Sir James McIver McLeod K.B.E., C.M.G

Diplomat British Consul in Tunisia

Born 25 April 1866 131 Hill Street East, Glasgow to William Lorimer McLeod and Bridget McGowan McIver

Died 6 November 1944 at 22 George Street, Edinburgh (family home of second wife)

His siblings were Mary Kerr McLeod, Ann McNaughton McLeod and John McLeod

First wife was **Elizabeth Agnes Brown** from Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire and they had two daughters by this marriage : Margaret Dewar McLeod and Joanna Agnes McLeod, both were born in Morocco

First wife died in 1929 in Fez, Morocco where the family were in residence as the British Consul

He then married **May (or Mary) Elizabeth Bradfute Christian-Ritchie Scott** – no children from this marriage

He retired from the Consular service in 1930

His eldest daughter Margaret married an Australian diplomat and travelled the world with him.

The first family travelled to Valparaíso, Chile where they lived for a number of years in the Consulate

William Lorimer McLeod (24/9/1841) his father was born in Kilpatrick Fleming, Dumfriesshire and his mother **Bridget McGowan McIver** (29/7/1839) was born in Sanquhar, Dumfriesshire and were not of wealthy people, he was a Clerk in trade but is later listed as a West African Merchant. She is listed as being a Milliner before her marriage. They moved to the Glasgow area when married and remained in that location. She is reported to have died in Fez, Morocco

James McLeod's siblings were Mary Kerr McLeod, Ann McNaughton McLeod and John McLeod.

His parental grandfather was **James McLeod** who was born in Durisdeer, Dumfriesshire and lived in that area and his children were also born in that area. He appears to have moved to the Glasgow area where he worked as a Furnaceman (Steel industry??) and this eventually caused his death of an extensive burn to the head. His grandmother was **Ann McNaughton** or McNaught who was from Symington in Ayrshire and they married in Irvine.

His maternal grandfather was **John McIver** who came from Sanquhar and died there. His grandmother was **Mary Kerr** who was from Kirkconnell. She died in a home? In Holytown, Lanarkshire

All his ancestors from farther back than this were ordinary working people most of whom came from the very south of Scotland, lived and died there.

Great Grandparents

William McLeod and Janet Lorimer

James McNaught and Margaret Dickie

Charles McIver and Bridget McGowan

John Kerr and Jane Broadfoot



Inscription 482 located within Kells Church

A lot of these surnames are continued as middle names in the family throughout the years.

His second wife May was the daughter of the Manse, her father was Rev. David Scott. Her mother Elizabeth Ritchie was also a daughter of the Manse her father being The Rev Dr George Ritchie who was Moderator of the General Assembly of Scotland. His father was The Rev John Ritchie D.D.

Examples of Travel Documentation:

New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957

Record Index

Name: James Maciver Macleod
Gender: Male
Ethnicity/ Nationality: Scottish (Scottish)
Marital Status: Married
Age: 53
Birth Date: 1866
Birth Place: Scotland
Other Birth Place: Glasgow, Scotland
Last Known Residence: London, England
Place of Origin:
Departure Port: Liverpool, England
Destination:
Arrival Date: 22 May 1919
Arrival Port: New York, New York, USA
Final Destination: Valparaise, Chile
Years in US:
Citizenship Intention:
Height: 5 Feet, 5 1/2 Inches
Hair Color: Gray
Eye Color: Blue
Complexion: Fresh
Identifying Marks: Birthmark on Left Thigh
Health Condition:
Disability Condition:
Polygamist:
Employment Details:
Money in Possession:
Prison or Institution:
Person in Old Country: Mrs. W. Brown
Person in Old Country Residence: Renfrewshire, Scotland
Ship Name: Mexico
Airline:
Flight Number:
Ship Name:

Name of Ship CONFE

-4-

Date of Departure 6th January, 1932. 19

Seamship Line P&O.S.N. Company.

Where Bound YOKOHAMA

NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF **BRITISH** PASSENGERS EMBARKED AT THE PORT OF LONDON

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)						(8)						(9)
Contract Ticket No.	NAMES OF PASSENGERS	Last Address in the United Kingdom	CLASS (whether 1st, 2nd, or 3rd)	Port at which Passengers have contracted to land	Profession, Occupation, or Calling of Passengers	AGES OF PASSENGERS						Country of Last Permanent Residence*						Country of Intended Future Permanent Residence*
						Adults of 12 years and upwards		Children between 1 and 12		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
						Males	Females	Males	Females									
	FARROW Thomas	3, Radnor Bridge Cges Folkestone	2	Gibraltar	Retired			66					1				England	
	FISHER Arthur	48, Rupert Rd. Sheffield	2	HongKong	Engineer			24					1				H.K.	
	GOBE Francis	Drenkstone Lodge.	1	Gibraltar	Nil	59							1				England	
	Mary	Bury St. Edmunds	1	"	"			39					1				"	
	GRIST Margaret	3, Woodfield Rd. W.5.	1	HongKong	Nil			30					1				"	
	Zeta	"	1	"	"			50					1				"	
	GERRARD George	C/o Thorburn, 25, Belleisle	2	"	Buyer	42							1				H.K.	
	Helena	St. Glasgow. S.2.	2	"	Nil	35							1				"	
	GREENWAY Keith	32, St. Mary Ave. E.C.3.	1	Aden	Chd. Acct.			25					1				England	
	GREENFIELD Helen	15, Atholl Crescent. Edinburgh	2	Bombay	Missionary			45					1				India	
	GILES Albert	61, Broadwalk, St. Woodford	2	Singapore	Tailors Cutter			49					1				S.S.	
	HADEKES Henry	27, Maxwell Ave. N.10.	2	Marseilles	Nil			52					1				England	
	HEMP Wilfred	Minshull, High Wycombe	2	Gibraltar	Civil Servant			50					1				"	
	HIBBS Evelyn	19, Seven Rd. Rugby	2	Port Said	Nurse			31					1				"	
	HOOD William	Linhead, Co. path. Berwick	2	HongKong	Mariner			29					1				China	
	HOWISON David	87, R. Howison E. Wemyss	2	MangaBomby	Manager	46										1	India	
	Freda	Fife	2	"	Nil	40										1	"	
	HAYES Thomas	4, Pollard Lane. Leeds	2	"	Tanner			44					1				"	
	HEADLAM Edward	Crucknole Hse. Hamwood	1	"	Captain			59					1				England	
	JUDGE Thomas	Shrewsbury 143, Darlington St. Wigan	2	Bombay	Engineer			43					1				India	
	JACKSON James	213, Dill Hall Lane.	2	Shanghai	Printer			57					1				China	
	Robert	Church. Lancashire	2	"	Nil			15					1				"	
	KITLEY Lillian	Emmanuel Vicarage, Hastings	2	HongKong	Missionary			27					1				"	
	KENDALL Iris	Camarg. Warwick's Beach	1	Malta	Nil			25					1				England	
	KENWOOD Henry	Outfield 129, Queens Rd. N.4.	1	Gibraltar	Physician	70							1				"	
	Rose	"	1	"	Nil	61							1				"	
	KIMPATRICK Ivone	Loughton Espek. 1	2	Malta	Col.			72					1				"	
	Frederick	25, Portland Pl. W.1.	2	"	Lt. Col.			34					1				"	
	KINLOCH Janet	Green Braes, Westwood Ho	2	Gibraltar	Nil			53					1				"	
	LeGROS John	Dippenhall Cottage. Farnham	1	Yokohama	Barriater	66							1				"	
	Edith	"	1	"	Nil			54					1				"	
	PECK Kathleen	"	2	"	Nurse			30					1				"	
	LEITCH Donald	Bell, 6, Hotspur St. Glasgow	2	Bombay	Erector Foreman	33							1				India	
	Nottie	"	2	"	Nil	32							1				"	
	LITTLE Kathleen	Exley Hse. Littlehampton	2	Gibraltar	Nil			26					1				England	
	LANGSTON Rita	205, Amesbury Ave. S.W.	1	HongKong	Nil								1				"	
	MACKEITH Marjorie	Honey Shaw, Westerham	1	"	"			33					1				China	
	MACGREGOR Dorothy	9, St. Cross Rd. Oxford	2	Gibraltar	"			41					1				England	
	McINTOSH George	121, Ellangowan Dr. Dundee	2	Bombay	Foreman	44							1				"	
	MORRIS Lily	32, Elder Rd. W. Norwood	1	HongKong	Retired			57					1				H.K.	
	MacLEOD James	10, Vineyard Hill Rd.	1	Tangier	Retired			66					1				Scotland	
	Joanna	S.W.19.	1	"	Nil			20					1				"	

C. No. 440a.

27

5

9

10294

1029

By permanent residence is to be understood residence for a year or more. Northern Ireland and Irish Free State are to be regarded as separate Countries.

872110

*

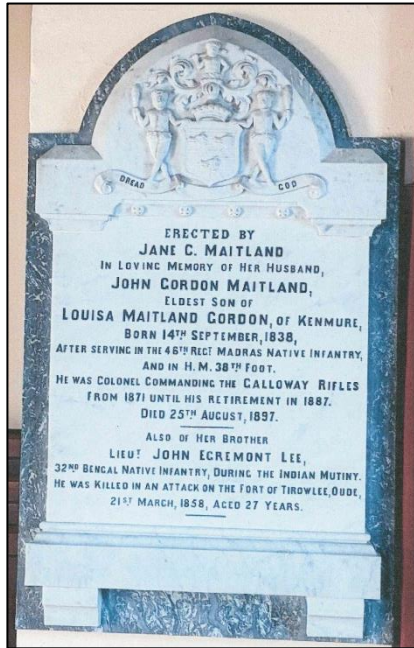
C. No. 440a.

1st Class Travel! to Tangier

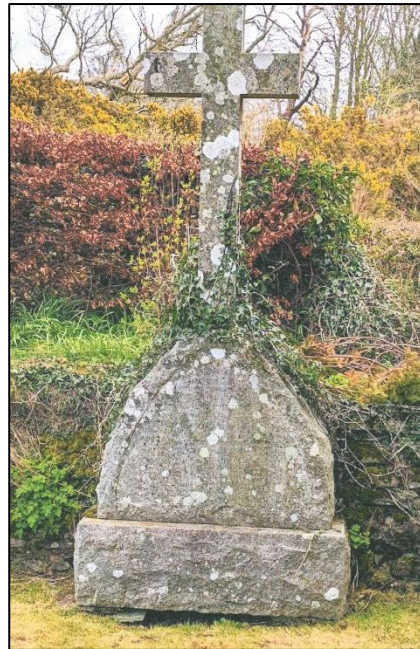
Inscription 484 – Maitland

by Keith Hamblin

[Inside Church] Erected by Jan C MAITLAND in Loving Memory of Her Husband John GORDON MAITLAND, eldest Son of Louisa MAITLAND GORDON of Kenmure, Born 14th September 1838, after serving in the 46th Reg't Madras Native Infantry and in H. M. 30th foot, He was Colonel Commanding the Galloway Rifles from 1871 until his retirement in 1887. Died 25th August 1897. Also of her brother – Lieu't John EGREMONT LEE 32nd Bengal Native Infantry during the Indian Mutiny. He was killed in an attack on the Fort of Tirowlee, Oude, 21st March 1858 aged 27 years.



Inscription 484 - erected inside Kells church at first floor height, in perfect condition



External memorial (No. 17) to John and Jane Gordon Maitland



Showing position of Inscription 484 above first floor pews

James Maitland (minister)

James Maitland (1797–1872) was a minister of the Church of Scotland, who served as Moderator of the General Assembly in 1860.

Contents

[Life](#)
[Family](#)
[Publications](#)
[References](#)

Life

He was born in the manse at Minnigaff on 18 October 1797 the son of John Garlies Maitland of Fairgirth, minister of the parish. He studied at Edinburgh University and was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Wigtown in January 1822.^[1]

From 1822 to 1825 he assisted Andrew Brown at the Old Kirk of St Giles in Edinburgh. In November 1825 he was presented by the crown to the congregation of Kells in Dumfriesshire and was formally ordained there in September 1826. In March 1852 Glasgow University awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity.^[2]

In 1860 he succeeded John Cook as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland the highest position in the Scottish Church. He was succeeded in turn by Colin Smith.^[3]

He died on 21 September 1872 and was succeeded by Thomas Nicol who served as Moderator in 1914..^[4]

Family

In October 1826 he married Jessie Norval daughter of Corby Swindell Norval of Boghall near Linlithgow. Their children included:

- Katherine Margaret Maitland (1828-1856) married Dr Elliot Voyle Davies
- Garlies Corby Maitland (1830-1860)
- Charlotte Hope Maitland (1831-1852)
- Jessie Norval Maitland (1832-1835)
- Margaret Scott Maitland (1833-1860) married George Hamilton, Steward-Clerk of Kirkcudbright

Jessie died in August 1835 and in September 1837 Maitland married Louisa Bellamy (c.1815-1899) daughter of Charles Bellamy HEICS and his wife Louisa Gordon heiress of Adam Gordon, Viscount Kenmure (inheriting Kenmure Castle). Their children included:

- Col John Gordon Maitland (1838-1897) Colonel in Chief of the Galloway Rifles^[5]
 - Frances Mary (b.1842)
 - Eleanor Forbes (b.1845)
 - Jane Agnes (b.1847)
 - James Charles Maitland of Kenmure (1850-1915)
 - Norval Falconer Maitland (b.1851)
 - Louis Herbert Maitland (b.1854)

H.M. 38th Foot:

It is likely that John Gordon Maitland served with them during the expedition against the Black Mountain tribes in 1868 prior to taking up command of the Galloway Rifles in 1871.



Kells Church

Information on the background of the Galloway Rifles including the uniform format at the time of John Gordon Maitland. He was Colonel commanding between 1871 and 1887:

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THE GALLOWAY VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS. (KIRKCUDBRIGHT AND WIGTOWN.)

Regimental District, No. 25.

(PLATE XIX.)

"SOUTH AFRICA, 1900-02." | ORDER OF PRECEDENCE, 202.

Honorary Colonel—J. M. KENNEDY, M.V.O., V.D. (hon. col.), October 13, 1906.

Headquarters—MAXWELLTOWN.

THE Galloway Administrative Battalion of Rifle Volunteers was formed on June 30, 1860, with headquarters at Newton-Stewart, and to it, then or on their subsequent date of formation, were attached the following corps:—

- 1st Kirkcudbright R.V., Kirkcudbright, formed March 2, 1860, as one company. Uniform—steel grey, with green facings.
- 2nd Kirkcudbright R.V., Castle-Douglas, formed March 2, 1860, as one company.
- 3rd Kirkcudbright R.V., New Galloway, formed March 28, 1860, as one company.
- 4th Kirkcudbright R.V., Gatehouse, formed May 19, 1860, as a subdivision, disbanded in 1866.
- 5th Kirkcudbright R.V., Maxwelltown, formed June 1, 1860, as one company, increased to one and a-half companies in 1865 and to two companies in 1880.
- 6th Kirkcudbright R.V., Dalbeattie, formed June 23, 1869, as one company.
- 1st Wigtown R.V., Wigtown, formed February 24, 1860, as a subdivision, incorporated as a section in the 3rd Corps in 1874.
- 2nd Wigtown R.V., Stranraer, formed March 16, 1860, as one company.
- 3rd Wigtown R.V., Newton-Stewart, formed March 21, 1860, as one company.

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4th Wigtown R.V., Whithorn, formed April 11, 1860, as a subdivision, disbanded in 1874.

5th Wigtown R.V., Drumore, formed November 23, 1860, as a subdivision, disbanded in 1866.

The original uniforms of the corps were steel or dark grey, and varied greatly, not only between corps, but also in the corps from year to year, one company appearing one year with plumes of cock's feathers and the next with shakos of Highland Light Infantry pattern, &c.

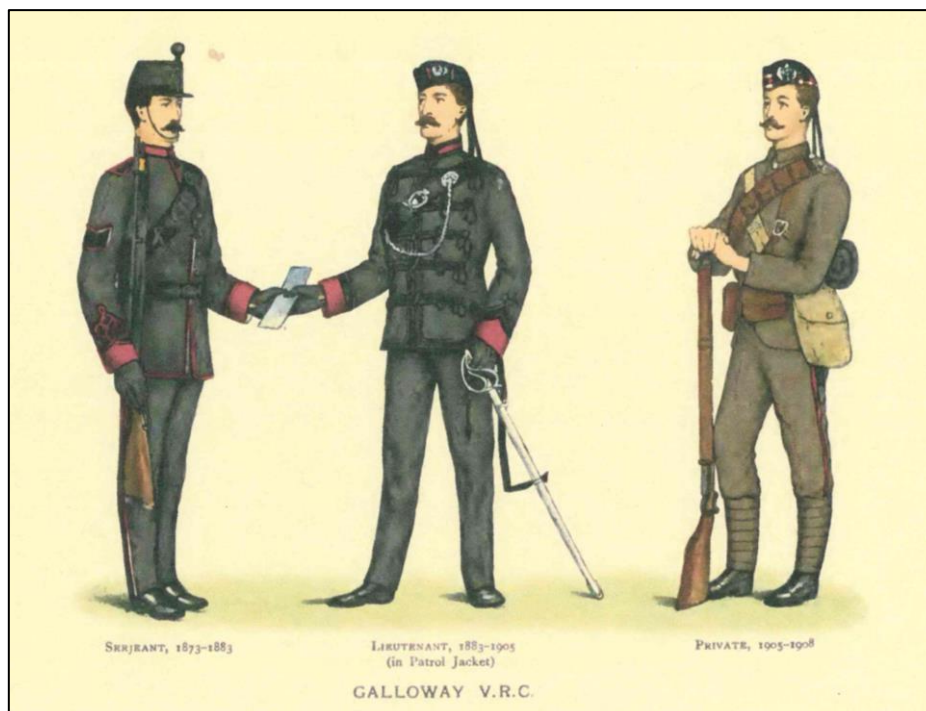
Uniformity was first attained on December 5, 1873, when the whole battalion was clothed in dark grey tunics and trousers, with scarlet cuffs, collars, piping, and Austrian knot (latter with black tracing all round), dark grey shakos with black ball-tuft, and black belts.

On May 9, 1883, the shako was replaced by a plain blue glengarry, but otherwise the 1873 uniform (which remained till 1908 the regulation for officers in full dress) was worn down to May 19, 1905, when drab service dress with scarlet piping on the trousers, drab putties, blue glengarry with regimental badge and red, white, and blue diced border, and brown leather equipment with bandolier, became the sole dress of the battalion.

In June 1880 the battalion was consolidated under the title of the Galloway Rifle Volunteer Corps, with headquarters at Newton-Stewart, and 8 companies, lettered as follows:—

- | | |
|--|--|
| A, Kirkcudbright (late 1st K.R.V.) | E, New Galloway (late 3rd K.R.V.) |
| B, Castle-Douglas (late 2nd K.R.V.) | F and G, Maxwelltown (late 5th K.R.V.) |
| C, Stranraer (late 2nd W.R.V.) | H, Dalbeattie (late 6th K.R.V.) |
| D, Newton-Stewart, detachments at Wigtown and Creetown (late 3rd and 1st W.R.V.) | |

On March 21, 1885, headquarters were transferred to Castle-Douglas, and in 1899, by Army Order 65, the battalion was removed from the 21st (Royal Scots



Inscriptions x 18 – Johnston / Johnstone

by Murray Johnston

The Johnstons of Kells: millers, doctors, carpenters and farmers.

In the southeast section of Kells churchyard there are eleven monuments standing in two parallel rows, one beside the other, all featuring Johnstons (often interchangeably spelt Johnstone). Another seven Johnston/e monuments dated later but relating to the eleven stand scattered around the churchyard. Some of these Kells inhabitants lived in New Galloway and others resided on farms in the parish. The Johnstons recorded on these 18 monuments fall into three families, related either through descent or by the glue of marriage with the Martins; a proposition strongly supported by the close proximity of the eleven stones, among other factors.



South east section of Kells churchyard. (MI#s from 2015 booklet.)

Part A: The Johnstons of New Galloway MI #s 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 389

Johnston family 1: For many years, New Galloway supported a corn mill located at the bottom of High Street near the burn and what is now Mill House. David Johnston of New Galloway was the miller in 1795 when he contributed 10/6d towards the building of the Ken Bridge. Because he owned two horses, the same miller also paid the horse tax in 1797. A year later David Johnston contributed to the Patriotic Fund, raised for the suppression of an Irish rebellion. When the corn mill was established is unknown, but the *Caledonian Mercury* gives witness to “a good corn mill and public house at the Bridge of Ken” in 1780. Given the importance of mills in rural life at the time, let alone the pub, the mill likely existed for many decades before the late 18th century.



Example of a Corn Mill; New Abbey, KKD.
(photo by Chris Andrews)

David Johnston and Agnes McNaught had a family of five children in Kells. The couple died and were buried in the churchyard in 1808 and 1839, respectively, as recorded on monument #285. David's parents were Robert Johnston and Margaret Shenan. She was likely a native of Tongland where they were married in 1740. He may have been the Robert Johnston who at Kirkpatrick Juxta in 1750 and early 1753 had baptised children Mary and David, among others. Robert Johnston and Margaret died resp. 1777 and 1781 in Kells as recorded on monument #286.



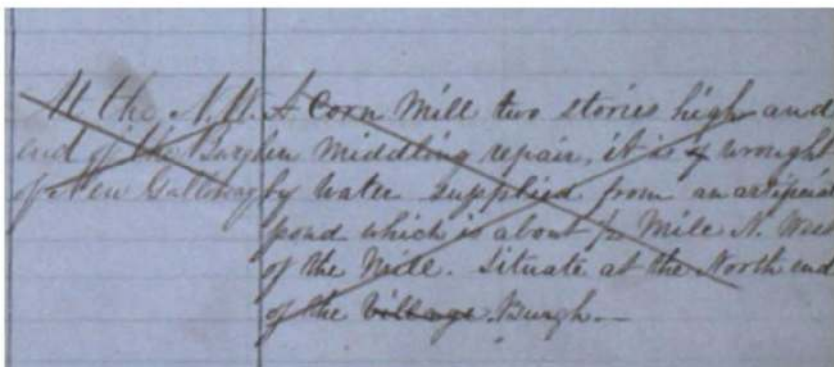
A sister of David Johnston, and daughter of Robert and Margaret, about 1775 married a Mr. Martin, and in 1778 they produced a son, Samuel, nephew to David Johnston. Samuel Martin became the miller of New Galloway after David Johnston died. He is recorded as the miller in 1837 and again in 1841 when he lived at No. 1 High Street, New Galloway, occupying the home now known as Mill House. Samuel Martin died unmarried in 1847, remembered on monument #285 in Kells churchyard.

No. 1 High St (Mill House), New Galloway.

Last house on right, with two windows one above the other.

(Photo from "The Ken Valley" by Jack Hunter, published 2001)

Evidently, Samuel's mill died with him. Beginning about 1848, officers of the Ordnance Survey gathered information on place names throughout Scotland. In Kells, the officers initially included the mill at New Galloway, but in the end crossed out the entry, presumably because the mill had



Description of the Mill in New Galloway.
Ordnance Survey Name Books: Ref OS1/20/55/19

become defunct and was therefore no longer an ongoing or valid "place". Nonetheless, the surveyors' effort affords a description ... including that this was a corn mill of two stories height, and the water to wrought (or drive) the mill came via the mill lade (or channel) supplied from an artificial pond about half a mile northwest of the mill itself.

The miller Samuel had a brother, Robert Martin, who married Janet Johnston (linking *Johnston family 3*, see below), born about 1772, and they had seven children. Robert, Janet and all their children were buried in Kells churchyard, commemorated by monument #284, right next to the monuments already mentioned. Their youngest child, Janet ("Jenny") Martin, in 1833 married William Johnstone (linking *Johnston family 2*, see below) who hailed from, by that time, Kirkpatrick Durham. But what of David Johnston's family?

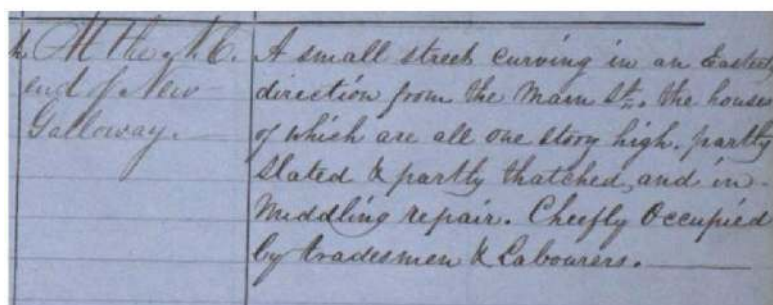
Of David Johnston's five children, two died young (both recorded on monument #285). His fifth and youngest child was Agnes, unmarried and living with Samuel Martin, the miller, at the time of the 1841 census. Two sons, Robert and William Johnston, were both doctors. Both practiced medicine in Yorkshire, both died young, in 1833 and 1828, and both are remembered on monument #285. Robert qualified as a doctor in 1815 and practiced in Ossett, Yorkshire. He married Isabella Mitchell, nee Biggar, and had 8 children in Ossett, one

of whom, James, was also a doctor, serving as Fleet Surgeon in the Royal Navy. William Johnston practiced medicine in Dewsbury, near Ossett, where he died aged only 30. While William was buried at Ossett, Robert died at Summerhill House in Urr.

Dumfries and Galloway Courier, 12th March 1833, DEATHS: On the 8th instant, at Summerhill, Haugh of Urr, where he had gone for the recovery of his health, Robert Johnstone, Esq. surgeon, Ossett, Yorkshire. Mr Johnstone was much and justly respected; and his death is deeply deplored, especially by the poor to whom for sixteen years he was a bountiful benefactor.

Johnston family 2: Jenny Martin married William Johnston in October 1833 at Kells church. William's parents were William Johnston and Janet McMinnies, farmers of Little Marwhirn in Kirkpatrick Durham. Beforehand, this Johnston family originated in the Glenkens parish of Balmacellan. (This William of Little Marwhirn is not known to be related to the William Johnston of the Marwhirn estates, also in Kirkpatrick Durham, who was the father of William Johnston, merchant, of Kirkcudbright.) William was born 1809, one of five children. His father died in 1842 at Kirkpatrick Durham, just late enough to be a beneficiary in the extraordinary estate of his relative, Professor William McTurk of Glasgow. This enigmatic Professor left a much greater amount of money to his larger-than-expected number of cousins than the sum of cash available in the estate, and accordingly beneficiaries received only one third of the £100 bequest left to each of them.

William Johnston had moved to New Galloway before his father died. There, he became a carpenter, commonly referred to as a joiner journeyman. William and Jenny had seven children, although unfortunately many of them died at a young age and the only Johnston (or Johnstone) grandchildren left after them were the descendants of their sole surviving son, Robert.



Description of Morningside in New Galloway
Ordnance Survey Name Books: Ref OS1/20/55/19

William Johnston's legacy was his trade – a master joiner. In 1841 and 1851 he resided in New Galloway as a joiner on Morningside Street, where many tradesmen lived. In 1856, William was the witness to his aunt Jean/Jane Dunn's death and as the local joiner he also buried her, thereby combining the trade of undertaker with that of carpentry.

William also appears as valuator of furniture and other such personal effects for inventories in various testimonial proceedings, e.g., for John Shaw Alexander in 1848.

After he moved sometime in the 1850s, William's home in New Galloway was now on High Street which he shared with his son, Robert, eventually also a carpenter. Another of William's sons, John, had moved away to Wigtown and married, where he was, of course, a carpenter. Unfortunately, John died in 1867 of consumption (tuberculosis). Again in 1881, William and his son, Robert, are joiners living on High Street. William Johnstone, master joiner, died at the age of 77 in New Galloway of gangrene of the foot, and was buried at Kells churchyard, as told by monument #283. Robert Johnston, William's aforementioned son, and Robert's wife Grace McGill were also buried at Kells according to monument #281. And #282 records the demise of two of William's sons, William and Robert, both of whom died under the age of seven.

Robert Johnstone was William's only surviving son. His two youngest daughters, Margaret and Janet, moved to and lived and died in the Birmingham area although both are buried at Kells churchyard, remembered by monument #389. Robert's eldest and youngest sons, William Martin Johnstone and James McGill Johnstone, continued the family joinery business until after WWII when they retired. By then, Johnstone/e joiners had been a constant presence in New Galloway for well over a century. James never married and died in 1955 in New Galloway, and was buried with his parents per monument #281. William married Alice Milligan of nearby Corsock and the pair are buried at Kells new churchyard. They had two children, Margaret and Robert. Robert Johnstone broke with family tradition and operated a farm near New Galloway all his life.

In a conversation with the author, farmer Robert recalls that his Johnstone family came from Kirkpatrick Durham, and noted that the Johnstone joiners often were also undertakers. Robert recollects that he and others of the family were born at the joinery home on the main street of New Galloway. He also reminisces that there was a mill at the present location of the tea room at the lower end of the main street convenient to the burn. Robert noted that in 1904 his grandfather Robert built the Episcopal church of New Galloway for £512 and that he was on the town council and held the position of town clerk.

A brother of the carpenter, William Johnstone of New Galloway, was Robert Johnstone, a slater journeyman of Kirkpatrick Durham, where the brothers' parents William Johnston and Janet McMinnies lived. One of Robert's grandsons was also named Robert, who became a policeman in Glasgow. At the age of 41, and at the rank of Inspector, he made national news in 1921 while escorting under armed guard a ranking officer of the IRA to Glasgow's Duke Street Prison. Inspector Robert Johnston was shot and killed by attacking IRA gunmen in a failed rescue attempt. He was given a hero's funeral and is recorded on the National Officers Roll of Honour for policemen killed in the line of duty.

Part B: The Johnston farmers of Kells MI #s 6, 21, 157, 238, 247, 279, 290, 310, 311, 312, 313

Johnston Family 3: This Johnston family originated in Dumfriesshire but settled in Kells about 1789 and lived mainly as sheep farmers in the Glenkens. Much information about the origins of the family were later recorded by a descendant whose Johnston grandfather emigrated to the USA (see below). This family of farmers in Kells initially farmed at Tweedshaws in Peeblesshire, just across the boundary from Dumfriesshire. John Johnston married Agnes Proudfoot in 1764 at Kirkpatrick Juxta, possibly his place of birth. This John died in 1808 in the same parish leaving, as far as is known, eight children, including one apparently born of an illicit relationship in Hutton.

Several of the children originated at a farm called Nether Fenton in the parish of Hutton, Dumfriesshire. Two of these were Robert and John, baptised in April 1769 and June 1772 respectively – their stories in Kells are told below. Another child was Janet Johnston for whom no baptismal record has been traced, but appears to be the same aforementioned Janet Johnston who married Robert Martin, linking Johnston families 1 and 3 (see above). The seventh was Margaret – she married John Simpson and made the same journey to America as one of her elder brothers. The youngest and eighth was Elizabeth Johnston. Never married, she lived at Stranfasket in 1841 with her widowed sister-in-law Janet Johnston, as well as her nephew and niece, Henry and Jean, farmer and housekeeper. Her stated place of birth was outside Kirkcudbrightshire, which is consistent with birth in Dumfriesshire, like her siblings. She was buried at Kells churchyard in April 1848 with a notation in the register, "old age, lungs gone, single, age 69", although apparently without a memorial stone. Accordingly, she would have been born in 1778 or 1779.

Robert Johnston, the third child, as a young man left Dumfriesshire and settled in the more remote northwest corner of the parish of Kells in or before 1789 on the farm known as Bush, which included "Bush Hill". His wife was Janet Brown, and the baptisms of their first seven children at Bush are easily found in the church register.

While residing at Bush in 1798, Robert Johnston paid Taxes for his house and windows amounting to 2/6. About 1801, Robert left Bush and was a Drover at Halfmark in Carsphairn, where his eighth child Henry was born in 1802. By 1804 he had commenced farming at Stranfasket in Kells,



Stranfasket, Kells parish
(photo c 1997)

where his last four children were baptised. Stranfasket was an extensive farm of 1,060 (Scots) acres, including 70 arable, with a substantial "farmhouse and outhouses slated and in good repair". Robert was a reputable sheep dealer, which gave him considerable familiarity with most sheep farms and farmers in Kells and the surrounding area. He died in August 1834 in Edinburgh, as recorded on monument #310, probably while attending the annual sheep markets held in Edinburgh from that time. His wife, Janet, remained at Stranfasket in Kells and died there in 1850, in the 81st year of her age, an event recorded by the Dumfries Courier as well as on Kells monument #310.

Janet and Robert's 12 children included: two daughters who died young (both on monument #310), a son who died in Jamaica aged 24 (monument #310), one son, Henry, who took over the farm Stranfasket and remained unmarried (monument #310), and a daughter who was housekeeper for her brother Henry and died unmarried (monument #310). Two more daughters married well, into the Anderson and Alexander families, and were buried with them. The newspaper announcement (below) of the Alexander marriage indicates the high regard with which Robert Johnston was held – "Captain" likely reflecting an honorary title, or a post in the local Militia.

19th February 1833, Dumfries & Galloway Courier, MARRIAGES:

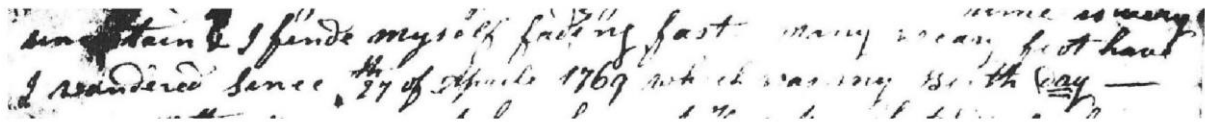
At Stranfasket, on the 5th instant, by the Rev. James Maitland, Kells, James Alexander, Esq., younger of Glenhone, to Elisabeth, daughter of Capt. Robert Johnstone, Stranfasket.

Three more children moved to Otley in Yorkshire, as had several of their relatives, two of whom are remembered on monument #310. And two children who at least initially ventured into the new world of America, specifically, upstate New York. One of the latter pair, Nancy (aka Agnes), travelled to New York following her brother but returned in 1825, when a year later she married John Sinclair of Trochiehouse in Kells and died there in 1844, as recorded on monument #238. Nancy wrote a fascinating account of her journeys in New York State. The other of the latter pair was John ...

John Johnston, eldest son of Robert, married Margaret Alexander (daughter of John Shaw Alexander of Glenhoul) in 1818 at Balmacellan. Only three years later, John sailed away to the USA, landing at New York City. In May of 1821, John, on behalf of himself and his wife Margaret and two young children, renounced allegiance to the King of Great Britain and resolved his intention to become a citizen of the USA. John left the City of New York and purchased a farm in rural Fayette, southeast of the town of Geneva and overlooking Seneca Lake, in northern New York State, just south of Lake Ontario. John selected the farm at Seneca upon the advice of (yet another) John Johnston, a merchant of New York City, a cousin, related not on the Johnston side, but through their mutual Proudfoot grandmothers. A year after John, his wife and two children embarked upon the perilous

journey on the brig Thompson from Glasgow to upper New York State, arriving via Montreal. John Johnston and family was enumerated in the 1830 census of the USA, at Fayette, Seneca County.

Late in his life, from his home in Stranfasket in Kells, Robert Johnston wrote a long and detailed letter dated December 1833 to his son, John, in Geneva, New York State. Among discussions of local events and many farming matters, he mentioned his birth date, 27 April 1769.

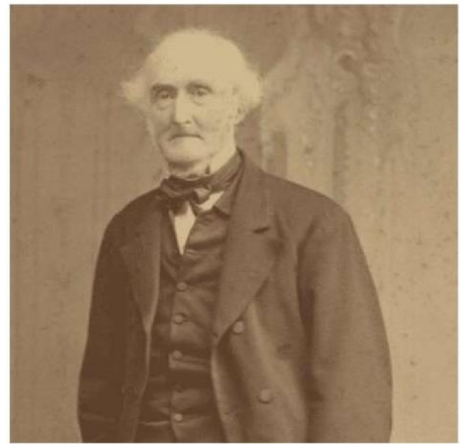


... time is lacking uncertain & I finde myself fading fast. Many weary foot have I wandered since 27th of Aprile 1769 which was my Birth Day.

Extract from letter by Robert Johnston, held by the Geneva Historical Society.

"... time is lacking uncertain & I finde myself fading fast. Many weary foot have I wandered since 27th of Aprile 1769 which was my Birth Day."

John quickly realised that the wet fields and underground springs on his farm in upstate New York caused problems with planting and frozen wheat crops. John recalled his father and grandfather back in the Glenkens speaking of fired clay drain tiles buried underground. The tiles created channels allowing excess water to flow downward and out to a lake or stream. At first his neighbours ridiculed him. But John persisted and had two examples of the horseshoe-shaped tiles sent to him from Scotland. By 1838 he installed on his farm the first batch of 3,000 tiles made in nearby Waterloo by a potter. The yield from that field increased ten-fold. Soon after, the first tile-making machine was imported into the USA from England and mass production began. Other than introducing tiles to the farms of America, John Johnston also recognized the value of recycling and spreading manure for fertilizer.



John Johnston
(picture from the Geneva
Historical Society)

John's only son, the little boy who had sailed over to America in 1822, died at his new home in July 1824 aged not quite 4 years old. Elizabeth, John and Margaret's daughter who had also travelled from Scotland, died in 1843 leaving two children. In 1854, Margaret Johnston, nee Alexander, died after being struck by a bolt of lightning when sheltering from a storm near a tree beside a gate. By 1877, John had retired and moved to the town of Geneva at the northern end of Seneca Lake. He died in 1880 leaving a family of five daughters, well-known as "the pioneer in tile draining in the United States". John's commercial success with tiles enabled him to not only repay the debt he had incurred in his early years in Seneca County for farm operations and to establish the tile business, but also leave significant assets for his family.

John Johnston, the fourth child of John Johnston of Tweedshaws (and younger brother of Robert Johnston the farmer and sheep dealer of Stranfasket), was a shepherd. This John Johnston settled in Kells soon after his elder brother – at a bothy called Back Hill of Bush, known as one of the most remote corners in Galloway, but near his brother at Bush. John married Ann Murray, born in Kirkcudbrightshire, about 1793, and their first five



Back Hill of Bush, Kells
(photo by Colin Kinnear)

children were born at the bothy. From about 1805, soon after his brother had vacated the farm known as Bush, John took up residence there, which is where his next four children were baptised. John died just one week shy of his 45th birthday at Camlarg, Dalmellington, Ayrshire, and his widow Ann died near southern Kells in Upper Dullarg, Parton. Their eighth child, a son, David, died at Bush aged only five months. The baby David and his parents are remembered on monument #312 in Kells churchyard, a stone next but one to John's brother, Robert.

Between the brothers in the churchyard is the memorial (#311) for David Johnston, the youngest son of John and Ann. Initially James lived at Dullarg, obviously with his widowed mother, but later lived in Troquhain, Balmaclellan as a gamekeeper where he died in 1886. His wife, Mary Milligan, is buried with him at Kells, as was a daughter, Jane, who died in infancy, and two unmarried daughters, Jane who lived to the age of 48 and Mary, who died aged 80, all recorded on monument #311.

John and Ann Johnston's seventh child was James. He was a shepherd, for some time at Gordonston in Dalry. He married Janet Wilson of Balmaclellan. Unfortunately, eight of the couple's children died either at birth or aged under 13 years; all are remembered on monument #313. Their remaining two children, Sarah and William, both married and lived elsewhere. James Johnston and Janet Wilson died in 1894 and 1855 respectively, and are buried in Kells churchyard, per monument #313, which is next to James's father, John.

The same John and Ann Johnston's second son was Robert, one of the several born at Back Hill of Bush. He was another of the family who was a shepherd. Robert married Barbara Grierson. Two of their seven children were John and Barbara, both of whom remained unmarried, he a shepherd and she a housekeeper. Robert, his wife Barbara, and the same two children were all buried in the churchyard, remembered by memorial #279, standing at the southern end of the two rows of Johnston monuments in the churchyard. Mary Johnston, John & Ann's eldest child, married William Chesney a shepherd of Laggan-of-Dee, another Kells farm. Mary and William died in 1913 and 1862, respectively, per monument #247. Jane, the next but youngest daughter married James McAdam, yet another farmer, lived at Knockreoch in Kells, although she died in Dalry in 1918 (monument #6).

The third child and second daughter of John Johnston and Ann Murray was Jane. She married William Bell of Balmaclellan, who died in 1859 aged 60. Jane died 25 years later at Ardoch, Dalry, aged 85, as noted on memorial #157 at Kells churchyard.

The eldest son of John and Ann Johnston was named, not surprisingly, John – he was one of the children baptised at Back Hill of Bush. He married Agnes McCourtie, the daughter of James McCourtie and Barbara Sloan – and it comes as no surprise that Agnes's parents are remembered on monument #289, right next to monument #290, which records the passing of John Johnston at Shaw in Parton and Agnes McCourtie in 1839 and 1881, respectively. After John died aged only 42, Agnes proved the inventory of John's estate amounting to £381 in farm stocks.

The births of three of John and Agnes's five children were recorded at the farm named Shaw in Parton, four of whom are known to have survived. Eldest was Barbara who lived much of her life in New Galloway and died unmarried in 1914 as recorded on monument #290. Next were the twins, John and Anne. John farmed the 550 acres of Knocksheen and died there in 1881 (monument #21), while Anne died in New Galloway a spinster (monument #290). The youngest was James – who must have been born right around the time his father died. James became a minister of the Church of Scotland, and has one of the shortest entries in *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, "James Johnstone, ordained 3rd April 1866, died 24th April 1867". Monument #290 informs us he was minister of Forgandenny, near Perth, although he died unmarried after a 10-week battle with Tuberculosis at the family home in Knocksheen.

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