



Moray & Nairn Family History Society

NEWSLETTER

Edition 32

February 2019

Welcome to the latest edition of the Moray & Nairn FHS Newsletter.

MNFHS Chairman's Report

Happy 10th Birthday!!

This month's edition is also the same month as the 10th birthday of the society – so firstly I would like to thank our founding members Bruce and Janet Bishop and Ken Nisbet who formed the Society way back in February 2009 and those members who have been with us all over the past 10 years and of course our current members thank you!, without your support the Society could not continue.

The Society will be attending the SAFHS Conference at Wick on the 27th April. The event will be held at the Pulteney Centre, Huddart Street, Wick and includes a visit to the new archives in Wick 'Nucleus: The Nuclear & Caithness Archive'.

This year the Society will continue with the recording of the next section of Nairn Cemetery, with over 2000 stones. So far well over half of the stones have been checked so we are well on to have this published later this year.

Also we have a new book – Botriphnie – all you could want – Baptisms & Communion Roll from the Free Church, details and newspaper extracts for the men on War Memorial and the parish Roll of Honour and Register of the Poor for 1854-1931.

As I often mention, I would welcome any comments for future publications or material that we can use in our newsletter or on our web page.

Stuart Farrell, Chairman

The next Newsletter will be published in July 2019. Will members please submit articles to the Editor: newsletter@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

MNFHS Publication

Available Now!

Botriphnie

Details of the names from the War Memorial and Roll of Honour with newspaper extracts etc; Free Church Baptisms 1843-1869 and Roll of Communicants 1846-1850; Poor Register of the Parish 1854-1931 giving details of payments, family, circumstances and even dates of death.

100 pages, ISBN - 978-1-909887-19-0

£9; Postage & Packing costs on application.

Special Offer! – Free Postage & Packing!

The Moray & Nairn Family History Society make the following offer to Members –

Free Postage & packing on all books for members only until the end of March.

This one time offer is part of our 10th birthday celebrations and is for a limited time only!

**SEE THE BOOKSHOP ON THE WEBSITE
FOR ALL TITLES AVAILABLE**

Contacts: Chairman: Stuart Farrell

Secretary: Mary Evans

Treasurer & Webmaster: Doug Stewart

Moray Miscellany

The Grants of Prospect Lodge Postscript

In the last newsletter I suggested that Helen Grant who is recorded as living at Prospect Lodge in 1841 was a sister of Alexander Grant.

Helen Grant (1753 – 8 Jan 1842) Death recorded in the *Inverness Journal* of 21 Jan 1842 of ‘At Prospect Lodge, Elgin, on the 8th instant, Miss Helen Grant, only surviving daughter of the late John Grant, Esq. Gallovie, in her 88th year.’

Got this wrong! The Grants of Grant book (page 503-504) shows family chart of John Grant of Gellovie with daughter Helen but no details given, but no son Alexander; also on the same page there is an Alexander Grant son of John Grant of Kinchirdie again no details given but this would indicate that Helen was likely the cousin of Alexander Grant.

Alexander’s daughter Jane Duff Grant’s will of 28 August 1866 (SC 26/38/10) left to her nephew James John Bremner a number of items of silver including spoons marked J. G which ‘belonged to Gartenbeg my dear Father’s Great Grandfather’ which indicates I have the right family!

However I feel there is more to the story of the Grants of Prospect Lodge still out there.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

Nairnshire Miscellany

Nairnshire Mirror Marriages 1851

Published fortnightly by Charles MacWatt with office in Church Street, and who resided in Douglas Lane, Nairn. The paper’s last issue was on the 11th of October 1854 and was absorbed into the *Nairnshire Telegraph*.

4 Jan 1851 - At Muirtown, Munloch, on the 27th ult., Mr **Daniel Urquhart**, Merchant, Avoch to **Isabella**, eldest daughter of Mr **George Sutherland**, Farmer.

4 Jan 1851 - At the Manse of Glenelg, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. John Macrae, Mr **John Lunan**, jun., Builder, Beolary to **Catherine**, second daughter of Mr **Alex MacDonald**, Scattisaig, Glenelg.

4 Jan 1851 - At Forres, on the 19th instant, by the Rev. Duncan Grant, **Robert McKissack**, Esq.

Farmer, Grangegreen to **Christina**, eldest daughter of **George Ross**, Esq. Merchant, Forres.

4 Jan 1851 - At All Souls Church, London, on the 17th inst., **Charles R. Macgregor**, Esq. eldest son of Sir **James Macgregor**, Bart. K.C.B. Director General of the Army Medical Department, to **Elizabeth Anne**, youngest daughter of Col. Sir **Robert Nickle**, K.H.

4 Jan 1851 - At Mills of Knockando, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. Alexander Rhind, Mr **William Walker**, Merchant, Elgin to **Elizabeth Robertson**, daughter of the late Mr **William Robertson**, Ballintomb.

18 Jan 1851 - At Ardersier, on the 16th curt., by the Rev. D Cameron of the Free Church, Mr **D. Bowie**, Farmer, Mosside of Rafford to **Elizabeth**, third daughter of Mr **Robert Long**, there.

18 Jan 1851 - At Ness House, Inverness on the 14th instant, by the Rev. James Mackay, of St. John’s Episcopal Chapel, **J. A. Fraser**, Esq., 93d Sutherland Highlanders to **Charlotte Hay**, eldest daughter of **John Mackenzie**, Esq.

18 Jan 1851 - At 20 Batchen Lane, Elgin, on the 9th inst., by the Rev. Mr Pringle, **James Davidson**, Esq., late of Ceylon, to **Ann**, fifth daughter of Mr **John Murdoch**, North Street, Forres.

18 Jan 1851 - At Marybro, on the 3d instant, **Wm Mackintosh**, Esq. Tacksman of Clethorps and Tullynuilt to **Ann**, eldest daughter of Mr **George Munro**, Land-Steward of the Hon. Mrs Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth.

18 Jan 1851 - At Horsley Street, Chapel, on the 7th inst., by the Rev. Mr Gorge, Mr **Wm MacDonald**, Newington, Walworth, London, to **Joanna Mackenzie**, eldest daughter of Mr **John Mackintosh**, Farmer, Easter Logie, Ardclach, Nairnshire and grand-daughter of the late Capt. **J. Mackie** of the 92d Highlanders.

1 Feb 1851 - At Buckie, on the 16th ult., by the Rev. Robert Shanks, of the Free Church, Mr **Wm Dick**, Coppersmith there, to **Ann**, daughter of Mr **Sinclair**, Mason, Cornhill of Park.

1 Feb 1851 - At Kilmorie, Isle of Skye, on the 23d ult., by the Rev. John Mackinnon of Strath, **Alex McDonald** Esq. Postmaster, Portree to **Christina**, second daughter of Mr **Donald MacDonald**, Tacksman of Kilmorie.

1 Feb 1851 - On the 14th ult., at Hove Church, near Brighton, by the Rev. W Kelly, Rector,

Captain **Farquhar**, R.N., only son of the late Rear-Admiral Sir **Arthur Farquhar**, K.C.B. to **Ellen**, eldest daughter of the late **Samuel Philip Rickman**, Esq.

15 Feb 1851 - At Nairn on the 14th instant, by the Rev. James Grant of the Established Church, Mr **Duncan Ross**, Vintner to **Margaret**, only daughter of Mr **George Cameron**, Blacksmith, Inverness.

15 Feb 1851 - At Ness Bank, Inverness, on the 31st ult., by the Rev. D. MacDonald, **John Wilson**, Esq. M.D. to **Jane McKay**, daughter of the late **George Sackville Sutherland**, Esq. of Uppat, Sutherlandshire.

15 Feb 1851 - At Nairn, on the 11th inst., by the Rev. Alexander Mackenzie of the Free Church, **William James**, Esq. Distiller, King Street, Aberdeen to **Christina**, eldest daughter of Mr **David Macintyre**, Plasterer.

15 Feb 1851 - At Nairn on the 6th instant, by the Rev. John Bisset of the United Presbyterian Church, Captain **James Shaw** of the "*Telegraph of Nairn*" to **Margaret**, only daughter of the late Mr **William Smith**, Builder.

1 Mar 1851 - At Udale on the 11th inst., by his brother, the Rev. **D. R. Munro**, Maryburgh, Mr **Finlay Munro**, Elgin to Mrs **Catherine Leith**, relict of the late **James Leith**, Esq. Orlig.

1 Mar 1851 - At Forres, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. A. L. Simpson, Mr **Aitken**, Musselburgh to **Margaret**, second daughter of **John Kynoch**, Esq. Provost of Forres.

1 Mar 1851 - On the 19th ult., at Carbeth House, Stirlingshire, **Robert Scott Moncrieff**, Esq. of Fossaway to **Mary Elizabeth**, daughter of the late **John Hamilton**, Esq. Receiver-General of the Customs for Scotland.

1 Mar 1851 - At Gretna Green, on the 18th ultimo, Mr **William Leavison**, of Slaggyford, aged seventeen to Miss **Mary Pratt**, aged fifty-five years, after a few hours courtship.

1 Mar 1851 - At Braemar, on the 11th ult., by the Rev. Mr Grant, Catholic clergyman, **Charles Duncan**, Keeper to his Royal Highness Prince Albert to **Jane**, only surviving daughter of the late **William Stuart**.

15 Mar 1851 - On the 6th instant, at Aberdeen, by the Rev. S. A. Walker, of St. Paul's, **Robert M. Bryson**, Lithographic Artist to **Eleanor Selina**

Prey, daughter of the late Mr **James Prey**, of the Aberdeen Hotel.

15 Mar 1851 - At Lossiemouth, on the 27th ult., Captain **James West**, of the schooner "Jessie" of Lossiemouth to **Margaret Reid**, eldest daughter of Mr **John Reid**, Shipowner, Branderburgh.

29 Mar 1851 - On the 26th instant, at Brodie House, Forres, by the Rev. S. Walker, **Henry Erskine Pattullo**, Esq. Bombay Fusiliers to **Maria**, third daughter of **E. H. Woodcock**, Esq. Madras Civil Service.

29 Mar 1851 - At Edinburgh, on the 20th instant, by the Rev. James McLetchie, of the High Church, **William Waterston**, Esq. Accountant, London to **Anne Gregory**, daughter of the late **David Buchanan**, Esq., of *The Edinburgh Evening Courant*.

12 Apr 1851 - At Forres on the 10th inst., by the Rev. A. L. Simpson, of the United Presbyterian Church, Mr **Alexander Fraser**, Merchant to **Mary**, only daughter of the late Mr **William Taylor**, Manufacturer, Forres.

12 Apr 1851 - At Burghead, on the 10th instant, by the Rev. David Waters, of the Free Church, Mr **James Bowie**, Merchant, Forres, to **Margaret**, eldest daughter of Mr **Forbes**, Fishery Officer, Burghead.

12 Apr 1851 - At Surat, East Indies, on the 20th February, **Thomas Ballantyne**, Esq. Assistant-Surgeon, 29th Regiment, Bombay N.I. to **Anne**, eldest daughter of **George Mackenzie**, Esq. Writer, Dingwall.

26 Apr 1851 - At Tain on the 11th instant, by the Rev. Dr Mackintosh, Mr **George H. Duncan**, Accountant, National Bank of Scotland, Dingwall to **Martha Boyd**, third daughter of the late Mr **William MacDonald**, Merchant, Tain.

26 Apr 1851 - At Brora, on the 19th inst., Mr **James Isdale**, from Kirkcaldy to **Isabella Ross**, second daughter of the late Mr **Jas Gordon**, Merchant and Fishcurer, Brora.

10 May 1851 - At 25 York Place, Edinburgh, on the 30th ult., **Gregory Watt Blackie**, Esq. to **Emma**, second daughter of **F. B. Calvert**, Esq., M.A.

10 May 1851 - At the Field, Deskford, on the 24th ult., **George Murray**, Esq. Farmer, Moss-side, Deskford to **Jessie**, eldest daughter of the late **Alex Riddoch** of the 44th Regiment.

24 May 1851 - At Detroit, U.S. on the 13th April, by the Rev. Jas McCallish, Mr **William Austin Black** and Miss **Agnes Hennes Reid**, both of this city.

24 May 1851 - At Knockomie, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. R. Macpherson, Forres, **Robert McDonald**, of her Majesty's Customs, Findhorn to **Eliza**, daughter of Mr **Morrison**.

24 May 1851 - On the 1st inst., by the Rev. R. S. Ellis, at the British Chapel, Copenhagen, **Anna Frances**, second daughter of **R. J. Grant**, Esq. and grand-daughter of the late Sir **Alexander Grant**, of Dalvey, Bart., to **William Marcus Westermann**, of Copenhagen, Esq.

24 May 1851 - At Katewell, on the 18th inst., by the Rev. D. Campbell, Free Church, Kiltearn, **Hugh H. Munro**, Forester, Glenferness, Nairnshire to **Lillias**, fourth daughter of **George Sellar**, Esq., Katewell, Ross-shire.

7 Jun 1851 - At Cooperhill, Darnaway, on the 21st inst., Mr **Alexander Hardie**, Farmer, Eldon, Pluscarden to **Jane**, youngest daughter of the late Mr **Alexander Anderson**, Farmer, Cooperhill.

21 Jun 1851 - At Forres, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. A. L. Simpson, U.P. Church, Mr **Wm Sime**, late Gardener, Lethen to **Elizabeth**, youngest daughter of the late Mr **John Simpson**, North Back Street.

21 Jun 1851 - At Croy Place, Glasgow, on the 11th instant, Mr **John Brown**, Cabinetmaker to **Margaret Robertson**, relict of Mr **Thomas Wilson**. At the same time and place, Mr **Wm Taylor**, Cabinetmaker to **Catherine**, eldest daughter of the above Mr **John Brown**. And at the same time and place, Mr **Peter Main**, Cabinetmaker to **Mary**, youngest daughter of the above **John Brown**.

21 Jun 1851 - At Cluny Castle, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. George Shepherd of Kingussie, Mr **Peter Chisholm**, of Cluny Mills to Miss **Margaret Ross**, Cluny Castle.

21 Jun 1851 - At Gaelic-Hill, near Melbourne, Port-Phillip, on the 21st January last, by the Rev. Peter Gunn, **Donald Malcolm**, Esq. of Powlis Plains, River London to **Margaret**, second daughter of Mr **Duncan Macpherson**, late Postmaster, Kingussie, Scotland.

21 Jun 1851 - At Beaulieu, on the 13th instant, by the Rev. A. D. Mackenzie, Kilmorack, Mr **Alexander Maitland**, Veterinary Surgeon, M. L.

V. S. to **Mary**, eldest daughter of Mr **Donald Fraser**, Innkeeper, Beaulieu.

7 Jul 1851 - At Treeton Cottage, near Fort George, on the 26th ult., by the Rev. Wm Barclay, Free Church Minister of Auldearn, the Rev. **Alex McKenzie**, of the Free Church Nairn to **Isabella Campbell**, only daughter of the late **George Adams**, Esq., Surgeon 14th Foot.

7 Jul 1851 - On the 5th ult., the Rev. **A. Davidson**, Fraserburgh to **Helen**, third daughter of the late **Alex Crocket**, Elgin.

21 Jul 1851 - At Blarnifast on the 18th instant, by the Rev. Alexander Mackenzie of the Free Church, Nairn, Mr **John McBean**, Cabinetmaker, Nairn to **Isabella**, eldest daughter of Mr **James Macintyre**, Farmer, Blarnifast.

21 Jul 1851 - At Rothesay, Bute, on the 5th inst., **Wm Ogilvie**, Esq. of the firm of Messrs Mitchell, Miller and Ogilvie, Glasgow to **Margaret**, eldest surviving daughter of the late Mr **Mitchell**, Staffordshire.

21 Jul 1851 - At York Terrace, Rothesay, on the 1st inst., **Wm Ogilvie**, Esq., Merchant, Glasgow to **Margaret**, eldest surviving daughter of the late Geo. **Mitchell**, Esq., Civil Engineer, Staffordshire.

4 Aug 1851 - At Whitehill, Grange, Banffshire, on the 17th inst., by the Rev. Alexander Millar, Keith, **John Laughton**, jun., Esq., South Ronaldsay, Orkney to **Isabella**, fourth daughter of the Rev. **James Miller**, late of Huntly.

18 Aug 1851 - At Nairn, on the 6th ult., by the Rev. John Bisset, of the U.P. Church, Mr **Norman Grant**, Veterinary Surgeon, Forres to **Elspet**, daughter of Mr **Daniel McMillan**, Shoemaker, Batchen Street, Forres.

18 Aug 1851 - At Inshes, on the 30th ult., Mr **James Johnston**, Farmer, Wellton of Cantray to **Jessie**, eldest daughter of Mr **Donald Forbes**, Manager, Inches.

18 Aug 1851 - At Montpelier, Edinburgh, on the 11th instant, by the Rev. Norman MacLeod, D.D. of Saint Columba Church, Glasgow, the Rev. **Norman MacLeod** of the Barony parish, Glasgow to **Catherine Anne**, youngest daughter of the late **William Mackintosh**, Esq. of Geddes, in the county of Nairn.

1 Sep 1851 - At Auchteraw, on the 18th ultimo, by the Rev. E. Roger, Fort Augustus, Dr **Clark** to

Jessie, daughter of the late Mr **George Urquhart**, Farmer and Distiller, Inverness.

1 Sep 1851 - At Aberdeen, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. David McTaggart, of Greyfriars, **William Jamieson**, Esq. Writer, Airdrie to **Marion**, daughter of **William McGillivray**, Esq. LL.D. Professor of Natural History, Marischal College, Aberdeen.

1 Sep 1851 - At St. John's Episcopal Church, Inverness on the 28th ultimo, by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Argyle and the Isles, **John Robert Mackenzie**, Esq. Lieut. 2nd Madras European Light Infantry to **Amelia Robertson**, second daughter of **James Wilson**, Esq. Inverness.

1 Sep 1851 - At Inverness, on the 28th ultimo, by the Rev. Mr Mackenzie, **William Horn**, Farm Manger, Barnyards to **Isabella**, eldest daughter of **James Smith**, Farmer, Meikle-Haugh, Aberdeenshire.

15 Sep 1851 - At the Free Church Manse of Kilmuir Easter, on the 27th ult., the Rev. **H. Fraser**, Free Church Minister of Halkirk, to **Annie Montgomery**, youngest daughter of the Rev. **G. Matheson**, Free Church, Kilmuir Easter.

15 Sep 1851 - At Hausi, on the 11th July, **John Shore Dumerque**, Esq. Bengal Civil Service, to **Louisa**, second daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel **Duncan Macpherson** of Ardersier, late 78th Highlanders.

15 Sep 1851 - At Aberfeldy, Perthshire, on the 26th ultimo, the Rev. **D. B. Blair**, of the Free Church, Barney's River, Pictou, Nova Scotia to **Mary Sibella**, youngest daughter of the late Captain **H. M. MacLeod**, 93rd Regiment.

15 Sep 1851 - At the Cathedral, Madras, on the 9th July, Captain **G. J. Condy**, 27th Regiment, N.I., Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, to **Flora**, only daughter of the late **Charles Edward MacDonald**, Esq. H.C.C.S and great-grand-daughter of "**Flora MacDonald**".

29 Sep 1851 - At Kirkwall on the 22nd inst., by the Rev. Peter Buchan, Mr **Daniel MacBean** of Nairn to **Isobella**, eldest daughter of the late **George McBeath**, Esq. Kirkwall.

29 Sep 1851 - At Graham's Town, Cape of Good Hope, on the 14th July, by the Venerable the Archdeacon Merriman, **Patrick Robertson**, Esq. Cape Mounted Rifleman, second son of the Hon. Lord **Robertson**, to **Amelia Ann**, third daughter of **Charles Maynard**, Esq. of Graham's Town.

29 Sep 1851 - On the 14th instant at Leigh, in the county of Essex, Lieutenant **Arthur A Court Fisher**, Royal Engineers, second son of the Rev. **William Fisher**, Cannon, residentiary of Salisbury to **Caroline Eden**, second daughter of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Moray and Ross. [Surname missing]

13 Oct 1851 - At Glenferness House, on 1st October Captain **Richard Ronsy**, of the 96th Regiment to **Rose Anna**, second daughter of **John Dougal**, Esq. Glenferness, Nairnshire.

13 Oct 1851 - On the 23rd ultimo, at Teddington, Middlesex, by the Rev. Alfred Wilkinson, Incumbent, **Robert Davidson**, Esq. Forres to **Mary Anne**, second daughter of the late **Walker Askill Venour**, Esq. of the H.E.I.C.'s Bengal Medical Service.

13 Oct 1851 - At St. James's Church, Westminster, on the 23rd ultimo, Major **Henry Paget**, second son of the late General the Hon. Sir **Edward Paget**, C.B., to **Anne**, youngest daughter of the late General Sir **George Walker**, Bart., G.C.B.

27 Oct 1851 - At 153 Eglinton Street, Glasgow, on the 7th instant by the Rev. Dr Roxburgh, Free St. John's, Mr **Alexander Fraser**, Wine and Spirit Merchant to **June**, only daughter of Mr **William Stewart**, Morningside, Edinburgh.

27 Oct 1851 - At West Regent Street, Glasgow, on the 17th inst., the Rev. **Robert Stewart**, Strontian to Miss **Fanny Black**.

10 Nov 1851 - At Inverness on the 23rd ultimo, by the Revd. Edward B. Rogers, Minister of Fort Augustus, Mr **M. MacDougal**, General Assembly Schoolmaster, Elphin parish of Assynt, Sutherland-shire to **Mary**, eldest daughter of **W Burton**, Esq. Tulloch, Lochaber.

10 Nov 1851 - At Montreal, on the 2nd October, by the Rev. A. F. Spalding, Mr **James Muir** (of the firm of **W & J Muir**) to **Isabella**, youngest daughter of Mr **James Milne**, of the Bible Depository.

24 Nov 1851 - At the Parish Church, Leamington Priors, on Thursday the 6th instant, by the Rev. J. Jameson, Lieut-Colonel Lord **James Murray**, brother of the Duke of Athole, to **Elizabeth Marjory**, only daughter of the Hon. Mrs **Fairholm**, and niece of Lord **Forbes**.

24 Nov 1851 - At 20 Montague Street, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Wm Henry Gray, of Lady Yesters, Mr

John Cameron, Stationer, Glasgow to **Murdina**, youngest daughter of Mr **Cameron**, Tain.

24 Nov 1851 - At Trinity, Edinburgh, on the 12th current, the Rev. **Wm Leishman**, late Minister of the Scotch Church, St. Gabriel Street, Montreal to **Margaret Cross**, eldest daughter of **Wm Gibb**, Esq. North Belleville, New Jersey.

8 Dec 1851 - At Grantown, Strathspey, on the 28th ultimo, by the Rev. James Grant, Cromdale, Mr **David Mackenzie**, Baker and Confectioner, Nairn to **Helen**, fourth daughter of Mr **Donald MacDonald**.

8 Dec 1851 - At St. Thomas' Chapel, Edinburgh, on the 26th ultimo, the Lord **Gilbert Kennedy** to **Margaret**, eldest daughter of Sir **David Baird** of Newbyth, Bart.

8 Dec 1851 - At James's Church, London, on the 29th ultimo, the Honourable **Frederick Cadogan**, youngest son of the Earl of **Cadogan**, to the Lady **Adelaide Paget**, youngest daughter of the Marquis of Angelsey.

8 Dec 1851 - At 279 High Street, Elgin, on the 1st instant, by the Rev. Alexander Topp, Free Church, Mr **David Simpson**, Plasterer to **Jane Brodie**, relict of the late Mr **James Simpson**, Merchant.

22 Dec 1851 - At Tradespark of Nairn, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. Alex Mackenzie, of the Free Church, Mr **John Clark**, elder and lately Farmer of Croftown of Geddes, to **Mary** daughter of the late Mr **Hugh MacLeod**, Farmer at Mavistown. We believe the united ages of the happy pair about 125 years of which 75 have fallen to the lot of the venerable bridegroom, who has now entered into the married the state a second time.

22 Dec 1851 - At Ardclach, on the 5th instant, by the Rev. Mr MacLeod, Colour-Sergeant **Andrew Leonard**, 42nd Royal Highlanders to **Mary Mackenzie**, second daughter of Mr **John Mackenzie**, Farmer, Milton of Ferness, Ardclach.

22 Dec 1851 - At Elgin, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. Alex. Topp, Mr **A. Young**, House-carpenter to **Elizabeth**, daughter of the late Mr **James Petrie**, Blacksmith, Nairn.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

Nairnshire Miscellany

Death of a POW?



For a number of years the above memorial in Nairn Cemetery has been a bit of a mystery.

I was told a few years ago that it represented a grave of someone who died as a prisoner of war, but no one knew of a POW camp close to Nairn in WW2, yes there are stories of Italian and Germans working on farms in WW2 but again none close to Nairn. So who was Dr Aliga Kip (p o w). A check with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission indicated no one of this name in Nairn Cemetery though WW2 graves were sometimes relocated especially those of German nationals.

Recently by chance I mentioned the story of this to John Urquhart a volunteer at Nairn Museum who indicated that he had heard the same story but had eventually found the answer – the grave was of Sylvia Julia Fenczyne-Kip aged 3 days daughter of Dr Stefan Andrzej Fenczyn-Kip and his wife Gerda who had died 27 August 1946 at the Nairn Town and County Hospital cause of death premature, father being listed as MD R.A.F. Camp, Forres being a Lieutenant in the Polish Forces. His wife was named Gerda Löffler and both were born in Poland.

A search on the London Gazette indicated an address in 1950 as 4 Cothole Villas, Stoke, Portsmouth, Devon. A search on Find-my-Past gave more of a story. Stefan sadly died early in

1951 aged 39 but a second daughter Alexandra had been born in 1949.

On the 24 July 1951 Gerda and Alexandra sailed for Montreal, Canada from Liverpool on the 'Empress of France' and disembarked at Quebec 30 July 1951.

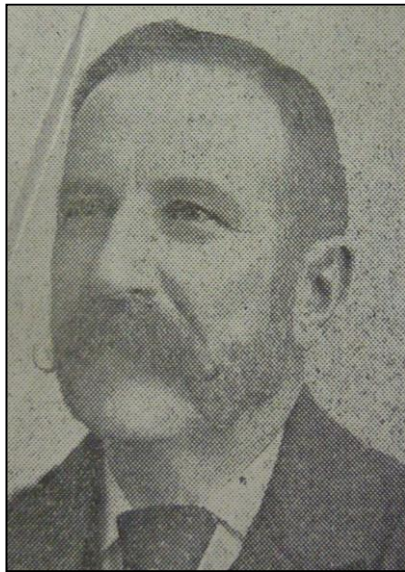
On the 17 October 1951 they entered America at Niagara Falls where Gerda stated that she had been born on 4 August 1920 at Bielsko Poland with last address as Mrs Ruth Halpern, 60 Robinson Street, Hamilton, Ontario. Her destination residence was stated as Anna Goldberg (Aunt) 712 West 175th Street, New York. Family Search indicates that her daughter Alexandra married Robert W. Powitz on 11 July 1992 at Clinton, Middlesex, Connecticut, USA.

So mystery solved.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

Moray Miscellany

The Late Mr Alexander Ritchie, Urquhart. Forty-four Years Parish Teacher.



Mr Alexander Ritchie, headmaster of Urquhart Public School, died last week after a short illness. He had not felt well on Sunday, and during the night he became suddenly, and never regained consciousness.

Mr Ritchie had been headmaster at Urquhart for the long period of forty-four years, and hundreds of pupils had passed through his hands. Urquhart men and women all over the world will hear with regret of the death of their old dominie.

His personality was very well known over the district. He was a man of great energy and strong convictions, and his opinions were always

vigorously expressed. There was nothing of the "milk and water" type about Mr Ritchie. At the same time he was a warm hearted friend.

His career as a student was very successful, and in Latin he particularly distinguished himself. He took his M.A. degree at Aberdeen at the early age of 21. He was one of three remaining parochial teachers in the district.

Mr Ritchie was very warmly interested in all church affairs, and in the welfare of the Parish Church, of which he was a devoted member, he was specially concerned. For many years he acted as an elder, and he was session clerk at the time of his death. In addition to his scholastic duties Mr Ritchie held the office of registrar for the parish. In politics he was a strong supporter of the Conservative cause.

Of a quiet, unassuming disposition, Mr Ritchie was approachable to everyone, and was at all times willing to give his helpful assistance and advice. He performed many acts of kindness towards those in want and distress. At New Year time he took great pleasure in giving donations of money to those whom he thought deserving, and his many visits of these occasions will be greatly missed.

He was 66 years of age and unmarried, and sincere sympathy will be extended to his relatives in their bereavement.

The funeral took place at Aboyne on Saturday last, and was largely attended. At the recruiting meeting held at Urquhart School special reference was made to the death of Mr Ritchie.

Rev. Patrick Sinclair, who presided, said that for more than 40 years Mr Ritchie had taught in that room, and many of them there had received their first lessons in Scottish history from his lips, and had caught the fire of patriotism from his burning enthusiasm for his native land. One of the strongly marked characteristics of Mr Ritchie's strongly and upright nature was his deep love for all things Scottish, for the liberty, freedom, and honour for which Scotland had ever stood and championed so bravely on many a battlefield. He had left marks of many good qualities upon his pupils, and among them he was sure was the quality of intense and wide patriotism. If Mr Ritchie had been spared to be with them that evening, he had no doubt they would have heard from him an eloquent appeal to their patriotism in this national crisis.

Colonel W. Rose Black, Elgin, said that Mr Ritchie was one of his oldest friends, and with them he deplored his loss.

Rev. P. Sinclair and Rev. A. C. Smith conducted a memorial service in the school at Urquhart on Friday of last week, when all the children and teachers were present.

Church References.

In the Church of Scotland at Urquhart, Rev. P.

Sinclair, addressing the congregation at the morning service, said: "You will expect me to make some allusion to the loss we have sustained by the sudden death of Mr Ritchie on Tuesday last. He occupied a prominent position in our church and parish, and it is but fitting that reference should be made to him in this church which he attended so regularly for more than forty years. There has passed away from our midst a fine scholar, a successful teacher, a true lover of the Church, a faithful elder and session-clerk; a man of deep and earnest faith, strong in upholding what he thought was right, vigorous in denouncing what he thought was wrong. There were no half measures with him. Whatever he believed, he believed with all his heart and soul; whatever he did, he did with all his might. Into his work as teacher he threw his whole energy, and laboured for the genuine advancement of his pupils, disclaiming, with a kind of lordly pride, all cheap and showy methods of gaining spurious success. He loved the Church of Scotland with a passionate loyalty, and was jealously watchful of her fair fame, fearful of any change that might destroy her ancient character. His school, his Church – there two were the absorbing interests of his life. He was a strong nature, whose force was ever on the side of righteousness. The very strength of it tended to obscure the gentler elements of his nature. Yet when one got behind the barrier erected by his reserve, one discovered the innate kindness of the man. What a genial host he made in own house! What a rich vein of sentiment we sometimes struck in him on the rare occasions when he gave us a glimpse into the recesses of his heart! How magnificent were his charities at times! I know there are many in this parish who are today remembering with loving gratitude the modest self-effacing way in which he came to their help in some hour of need. And now he has gone from us, and we are sorry we shall see him here no more. But we need not be sorry for him. His work on earth is finished. His lonely pilgrimage is ended. God, whom he strove so faithfully and valiantly to serve throughout his life, has called him suddenly, yet gently, to rest." At the morning service in the United Free Church, Urquhart, on Sunday last, Rev. A. C. Smith, in the course of his address to the children before the sermon, referred in fitting terms to the sad loss sustained through the death of Mr Ritchie. He spoke of the deep interest Mr Ritchie had always taken in the welfare of his pupils, and how willingly he placed himself at their disposal to further their interests in after life. He also referred to Mr Ritchie's loyalty and devotion to his church, and expressed his own personal regard for his high Christian character, which was revealed in his relations with him.

Numerous beautiful wreaths were sent, including

tributes from the teachers at the school, from the pupils, from Mr J. F. Cumming, Innes House, and others.

Northern Scot 3 October 1914.

His Death Certificate indicates that he died on 22 September 1914 at the Schoolhouse Urquhart with cause of death stated as cerebral haemorrhage. Son of William Ritchie Farmer and Ann Ritchie nee Dinnie (both deceased). Informant was James Ritchie Brother.

Details on Family Headstone in Kirkyard of Birse (Stone 235) from ANEFHS MI Index -

Elspet Ritchie 18 Apr 1884

William Ritchie 16 Jan 1886

Ann Dinnie 27 Jun 1894

Alexander Ritchie 22 Sep 1914

Joanna Ritchie 24 Apr 1929

Libindx indicates appointed Assistant Registrar in March 1889 and Registrar in May of the same year though election was nullified until August of the same year.

Alexander Ritchie was born sometime in late 1848. Birse OPR entry of Baptism on 22 December 1848 – William Ritchie & his wife Ann Dinnie in Arntillyhard had a son baptised named Alexander. James Harper in Arntillyhard and Alexander Harper, Bridgend witnesses.

Was one of seven children of William Ritchie and Annie Dinnie who had married at Birse on 2 June 1837. Other children: Elisabeth/ Elspet (c1838 – 18 April 1884), William (Bp 19 March 1840 – April 1920) (Buried in plot next to parents), Anne (Bp 24 May 1842 - ?), James (Bp 15 February 1844 - ?), Joanna (Bp 10 November 1845 – 24 April 1929) and Jonathan (Bp 9 May 1851 – 4 July 1912).

Family in 1841 Census at Pitslugarty, Birse of William Ritchie 35, Ann Ritchie 30, Elisabeth 3 and William 1.

Recorded in 1851 Census at Arintilly Head, Birse of William Ritchie 46 Contractor of Roads, Drains, Trenching employing 12 labourers, Ann 41, Elspet 12 Employed at house, William 11 Scholar, John 8 Scholar, James 7 Scholar, Joanna 5 and Alexander 2.

Recorded in 1861 Census at Achaballa, Birse of William Ritchie 56 Agricultural Labourer, Ann 51, Joanna 15 General Servant, Alexander 12 Scholar and Jonathan 9 Scholar.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell