



Moray & Nairn Family History Society

# NEWSLETTER

Edition 39

July 2021

**W**elcome to the latest edition of the Moray & Nairn FHS Newsletter.

## MNFHS Chairman's Report

I do hope that this finds you a member of the Moray & Nairn FHS have not been too affected by the ongoing covid-19 crisis. Challenging times, Elgin and Inverness Archives have reopened but both to restricted hours and days. But again in both there are limitations on access to materials and books. So research goes on very slowly.

On a positive side – we are getting new members – so plenty of people starting their family research due to lockdowns, so if this is your first newsletter then welcome.

On the subject of the newsletter, I would welcome any comments on the current layout. Columns of text are not easy to read on mobile phones or even on i-pads. Comments please to whether the current layout should stay or change to text laid out horizontally and so easier to scroll through.

This year's SAFHS Conference was cancelled due to ongoing covid-19 crisis, but the talks scheduled took place as a Zoom Conference with six talks. By all accounts it was very well attended with over 300 logged in to view talks. But hopefully we will be able to attend the SAFHS Conference in Dundee in 2022!

To all take care,

Stuart Farrell  
Chairman

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The next Newsletter will be published in October 2021. Will members please submit articles to the Editor: [newsletter@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk)

## MNFHS Publications

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

### *Special Offers!*

*Elgin Poor Registers 1841-1891 in 3  
parts £6 each now £12 for set of 3.*

*Forres Gazette Pre-1855 Deaths Parts  
1-3 and Elgin Courier Pre-1855 Deaths  
Parts 1 & 2  
Was £6 each now £3 each*

*Pre1855 Auldearn & Nairnshire Deaths  
Was £5 now £3*

*Limited offer only – Free Postage &  
Packing on above offers.*

### *Nairn County Press and Advertiser Deaths & Obituaries 1900-1905.*

*The Nairn County Press and Advertiser* newspaper was published by John Fraser of 102 High Street, Nairn, and was issued weekly on a Saturday.

From these issues we have extracted the notices of death and obituaries, and sometimes there are details of a funeral, tragic accidents and other local incidents are also reported upon where a death occurred. They provide a glimpse of the Edwardian attitude to death and how it was related to in this local paper.

This work by the Moray & Nairn Family History Society follows on from that already published for the deaths from the *St. Ninian Press & Nairnshire Advertiser* for the period 1892 to 1899. 77 pages - £8. Postage & Packing on application.

[Note this Newspaper is not available on Find my Past or the British Newspaper Archive websites]

## Moray Miscellany

### Earlier Stotfield Fishing Disasters

The story of the Stotfield Fishing Disaster of Christmas Day 1806, when all three boats, and 21 men, from this small village in the parish of Drainie perished in a storm at sea, is well-enough known to bear no repetition here (for more details, see Bruce Bishop's exposition on the matter in Newsletter 13, from December 2012).

My link is to John Young, one of the crew of the third boat, husband to Margaret Edward, son of John Young & Margaret McQueen and one of my 5 x great grandfathers.

I had long suspected this John's father – also John Young – also perished at sea, sometime around 1780.

In March 2021, ScotlandsPeople added Kirk Session records to their online collection as virtual volumes. I had previously made use of this valuable resource, but only on my occasional visits Highland Archive Centre, so I was very much time-limited and had to go prepared with a specific list of targets – not able to just browse, to see what I might find.

With the online addition – albeit as virtual volumes, and not indexed – I had the leisure, and pleasure, of being able to read these documents cover-to-cover.

Not only did I find what I was looking for with the loss of a Stotfield boat in 1780, but information regarding an earlier loss, in 1715.

In the Kirk Session Minutes, 1707-1722 (CH2/384/2/179) for the parish of Drainie for 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1715, I found:

*The Minister this afternoon did lecture on Luke Chap 13<sup>th</sup> to verse 6<sup>th</sup>. Exhorting all and especially the Sea-men, to the duties to which God has been calling them by the late dispensation of the loss of one of the Stotfield boats. And it is here to be marked that 13<sup>th</sup> June last, Wm Hesbine, one of our Elders, and skipper of the boat with his crew went to sea & the 14<sup>th</sup> at night or 15<sup>th</sup> in the morning, by a violent storm of wind (which lasted not long) were all lost, for ought we could conjecture; seeing that this July 3<sup>d</sup> we had no certain record of them, nor from them, which gave the Minister to lecture on the forcited scripture. The persons lost were 8: Wm Hesbine, James Edward, John King, Alex'r Young, Wm Paterson, Wm Winchester, Magnus Stephen, all these married & Alex'r Thom unmarried.*

At this distance, and because of the manner in which baptisms were then recorded in this parish, piecing together these families would involve a good deal of guess-work – not a good idea – so little more can be established.

Surprisingly, the Kirk Session Minutes, 1768-1815 (CH2/384/5/207) record less for the 1806 disaster, only two brief entries at the start of 1807. On the 18<sup>th</sup> January 1807 we have:

*Collected in the Church of Drainie for behoof of the widows and orphans of the seamen belonging to Stotfield lost on 25<sup>th</sup> Dec'r 1806 £13.11.6.*

Followed, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with a note saying 2/- had been handed each in by Robert Anderson, Muir of Drainie and James Melon, Upperalease.

But, of course, there was a reason for this – there is a separate volume recording details of Stotfield and Burghead Widows' Fund Minutes and Accounts, 1807-1842 (CH2/384/11).

This discovery helped me in my search for information about the 1780 event.

As with the 1806 event, two very brief entries in the Kirk Session Minutes, 1768-1815 CH2/384/5/109, first on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1780.

*Same day, the Minister intimated that next Lord's day the collection would be for the benefit of the nine seamen's families who had perished at Stotfield the 9<sup>th</sup> curt., and sincerely exhorted them to extend their charity on this occasion.*

Followed, on the 26<sup>th</sup> March with the shortest possible statement there had been a collection for the widows at Stotfield, amounting to £3/12.

Also, as with the later disaster, the gold-seam was not to be found in the Kirk Session records, but in the Kirk Session Accounts, 1780-1802 (CH2/384/6).

It is from this document I gained the knowledge not only of the names of each victim, but of their spouses, and a brief summary of their family.

The unfortunate men, their spouses and families were:

James Findlay, married to Isobel Edward, with four children.

Alexander Findlay, married to Christian Crocket, with one very young 'suckling' child.

John Young, married to Margaret McQueen, with

two young children, and expecting another (born August 17<sup>th</sup>).

Alexander Edward Jun'r, married to Jean Edward, with two very young children.

Robert Innes, married to Isobel Edward, with one grown-up daughter.

John Crocket, married to Elspit Anderson, having no children.

William Crocket, married to Christian Edward, having no children.

Alexander Edward Sen'r, married to Margaret Robertson, with five children, and expecting (twins, as it turned out).

John Innes, married to Isobel Robertson, but with no family details (required no assistance).

Added to this list, for support, were:

William Edward, an old man who lost his son, his brother & son-in-law who supported him.

John Kinnaird, married to Margaret Biekie, with one child & expecting another.

(It is not clear why this last couple were included. John Kinnaird was not a victim; at the time he was 'impressed', so away on military service.)

A fund was established, with collections made in many of the parishes within the Presbytery of Elgin – collections are recorded from Drainie (of course), Duffus, Kinloss, Alves, Urquhart, New Spinie, Longbride, Elgin, St Andrews, Edinkillie, Speymouth, Dollas, Dyke, Rafford, Forres & Birnie.

Between March and September, the total money raised amounted to £56 10s 7d – the equivalent to more than £10,000 in 2021 – and distributions were made every six months to the widows and children, until the fund was exhausted on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1784 – allocations made in ratio to the number of dependents.

Submitted by Doug Stewart

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## Nairnshire Miscellany

### Dallas and Sutherland Families

I am always interested in your articles on Moray and wonder if it would be of interest to you to know that I have done a lot of research on my ancestors of the Dallas of Cantray family. It appears no one knew that the orphan Stewart Dallas who sat on Dr Johnson's knee in 1773 survived (see Book of Dallas) and I am a descendant. Her survival seems not to have been known by her second cousin Elizabeth Jane Dallas of Nairn who claims to have been the last descendant! This is even on her tombstone in the cemetery of Croy put up by Thomas Dallas Yorke. She was a descendant of Walter Dallas (in Dallas Book says unproven) "Our" Stewart Dallas is descended from the eldest son James Dallas of Cantray whose parents were William Dallas of Cantray and Isobel Dallas of St. Martins. He was killed at Culloden. The Dallas book also had no record of where his wife Margaret Hamilton came from as regards parentage and this I have found. She was the daughter of John Hamilton of Dalziel and Bethia Muirhead of Stevenson.

Headstone in Croy Churchyard. Inscribed: In memory of Elizabeth Jane Dallas (last of the elder line of the Cantray family), who died at Nairn on 2nd Novr 1890, aged 85. This stone is erected as a tribute of respect by the chief of her name, Thomas Yorke Dallas.

There is the story of the tea with the Riddells and Dr Johnson in the Tour of the Hebrides in 1773. Boswell was a relation of Margaret Hamilton (wife of James Dallas) and he fell for one of her daughters Isabell (older than him) at one time but she ended up marrying the Rev. Riddell as his second wife and that is another reason why he took Dr. Johnson to tea I suspect. Riddell was obviously a very dull chap as you will find out!

I don't know quite how "our" Stewart Dallas ended up in Aberdeen but think when her grandmother Margaret moved there she went with her and the four unmarried aunts being an orphan or left behind by her father William who went out to the East to make some money and was drowned on the return. I have never found where or when her mother (Stewart Mackenzie of Coul) died or if she went with her husband leaving the only child, or she may have died in childbirth as so many did at the time which I think is the more likely.

The father of Boswell was the judge on the Aberdeen circuit, also another reason for the visit as Boswell went with him sometimes and he would have been in touch with his relation Margaret too.

I have a copy of a pathetic letter written to Boswell by Isabell 12 years later when she became a poor widow and in need of funds but unfortunately no copy at Yale University of the answer but he passed her request on to a cousin Robert to see if he could help her as he had no money at the time.

“Our” Stewart Dallas, daughter of William Dallas of Cantray and Stewart Mackenzie of Coul was born in 1766, married Lieutenant Alexander Sutherland in 1793. This is where I have come up against a brick wall as I know of Lt. Alexander Sutherland his brother Nicholas’s parents and grand-parents Hugh Sutherland married to a Isabel Dunbar but cannot find when they married or where. Nor where either of them came from ....

The genealogist of the Clan Sutherland says the DNA of a group of us Sutherlands do not match with the direct lines of Sutherlands so this has been no help of course. The men of our family were serving in the Sutherland Fencibles so may have taken the name because of this or a son took his mother’s names if it was Sutherland. I have found out all about the two brothers Alexander and Nicholas as we come from their son and daughter who were married and were cousins. Nicholas emigrated to Canada and one of his descendants kindly had his DNA done and matched up with two or three others the DNA of the clan Sutherland have on their books, but I am doubtful we will find the answer to this one. Unfortunately I imagine all their family histories cannot be passed on to me because of privacy responsibilities which is quite right I expect.

It would be great if someone has come across “our” Hugh Sutherland married to Isabel Dunbar. I enclose the list of their children from Dundee OPR register. You will see the mention of a witness Nicholas Sutherland of 21<sup>st</sup> (possibly half brother of the Countess) in 1771 and in 1780 curiously a witness of the last child was the Countess of Sutherland. Why was she there at the age of 15 is another mystery?? Were they just there because of the army connections?

Alexander Sutherland and Mary Finlay – Marriage - 1760 Contracted 2 August – Alexr Sutherland Sergt N B Fusiliers & Mary Finlay, married 4 August. Children –

Alexander 1761, Born May 8 baptised 13 – Alexr Sutherland, Sergeant in the Regt of Scots Fusiliers, Mary Finlay, witnesses Sergeant Alexr Henry & Patk Kinnimond, mason, sponsor in the Father’s absence.

Hugh 1762, Born 7 November baptised 10 - Alexr Sutherland, Sergt Scots Fusiliers, Mary Finlay, witnesses H Sutherland, H Finlay, grandfathers.

Isabell 1763, Born 13 December baptised 17 - Alexr Sutherland, Sergt Scots Fusiliers, Mary Finlay, witnesses I Kinnimond, M mother, I Dunbar f mother.

Nicholas 1771, Baptised 7 November - Alexr Southerland, Sergeant in the 21<sup>st</sup> Regt of Foot, witness E Nicholas Southerland of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regt of Foot.

Mary 1773, Born 5 May baptised 6 - Alexr Southerland, Sergt in the 21<sup>st</sup> Regt of Foot, Mary, witness Mary Southerland aunt.

Patrick 1777, Born 15 February baptised 4 March - Alexr Southerland, Sergeant in the 21<sup>st</sup> Regt of Foot, witnesses P Kinnimond, P Yeaman.

Elisabeth 1780, Born 9 November baptised 14 – Alexr Southerland, Lieutenant & Quarter Master in the Southern Fencibles, witnesses Elis Kinnimond and the Countess of Sutherland.

Contributed by Patricia Anderson.

Editors Note – What a claim to fame to be part of a family that was part of Dr Samuel Johnson and James Boswell’s tour through Scotland in 1773 and especially his trip to Skye and his vivid description of Highland life at that time. The Book of Dallas is ‘The History of the Family of Dallas’ by James Dallas (1921) a must for anyone with a Dallas relative (free to view on [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)) but the above gives good advice just because it is not mentioned in an old book does not mean it does not exist.

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## Moray Miscellany

### Book Review – A-Z Elgin Places People History

It’s not often that I am asked to review a book and this may be a first for the Moray & Nairn FHS Newsletter.

Jenny Main’s book on Elgin has some interesting facts and does include a number of historical photographs but sadly quite a few of the photographs in the book are poor in quality being deep in shadow and in my opinion should not have been used. Careful timing would have produced better photographs. The book though well laid out lacks a location map or basic street plan though

not required for anyone living in Elgin it would have handy for someone outwith the area.

The historical information contained although helpful gives no indication to sources as there is no bibliography and if this was not added I would have expected to see a list of material as suggested further reading but this is also lacking, something I would have included.

On the plus side the text is large and well-spaced out and includes information on places both old and new, some of which will no doubt become historical in years to come. Overall the book is informative but lacking a good result, what they used to say at school 'does well but could do better'.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

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## Moray Miscellany

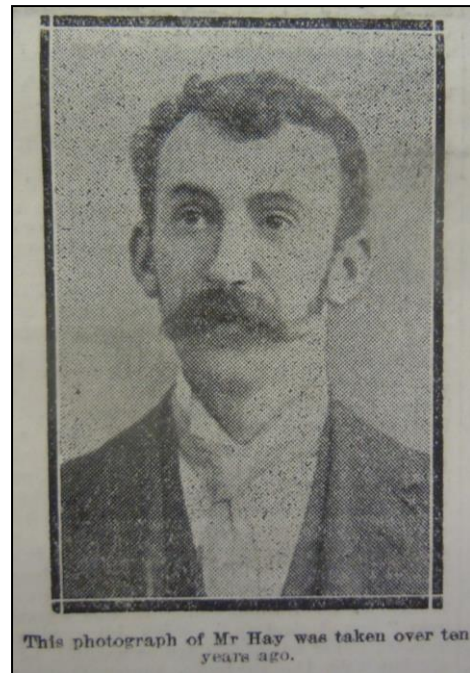
### Alexander Hay of Elgin

Death of Mr Alexander Hay, Elgin. The death occurred on Wednesday morning of one of Elgin's best known citizens, Mr Alexander Hay, cabinetmaker, the sole partner of the old established firm of Messrs Robert Hay & Sons, 53 High Street. Mr Hay had been in poor health for about two years, and he had been completely incapacitated from work since the first week of January. He underwent an operation in Aberdeen a few weeks ago, but the serious nature of his illness left little hope of recovery.

Mr Hay, who was only 47 years of age, was one of the most popular men in Elgin. His disposition was cheerful and friendly, and among all classes he was held in the highest esteem. He was a native of the town and was a member of a well-known family. His father, the late Mr Robert Hay, was during his lifetime a prominent and generous citizen. He had a family of twelve – nine sons and three daughters. Alexander was the sixth son, and seven of his brothers are still alive, Mr Allan Hay in Elgin, John, William, and Arthur in Inverness, Robert in Perth, James in Moffat, and Peter in London. George died about fifteen years ago. Of the three sisters two are dead.

Mr Hay served his apprenticeship with his father, and subsequently went south, where he obtained valuable experience in all branches of the cabinetmaking business. About 17 years ago he returned to Elgin, and on the death of his father in August, 1905, he succeeded to the business. Under his care the firm more than maintained its already excellent reputation. Mr Hay had a splendid capacity for business, and his customers

always felt that it was a pleasure to deal with him. He was at all times courteous and obliging, and paid the closest personal attention to the work of the firm.



In the public affairs of Elgin he took no part, but he was nevertheless very warmly interested in the history and progress of his native town. He delighted to recall the local worthies of other days, and to dwell on the remarkable changes which had taken place in Elgin during his own lifetime. In sport he was warmly interested, his favourite game being cricket. He rarely missed a match of the Elgin City C.C. when they were playing in the Cooper Park. He was one of the patrons of the club. His death in the prime of life is deeply regretted by a host of friends in Elgin and district. He is survived by a widow and one son, Robert, who has been associated with his father in the conduct of business during the past year or two. The funeral takes place to the Elgin Cemetery on Sunday at two o'clock.

*Northern Scot* 11 April 1914

Alexander Hay was born on the 18 September 1866 at 87 High Street, Elgin son of Robert Hay, Wood Merchant & Gilder & Agnes Aitken. His parents had married on the 29 December 1854. His Mother being from Cumbernauld with his Father being from the Gorbals or Govan (both are given in two OPR entries).

Before coming to Elgin his parents were recorded in the 1861 Census as residing at Morrison Street, Govan, Tradeston, Lanarkshire of Robert Hay 28 Carver & Cabinetmaker, Agnes Hay 25, John Hay 5, William Hay 4, Robert Hay 2, Allan Hay 4m

and Janet Aitken 20 (Sister-in-law) Dressmaker. Why they moved to Elgin is unknown but they were here in November 1862 when their daughter Mary Crawford Hay was born.

His father Robert Hay was very successful in business, with the following advert being in *The Elgin and Morayshire Courant* of 26 April 1867:

**FURNITURE, &c.**

**T**HE SUBSCRIBER respectfully invites intending purchasers to call and inspect his present Extensive Stock of First-Class FURNITURE, manufactured from Thoroughly Seasoned Materials, and the Workmanship of every article guaranteed.

**DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE.** { The latest designs in Cabinets of beautifully inlaid woods in Buhl and Marqueterie; Chiffoniers of elegant design. A large choice of Tables of the finest class. Settees and Couches in variety. Easy Chairs, Whatnots, &c., &c.

**DINING-ROOM AND PARLOUR FURNITURE.** { Sideboards, Cabinets, Book-cases, Sofas, Couches, Lounge and Easy Chairs; the newest designs in Dining-room Chairs, Telescope, Loo, Pembroke, and Sutherland Tables.

**BED-ROOM FURNITURE.** { In Walnut, Mahogany, and Birch, Wardrobes, Drawers, Toilet Tables, Mirrors, Bed-room Chairs, Towel Rails, Commodas, &c., in great variety. Mahogany Wardrobes from £9 10s upwards, and Mahogany Drawers from £21 2s 6d and upwards.

**VENETIAN-WINDOW BLINDS.** { From 8d per foot upwards, of the best manufacture, and carefully fitted up.

He would particularly call attention to his **IRON BED-STEADS.**

Good Strong Beds, 3 ft. 6 in. x 6 = 6, for	£1 1 0
Do., 4 ft. x 6 = 6, for	1 2 6
Do., 4 ft. 6 in. x 6 = 6, for	1 3 6

**FUNERALS CONDUCTED IN TOWN AND COUNTRY**

**ROBERT HAY,**  
CABINETMAKER AND UPHOLSTERER,  
CARVER, GILDER, AND PICTURE-FRAME MAKER,  
No. 108 HIGH STREET, ELGIN.

\*.\* Shut at Seven P.M.

By the 1871 Census Alexander and his family are recorded to be residing at 27 South Street, Elgin and the family had extended. Robert Hay 38 Cabinetmaker (employing 8 men & 5 boys), Agnes Hay 35, John Hay 15 Cabinetmaker, William Hay 14 Scholar, Robert Hay 12 Scholar, Allan Hay 10 Scholar, Mary C Hay 8 Scholar, James Hay 6 Scholar, Alexander Hay 4, George A Hay 3 and Ann Russell 19 Domestic Servant.

By 1881 Alexander and his family are recorded to be residing at 51 High Street, Elgin of Robert Hay 48 Cabinet maker (Employing 8 men, 1 woman & 11 boys), Agnes Hay 45, William Hay 23 Upholsterer, Mary Crawford Hay 18, James Hay 16 Cabinetmaker, Alexander Hay 14 Apprentice Law Clerk, George Aitken Hay 13 Scholar, Peter Grant Hay 8, Scholar, Arthur Mill Hay 7 Scholar and Helen Isabella Hay 3.

By the 1891 Census Alexander Hay had left home and was recorded at Grahamfield Place, Beith, Ayrshire aged 24 occupation Woodcarver, he must have forgone his Law Clerk career. He married his first wife Jeanie Gray ms Campbell 30 November 1892 at Beith Ayrshire. His son Robert being born 5 January 1894 at 15 Jamaica Street, Greenock. First wife died 23 February 1897 at 517 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow (Noted that her 1<sup>st</sup> husband Archibald Gray had also been a cabinetmaker). Second wife Mary Ann Finnie (9 August 1867 - 16 September 1944) married on the 27 October 1898 at 95 Renfill Street, Blythswood.

By the 1901 Census Alexander and his family had returned to the family home at 51 High Street, Elgin being recorded as Alexander Hay 35 Cabinetmaker, Mary Hay 33 and Robert Hay 7 Scholar. Still resident here in the 1911 Census when recorded of himself 44 and his wife Mary 43. Alexander died here on the 8 April 1914.

Wife was born 9 August 1867 at 44 Cathcart Street, Greenock died 16 September 1944 at Munro Home, Elgin usual residence Fernes Villa, Rose Place, Elgin interred Elgin Cemetery.

Son Robert married Ida Jane Davidson on 5 June 1918 at The Station Hotel, Elgin died 2 December 1926 at 14 Cultard Street, Elgin. Recorded on family Headstone in Elgin (East Section) Cemetery as 'In memory of Robert Hay, husband of Ida J. Davidson who died 2.12.1926 aged 32. Also the said Ida J. Davidson who died 23.4.1961 aged 66.'

His Father Robert Hay (14 August 1832 - 1 August 1905) died at Prospect Lodge, Elgin just 7 years earlier and had the following obituary in *The Northern Scot* of 5 August 1905:

'The Late Mr Robt. Hay, Elgin. Regret, widespread and keen – in many cases of a personal loss – is felt at the death of Mr Robert Hay, cabinetmaker, which took place at his residence, Prospect Lodge, Elgin, on Tuesday forenoon. For some time back the state of Mr Hay's health had caused considerable anxiety, but he still contrived to move about, occasionally meeting with old friends and conversing with them in his well-known genial manner. About three weeks ago, however, he became worse, and gradually sank until he passed away as stated.

A native of Forres, Mr Hay, after a very fair education, went to Glasgow in 1853, where he remained in business as a carver and gilder till 1857. He then returned to Elgin, and in the following year started business here. In a short time he added cabinetmaking to the other departments, and being possessed of much energy and shrewdness, he soon built up a business which

became widely known. In 1874 he erected the commodious premises in High Street where he has carried on an excellent and prosperous business ever since.

Mr Hay's reputation as a carver brought him at various times much work of the finest kind; and not only was he able to execute the most difficult orders in wood-carving in a manner which gave the utmost satisfaction, but having a great natural aptitude for this class of work, he delighted in it, and produced many rare and beautiful designs. At various times during the past thirty odd years he has sent out into the world young men whom he had taught the art of carving so well that on account of their ability as craftsmen success followed their efforts in various parts of the world. And not only in this branch of his business did his apprentices gather grit beyond the common, but in that of cabinetmaking as well; many of his "loons" now occupy responsible positions in various centres. Mr Hay's establishment has likewise been well known as the repository of all kinds of household furnishing, much of the very highest quality, for he prided himself in being able to suit all tastes, and delighted in meeting the wants of every customer who came his way.

In public life Mr Hay, with one or two brief intervals, took little active part, although at all times he evinced a keen interest in the well-being of the town. He served a term of three years on the Town Council, however, and was also a member of the Parochial Board, now the parish Council. In the affairs of the Elgin Building Society he likewise for a time took part, being for a short period its chairman, and he was a member of the Elgin Plate Glass Insurance Association.

Of a strenuous and robust character, Mr Hay was yet kind-hearted and extremely genial. Of anecdotes, some of them very amusing and all of them thoroughly Scotch, he possessed an extensive fund, and nothing afforded him greater pleasure than to tell sympathetic listeners pithy stories of queer folk he had at various times encountered, and of the strange vicissitudes through which he had known them to pass. But all this with hearty good humour and with the best intent – evil he spoke of none. It will thus be readily recognised that on a railway journey of in a casual walk, he made one of the cheeriest companions possible, filling the interludes with hearty laughter.

To the town of Elgin, in which he has so long resided and been so prosperous, he gave much in return. A little over a year ago he presented to the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute of Nurses a handsome villa in Hay Street, fully equipped and furnished. This gift has already proved a great boon to the nurses. Some years ago Mr Hay provided a gymnasium in the Public Park for the youth of the town, and quite recently presented to

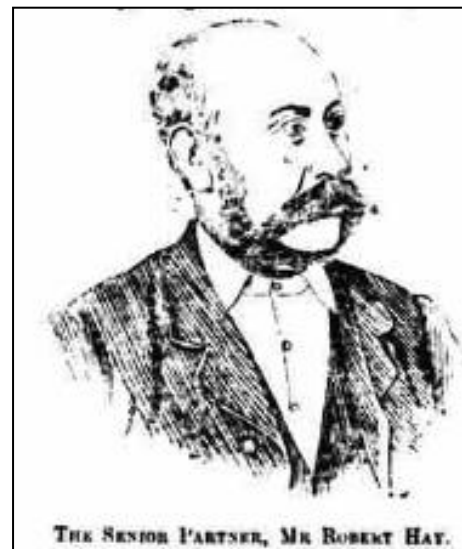
the volunteers various gymnastic appliances, which were much appreciated. Gray's Hospital was also indebted to his generosity. In Church work he all along took an active part, being an office-bearer in the South United Free Church.

He is survived by eight sons and three daughters, all grown up, his wife having predeceased him some years ago. Several of his sons are in business on their own account elsewhere.

The funeral will take place at one o'clock today to Elgin Cemetery, and we doubt not it will be very largely attended.'

[Note a few mistakes in article – says he returned to Elgin in 1857 but in 1861 Census he was still in Govan and says born Forres but actually he was born in Glasgow!]

Robert Hay was a son of John Hay, Mason & Mary Allan and was born 14 August 1832 and baptised 9 September 1832 in the Gorbals, Glasgow. Married Agnes Aitken (? - 19 April 1900) 29 December 1854 in the Gorbals, Glasgow. Robert was recorded of that Parish whilst Agnes belonged to the Parish of Cumbernauld. [Agnes's Death Certificate states parents as John Aitken and Mary Crawford, search of OPR states William Aitken and Mary Crawford with birth in Cumbernauld 31 October 1835. Could death Certificate have wrong name?].



A detailed article on the business of Robert Hay and family can be found in the *Northern Scot* Newspaper of 11 May 1895.

Recorded on family Headstone in Elgin Cemetery (West Section) as 'In memory of George Hay son of Robert Hay who died 25.2.1897 aged 29 and his two daughters Agnes and Janet who died in infancy and his wife Agnes Aitken who died 19.4.1900 aged 64 and of the said Robert Hay who died 1.8.1905 aged 73 also Robert son of Robert

Hay who died at Elgin 24.7.1920 aged 61 also Ebenezer Allan who died 27.3.1952 aged 84 husband of Helen Hay who died 12.7.1954 aged 77.'

Family –

John Hay – Born 6 October 1855 at 194 West Nile Street, Glasgow. Married 19 June 1886 Annie Fraser at Waterloo Place, Edinburgh. Died 26 November 1921 at 6 Calderhill Road, Inverness

William Hay – Born 21 January 1857 at 37 Abercorn Street, Glasgow. Married 3 January 1892 Isabella Cameron at Waverley Temperance Hotel, High Street, Nairn. Died 28 April 1932 at 5 Balchraggan Buildings, Reay Street, Inverness.

Robert Hay – Born 5 January 1859 at 16 West Nile Street, Glasgow. Died 24 July 1920 at 14 Culbert Street, Elgin usual residence 3 Atholl Street, Perth.

Allan Hay – Born 2 December 1860 at 6 Morrison Street, Glasgow. Married Sarah Sams. No trace of the marriage. Died 1 June 1931 at Westross House, Elgin

Mary Crawford Hay – Born 13 November 1862 at 18 Hay Street, Elgin. Married 26 October 1892 John Gregor Shiach at Prospect Lodge, Elgin. Died 17 January 1914 at 25 West High Street, Bishopmill, Elgin.

James Hay – Born 17 November 1864 at 18 Hay Street, Elgin. Married 18 June 1897 Agnes Campbell at 37 South Portland Street, Glasgow. (In 1901 Census at 14 Dumbarton Road, Anderston, Glasgow with Wife Agnes and children Robert 3 and Agnes 1).

George Aitken Hay – Born 3 February 1868 at 87 High Street, Elgin. Died 25 February 1897 at Prospect Lodge, Elgin.

Agnes Grant Hay – Born 25 July 1869 at 87 High Street, Elgin. Died 11 August 1870 at 25 South Street, Elgin.

Janet Hay – Born 30 July 1870 at Stotfield, Elgin. Died 17 August 1870 at 25 South Street, Elgin.

Margaret 'Maggie' Hay – Born 3 March 1872 at 27 South Street, Elgin. Married 15 June 1899 John T. Lyon at Prospect Lodge, Elgin. Died 26 July 1906 at 89 Leslie Terrace, Aberdeen.

Peter Grant Hay – Born 17 February 1873 at New Elgin, Elgin. Married 22 December 1900 Jane Martha Frost at St James Church, Clapham, Surrey.

Arthur Mill Hay - Born 7 March 1874 at 27 South Street, Elgin. Married 30 March 1904 Janet Ainslie Philip at Alloa. Died 24 October 1954 at Infectious Disease Hospital usual residence 43 Leedgate, Alloa.

Helen Isabella Hay - Born 19 July 1877 at 51 High Street, Elgin. Married 27 April 1907 Ebenezer Allan at St David's United Free Church, Glasgow. Died 12 July 1954 at 19 Rose Avenue, Elgin.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell

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## Moray Miscellany

### Nairnshire Mirror Marriages 1853-4

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 11<sup>th</sup> of October 1854 and was absorbed into the *Nairnshire Telegraph*.

**7 Dec 1853** - At Drumin, on the 24<sup>th</sup> ult., by the Rev. Robert Stuart Tombae, Mr **James Spence**, Gamekeeper, Gallowhill to **Jessie MacIntosh**, daughter of Mr **MacIntosh**, late in Claggant.

**21 Dec 1853** - At Kingussie, on the 13<sup>th</sup> instant, by the Rev. Mr MacTavish of the Free Church, **Thomas Mackay**, Esq. British Linen Coy's Bank, Edinburgh to **Jane**, fourth daughter of the late Mr **Stewart**, Pitmain.

**21 Dec 1853** - At Milton-Brae, on the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, by the Rev. Robert Dunbar of the Free Church, Pluscarden, Mr **Charles MacKessock**, Culblair to **Jane**, eldest daughter of Mr **John MacKessock**, Milton-Brae.

**21 Dec 1853** - At Nairn on 2d inst., by the Rev. Alexander Mackenzie, Mr **Peter Bain**, Coachman, Elgin to **Isabella**, eldest daughter of Mr **James Murray**.

**4 Jan 1854** - At Nairn on the 23d ultimo, by the Rev. Peter Ferries, Minister of Edinkillie, **Matthew Ferguson Ferries**, Esq. Rector of Rose's Academical Institution, Nairn to **Jane**, youngest daughter of the late **William MacLean**, Esq. Nairn.

**4 Jan 1854** - At Easter Glackton, on the 23d ult., by the Rev. John Fraser of the Established Church, Petty, Mr **John Ellis**, Farmer, Mosshall to **Jane**, eldest daughter of Mr **Smith**, Farmer, Easter Glackton.

Contributed by Stuart Farrell