

would, thinking to see the boys and persuade them not to enlist. The Laird summoned a servant to tell Thomas and Andrew to come in. When they came he said, "Your father will give his consent if ye are willing to enlist." You may judge of the father's consternation when he saw the turn affairs had taken. He had a young family by the second marriage growing up—three boys and two girls. The boys names were William, Donald and John,—the girls Margery and Margaret. So he decided to emigrate to America, and in the spring of 1803 he, with some hundreds of others set sail for the wilds of America in the celebrated ship "Polly."

The emigrants had a long and eventful voyage ere they reached their destined haven. When a few weeks out (it took more weeks then to cross the ocean than it does days now) the lookout sighted a man-of-war bearing down on them. They were in search of recruits for the navy. The captain of the "Polly" was at his wits' end, not knowing what to do. At last an idea struck him; he hoisted the flag of distress and sent all his crew below decks and got all the old men on deck as assistant seamen. The man-of-war hailed them to heave to, which they did. Then the cruiser lowered and manned a boat, and sent to see what was the matter. The captain of the "Polly" shouted back: "All the crew down with ship fever, and it has just broken out in the steerage." They were asked if they wanted anything. "Yes, short of medicine and fruit." The cruiser supplied them with both, and was glad to leave them to their fate. So the good old "Polly" was allowed to go on her way to plow her monotonous furrow across the bosom of old Ocean. There were two deaths and two births on board before they reached Quebec. The late Finlay Smith (Finla Rhouegh) was one of the born. Nothing more of any importance happened until they reached America. The ship called at Quebec, and some of the passengers landed.