

term of apprenticeship with the Bank of Scotland. That was in 1884, and it was not until 1906, and then only for a brief period, that we met again. On that occasion the subject was not mentioned, and to me it is singular, that while my mind was still perturbed because of the destruction of my works, he should have preferred such a request. It, however, has added the necessary incentive to induce me to commence anew; and I now approach the work with pleasure, trusting in the providence of God that my words may be interesting and even useful.

To get to the origin of our peculiar name, it is necessary to go back 216 years, to the date of the Massacre of Glencoe—1692. This massacre, which perhaps constitutes one of the blackest pages in Scottish history, has been recorded by many historians, and the work of the Rev. Dr. Gilfillan appeals to me as giving the best account of the awful crime. But beyond the fact that they had made their escape, no authentic information is to be found, in any known treatise on the subject, regarding the fate of the two sons of the McIan, John and Alexander, after the sudden warning to flee for their lives, given them in the dead of night by a clansman, then a fugitive, while the terrible butchery was being enacted: