



# The Clan Donnachaidh Society

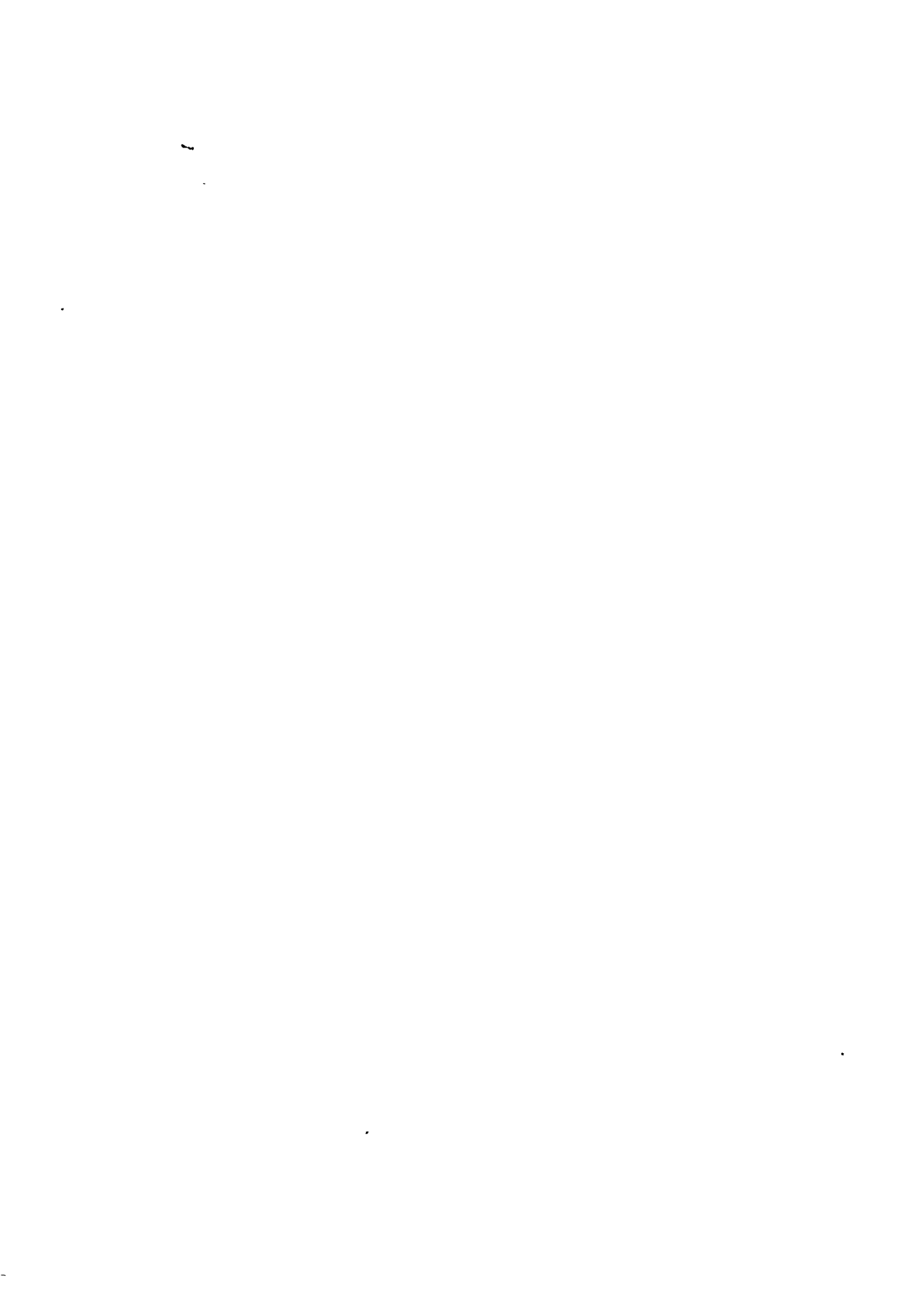


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  - Miss Annie, Forneth, Dunkeld.
  - Miss Annie, Victoria House, Blair-Atholl.
  - Miss Annie E. H., Dressmaker, Edinburgh.
  - Miss Dorothy, Villa Castelnovo, San Maurizio d'Opaglio, Novara, Italy.
  - Miss E., China Merchant, 35 Dundas Street, Edinburgh.
  - Miss Elizabeth, Kinnord Public School, by Aberdeen.
  - Miss Emily, Calvine, Struan, Perthshire.
  - Miss Eva., A. G. S. M., Professor of Elocution, London.
  - Miss Grace, Old Blair, Blair-Atholl.
  - Miss Jane, Housekeeper, Auchleeks, Calvine, Perthshire.
  - Miss Jane M., 32 Garscube Terrace, Edinburgh.
  - Miss Jane Stewart, Calvine, Struan, Perthshire.
  - Miss Janet, Struan, Calvine.
  - Miss Janet P., Matron, Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples' Home and College, Alton, Hants.
  - Miss Jeanie Stewart, Rahoy, Killin.
  - Miss Jessie, Craig-Urrard, Pitlochry.
  - Miss Kate, Victoria House, Blair-Atholl.
  - Miss M. Bruce, 15 Baffin street, Dundee.
  - Miss M. MacIver, 23 Westbourne Grove, West Kirby, Cheshire.
  - Miss Margaret, St. Fillans, Perthshire.
  - Miss Margaret, 12 Leven Terrace, Edinburgh.
  - Miss Margaret E., Christ's Hospital, Hertford.
  - Miss Sara L., 23 Westbourne Grove, West Kirby, Cheshire.
  - Miss Stewart, Findynate Cottage, Strathtay.
  - Miss Susan, Fancy Goods Merchant, Pitlochry.
  - Mrs., (late of Chilcote) care Messrs. Smith, Mammatt & Co., Solicitors, Ashby de la Zouch.
  - Mrs., Osborne Hotel, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.
  - Mrs., Briarfield, Lillington Avenue, Leamington, Warwickshire.
  - Miss Bertha F., Briarfield, Lillington Ave., Leamington, Warwickshire.
  - Miss M. Lucy, Briarfield, Lillington Ave., Leamington, Warwickshire.
  - H. J., B.A., Briarfield, Lillington Avenue, Leamington, Warwickshire.
  - Mrs., Train Mills, Pitlochry.
  - Robert, Grain Mills, Pitlochry.
  - Mrs., Allanlea, Melrose.
  - Mrs., of Kindeace, Delny, Ross-shire.
  - Mrs. Brown, Dudhope House, Dundee.
  - Miss A. Brown, Dudhope House, Dundee.
  - Miss J. Brown, Dudhope House, Dundee.
  - Mrs. Donald E., Nowell, Bisley, Stroud, Glos.
  - Mrs. Duncan, 4 Portland Place, Leith.
  - Mrs. George, Inverine, Dunfermline.
  - Miss Mary St. Clair, Inverine, Dunfermline.
  - Mrs. Grace, 10 Hillend Gardens, Partickhill, Glasgow.
  - Mrs. John, Braemore, West Park Road, Dundee.
  - Montagu A. (of Auchleeks), Coalburn, Pictou County, Nova Scotia.
  - Mungo, Leithen Lodge, Innerleithen.
  - Norman, Struan, Cadogan Road, Surbiton, Surrey.
  - Mrs., Struan, Cadogan Road, Surbiton, Surrey.
  - Ossian, National Bank of Scotland, Stornoway.
  - Dr. P. H., 5 Kelvin Drive, Glasgow. W.
  - Patrick M., 2 Parkside Terrace, Edinburgh.
  - Peter, Merchant, Callander.
  - Peter, Tjandi, Samarang, Java.
  - Peter, Waterloo Place, Dingwall.
  - Peter Stewart, J.P., Clunie Place, Blairgowrie.
  - R. A., 120 King Henry's Road, London, N.W.
  - R. A., 7 Glenmore Road, Hampstead, London, N.W.
  - R. C., Abercromby Villa, Lochee.

- ROBERTSON, Mrs., Abercromby Villa, Lochee.  
 —R. F., 421 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.  
 —R. Macfarlane, Ashleigh, St. George's Road, Weybridge.  
 —Rev. Robert, The Manse, Logie-Coldstone, Dinnit, Aberdeenshire.  
 —Robert, Craigard, Hawkhead, Paisley.  
 —Robert, 19 Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, London.  
 —Robert, 57 Kyle Park, Uddingston, Glasgow.  
 —Robert, 35 Barony Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Robert, 13 Gray's Inn Square, London, W.C.  
 —Robert (D.Sc.), 29 Charlton Road, Blackheath, London, S. E.  
 —Robert, Shierglass, Blair-Atholl.  
 —Robert, 499 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.  
 —Robert, Aldclune, Blair-Atholl.  
 —Robert, 14A Clarence Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Dr. Robert, St. Catherine's House, Ventnor, I.W.  
 —Robert, Architect and C. E., Inverness.  
 —Robert, 13 Barrack Street, Dundee.  
 —Robert, Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.  
 —Robert, Grocer, 438 George Street, Aberdeen.  
 —Robert A., Lecturer in Botany, The University, St. Andrews.  
 —Robert Halley, Clydesdale Bank, Cupar, Fife.  
 —Robertson Blair, 16 Garlies Road, Forest Hill, London.  
 —Stewart, Artist, London.  
 —Struan G., Seabank, Pictou, Nova Scotia.  
 —T., 21 Lydford Road, Wandsworth, London S.W.  
 —T. Atholl, Inver Atholl, Derwent Road, Palmer's Green, London.  
 —T. A., Lauriston Lodge, Bushmead Avenue, Bedford.  
 —T. B., Printer, 27 South Bridge, Edinburgh.  
 —T. S., Architect, St. Andrew's Buildings, Dundee.  
 —T. W., 138 Leadenhall Street, London E.C.  
 —T. Whitelaw, 9 Queen Mary Avenue, Crosshill, Glasgow.  
 —Thomas, Muirfield, Kilmalcolm.  
 —Thomas, 150 Hope Street, Glasgow.  
 —Thomas, 60 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh.  
 —Thomas J., Hollandlea, Cupar.  
 —Rev. W., D.D., Coltness Manse, Newmains.  
 —Dr. W., Medical Officer of Health, Leith.  
 —W. D., Solicitor, 243 West George Street, Glasgow.  
 —Dr. W. Ford (Laboratory of the Scottish Asylums), 48 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Mrs., 48 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Master Alex. Ford, 48 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Master W. Marsden, 48 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Master F. Calder, 48 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.  
 —W. G., 3 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh.  
 —Dr. W. G. Aitchison, Mayfield Lodge, Edinburgh.  
 —W. H., care Bartlett, Frazier, and Carrington, Western Union Building, Chicago.  
 —W. H., Baldroma, Ibrox, Glasgow.  
 —W. J., Seaview, Dysart.  
 —Rev. William, The Manse, Hay, New South Wales.  
 —William, Tesdorpstrasse 6, Hamburg.  
 —Henry, Heinrich Hertzstrasse 9, Hamburg.  
 —William, 7 Eton Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.  
 —Mrs. J. G., 7 Eton Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.  
 —William, Merchant, Aberfeldy.  
 —William, F.F.A., 29 Stafford Street, Edinburgh.  
 —William, West End Property Agency, 10 Atholl Place, Edinburgh.  
 —Thomas, 10 Atholl Place, Edinburgh.  
 —William, 11 St. Paul's Square, Perth.  
 —James, 11 St. Paul's Square, Perth.

ROBERTSON, Miss Susan, care William Robertson, 11 St. Paul's Square, Perth.

- William, Royal Hotel, Cupar.
- William, Solicitor, 18 King Street, Aberdeen.
- William, Rat Portage Lumber Co., Kenora, Ont., Canada.
- William, Ballinluig-of-Dunfallandy, Pitlochry.
- William, 13 Barrack Street, Dundee.
- William, 15 Castle Street, Dundee.
- William, Writer, 144 Bath Street, Glasgow.
- William, Ballinloan, Ballinluig.
- William, Gamekeeper, Fungle, Glentanner, Aboyne.
- William, 85 Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh.
- William, Merchant, Callander.
- Dr. William, Vale Crest, Mayville, Durban, Natal.
- William, Town Clerk, Buluwayo, South Africa.
- William, Storekeeper, Scarborough, New South Wales.
- William L., 6 Panmure Street, Dundee.
- William M., Strathview, 43 Forfar Road, Dundee.

McROBBIE, Miss, 22 Thorney Court, Palace Gate, London, W.

DUNCAN, Alex., Candycraig, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire

- Alex., 75 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.
- Alex., Maulesbank, Carnoustie.
- Mrs., Maulesbank, Carnoustie.
- Alex., 24 Bank Street, Hillhead, Glasgow.
- Alfred H., Monyruy, Longside, Aberdeen.
- Mrs. Eliza B., Monyruy, Longside, Aberdeen.
- Miss Dorothea Douglass, Monyruy, Longside, Aberdeen.
- Miss Frances Laura, Monyruy, Longside, Aberdeen.
- Arthur D. Stewart, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Jan G., Wellington, New Zealand.
- John, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Kenneth Douglass, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Mrs. Emily, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Miss Ethel Douglass, Wellington, New Zealand.
- Charles Keith, care Baine, Johnston & Co., St. John's, Newfoundland.
- David, Cosy Cottage, Cupar.
- G. Gilfillan, 75 Bassingham Road, Wandsworth, London, S.W.
- George, Junr., Newton Farm, Glentanner, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.
- James (Oban), care G. Duncan, Junr., Newton Farm, Glentanner, Dinnet.
- James, 876 Govan Road, Govan, Glasgow.
- James (Netherton), New Zealand.
- Mrs. (Netherton), New Zealand.
- James, Girnoc Cottages, Ballater.
- James, Police Station, Tomintoul, by Ballindalloch, Banffshire.
- James, St. Elmo, Allison Road, Kandwick, Sydney, N.S.W.
- James Alex., Logie-Aston, Bridge-of-Allan.
- John, Craighuig, Durris, by Aberdeen.
- Mrs., Craighuig, Durris, by Aberdeen.
- John, Candycraig, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.
- John Lusk, 16 Princes Square, Strathbungo, Glasgow.
- Jonathan, Netherton, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.
- Mrs., The Cottages, Hazelhead, Aberdeen.
- Miss, The Cottages, Hazelhead, Aberdeen.
- Miss, Newton, Glentanner, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.
- Miss Annie, Osborne Hotel, Tavistock Place, London, W. C.
- Miss J. H., The Milestone, 57 Colinton Road, Edinburgh.
- Mrs. Robert, 33 Inverness Terrace, Kensington Gardens, London, W.
- Rashleigh J., The Schools, Shrewsbury.
- Robert J., 10 Bernard Street, Leith.
- T. Watson, The Dell, Giffnock.

DUNCAN—Thomas, 38 Airlie Street, Hyndland, Glasgow.  
 —Thomas Langford, Littlecroft, Osterley Avenue, Osterley Park, Middlesex.  
 —W., The Hotel, Aboyne.  
 —W. Taylor, 43 Ava Street, Kirkcaldy.  
 —William, Netherton, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.  
 —William, Dee Castle, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.  
 —William L., Partick Foundry, Partick, Glasgow.

DUNNACHIE, James, Junr., Glenboig House, Glenboig, Lanarkshire.  
 —Robert D., Newlands Villa, Mount Vernon, Glasgow.  
 —W. J. Nimmo, Newlands Villa, Mount Vernon, Glasgow.  
 —William, Glenboig House, Glenboig.  
 —William J., Viewfield, Coatbridge.

MACONACHIE, R. H., 12 Bright Street, Aberdeen.

MACONOCHIE, Mrs., 65 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh.

McCONNOCHIE, A. Inkson, C.A., 1243 Argyle Street, Glasgow.

McCONNACH, Charles, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.

—James, Deer Hillock, Birss, Aboyne.  
 —James, Junr., Deer Hillock, Aboyne.  
 —Mrs., Tullich, Aboyne.

REID, Arthur, 10 Aitken Street, Glasgow.

—Charles, Blairfettie, Calvine, Perthshire.  
 —Francis, Graystone, Dinnet, Aberdeenshire.  
 —G. J. A., The Residency, Hope Town, Cape Province, S. Africa.  
 —Henry, 16 Bridgeton Cross, Glasgow.  
 —James, 12 Montpelier Terrace, Edinburgh.  
 —Miss Ann, Calvine, Struan, Perthshire.  
 —Miss Kate, Calvine, Struan, Perthshire.  
 —Mrs. James, 5 Corunna Street, Glasgow.  
 —Robert, Gowanlea, Glenboig.

ROY, Captain Kenneth (Middlesex Regt.), York Lodge, Furzefield Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

SKENE, Alexander, Crossfold, Tarland, Aboyne.

—George, Reekit Lane, Coull, by Aboyne.

#### NAME CHANGED AFTER 1745.

INCHES, Dr. Robertson, St John, New Brunswick.

ROBINSON, Dr. Charles A., West Lodge, Leominster, Surrey.

—Rev. J. Woodside, The Manse, Cadder.  
 —Rev. Mark, Bracon Ash Rectory, Norwich.  
 —Lieutenant Sydney, R. N., Bracon Ash Rectory, Norwich.  
 —Norman, Netherleigh, Castle Bar Hill, Ealing, Middlesex.

#### AFTER SETTLEMENT IN ENGLAND, SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

ROBINSON, Mrs. John R., 21 Denmark Villas, Hove, Sussex.

## LINEAL DESCENDANTS, ETC.

- ANDERSON, Mrs. Robertson, Post Office, Tealing, Forfarshire.  
 ARNOT, Mrs., Collingwood, Elgin.  
 AULD, Hugh Wyllie, 139 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.  
 BARNES, Miss, 216 High Street, Perth.  
 BATES, Mrs. Frances Jane (Archer), Crosshill Avenue, Glasgow.  
 —George (Archer), Crosshill Avenue, Glasgow.  
 BLACK, W. G., Ramoyle, Dowanhill Gardens, Glasgow.  
 BLACKETT, Miss, Wester Lochies, Burntisland.  
 BLACKWOOD, Mrs. Davina Robertson, Braval, Milngavie, Glasgow.  
 BROWN, John M. Robertson, F. St. Andrew's Manse, Kirkintilloch.  
 BROWNE, Mrs., Rossall House, 39 Peel Street, Liverpool.  
 CHANCELLOR, H. Robertson, of Newton Elvanfoot, 125 Princes Street, Edinburgh.  
 CHATER, J. S., M.B., 10 Steep Hill, Lincoln.  
 CONRAD, Mrs., 614 W. 3rd Street, Muscatine, Iowa, U.S.A.  
 DAVIDSON, Mrs., Elm House, Harrow-on-Hill.  
 DECKER, Lewis Robertson, 17 Atkinson Street, Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A.  
 DON, Dr., Park House, Nethergate, Dundee.  
 —Mrs. M. Duncan, Park House, Nethergate, Dundee.  
 DUNDAS, Mrs. Ralph, 28 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh.  
 EDGELEY, Mrs. John, Yothahnee, Dorrigo, New South Wales.  
 —Miss Margaret, Yothahnee, Dorrigo, New South Wales.  
 EUSTACE, Mrs., The Commodore's House, H. M. Dockyard, Portsmouth.  
 FORREST, Mrs., Tighnuit, Kinnesswood, Kinross.  
 GASKING, John Robertson, 182 Lancaster Road, Nottinghill, London, W.  
 —Mrs., 182 Lancaster Road, Nottinghill, London, W.  
 GORDON, Hon. Mrs., care Mrs. Robertson, 138 Inverness Terrace, London, W.  
 GREEN-THOMPSON, Colonel, of Bridekirk, Cockermouth, Cumberland.  
 GUTHRIE, Charles, W.S., 1 North Charlotte Street, Edinburgh.  
 —Mrs., Royal Bank House, Brechin.  
 —T. Maule, Town Clerk's Office, Brechin.  
 HALKET, Miss C. L., 58 Charlotte Street, Leamington, Warwickshire.  
 HARCUS, Mrs. A. Robertson, South Tuan, Westray, Orkney.  
 HODGDON, Charles Edward, 1400 Woodbury Avenue, Portsmouth, N.H., U.S.A.  
 —Mrs., 1400 Woodbury Avenue, Portsmouth, N.H., U.S.A.  
 HYSLOP, Miss Amy, care Mrs. Goodwyn, 14 Catherine Place, Bath.  
 HUTTON, Thomas Noel, 4 Sackville Place, Dublin.  
 KENDAL, Mrs., 12 Portland Place, London, W.  
 KERR, Islay, 203 West George Street, Glasgow.  
 KIDD, Miss, Auchnacarry, Glasgow Road, Perth.  
 LAING, Alex. Robertson, Ardenvohr, Bothwell.  
 LAMOND, Mrs., Trinafour, Calvine, Perthshire.  
 LAWRIE, Miss, 40 Morningside Park, Edinburgh.  
 LINDSAY, Mrs., Milton Bank, Broughty Ferry.  
 LOVEGROVE, Mrs., Rutland Lodge, Portchester Road, Bournemouth.  
 LOWNIE, John D., W.S., 7 Admiral Terrace, Edinburgh.  
 MACFARLANE, Walter, 18 Main Street, Anderston, Glasgow.

- MACKENZIE, Mrs. Marshall, 28 Albyn Place, Aberdeen.  
 MACVICAR, Miss Katherine B., 34 Morningside Park, Edinburgh.  
 MARR, Mrs. Amelia Robertson, 2 Rothesay Gardens, Partick, Glasgow.  
 MATHESON, Mrs. Robertson, Glendevon, by Dollar.  
 MAXWELL, W. Robertson, Baraskomel, Campbelltown.  
 McLAUHLAN, Mrs. S. Robertson, Auchleeks, Calvine, Perthshire.  
 McLEOD-SMITH, S., Chapra, Saran, Bihar, India.  
 McSWAN, Mrs. Robertson, 139 Great Junction Street, Leith.  
 —Miss A. Robertson, Dressmaker, 139 Great Junction Street, Leith.  
 MELVILLE, T. Robertson Inglis, Solicitor, 125 West Regent Street, Glasgow.  
 MILLER, A. H., LL.D., F.S.A., Rosslyn House, Dundee.  
 —Mrs., Rosslyn House, Dundee.  
 —Miss A. Robertson, 17 Garden Street, St. John, New Brunswick.  
 —Miss G. Robertson, Flawcraig, Errol.  
 NOEL-PATON, Victor A., 31 Melville Street, Edinburgh.  
 OWEN, Charles, Lambries House, Park Avenue, Hull.  
 PANTON, Mrs., Blair-Atholl.  
 PARKER, Miss Annie, 11 Forres Street, Edinburgh.  
 —William, 156 Craiglea Drive, Edinburgh.  
 PATTEN, Miss Jennie M., Yound, Colorado, U.S.A.  
 PEDDER, W. Baddeley, 3 Riversdale Road, West Kirby, Cheshire.  
 —Mrs., 3 Riversdale Road, West Kirby, Cheshire.  
 PENNINGTON, Mrs., 13 Inverness Terrace, London, W.  
 PULLAR, P. Macdougall, 92 Kirkcaldy Road, Maxwell Park, Glasgow.  
 ROBSON, William, Hawkhead Cottages, Crookston, near Paisley.  
 —Mrs. L. Robertson, Hawkhead Cottages, Crookston, near Paisley.  
 ROXBURGH, Miss, Newington Lodge, Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh.  
 RUSSELL, Mrs. C. Robertson, Fruiterer and Florist, 8 Portland Place, Leith.  
 SCRIBE, Madame, 40 Coupure, Ghent, Belgium.  
 SHAND, Thomas Y., Glenburn Villa, Luggie Bank, Cumbernauld, Glasgow.  
 SPEDDING, Mrs. Kilcruiik, Dollar.  
 STEVENS, Captain Charles, Staff Officer, Cadet Headquarters, care Box S30,  
 G. P. O., Wellington, New Zealand.  
 —George, Ipoh, F.M.S., via Penang.  
 —Norman, care Mrs. Geary, "Warleigh," 131 Palace Road, Tulse Hill,  
 London, S. W.  
 STEWART, Duncan, Bocheonie, Calvine, Perthshire.  
 —Duncan, Mains of Ballyoukan, Pitlochry.  
 —Mrs., Dalnacardoch, Perthshire.  
 —Mrs., Ard-an-Jar, Pitlochry.  
 —Duncan, Inverlair, Tulloch, Inverness-shire.  
 —Mrs., Inverlair, Tulloch, Inverness-shire.  
 STEWART-FERGUSON, Donald, of Dunfallandy, Pitlochry.  
 SWEET, Alexander, Braehead, Cathcart, Glasgow.  
 —Charles, The Studios, Rothesay.  
 THAIN, Mrs. M. Robertson, Aboyne Villa, Muirfield Road, Dundee.  
 THOMSON, Mrs., Springhill, Pitlochry.  
 TIERNAN, Charles B., 405 St. Paul's Street, Baltimore, U.S.A.  
 WATSON, Mrs., Struan, Invercargill, New Zealand.  
 WEBB, J. F. Robertson, Cloverlea, The Avenue, Totland Bay, I. W.  
 WILMOT, Mrs., St. Giles, Harpenden.  
 WILSON, Mrs. Robertson, 4 Morgan Street, Dundee.



## MEETINGS OF THE CLAN SOCIETY.

### THE CLAN SOCIETY.

The Meeting for Organization—The Purpose of the Society—An Address by Struan.

In January of 1893 the Clan Donnachaidh Society was formed at Edinburgh. The Society had first been suggested by Alistair Duncan, Chinese Imperial Civil Service, in a letter to the newspapers, and by Lieutenant M. U. Robertson, Cape Mounted Rifles, in one to Struan, the chief. The account of its formation is in a circular issued after the Edinburgh meeting. The first officers were:—

#### OFFICERS OF CLAN SOCIETY.

Chief—Alasdair Stewart Robertson of Struan.

President—The Right Honorable J. P. B. Robertson, Lord Justice General.

Vice-Presidents — Mrs. Robertson, Dowager, of Struan; Miss Robertson of Struan; Mrs. Robertson Matheson, Dunfermline; Neil Robertson, Dunfallandy; Duncan Robertson of Pennycuik; Edgar W. Robertson of Auchleeks; Dr. Argyll Robertson, Edinburgh; James Stewart-Robertson of Edradynate; Sir Noel Paton; John Robertson, Old Blair; Rev. A. Irvine Robertson, Clackmannan; Alistair Duncan, Aboyne; T. S. G. H. Robertson-Aikman of The Ross; Rev. Dr. F. L. Robertson, Glasgow, Etc.

Council—Duncan J. Robertson, Solicitor, Kirkwall; Professor Robertson, Glasgow University; Patrick C. Robertson, C.A., Edinburgh; Francis J. Robertson, W.S., Edinburgh; Douglass Duncan, Advocate, Aberdeen; Colonel Patrick Duncan, Aboyne; George Robertson, Dunfermline; David Robertson, Publisher, Glasgow; Alexander Robertson, A.Ph.S., Oban; Arthur S. Reid, Trinity College, Glenalmond, etc.; Hon. General Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Robertson Matheson.

The circular stated that

“At a meeting of Members of the Clan, recently held in Edinburgh, the Clan Donnachaidh Society was declared formed, and the above were proposed as Office-Bearers, and have ac-

cepted office, subject to the approval of the first general gathering of Clansmen.

#### OBJECTS OF SOCIETY.

“The Society will be based very much upon the lines adopted by other Clan Societies.

“The Objects of the Society (which will be non-sectarian and non-political), will be the fostering of Clan sentiment; the cultivation of social intercourse among the Members; the rendering of assistance to deserving Clansmen; the encouragement of education; and the collecting and preserving of Records and Traditions bearing on the History of the Clan.”

On the 24th Jan. 1893, the first meeting of the Clan Society was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh.

Struan Robertson, the Chief of the Clan, on the motion of the Right Hon. J. P. B. Robertson, Lord Justice General, took the chair. A large number of Clansmen and ladies were present.

At this meeting officers were elected and Struan delivered an address to the clan, as follows:—

#### STRUAN'S ADDRESS TO THE CLAN

My Lord Justice-General and Ladies and Gentlemen of Clan Donnachaidh, it is my privilege as your Chief—the lineal representative of the Chiefs of your forefathers—to say a few words to you before we proceed further with the business for which we are now met.

You will, I am sure, believe that it touches my heart very deeply to see so many of the Clan assembled in one place, and especially when I think of the long years during which Chief and Clansmen have been separated—nearly one hundred and fifty years since Clan Donnachaidh was gathered together. That was on the field of Culloden, and a fatal field it proved, alike for Chiefs and Clansmen. The Chiefs lost their immemorial possessions, and the Clansmen were scattered over the face of the globe.

But it is a proud reflection for us all that, in misfortune as in prosperity both Chiefs and Clansmen have upheld the ancient honor of their race,

and proved on many a bloody and victorious field their hereditary loyalty to Country and Crown.

Happily this evening we are gathered under peaceful circumstances. But though we have not now turned out with target and claymore—"all plaided and plumed in our tartan array"—we bring with us the same loyal hearts as of old; the same determination to preserve untarnished the traditions we have honored in the past, and to discharge, as best we may, the duty of Mutual Support and help in the present.

I rejoice to see so goodly a muster of the Clan around me. And though many far and near are unable to be present with us in body, I have reason to know they are with us in spirit and sympathy.

#### THE DARK DAY FOR CLAN.

Yet, although, since that dark and disastrous day, the 16th of April, 1746, our Clan as such, has lost land and power and influence, probably under changed conditions these have been regained to no small extent by its individual members. But undoubtedly in the deeds of our forefathers before and since that date, we have an inheritance of which we may well be proud though scattered over the world, I trust by means of the Clan sentiment, which, thank God, is not yet extinct at home or in the new and mighty communities beyond the seas, we may yet, as it were, stand "shoulder to shoulder" in the performance of the great duty of Mutual Help, which is one of the main objects of this Society. For the Clan sentiment, so deeply implanted in the Scottish heart, professes to be thoroughly practical in its aims; and by judicious and united action on the part of Members of the Society, the Clan Donnachaidh may be in a manner gathered together once more, so that each Clansman may in his hour of need be helped by the whole strength of the Clan.

Happily there are not a few whose efforts in the battle of life have been largely crowned with success. But doubtless there are some who are sorely wounded and stand in need of help.

I trust, then, that those more fortunate ones will, as Members of the Clan Donnachaidh Society, come forward to the assistance of the others.

#### FIRST ANNUAL MEETING IN 1893.

The Clan Donnachaidh Society — Its First Perthshire Meeting — The Royal Descent of the Clan.

The first annual meeting after the formation of the society was held at Perth in July, 1893.

The Perthshire Advertiser of the 10th July, 1893, contains a full report of the first Perthshire meeting, at which Struan Robertson, the chief of the Clan presided. There was a good attendance of clansmen.

#### THE CHIEF'S ADDRESS.

The chairman delivered a brief address. He said he was very pleased to see so many Robertsons and Duncans around him, for he knew that it was difficult for people living so far away to come down to Perth especially at this busy season. But he hoped that when he came back next year they would require a very large hall to receive them. (Applause.) He thought that the object of the Society was a very good one. It was like a Freemasonry; they had been separated for 150 years, that long period of time having elapsed since Clan Donnachaidh was gathered together. Some people said that the clan was dying out, but he did not think it was. (Hear, hear.) Although they were the last to be moving, they would perhaps yet be the biggest clan society in the Kingdom. A largely attended meeting of the Society had been held in Glasgow, and he was glad that in Perthshire and elsewhere in Scotland their efforts in the good cause were meeting with great success. He intended to show them the famous Clach-na-Brataich—the Stone of the Standard, but unfortunately he had left it. A few words about it would, however, be interesting. This ball of brilliant rock-crystal, about two inches in diameter, was noticed by the founder of the clan, Duncan de Atholia, glittering in a clod of earth hanging to the standard pole on its being lifted one morning as the Clan journeyed to join Bruce's army before Bannockburn. Ever since then this stone has been carried on the Chief's person when the clan was "out," its varying hues being consulted as prophetic of the fate of battle. On the eve of Sheriff-

muir, in 1715, where the Stuart cause was lost, the Poet-Chief first observed a flaw in the crystal. The stone had been for a time lent to the Scottish Antiquarian Museum, after a paper on it had been read by Sir Noel Paton, but Struan had recently removed it, having been reminded by a Highland lady that it was unlucky to let the stone be out of his personal keeping. He also read an extract from a quaint old letter regarding the medicinal virtues of the Clach-na-Brataich, it having been used by Captain Struan Robertson, his grandfather, for the cure of diseases in men and cattle. (A. plause.)

Mr. Robertson, of Auchleeks, proposed the nomination of Sir Noel Paton, and Mr. Alister Duncan, of the Chinese Imperial Civil Service, as honorary members. Sir Noel Paton, as they all knew, was a great artist and a devoted admirer of the clan, with which he was connected. He was now bringing out a work giving a history of the clan. Mr. Duncan had also worked very hard for the clan. These two gentlemen had already been nominated—but according to the rules of the Society they required to be proposed a second time. The nominations were unanimously agreed to.

#### STORY OF THE CLAN.

An interesting paper, entitled "Notes on the History of Clan Donnachaidh," by special request was then read by Mr. David Robertson, of Glasgow. He presented in a compact form a narrative of the rise and growth of Clan Donnachaidh and some of the traditions connected with its fortunes, and made allusion to its cadets and families and their descendants with brief notices of distinguishing features intrinsically its own, so as to enable them to form for themselves a connected story of the career of the tribe founded by Donnachaidh Reamhair. These traditions, he said, were handed down from generation to generation, and stories of its prominent position and characteristics were current amongst the people of a former day, of which he was the hero, and it was greatly to be regretted that these things were not recorded at the time and so had fled from mortal memory "The Robertsons of Struan." Skene

had said, "are unquestionably the oldest family in Scotland, being the sole remaining branch of that Royal House which occupied the throne of Scotland during the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, and from which they can distinctly trace their descent in the male line." The Chief read the following lines by Lord Houghton which had been copied by one of the Clan applying to the Society for membership:—

A sense of an earnest will  
To help the lowly-living,  
And a terrible heart-thrill,  
If you have no power of giving;  
An arm of aid to the weak  
A friendly hand to the friendless,  
Kind words, so short to speak,  
But whose echo is endless;  
The world is wide—these things are  
small,  
They may be nothing, but they are all.

After the transaction of other business a vote of thanks to the Chief for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

#### ANNUAL MEETING 1894-95.

A Brief Report of the Meeting Held in Glasgow in 1894 — Robertsons at Home and Abroad.

There is no full report of the second annual meeting of the Clan, which was held in Glasgow in 1894. There is, however, a short report in the Glasgow Herald, which gives a brief summary of the proceedings. It reads:—

The second annual general meeting of this society was held in the Merchants' Hall, George Square, Glasgow, last night. Colonel J. Leslie Robertson, C.B., of Butterglen, was in the chair, and among those on the platform were—Mrs. and Miss Robertson, Butterglen; Mr. Jeffrey Hall Robertson, Edinburgh; Dr. Alexander Robertson, Dr. J. Anderson Robertson, Glasgow; Dr. Robertson, Perth; Mrs. Robertson, Glasgow; Mrs. McKenzie and Mr. Neil McKenzie, Fort William; Mr. and Mrs. Archd. Robertson, Glasgow; Mr. and Mrs. David Robertson; Mr. J. Inches Robertson, Greek Consul; Mr. Robert Duncan, Mrs. Robertson, the Lowes, Dunkeld.

The Chairman apologized for the absence of the Lord Justice-General, who, he said, was there in spirit, and regretted extremely that he could not be there personally. Sir Noel Paton wrote regretting he could not be present at what he hoped would be a memorable event in the history of the society. The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said he had been in most parts of the world, and wherever he went he found the Robertsons taking a conspicuous place (applause).

He noticed all over the world the Robertsons showed the same self-respect for which they were famous at home. He seldom found loafers among the Robertsons, and only once in his life was he called upon by a Robertson for pecuniary aid, and that was in New York; and although the man turned out to be a Robertson in name, yet he was an Englishman. (Laughter).

He had no doubt the cause of education would be benefited by the society, as they intended to have valuable bursaries to be competed for by their sons and daughters (applause), and through these bursaries they might get such an education as would enable them to become famous in the world. (Applause).

Mrs. Robertson Matheson, Dunfermline, the general secretary, stated that the membership since the inauguration of the society in 1891 up to date was 435, and the balance of funds in hand was £106 11s. 8d. An excellent programme of music, vocal and instrumental, was gone through; and at an interval the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, whose mother was a Robertson, was proposed, and unanimously accepted an hon. member of the society.

#### GENERAL MEETING IN 1895.

The General Meeting for 1895 was held at Blair-Athol on the 25th October last. This being the first gathering of the Society in the old Clan country, a keen interest was shown in it by the members everywhere. A large number of clansmen and ladies were present, chiefly from the district, far and near, a moonlight night having been chosen, but also members from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, and London.

Edgar W. Robertson of Auchleeks, occupied the chair, and was accompanied to the platform by Mrs. Robertson of Auchleeks; Mr. and Mrs. John Robertson, Old Blair; Mrs. and Miss Robertson, Dunfallandy; Captain and Mrs. Stuart Robertson, Meall Dhu, Rannoch; Mrs. Robertson, The Lowes, Dunkeld; Dr. and Mrs. Irvine, Pitlochry; Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Robertson, Glasgow; Messrs. James Robertson, Taymount, Stanley; Jeffrey Robertson, Edinburgh; David Robertson, Robert Duncan and H. Gordon Robertson, Glasgow; Douglas Duncan and Hamilton G. Duncan, Aberdeen; John Forbes Robertson, London, etc. The chairman, after reading letters from Struan, The Lord Justice-General, Sir Noel Paton, etc., gave an interesting address, the other speakers being Messrs. John Robertson, Old Blair; John Forbes Robertson, London; David Robertson, Robert Duncan, and Archibald Robertson, Glasgow; James Robertson, Taymount; and Angus Robertson, Ballinlechan. The hall of the Blair-Athol Arms Hotel was decorated with the clan plaids and bracken ferns for the occasion.

The election of office-bearers concluded with that of Sir George Robertson, M.D., Chitral, and Johnston Forbes Robertson, Lyceum Theatre, London, as honorary members.

An enjoyable concert followed — pipe, piano and violin music being kindly rendered by members of the Clan, in so able a manner that hopes were expressed that at some time a Clan dance might be held. Mrs. Robertson, Ballechin, who presided at the piano, accompanied the violins of Messrs. Robertson and Duff, Pitlochry. Mr. Duff being a descendant of the famous Neil Gow, and playing in his peculiarly effective manner. The singing of Madame Robertson, the well-known vocalist, was greatly enjoyed — her rendering of the Highland songs being very fine. After the meeting a large number of members was enrolled. The thanks of the Society are due to all who helped towards the success of the evening, and especially to the district secretaries, Mr. James Robertson, Pitlochry; Mrs. Robertson, The Lowes, Dunkeld; and Mr. Arthur S. Reid, Trinity College, Glenalmond;

also Dr. Irvine, Pitlochry. (From Clan Society's Report, 1896.)

The Clan did not hold a meeting in 1896.

## CHAPTER XV.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS IN 1897-8.

A List of Ancient and Valuable Relics Connected With the Clan, and Some Interesting Documents.

#### RELICS OF THE CLAN.

The Annual General Meeting in 1897 was held in the Freemasons' Hall Edinburgh, on 5th March. Dr. Argyll Robertson presided, and there was a crowded gathering, many being unable to gain admittance. Members were present from all parts of the country. Tea was served in the side hall during the half-hour before the chair was taken. The platform and Chairman's table were draped with the Clan tartan, and a table on the floor in front was laid out with Clan relics, photographs, etc.; also Sir Noel Paton's copy of the portrait of Alexander Robertson of Struan, the Poet-Chief, which represents him drinking "The King Over the Water." Among other relics shown were the sporran which Donald Robertson of Woodsheal, leader of the Clan, wore at Culloden, lent by Mr. Arthur S. Reid, Glenalmond; part of the turnspit from Invervack, lent by Mr. F. J. Robertson; a parchment appointing a factor over the confiscated estates of Struan in 1748, lent by Mr. William Robertson; Woodsheal's sword, and photographs of the following Charters, lent by Sir Noel Paton:

1. Charter by Duncan Robertson of Athole, with consent of Robert, his son, to the Dean of Dunkeld, 20th January 1438. (With seals of Duncan and Robert).

2. Charter by James II. to Robert Roach, erecting his Estates of Strowan, etc., into a free barony, in recognition of his having captured the murderers of James I. Confirmed 15th August 1451.

3. Obligation. 1st July 1485, by Prior of Black Friars, Perth, to have mass said in perpetuity for the soul of Robert Duncanson of Strowan (endowed by his widow.)

4. Tree of the descendants of Alexander Robertson of Strowan (first of the name of Alexander) and his two

wives:—(1) Elizabeth Lyon, daughter of Patrick, third Lord Glamis, grandson of Lady Jean Stewart, daughter of King Robert II.; and (2) Elizabeth, daughter of John Stewart, Earl of Athole, uterine brother of King James II (in holograph of Duncan Robertson of Strowan, who succeeded the Poet-Chief in 1749, and died in exile 1780—grandfather of Lady Nairne.)

#### CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The Chairman in an interesting address congratulated the Society on the large size of the gathering—so good an indication of its vitality. Among the letters of apology for absence received by the Clan Secretary were one from the President—who had kindly arranged to take the chair—expressing his regret at being unavoidably prevented from doing so, one from the Chief, and one from Sir Noel Paton.

#### FROM STRUAN IN JAMAICA.

Struan, then in Jamaica, wrote:—

"Though at present five thousand miles separate me from my Clansmen. I am not forgetful of my duties, and though I cannot be with you at this meeting, you will, I hope, believe me when I say that my heart is with you. In the same manner, though I am separated from my Clansmen, I know that their thoughts will turn to me in this far distant land. Clach-na-Brataich is here with me, and when I look at what is to my idea the loyal spirit of the Clan turned into pure and glittering crystal, I cannot but believe that their thoughts are of the one who takes care of it and has it always by him."

#### LETTER FROM SIR NOEL PATON.

Sir Noel Paton wrote Mr. Matheson:—

"In compliance with your suggestion, I shall have pleasure in sending to the hall a copy made many years ago of the portrait of Alexander, the Poet-Chief, subsequently bequeathed by the late Mrs. Robertson of Struan to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, where it now hangs. Along with this I shall send two frames containing photographs of documents which cannot but be of interest to all members of the Clan. Also, I shall send the sword used at Culloden by my worthy grand-uncle, Woodsheal, which, along with his commission of Lieutenant-Colonel, signed by Prince Charles.

was presented to me by Mrs. Robertson, December 28th, 1869. As you are aware, Mrs. Robertson bequeathed to me a profoundly interesting relic—a small mirror, part of the camp equipage of the noble, though ill-starred, Prince. The commission and mirror I would fain send. But they are fragile as they are precious; and you can understand my reluctance to risk them, out of my own hands, even on such an occasion. It greatly interests me to know that Woodsheal's sporrán is to be shown at the meeting. I hope it has been more tenderly guarded from the assaults of time than the sword has been."

The Clan Secretary and Treasurer's Report was then read and adopted, and the Office-Bearers re-elected, with several additions to the Council.

#### A POETIC CONTRIBUTION.

This piece of verse is well written and stirring in its appeal to the clan spirit:—

Clan Donnachaidh! Clan Donnachaidh!  
the cry rings far and wide.

The gathering cry you have now  
heard a hundred years and more,  
Since on Culloden's mournful moor  
your fathers fought and died,

And left their sons a deathless pride  
to bear the name they bore.

O'er bens and glens, o'er misty plains,  
where clear brown rivers run,

Where silver birches gleam and  
slowly weep their leaves of gold,  
Where lone lochs mourn unto the hills  
their purple bloom is done,

Clan Donnachaidh! your gathering  
cry is sounding as of old!

Not as of old to fateful fray, or battle  
for the king,

Around the Clach-na-Brataich and  
the ribbon blue again.

Not as of old in Athole's wilds with  
targe and claymore ring,

Or Struan's bracken tremble to the  
marching of the men.

But as of old, Clan Donnachaidh, with  
hearts as brave and true,

As brotherly, though severed wide  
by country, sea and town.

Old love of right, old hate of wrong,  
old loyalty anew,

For as of yore, Clan Donnachaidh,  
your Hand upholds the Crown!

S. R. M

#### MEETINGS IN 1898.

The General Gathering of the Clan was held in the Blythswood Rooms, Glasgow, on the evening of the 16th March, 1898. Dr. Anderson Robertson presided over a large audience of Glasgow members and their friends, several of the members from Perthshire being also present. In the chairman's interesting address and in the Clan Secretary's report, special mention was made of the loss sustained by the Society in the death of Mr. David Robertson, F.S.A., Scot., Hon. Secy. of the Glasgow District, and author of "A Brief Account of Clan Donnachaidh," published by the Society in 1894. The organizing of the western section of the Society had been undertaken and carried out with great zeal by Mr. David Robertson, along with his colleague Mr. H. Gordon Robertson. Dr. Anderson Robertson and Mr. Hugh Duncan were appointed joint secretaries for Glasgow at this meeting. Thereafter a concert was given and some eighty views of the Clan country of Dunkeld, Athole and Rannoch, and portraits of chiefs and distinguished clanspeople, were shown by lime-light.

#### DISTRICT MEETING IN 1899.

A Meeting of the Society at Aberdeen, at Which Interesting Addresses Were Delivered.

The Clan held a district meeting in 1899 on Thursday, the 16th Feb., at the Trades Hall at Aberdeen, and at which Sheriff Robertson presided. A large gathering was present.

The Aberdeen Free Press gave a full account of the proceedings, as after giving a list of those present, part of the report reads:—

#### A LARGE GATHERING.

There was a large gathering of the Clan Donnachaidh at the Trades Hall last evening, when the Society formed for the purpose of maintaining the ancient and honored traditions of the clan assembled for the first time in Aberdeen. A large number of clansmen obeyed the summons of the Chief to attend, and Sheriff Robertson presided. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Skene of Avonlea, Mr.

and Mrs Marshall Mackenzie, Mrs. Campbell, formerly of Crathie. Mrs. Robertson Matheson, Glendevon; Hon. Clan Secretary, Colonel Douglass Duncan, Captain Macneal, Mr. and Mrs. John Robertson, Mr. R. W. K. Bain, advocate; Councillor Robertson, Messrs. Harvey Hall, Hamilton Duncan, Ceylon; Alister Duncan, Chinese Civil Service; Alfred Duncan, Longside; George Hall, etc. At the outset of the proceedings, Colonel Douglass Duncan, hon. district secretary, submitted apologies for absence from Struan Robertson, chief of the clan; Sir Noel Paton, Colonel Patrick Duncan, Aboyne; Mr. John Forbes Robertson, London; and Miss Emily Robertson. The annual report of the Society, drawn up by Mrs. Robertson Matheson, was then read by Colonel Douglass Duncan, from which it appeared that the membership in 1882 had increased by 40, of whom 5 were life members and 35 ordinary members. The total membership was now 824. It was stated that the funds at the credit of the Society amounted to £200, which was considered very satisfactory, and during the year the Society had been able to relieve several deserving members of the clan, thereby fulfilling one of the objects of the Society—(applause).

#### CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

Sheriff Robertson, who was greeted with much applause, expressed his great regret that he had to appear before them in most unconventional garb—for a clan gathering—but the truth was he had been engaged presiding over a case in Stonehaven which had only been finished late in the evening. He had come straight from the station to the meeting, and therefore he accounted for the garb—(applause). He appreciated the honor they had done him in asking him to preside at that clan gathering; he might wish that he was better able to discharge the duties, but in one respect he would yield to no one, and that was his interest in the clan—(applause)—and his desire for the success of that Society—(renewed applause). A society of that sort—a clan society—needed no apology, no justification. He thought he might say that almost every Highland clan, almost every district in both Highlands and Lowlands, had its own association of that sort. They were all

successful—no one had a word to say against them—(hear, hear). Now, if they considered what the objects of these societies were, it was not surprising that they were spoken highly of.

#### OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

The objects of the Society, as expressed in the book of rules, stated that the Society was established for the fostering of clan sentiment, the cultivation of social intercourse among the members, the rendering of assistance to deserving members of the clan, the encouragement of education among the clan, with the view towards the preservation of records and traditions bearing on the history of the clan, and the publication of the same amongst all the members—(applause).

Now, it might be said that the first, and possibly one of the most important of these purposes might savor too much of sentiment, but, he asked them, as Celts, as he presumed they all were—(applause)—why should not that be the case? The Celtic nature was nothing if not sentimental. They might call it what they liked; it had been called various things lately. He had noticed it called mysticism—(a laugh)—he had noticed it even called by Professor Masson, Druidism. But whatever they called it there was no question of this that it was the source of most of the peculiar Celtic virtues, their loyalty, their patriotism, their pride of race, and their enthusiasm—(applause)—possibly also the source of some of their weaknesses. But whether of their virtues or weaknesses it was very characteristic of them all, and if they would eliminate that, they might as well have a communique "humdrum Saxon at once" (laughter and applause). He need scarcely revert to the other objects of the Society—one of the objects was to meet for social intercourse, well, that meeting must speak for itself and answer that—(applause).

The other objects were for the relief of the poorer members of the clan, and the spread of education. They spoke for themselves and required no mention, because everyone could recognize how deserving they were—(hear, hear). It was not surprising then that societies such as that had been so successful as they had been; their existence had

been justified by their success—(applause). And if any clan society deserved to be successful it was the Clan Donnachaidh, because Clan Donnachaidh was no mean clan—(hear, hear). The origin of their clan went back into the mists of tradition.

#### SKENE WAS A MEMBER.

The late Mr. Skene, the Celtic historian, himself a member of the clan, and himself an Aberdonian—(applause)—and, he thought, admittedly the highest authority on the subject, said that the Robertsons of Struan were unquestionably the oldest family in Scotland—(applause). Mr. Skene traced their descent to the Celtic kings of Scotland, through the Celtic earls of Athole, of whom Struan was the representative. Others had said the Robertsons were a branch, an offshoot, of the Macdonalds of the Isles. Well, he had always believed that Mr. Skene was right; he wished to believe that Mr. Skene was right, and he intended so to believe—(laughter and applause). Whichever account they took of the matter, there was no question that the lineage of the Robertsons was ancient and honorable—(applause). There was also no question whatever about this, that from a very early period indeed, and for many hundreds of years, they occupied the commanding position in Athole, the centre, and the north of Perthshire (applause).

#### THE ROBERTSON LANDS.

Their lands extended from the county march of Invernesshire down to near Perth; and in the north-eastern direction the boundaries of their lands extended pretty well to the borders of Mar, as it was then, or Aberdeen, as it is now. They could put 500 men into the field of battle—(applause). There was thus no doubt that they were one of the most influential and one of the most powerful clans in the centre of Scotland. The first chief of note, the man who really made them a clan, who called them together, was a man well-known to anyone who had ever taken any interest in clan history, whose name in English was "Fat Duncan"—(laughter). Judging from the exploits of that chief, he would have been better described as strong or big Duncan. There was no doubt that this chief was a most notable man in his time. He was a great

friend and ally of Robert the Bruce—(applause)—he sheltered Bruce when he was in trouble; he fought with Bruce against the Red Comyn; he fought with Bruce at Bannockburn—(applause).

#### THE STONE AT BANNOCKBURN.

It was interesting to know that the stone found adhering to the earth in which the standard of the Robertsons was placed before Bannockburn was in the possession of the chief, and it would have been there that evening had the chief been able to attend—(applause). The first chieftain had been well rewarded by Bruce for his services—indeed, he doubted whether the clan had at any subsequent time ever attained such influence and power as that attained under the first chieftain.

#### THE FAMOUS "RED ROBERT."

The next chief of note came about three generations after Duncan, and was known as Red Robert, and it was from that time that the clan became known, especially by their Sassenach neighbors, as the Robertsons—(applause). Red Robert was the capturer of the murderers of James the First—Sir Robert Graham and the master of Athole. He was rewarded by James the Second when the latter came to the throne, and received a charter converting his land into a barony, and also got an addition to his "arms."

They would see, then, that it was quite impossible for him (Sheik Robertson) in the course of a few desultory remarks to go over even the merest outline of the history of a clan which had existed so long, and if any of them were curious concerning the further history of the Robertsons they would find it in an excellent, concise, and short history published by a clansman at Glasgow. Suffice it to say, the clan were always loyal; they were loyal to Bruce, to the earliest and the latest Stuarts, to their eventual undoing, he was afraid, because they were out with Montrose, they were out with Dundee, they were out in the '15 rebellion, and finally in the '45—(applause).

#### THE CHIEFS IN BATTLE.

It was an extraordinary circumstance that on the last three occasions, the chief was the same man, Alexander Robertson, the poet chief.



although about 60 years elapsed between Dundee's time and the '45. The chief then was a lad, and he joined the army at Killiecrankie a day after the fight. He was an old man of 80 when he joined Prince Charlie at Perth in '45; he was at the battle of Prestonpans, and although from his years he was unable to take an active part in the fight he went home in triumph in Johnny Cope's carriage—(loud applause). Afterwards the clan lost many of their numbers at Culloden. It was interesting, to him at all events, to know that they were commanded both at Prestonpans and Culloden by his grandfather's grand-uncle—(loud applause).

Well, as they might imagine, all these things did not conduce to the prosperity of the clan. Their lands were forfeited again and again. They were never restored what had been forfeited. In later years large portions of the Struan estates were disentailed and sold by one of the chiefs, and the result was that of the large possessions they once owned but a small proportion remained, but he was glad to say that Struan had still a stronghold in the centre of Rannoch and there was still a large and flourishing body of the old name living in the clan country of Athole—(applause).

But the members living in the clan country were but a small portion of the whole; the members of the clan had gone over the world to replenish the earth and to seek their fortunes. There was no doubt they had been highly successful—(applause). Look up the directory of any of the large towns of Scotland, and they would find that the names of the clan—Robertsons and kindred names—would equal, if they did not outnumber, the names of any other Highland clan—(applause). But that was not all.

#### CLANSMEN COVER WORLD.

In the Greater Britain across the sea. in Canada, in Australia, in New Zealand, in India, in China—everywhere the flag of Britain waved—they would find the members of the Clan Donnachaidh, all he trusted, doing well—a credit to themselves and to the name they bore—(applause).

A few years ago it was considered necessary that the clan should have a clan society, and in 1892 a very few of the clan assembled in Edinburgh,

and inaugurated the Society. Since then the society had continued increasing, until now there were between 800 and 900 members in the society—(applause).

#### OFFSHOOTS OF THE CLAN.

At an early period in the history of the clan, when the offshoots were leaving the parent stock, a certain number found their way over the hills into Aberdeenshire, and founded various families under different names, notably under the name of Skene. The result was that now there was a large body of the clan living in this district.

#### THE CLAN MEETINGS.

Already there had been clan meetings in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, Inverness, and Atholl, and they had all proved successful, and had resulted in great additions to the society. Considering the number of members of the clan resident in this part of the world, it was thought right to hold that meeting in Aberdeen—(applause). Let them, then, look at each other as members of the same clan, make known the objects of the society, and, of course, at the same time, work for more recruits. Now, in concluding, he would ask all who were not members of the society and who were members of the clan, to lose no time in joining, for the stronger the society was the stronger would they be in the power of doing good, and more worthy of the ancient name and race from which the clan was sprung—(loud applause).

#### SOME CLAN MUSIC.

A short programme of music was then submitted. The pipers of the 1st V.B. Gordon Highlanders opened with "Teachd Chlann Donnachaidh," and afterwards played "Struan's Rant," both of which were highly appreciated. Their concluding piece, a stirring air—"Lift the Cattle, Donnachaidh," received unstinted praise. Songs were given by Miss Jessie G. Robertson, Mr. Charles Stevens, and Mr. Alister Duncan. Pipe-Major Webster, 1st V.B.G. H., gave a fine rendering of "Fàilte Thighearna Struthain." "A trip to the Clan County by Limelight" was also enjoyed, the clan being "conducted" by Mr. T. Whitelaw Robertson, whose description of the scenery and places of interest proved exceedingly interesting. Messrs. Walker and Com-

pany manipulated the lantern effectively. Mr. Alister Duncan, F.S.A., of the Chinese Civil Service, read a historical sketch of Clan Doncha in Mar, which showed evidences of much labor and care in its composition, and was listened to with keen interest by the audience.

Mr. Skene of Avondow moved a vote of thanks to those who had contributed to the programme, mentioning particularly the contribution of Mr. Alister Duncan, and trusted that it would be printed in the records of the Society—(applause). He also conveyed a vote of thanks to Pennyghael for the able manner in which he had occupied the chair, and for the interesting address which he had delivered—(applause).

Sheriff Robertson having acknowledged a vote of thanks the proceedings ended by the company joining in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

#### ANNUAL MEETING IN 1899.

The Clan Holds Its Annual Gathering at Dunkeld—Inspiring Address by Struan—Society Prosperous.

The Perthshire Constitutional and Crieff Journal, of 23rd June, gives the following interesting account of the 1899 General Meeting:

The annual general gathering of Clan Donnachaidh was held in the City Hall, Dunkeld, on Friday evening. The Society was inaugurated in January, 1893, and is now firmly established and heartily supported by its members in the districts which its organization has reached, while it continues to give promise of future development both at home and abroad. The Society consists of persons belonging to the clan Donnachaidh of the names of Robertson, Duncan, Duncanson, Dennachie, McDonnachie, McConnachie, Skene, certain families of Reids, and others who claim to be of the clan. The objects of the Society, which is strictly non-political and non-sectarian, are the fostering of clan sentiment, the cultivation of social intercourse amongst the members, the rendering assistance to deserving members of the clan, the encouragement of education, the collecting and preserving of records and traditions bearing on the history of the clan, and the publication of the same amongst all its members. This

is the second occasion on which the Society has met in that part of the country, where the clan formerly had their home, and needless to say the event was surrounded with more than ordinary interest.

#### A GREAT GATHERING.

At the meeting at Dunkeld, the proceedings were most interesting, there being a large turnout of clansmen and clanswomen from all parts, the hall being decorated with the clan tartans, while the front of the platform was tastefully adorned with flowers and plants. Some of the tartans displayed were of more than ordinary interest. On the side wall was a plaid of the Robertson tartan spun last year by Mrs. Robertson, Rait, an old lady 92 years of age. The floral decorations for the hall were supplied by Mr. Bruce, gardener, Dunkeld, while Mrs. John Robertson, Bridgend House, Secretary of the Dunkeld District, was responsible for the artistic manner in which the clan tartans were displayed. Prior to the annual meeting, a Committee meeting was held in Fisher's Royal Hotel, Dunkeld, Struan, the Chief, presided at the general meeting.

#### AMONG THOSE PRESENT.

Among those present were:—Captain Stuart Robertson (late 14th Hussars); Mr. John Robertson, Old Blair, and Mrs. Robertson; Mr. Kenneth Matheson, Glendevon by Dollar, and Mrs. S. Robertson Matheson, Hon. Clan Secretary; Mr. John Robertson, Bridgend House, Dunkeld; Mrs. Robertson, Secretary, Dunkeld District, and the Misses Robertson; Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Ballechin; Mrs. Leslie Robertson and Miss Roberts; n. Butterglen; Mr. Archie Duncan, London; Mr. W. J. Robertson, Manchester; Mr. Jeffrey H. Robertson, St. Andrew's and party; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Meldrum, Logierait; Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Royal Bank, Blairgowrie; Mr. Ferguson, Australia; Mr. James Robertson, District Secretary, Pitlochry; Mr. George Robertson, Dunfermline; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Robertson, Texas, etc. The proceedings were opened by Mr. John Robertson, Old Blair, reading the list of apologies received by Mrs. S. Robertson Matheson, Hon. Clan Secretary. The first was a letter from the Right Hon. J. P. H.

Robertson, Lord Justice-General of Scotland, who wrote stating that it was not in his power to come to the Dunkeld meeting, at which their clan was sure to be strongly represented. The next was a telegram to Mrs. Matheson from Sir Noel Paton, who, Mr. Robertson explained, although not a Robertson, was very nearly related to the Robertsons, and he thought they might take credit to themselves as having derived a great part of his genius from the Robertson side of the house. (Hear, hear.) Sir Noel wired from Millport, regretting being unavoidably prevented from being present in body, but stating that he was there in spirit. (Applause.) Auchleeks (Mr. Edgar W. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson) wrote that their hearts were with the meeting. Apologies were received from the following members of the committee:—Rev. A. Irvine Robertson, Clackmannan; Mr. Charles Robertson, of Kindeace; Mr. Neil Robertson, Dunfallandy; Dr. Argyll Robertson, Edinburgh; Mrs. Marshall Mackenzie, Aberdeen; and Admiral Robertson Macdonald, of Kinlochmoidart. Parenthetically, Mr. John Robertson, Old Blair, remarked that it might be interesting to state that the latter gentleman was a grandson of Principal Robertson, Edinburgh, the historian, and is the representative also of Donald Macdonald, of Kinlochmoidart, who took so active a part in arousing the clans in 1745, and was beheaded at Carlisle in 1746. Further apologies were also intimated from the following:—Mr. Robert Duncan, Glasgow; Mr. Harvey Hall, Aberdeen; Mr. Arthur S. Reid, Glenalmond; Rev. James Maconochie, Belfast; Mr. A. W. Robertson, Rochdale, Lancashire; Mr. Eric Stair Kerr, Edinburgh; Mr. William Robertson, Aberdeen; Mr. H. Gordon Robertson, Glasgow; and many others. Mr. Robertson concluded by stating that he thought that list showed that their membership was very widely spread and very numerous. (Applause.)

#### THE CHIEF'S ADDRESS.

The Chief, Struan, then addressed his clanswomen and clansmen. He said he believed his forefathers were not people of words, but he thought they were people of deeds, and he took after them to a certain extent. Just

lately he had been serving her Majesty as a Captain in the Militia, and the words that he used to his company were laid down in a Red Book compiled by certain generals and officers, who, after years of experience and thought, placed them down in that book for him to explain. Here he had to be his own editor, compositor and everything else. He was not very used to speaking, so that anything he might leave out or not say, he knew quite well that they, as his clan, would know where his thoughts were and what they were. (Applause.) A friend of his that day, although he was a Highlander, was laughing at him when he came into his room that morning and saw little notes. He had put down that he was simply an earthly casket containing, at least, he hoped, some of the spirit of their former chiefs (hear, hear and applause), and what he said simply came from them. They were speaking to them, not he. He had only been able to attend a few meetings of their clan. The first meeting at Edinburgh was a very great success. He had attended meetings at Glasgow and one at Perth. Unfortunately at the last meeting they had in their own country of Blair Athol, he was away in Jamaica, six thousand miles distant, but he thought the letter he wrote to the Chairman of the meeting showed that he was thinking of the clan. (Applause.) He remembered writing to the Secretary, and pointing out that it had been a good many years since the clan as a clan had gathered together in their own clan country, and he pointed out the little pass of Killiecrankie, where their clan did their duty. Of course, in the old days their clans, when they were wanted, came forward. They had claymores, and they shook those claymores in the face of their foes and their King's foes, and they did their duty. Now, of course, under modern circumstances, they could not do that. They could not go about shaking claymores in people's faces, and doing that sort of thing, but there was another thing they could do.

#### OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY.

The clan Society could carry on the traditions of the clan in a modern way. Their meeting was a motto invented at the first meeting in Edinburgh, viz.,

a Society for mutual help and support. (Applause.) Well, they could not shake their claymores at the head of the foe, as the only foes they had now were poverty and distress, and what he asked his clansmen and clanswomen now to do was to shake their purse at the foes in the form of poverty and distress, which were great enemies. (Applause.) The Society was promoted to help each other in that way. As regarded the Clan, after Culloden they were all scattered abroad, to America, Australia, Africa, and in fact to every part of the world outside Scotland, but still from all he heard, from letters he saw, and the reports Mrs. Matheson gave to him, he was sure all their clansmen abroad were clansmen still. (Applause.) No matter where they were they were clansmen, and they always thought of the old country (applause), and more especially of that wee corner of Rannoch. (Applause.) It was the first piece of land his forefathers got he still retained, although it was the last piece they had now. (Applause.) They ought to stick to each other just the same as a nation, for although they were scattered about the world, they were still really a nation. They had the Republican Robertsons in America, who, although they had different Associations, and had not got a Queen or institutions such as they had in this country, all looked back to their clan and to the Chief as their head. He saw a letter the other day in Edinburgh from a Robertson in New York, who wanted to become a life member. That was a clansman, who, although far away from them, still thought of his clan and the Society, and wanted to do good to it by becoming a life member. (Applause.) There was another thing that occurred quite different, however. Just two days ago he went into the post office at Bridgend, Perth, to send off a telegram about clan matters. He asked the postmaster, Mr. Robertson, if he had joined the clan, and he said no. After some conversation, Mr. Robertson asked him (the Chief) who was the Secretary in Perth, and from what had passed he believed he had enlisted Mr. Robertson. (Applause.) He had been abroad a good deal, and he had noticed when Sectsmen went away from their own country they were more

loyal—they thought more of their own country and were more clannish—than they were in their own country. Just because they lived in the county of Perth they were apt to forget things.

#### WANT MORE MEMBERS.

The Chief urged upon those living in the locality not to put off becoming members of the Society. Speaking of the history of the Society, he said that Skene's history brought them down from Malcolm II, King of Scotland. Their history went far back into the mists of time, but they had lost in their loyalty to their Kings most of their papers. There were few things that had been left behind, but there were many other clans which had lost their papers in the same way. He had mentioned Killiecrankie. That made him think of a thing that Mr. James Robertson, 54 George street, Edinburgh, had sent, which might interest them. That clansman wrote that he had been reading "A Holiday Ramble," by an old deceased clerk of his, and thought the following would be of interest to them, as he thought "Donach" would be a clansman. — "Nearly opposite Faskally we noticed on the side of the road a whinstone slab of five feet in height and two in breadth. It was heary with moss, and the figure of a cross about 18 inches long was rudely carved on the side. They were informed by the old bard of the glen, that its history went back to the battle of Killiecrankie, the tradition being that it had been erected over the remains of a noted Jacobite champion, Donach Dhubh, who had 'snaided aff heides and airms like thistle taps,' at the famous battle, and who had subsequently died of his wounds in a cave near this romantic burial place. 'Rest in peace,' said the bard, and in a soft monotone, he recited the following lines:—

When Donach died the south wind  
sighed,

The drooping fern looked dim,  
The old crag moaned, the lone ash  
groaned,

The wild heath sang a hymn:  
The leaves crept near, though fallen  
and sore,

Like old friends mustering round,  
And a dewdrop fell from the heather  
bell

"Upon his burial ground."

That was a clansman who did his duty at Killiecrankie and died. (Applause.) That was their past history to which he had referred. In regard to the modern state of things, what they wanted was money to do good to their poor clansmen. There were many of their clansmen who had lost all their lands, and some had had to go abroad. Some were in England. He came across an aged clansman down in Brighton, who used to be Robertson of Guay. His lands were forfeited and he never got them back. There were a number of the clansmen who were fairly well off, and they should think of their brother clansmen, and try and do them good by joining the clan Society and subscribing. The more money they had the more they could do. There were lots of thing they could do besides give money. They could help members of the clan on in the world, and help them in their various professions, if they only had the money. This year had been their best year since the commencement of the Society. Seventy-eight new members had joined since the last general meeting in Glasgow. One thing he had noticed was that the Glasgow people were far more enthusiastic than the clansmen in their own country. He did not like that, and he wanted to see more clansmen belonging to the county of Perth. There were 400 clansmen in the town of Perth alone. (Applause). There was promise of clansmen joining from America, where they were finding out that they had this Society. It might interest them to know that Gaelic was being kept up in Canada. Mr. Neil Robertson was president of the Gaelic Society of Toronto, and spoke and wrote Gaelic, although both he and his father were born out there. The President of the St. Andrew's Society was also a Robertson. (Applause.)

#### THE POET CHIEF.

The Chief exhibited a portrait of the poet Chief of the clan painted many years ago. He stated that he had seen the original at Crosscraig, Rannoch, a place which, he said, should belong to him, but unfortunately did not, and so faithfully reproduced was the portrait that a sword-thrust shown in the original was also shown. Proceeding, he said there were descendants of the old clan, who had never left their

native country, and it was to them who had lived in Rannoch and in that north-west corner of Perth that he looked to most of all to support this clan, and lead and help everybody else to join them. It was to them in that county of Perth they looked for help to build up and make this clan Society a paying Society. By this he meant they could do real good and not do things in driblets. They might assist the unfortunate and the aged, and they might help any clever boy in the clan to be a credit to it. (Applause.) He asked them to push the Society, and do everything they could individually. If each one would try and get one member they should double their number. Let them speak about the Society and show that their Chief and their committee took a great interest in it. They were just at the gates to the Highlands there, and he hoped when they next had their meeting there they would have to hold an overflow meeting outside. (Applause.)

#### THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr. John Robertson, Old Blair, read the Hon. Secretary's report for 1898-99. The report stated that 86 new members had joined the Society during the year, 10 of whom were life members, two extraordinary, 62 ordinary, and five rural. Details were given of the various meetings held throughout the year, and the Society had been able to render pecuniary assistance to more than one deserving clansman, and to give a little welcome employment. Reference was made to the interest taken by the Society in remedying the desecration at Kilmaveonaig, where the ancient family of the Robertsons of Lude and many of the clan were laid to rest. Certain members recently had the chapel at Old Faskally cleared of rubbish and painted, and they also erected a tablet to the memory of the Robertsons who lie there. It was chiefly through their becoming members of the Society that their interest in this was aroused. Regret is expressed at the death of the following:—Dr. T. Seton Robertson, New York, Secretary; Mr. W. Young, Edinburgh; Mr. William Ewart Gladstone; Mrs. Jane Stewart Robertson, Leith; Mr. John Robertson, Inspector, N. B. R. Edinburgh, a native of Caric, Rannoch,

and a devoted clansman. Many interesting books had been received for the clan library. The books are entirely by clansmen or about clansmen, and form a handsome collection. It was hoped that many members would enroll themselves now, so as to make the roll (which was the largest of all clan societies) worthy of the strong and ancient clan they represented, and would fain keep united. The financial statement showed that the balance in favor of the Society at 28th February, 1898, was £182 17s. 8d. The total receipts amounted to £125 16s. 8d., which, together with the balance in hand, made a total for the year of £308 14s. 4d. The expenditure was £103 16s. 8d., leaving a balance at the present time of £204 17s. 8d. (Applause.)

Mr W. D. Robertson, solicitor. Glasgow, Mr. Alexander Robertson, Glasgow and the Rev. James MacConachie, Belfast, were elected as new secretaries, and it was agreed on the suggestion of Mr. Duncan, London, that apprentices who could not pay 2s. 6d. should be allowed to pay 1s. to become members. Mr. John Robertson, chemist, Edinburgh, was elected to the Council.

#### THE ENTERTAINMENT.

The programme was a characteristic Highland one. It opened with two pipers of the 5th V. B. B. W., playing "Teachd Chlann Donnachaidh," followed by the strathspey, "Struan Robertson's Rant," by violins and piano. The star of the evening was Madame G. Robertson, contralto. Glasgow, who thoroughly roused the audience with her singing of "Cam' ye by Atholl," and in response to an encore gave "Will ye no Come Back Again." The Chief after Madame Robertson's songs, stepped to the front, and stated that he had the honor of wearing two buckles, which had been worn by Prince Charlie. These interesting relics he showed, and they aroused more than ordinary interest on account of their historical connection. Another relic which the Sec'y showed was the ring which Prince Charlie gave to Flora Macdonald. Mr. W. J. Robertson, the bard of the clan, read a slogan poem, "Thainig Clann Donnachaidh" ("The Robertsons Have Come," or "The Robertsons Are Com-

ing,") the verses being of an inspiring air and dedicated to the chief. Captain Stuart Robertson read notes by Sir Noel Paton on the clach-na-brattaich.

#### NOT A ROBERTSON, BUT—

The Rev. Mr. Meldrum, Logierait, in an interesting speech, said if there was anything in his mind more certain at the present moment than another, it was the fact that he was not a Robertson. (Laughter.) He must say he could not help feeling something like a fish out of water, only he was inclined to maintain his equilibrium from the fact that there were some very sincere friends around him. He was also comforted by seeing the Baron Bailie of Dunkeld in the gallery, and that gentleman had told him (Mr. Meldrum) that his grandfather was a Robertson. The only connection he (Mr. Meldrum) had was that his great grand aunt was a Robertson. (Laughter.) While he was not a Robertson, he must say that he knew a good deal about the Robertsons, from their very beginning in the county of Perth, and perhaps there was no family of the past connected with the clan about whom he knew more than about the old Robertsons of Lude. The last of that sept of the clan was Colonel Robertson, who died in Edinburgh about 30 years ago, who was a son of General Robertson, the last laird of Lude of that name. It so happened at the present time that the charter chest of that family was in his possession, having been handed over to him by the late laird of Daiguis and he felt bound to keep it in his custody until the laird's son came of age, when he should hand it over to him. He had been making investigations into the charter chest. They had all been looking at the portrait of the poet chief of Struan, and they would have come to the conclusion that there was an amount of character in his face that they did not find in men of his time. The laird of Lude was a cousin of the poet chief, and among other things he had come across in the charter chest were several letters written by the poet chief to his cousin. Mr. Meldrum proceeded to read from these letters, and said that from all he could learn from the char-

ter chest there could be no doubt that the Robertsons of Struan were among the most reputable families in the county of Perth. (Applause). He congratulated the clan on their very prosperous condition, and hoped they would go on from year to year prospering, as he had no doubt they would do under the energetic secretaryship of Mrs. Robertson Matheson. (Applause.)

It was agreed to give a prize of two guineas to the Highland Mod to be held at Edinburgh for the best account of the battle of Killiecrankie in Gaelic.

At the conclusion of the programme, the Chief descended from the platform and gave an opportunity to those present to see and handle the clach-nabhraich. A large number of new members joined the Society. A dance followed, which proved most successful, Mr. Hugh Robertson acting as M. C. The proceedings, which proved most interesting and enjoyable, terminated at midnight. It may be mentioned that the large party who attended the gathering from a distance made Fisher's Royal Hotel their headquarters, and the way in which the popular host of the "Royal" looked after their comfort left nothing to be desired

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#### ANNUAL MEETING IN 1900.

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Gatherings Held by the Clan Society at Glasgow and Edinburgh—An Address From Struan.

A Clan gathering of the Glasgow District of the Clan Donnachaidh Society was held 19th March, 1900, in the Masonic Hall, Glasgow. Sir Geo. Robertson, hero of Chitral, in the chair. The attendance was good, and among those on the platform were Professor Robertson, Mr. Robert Duncan, and Mr. Alexander Robertson. Apologies were read from Sir Noel Paton, Admiral Robertson-Macdonald, Mr. David Robertson (who passed some time among the Boers) and others. The Clan piper having given some patriotic selections, the Chairman gave an interesting address, in the course of which he referred to some notable members of the Robertson clan, both ancient and modern. Having cited one or two instances

where the devout qualities of the fraternity were specially conspicuous, he went on to say that some people believed the Robertsons were sprung from the Macdonalds, a connection which was doubtful. Sir George said a gathering like the present was exceedingly interesting, combining the romantic past with the present, the contrast between the latter with its ideals for education and an old Clan gathering was great, and yet the feeling of brotherhood was there as of yore. He regretted that the chief of the Clan had not been able to attend this gathering. It was as unnecessary to speak of the propriety of a Society which had education as its aim as it would be foolish to dilate on the Clan feeling which was theirs by blood and inheritance, a native instinct which rose naturally in all Scottish hearts. He hoped the Society would draw all the kindred closer together. Virtues born at home, trained and disciplined a man in every relation of life and to the end of his days. (Applause) A programme of music was afterwards gone through, and Professor Robertson, D.D., read a paper on "Clan Donnachaidh with some of its Traditions," by Mrs. Robertson Matheson. Various relics were afterwards shown, and later on Japanese limelight views were thrown on the screen, the slides being a present from Mr. Alister Duncan, a clansman in China.

#### EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The eighth annual meeting of the Clan was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 31st May, 1900. Struan Robertson, the chief of the clan, presided.

The Highland News of 9th June, 1900, in reporting the meeting, says, after giving the names of the leading clansmen and ladies present:—

#### THE CHIEF'S ADDRESS.

Struan addressed the audience. He reminded them that the last time he had met his Clan in Edinburgh was in 1893, and since then he had been more than pleased at the world-wide interest which had been taken in the society. His Clan had done in 1893 what the Empire was now doing in 1900, and with the same motto—"Mutual help and support." The Chief enumerated those of the Clan who

were at the front, who had specially distinguished themselves, or who had fallen; also the names of the South African members. He mentioned that the first clansman to write to his Chief suggesting a Clan Society should be formed, had been Lieutenant M. U. Robertson, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, now doing his duty out there. Mr. Alex. Robertson, who was present that night, had joined through Lieutenant M. U. Robertson, and been recommended by him as "a fine fellow and a splendid marksman." He belonged to Aberdeenshire, but had been for twenty years in South Africa. Other members out there were Corporal F. Robertson, Cape Mounted Rifles; Mr. G. J. Reid, Crown Prosecutor's Office, Kimberley (and also, strange to say, a near connection of Mr. Ritz, the Transvaal Secretary); Mr. Denoon Duncan, Attorney, Kimberley; and Mr. J. Lang Duncan, Johannesburg Mines. Members of the Auchsleeks and Kindeace families had gone to the front, and were no doubt doing credit to their blood. The Clan had especially reason to be proud of the Rev. James Robertson, chaplain to the forces, known in the army as Padre Robertson, who had so unselfishly distinguished himself in the heroic work of rescuing the wounded, comforting the dying, and burying the dead. (Applause.) Among those of his men who had fallen at Paardeberg was Colour-Sergeant Robertson, of the Black Watch, a native of Caputh, Dunkeld. Another Dunkeld clansman, Mr. David Robertson, son of Mrs. Robertson, the Society's secretary there, had, as everybody knew, been arrested and imprisoned, and tried for his life on a charge of high treason by the Boers. Captain Donald Paton, of the Lancaster Regiment, a son of Sir Noel Paton, had been severely wounded at Elandslaagte, and left all night for dead on the field. The life was kept in him by the devotion of a private of his company, who wrapped his own great-coat around him until rescue came with dawn. It was interesting to remember that Captain Donald's great grand-uncle and namesake, Donald Robertson, of Woodsheal, had been left for dead on the field of Culloden, until discovered by two old Highland women who had him secretly conveyed to a cottage near.

### THE HERO OF CHITRAL.

Not so long ago the Clan in Glasgow had received Sir George Scott Robertson, the defender of Chitral, and the Chief was now reminded that in every rank his Clan had done their duty, from the one who had lived to receive his honour from the hands of Her Majesty to Colour-Sergeant Robertson who had died for his country. (Applause.)

### "PADRE" ROBERTSON.

Thereafter Colonel D. R. Williamson, of Lawers, in an eloquent and stirring speech, nominated the Rev. James Robertson, Chaplain to the Highland Brigade, as an honorary member. The Society had, he said, only one honour in its power to confer, but would be unanimous in desiring to honour this clansman, of whom it might well be proud. Padre Robertson had not only done his duty, but more than his duty; he had been constantly under fire, and had gone where no other was allowed, even into the Boer trenches, in search of his wounded countrymen. With his own hands, arm st unaided, he had buried 176 of the Highlanders who fell at Magersfontein. Best of all, he had ever held before the men, living or dying, the example of the great Captain of them all, the Captain of Salvation. (Loud applause.) Colonel Williamson proceeded to read several extracts from the newspapers relating to the career of the Rev. James Robertson, who, he mentioned, was a native of Grantown, Strathspey. Especially interesting among these was the account of the Chaplain's heroic rescue, under fire, of Lieut. Cameron in the Egyptian war. Colonel Williamson also spoke of his own friendship for General Wauchope, the leader of the Highland Brigade at Magersfontein, whose body Padre Robertson had risked his life to find. General Wauchope had once remarked to him, in speaking of South Africa, which he knew intimately, that if ever fighting broke out there it would be the most sanguinary of the century.

The nomination, seconded by Mr. J. H. Robertson, was enthusiastically received.

A paper by Mrs. Robertson Matheson on some of the earlier traditions of the Clan was read by her father, Mr. George Robertson, F.S.A., Scot.,



the traditions being chiefly of the warlike feats of the great Chief, Donnachadh Reambar, who was the loyal supporter of his kinsmen, King Robert the Bruce.

#### ANNUAL MEETING IN 1901.

An Interesting Meeting, Lieutenant Robertson, V.C., Made An Honorary Member.

The Highland News, in one of its issues during 1901, gives the following account of the meeting for that year held in Glasgow. The report reads:—

“The general meeting of the Clan Donnachaidh was held in Glasgow on Friday evening last in the Masonic Hall, West Regent street. The attendance was good, a number of Highlanders in the city in connection with the Mod putting in an appearance. The chair was occupied by Mr. Alex. Robertson, Hope Park.

#### ROBERTSON RELICS.

“The hall was decorated with Robertson tartan plaids, lent by members in Perthshire and elsewhere for the occasion; bracken ferns (the badge of the clan), a bunch of heather from Culloden, sent by Struan; heather and flowers from Mrs. Dunnachie, Glenboig; and the chief's coat-of-arms was displayed here and there around the hall. Relics — Robertson tartan coat, dirk, and pistol, worn by Prince Charlie when in Athole; and old home-spun native linen, spun by the grand-daughter of Robert Ban Robertson of Invervack (of historical fame), lent by Mrs. Stewart, Pitaldonich, and Mrs. Stewart, Blair-Athole; the poet chief's dress-sword, a weapon of French workmanship, long in possession of Lady Nairne, lent by Mrs. Macbain, Arbroath; translation of the Struan Charter of 1451, lent by Gregor Macgregor, S.S.C., Edinburgh.

#### STRUAN REGRETS ABSENCE.

A letter was read by the local secretary from Struan Robertson, the chief of the clan. The following is Struan's letter:—

“Sir,—Will you be so good as to express my great regret at being unable to attend this meeting? I had to go out of London last week, but I wrote to a Clansman in Glasgow—Mr. Dun-

nachie, Glenboig—telling him my reasons. But, sir, you will believe me when I say that I am with you and my gathered Clansmen in spirit, if not in person.

“It has happened before—notably when we had a meeting of the Clan in the Clan country (at Blair Atholl). I was then in the West Indies, but the Chairman of that meeting will tell you that although 5,000 miles away, he had a letter from me to read to those of my Clan assembled within a Highlandman's short walk of Killiecrankie.

“In former days, when Chief and Clansmen dwelt together in their own territory, the gathering was a simple matter; but in these modern days, when we are separated—sometimes by hundreds of miles, sometimes (and mostly) by oceans—it is not easy for us all to be where we would like to be on certain occasions.

“I know that all those who can come will be in this hall to-night. Writing from a distance, and not being present, I do not know how many of our distinguished clansmen are present. But, sir, there is one Lieutenant W. Robertson, V.C., who I am informed will be here to-night.

“In past centuries our chiefs and clansmen have been thanked by their Kings, and have had honours given to them. Since the time when the King of Scotland and his heirs became, and are, Kings and Queens of Great Britain, our clansmen have still continued to do their duty. Leaving out names of yesterday, or of the last century or so—names well in your memory—I feel sure that you and my other clansmen will feel with me, as Chief, that clannish gratification that those of our name and blood are still willing, even at the risk of death, to do what is right. Sir, this leads to my request. I would ask you to tender to Lieutenant Robertson, in my name, as Chief of the Clan, my most hearty congratulations on having won that distinguished and most coveted badge (‘For Valour’) which our gracious King has conferred on him. Clansmen present and absent will join me in this. The regiment to which Lieutenant Robertson belongs has a great, though lately, painful interest for me, second only to that I feel in our country regiment, the 42nd. For, though we glory in the deeds of our Highlanders, we cannot help feeling a pang of regret for those

friends who, though dying a soldier's death, have been taken away in the prime of life. Sir, I may have drifted from the exact purpose of this meeting, but I can't help it.

"What I wish now to call the attention of my clansmen is this—this meeting to-night is not only for the purpose of gathering as many clansmen together for social intercourse and to bring to their minds that we are still a clan, but also to do honour to our own forefathers who have done their duty in the past, and who deserve to be remembered. They bring a wholesome feeling to our hearts when we remember their deeds. I think, too, sir, that this meeting of Clan Donnachaidh, and in fact all meetings of the clan, should hold out the hand of friendship to all other clans. We should glory with them in the deeds of their forefathers (though we may not mourn with all of them), and give them a hearty cheer for the deeds of their young men.

"In conclusion, sir, you will express my deep regret at not being able to be present, and my earnest hope that this gathering of Clan Donnachaidh may be a successful and happy one, and that it may bear most excellent fruit, as I feel sure it will. I am, sir,

"Yours faithfully,

"STRUAN."

#### CLANSHIP SPREADING.

The chairman remarked that he believed the spirit of clanship was spreading year by year. There was hardly a clan but was now represented by a Society. He went on to say that the Clan Donnachaidh was greatly indebted to Mrs. Robertson Matheson for the way she had organized it, and the indefatigable methods she had adopted to increase the membership—(applause). The spirit of clanship still survived, though changed in its conditions from the old days. The clan had been ever foremost in devoted loyalty to the Stuarts, and now they were as true subjects to the new dynasty—(applause). He concluded by expressing the hope that the membership of the Society would go on increasing—(applause).

The Secretary's report was then submitted. It bore that during the year 79 new members had been enrolled, a number of whom were Canadian and American clansmen. Assist-

ance had been given in several necessitous cases. The roll had been gone over and printed, and new interest had been shown in the collecting and printing of the records and traditions belonging to the history of the clan. The receipts of the Society had been £119, and the expenditure £84, while the funds now amounted to £267. It was agreed that Mr. Robert Duncan, Govan, should be elected a vice-president, and Mr. Dunnachie was added to the Glasgow Committee.

LT. ROBERTSON, V.C., HONORED.

Lieut. W. Robertson, V.C., was thereafter elected an honorary member of the Society. His election was moved by Mr. Robert Duncan, Govan, and seconded by Captain Robertson, and unanimously adopted. The company afterwards rose to their feet, cheered their gallant clansman, and sang "He's a jolly good fellow" with hearty enthusiasm.

Lieut. Robertson, in reply, said he could hardly find words to express his thanks to them for the honor done him. He valued it deeply as the representative of the regiment to which he belonged. He was one of that crowd—nothing more—for in the regiment they had a saying that one man was as good as another—(hear, hear, and applause). He was proud to belong to the Gordons, but he believed that had there been a Robertson regiment in existence he would have joined it—(applause). Robertsons were very plentiful in the Gordons. In his own company he had five or six, and taking that as an average, it would bring the number in the battalion up to fifty or sixty—(applause). It had given him pleasure to hear the Chief's letter read, but he doubted whether or not he deserved all that was said therein. It had likewise given him great pleasure to hear the graceful allusion made by the chairman to Mrs. Matheson. They of the Gordons had always looked up to the ladies. In 1794 the Duchess of Gordon raised the battalion of which he was a member. They were all proud of that, and he was glad to see that the chief moving spirit of the Clan Donnachaidh Society was also a lady, for it seemed to him to show an affinity between his regiment's creation and the Clan Society—(applause). He was sure that the honor which they had conferred upon him would

be an incentive to his comrades. In the regiment the old clan spirit was still strong, and as soon as a man donned the tartan he became conscious of the great responsibility which lay with him to guard its honour — (applause). He concluded by again thanking his clansmen for their recognition.

Major G. C. Robertson, of Widmerpool, spoke advocating a large complete history of the clan, and advising clanspeople to look up and allow to be used any family papers they possessed.

Captain John C. Robertson spoke in favor of Struan Robertson, Cluny Macpherson, and the other Highland chiefs having a seat in the House of Lords.

Mr. James Dunnachie showed the historical clan relics at the interval.

Mr. Graham Hunter recited a fine poem, "Thainig Clan Donnachaidh!" by W. J. Robertson, Manchester.

Mr. Thomas Dunnachie, well-known as "the father of the temperance movement in Scotland," proposed a vote of thanks to members from a distance, who had taken so much trouble in order to be present.

#### ANNUAL MEETING IN 1902.

**A Great Gathering at Pitlochry—An Entertaining and Interesting Meeting.**

The Perthshire Advertiser of Wednesday, July 16, 1902, says:—The ninth general gathering of Clan Donnachaidh was held in the public hall, Pitlochry, on Friday evening. Struan Robertson, twentieth Chief of the clan, presided, and was supported on the platform by the office-bearers and clansmen from the district and also from Edinburgh, Glasgow, etc.

Of the divers clans that have been formed within recent years, none maintain a more vigorous existence than that of the Clan Donnachaidh. The history of the clan is one of the most stirring in Scottish history.

#### HISTORY OF THE CLAN.

The present Struan is the 20th chief, the first—who gave the clan its name of Clan Donnachaidh or Duncan—having been Donnachadh Reamhar (Duncan the Stout), otherwise called Duncan de Atholia. Duncan was him-

self the male representative and descendant of the ancient Celtic Earls of Athole, the first of whom is said to have been a son of King Malcolm Canmore, and therefore, also descended from King Duncan.

The clan, however, count their chiefs from Duncan de Atholia only, as they first appeared as a clan then, and that, in support of Duncan's kinsman, King Robert the Bruce. It was on the way to Bannockburn that Duncan found the Clach-na-Brataich (stone of the standard) adhering to his standard pole on its being lifted from the earth after a night's halt—the crystal ball which carried with it the luck of the Clan Donnachaidh, and which the present Struan showed at this gathering. This has always been carried on the person of the chief in battle since it was so borne by Duncan to victory at Bannockburn, and it was even examined beforehand as to the fate of battle, its shining being considered a favourable omen.

#### BRANCHES OF THE CLAN.

There are several branches of the clan. The oldest cadet family of Struan were the Robertsons of Lude; others are the Robertsons of Inches, Kindeace, Auchleeks, Kindrochit, Faskally, Tullibelton, Strathloch, Blairfettie, Calvine, Guay, Balnacraig, Killichangy, Edradynate, and many other lairdships in Atholl and the surrounding parts of Perthshire. With the exception of Auchleeks, Tullibelton, Edradynate, and Kindeace (in Ross-shire), all these cadet properties have now passed into the hands of strangers.

The Robertsons of Strathloch were all known as Reids, being descended from a red-haired Robertson, and the Reids still found in Atholl and the district, as well as certain of those bearing that name elsewhere, belong to this stock.

#### FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY.

The Clan Society was inaugurated in 1893, and its members now number 800. The general meetings are held alternately in Perthshire, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, but local meetings are also frequently held in various centres. The President is Lord Robertson of Porteviot, and among the vice-presidents are Edgar W. Robertson of Auchleeks, Charles Robertson

of Kindeace, Neil Robertson, Dunmurray, Pitlochry; Dr. Argyll Robertson, Edinburgh; Rev. A. Irvine Robertson, Clackmannan; John Robertson, Balmacneil, Logierait; Admiral Robertsen-Macdonald, Kinlochmoidart; Colonel D. Robertson Williamson of Lawers; Professor Robertson, Glasgow University; General J. H. C. Robertson, London, and other well-known names.

Clan records and traditions are gathered and preserved for publication, the deserving poor of the clan are helped, and the society has other useful aims as well. In the person of Mrs. Robertson Matheson, Glendevon, the society has an honorary secretary who possesses both ability and energy. To her is in no small measure due the success of the clan gatherings, and it must, at the outset, be admitted that the present gathering was one of the most successful.

#### RELICS OF THE CLAN.

Prior to the commencement of the proceedings the following relics were on view:—Robertson tartan coat, worn by Prince Charlie when in Atholl—come down through the Robertsons to the present owner, Mrs. Stewart, Pitaldonich; piece of old armour from Invervack Castle, lent by Mrs. Stewart, Pitaldonich; dirk worn by Robert Ban Robertson of Invervack, lent by Mr. Duncan Stewart, Pitaldonich; pieces of linen spun by Mrs. Robertson, Bochonic, grand-daughter of Robert Ban, and by her daughter, Mrs. Stewart, sen., the Bank, Blair-Atholl; violin said to have belonged to Prince Charlie, lent by Mrs. Leslie Robertson, Butterglen, Dunkeld; medal handed by Prince Charlie in France to Donald Robertson of Woodsheal, leader of the Robertsons in '45—lent to the society by the late Miss Emily Stewart, Perth, great grand-daughter of Woodsheal.

#### THE CHIEF'S ADDRESS.

Struan, who was received with loud cheering, in his opening remarks, said that was the third time the Society had met in the old clan country, the first being at Blair Atholl when he was 6,000 miles away. At that time a letter was read by the Chairman from him from Jamaica. Their next meeting was at Dunkeld, a place also nearly connected with their clan. It was

a great happiness to him to be there, because after all the years that their Chief had never met them as a clan they could easily appreciate his feelings on that occasion.

#### CLAN WITH A HISTORY.

It was now nearly 200 years since the clan was gathered together in Pitlochry with their Chief at their head. (Applause.) Now, however, it was under changed circumstances they met, but it was still the old clan, with the same feelings as in the days of old, and with the same motto, "Mutual help and support." They were now spread all over the world since the fatal days of Culloden, but they were still the same old clan, and their clansmen abroad looked back to the old county of Perthshire with the same feelings of pride. As an instance of how widely spread their clan were he mentioned that they had got members not only in South Africa, Australia, and Singapore, but he had just heard the other day that some North American Indians had been discovered to call themselves by the honored name of Robertson. (Laughter.) They knew after Culloden a great many Robertsons had to leave the country for the good of their health. (Laughter).

#### ROBERTSON FROM POCAHONTAS.

Among those in America was a famous Judge Robertson, a descendant on the one side from the well-known Pocahontas, who was so beloved by the Indians that many of them took his name. On the Robertson side he belonged to a Robertson stock who had fought through the '45 and thereafter sought refuge in America. The Indians called themselves by such names as Pole-cat Robertson, Star Robertson, etc. Their clan secretary had just received in a mysterious way a present of an ancient Indian war shield, and slung to it was something that looked very like a scalp—let them hope not a Robertson scalp. (Laughter.)

#### CLANSMEN IN BATTLE.

They could not meet there that night without remembering that one who was with them at the Dunkeld meeting three years ago and took a principal part—Captain Stuart Robertson of the 14th Hussars, and latterly Black Watch—had since laid down his life for his country in South Africa. An-

other who was also with them on that occasion was Mr. A. Duncan, who had been at the front since the war began, with the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. These two Scotchmen met for the first time on their way to the Dunkeld meeting, and did not meet again until by chance at Kronstad, a week before Captain Stuart Robertson's death.

#### DISTINGUISHED CLANSMEN.

It might be remembered that Captain Stuart Robertson read at the Dunkeld meeting Sir Noel Paton's notes on the Clach-na-Brataich, and he was at all times ready to do anything in his power for the clan, and travelled long distances to be present at their gatherings. He was born in Rannoch, and in later years spent all his leisure time there. It was a great regret to Struan that on account of the distance more of the Rannoch clansmen could not be present at their meetings in that district. Their clansmen had everywhere carried themselves with distinction through the African war. They had the pleasure of electing two of them honorary members in recognition of special bravery on the field of battle. One of these, Lieutenant Robertson, V. C., of the Gordon Highlanders, was at Elandslaagte, and had twice been present at their meetings. Lieut. Robertson did great service there. Most of the officers had been killed or wounded, and he led the regiment to victory. The other, Padre Robertson, chaplain of the Highland Brigade, they had not been able to welcome home, although they hoped he would be present at their next general meeting. As far as he could remember, Padre Robertson, when the bullets were flying about, was one of the first to be standing by looking after the wounded, notwithstanding that he was not one of the real Army Medical Corps.

#### DEATH OF A CLANSMAN.

The sad news had just reached them that another clansman, their South African Secretary for nearly ten years, Major Robertson of the Border Horse, who was invalided home, had died a little more than a week after reaching his native country. Struan was in Jamaica when he first heard of him. It was just about that time that the first idea of forming the Society was mooted, and as a result of some correspond-

ence that passed between them Major Robertson started as a Clan Secretary in South Africa, and with success. Before the war commenced he was a lieutenant in the Cape Mounted Rifles, having won this commission through merit. Latterly he was a captain under General Gatacre, and was present at the Stormberg disaster. Soon after he raised the Border Horse, a force 500 or 600 strong which, as major, he organized and got into such good shape that in less than six weeks it took the field and proved one of the smartest and most useful corps in the campaign. He was wounded in the cheek at Labuschague's Nek, but remained on duty and the Boers were defeated and driven out of the Colony. His regiment also took part in the relief of Wepner. After a month in hospital with enteric fever he returned to the front and took part in the operations resulting in the surrender of Prinsloo. Their clansman got the C. M. G. for his services.

Struan then moved the election of Mrs. Stewart, *sex.*, Blair Atholl, great granddaughter of Robert Ban Robertson, of Invervack, as a hon. member of the Society.

Mr. Hugh Angus Stewart said he begged to tender them on behalf of his grandmother her sincere thanks for electing her an honorary member. She had ever taken a keen interest in the work of the Society, and it gave her great satisfaction to review the good work done in keeping alive the clan history. She was at one time disposed to think that as the members all left their native heath and became scattered through the world the deeds and haunts of the clan would become lost to history. Such was not the case, and as a proof of that one might point to their proceedings that night. The chief had given them a most interesting account of deeds of valour and clansmanship among the Robertsons. That showed that the clan was most jealous of its traditions, while of all Scottish clans the Clan Donnachaidh was most loyal to their chief. Such a spirit of clan patriotism had been fostered by the clan Society, whose progress had been largely contributed to by their gracious and energetic secretary, Mrs. Robertson Matheson. (Applause.) By their kindness they had elected his grandmother to the proud position of an honorary mem-

ber, and she desired him to convey to them her sincere thanks, and to assure them that her constant prayer would be for the continued welfare of the Society. (Applause).

The office-bearers were re-elected, Mrs. Robertson, dowager of Auchleeks, being added to the list of Vice-Presidents, and Mr. John Robertson, Dunkeld, and Mr. Angus Robertson, Tomacholl, to the Council.

#### LADY LUDE OF THE '45.

The Rev. A. Meldrum, Logierait, then read a paper on "Lady Lude of the '45," in the course of which he said there were two ladies who figured very conspicuously in connection with the rising in 1745. They were Lady Macintosh of Moyhall and the Hon. Mrs. Robertson of Lude.

#### ANCESTRY OF LADY LUDE.

Hon. Mrs. Robertson of Lude, wife of John Robertson, Laird of Lude, who was usually designated "Lady Lude," was the fifth daughter of the Lord William Murray, second Lord Nairne, who, with his son and heir, were out in the '15; both were taken prisoners at Preston. The former was brought to trial in January, 1716, found guilty of high treason, and condemned to die, but he was respited, and afterwards pardoned. His son and successor, John, did not appear to profit by the admonitory experience of the '15 and the grace shown to his house by George I., for he entered heart and soul into the rebellion of 1745. His two sons, Thomas and Henry, were also out, as well as his brother, the Hon. Robert Nairne Mercer, who had married Miss Mercer, the heiress of Meikieour. The whole family, male and female, was intensely Jacobite, and in respect of energy, enthusiasm and determination in prosecuting and supporting the cause.

#### LADY LUDE AND PRINCE CHARLIE.

Lady Lude was par excellence a heroine of the first water. The Royal Standard was raised in Glensinnan and Badenoch, reached Dalnacardoch on Monday, August 19, 1745. The Highland army, headed by the Prince, had missed crossing swords with Sir John Cope in the heights of Atholl on Friday, 30th August. The Marquis of Tullibardine (now calling himself Duke William) sent an express

to his cousin, the Hon. Mrs. Robertson of Lude, desiring her to repair to Blair Castle and put it in order, and also to do the honors when His Royal Highness should arrive.

#### MEETS THE PRINCE.

Accordingly, when the Prince arrived, her Ladyship, a very personification of elegance and dignity, stood at the entrance and received and welcomed the royal guest. This was in the afternoon of the 31st August, and the same evening the Marquis of Tullibardine (or Duke William) gave a state entertainment to the Prince and all the members of his entourage, at which Lady Lude did service with all the grace and accomplishments of a high-toned lady of the period. Duke James of Atholl had gone for the time, but events as they occurred were always duly chronicled to him by the commissary Bisset, whose residence was at Kincairgie, near Dalguise, but in those exciting times he was in or about Blair Castle. He was keeping Duke James fully posted up with information as to both particular and general matters; he was regarded as a most loyal subject, both to his King and to his constituent, and a postscript to a letter of his, dated Blair Castle, 31st August, 1745, intimating the arrival of "the Pretender," etc., is in these words: "Lady Lude is here with them, and behaves like a light giglet, and hath taken upon her to be sole mistress of the house." Bishop Forbes' "Jacobite Memoirs" record that: "whilst the Prince was at Blair, he went into the garden, and taking a walk upon the howling green he said he had never seen a howling green before; upon which Mrs. Robertson of Lude called for some bowls that he might see them, but he told her that he had got a present of bowls sent him, as a curiosity, to Rome from England."

#### PRINCE CHARLIE DANCES.

On Monday, 2nd September, the Prince left Blair Castle and went to the house of Lude, where he remained for the night. The "Jacobite Memoirs" have it that "he was very cheerful, and took his share in several dances, such as minuets and Highland reels. The first reel the Prince called for was 'This is no mine ain house.'

and a strathspey minuet. "This is no mine ain' noose" has a reference to the alien character of all political arrangements since the Revolution era of 1688. On Tuesday, September 3rd, the Highland army marched from Blair to Dunkeld, where the Prince had lodging in the Duke of Atholl's house, and here, the day before, he had been proclaimed King by Lord Nairne and Lochiel, and proceeded to Perth, and dined at Nairne House.

#### LADY LUDE RECRUITING.

Meanwhile, Lady Lude now set herself vigorously to do the duties of a recruiting sergeant, and she did so with remarkable vigour and success. This is borne out by the evidence given against her on behalf of the Government after the '45. The following tenants on the estate of Lude were examined, viz: Alexander Kennedy, Craggan; Donald Kennedy, Balmacree; Neil Kennedy, Croftic Ewen; Duncan Macdonald, Tour of Kindrochet; Alexander Robertson, Kindrochet of Lude; Alexander Robertson, Park of Kennamaine; Alexander Robertson, Drumranageach; Charles Robertson, Runroy; Duncan Robertson, Kilmavoineag; Donald Stewart.

#### WHAT LADY LUDE DID.

They stated that when Prince Charlie came to Lude on September 2, Lady Lude convened her tenants there and told them they must join his army, which they were unwilling to do. She then threatened them that if they would not rise for him she would let loose the dogs on them, who would destroy all they had; to avoid which they were forced to enlist, and joined a company in Lord George Murray's Regiment, which was known as Lady Lude's Company, and was commanded by Robert Stewart, tenant in Mains of Lude. That, with the exception of Alexander Robertson, Kindrochet, who was present at Prestonpans, they all deserted during their march to Edinburgh, and that when they returned home Lady Lude was very wroth with them, and threatened them with great punishments, till they had paid a fine averaging £3 each. Charles Robertson said that Lady Lude threatened to hang him for his desertion. That shortly after the battle of Falkirk he was taken up as a de-

serter by a party and rejoined the Highland army, that he marched north and returned with the force that besieged Blair Castle, at which time he formed one of the guard at the Pass of Killiecrankie. That when Lord George raised the siege he again deserted. Other witnesses gave evidence as follows: Thomas Rattray saw Lady Lude hurry to the door of Blair Castle to meet the young Pretender on his arrival. Angus M'Donald saw her kneel and kiss his hand outside the door. Thomas Fraser often saw her walking on the Castle green with the Highland officers, and observed Lady Lude elated when she was about with the Young Pretender. At that time she looked like a person whose head had gone wrong. At the time of the siege of Blair, when the rebels seized the sergeant's command at Bridge of Tilt, he saw her treat the rebels with brandy, applauding them for what they had done, clapping them on the shoulders, and dancing with them. When Lord George Murray had invested Blair Castle on the 17th March, 1746, and had planted his cannon (he had only two 4-pounders) on the green knoll near the old parish church, the siege operations were begun by Lady Lude firing the first cannon that was discharged against the Castle. When the hopes of the Stuarts were extinguished on the field of Culloden, enquiries, trials and executions became the order of the day. Lady Lude very soon experienced that enquiries regarding her and her recent doings were becoming very pertinent and personal, so much so, indeed, that she considered the best course, in the way of consulting her safety, was to migrate from the scenes of her Jacobite effort and energy, and sojourn in the Scottish capital. She now became an inmate of Mr. Murray's lodging, at the head of Caul's Close, Edinburgh, and was disguised under the name of "Mrs. Black." She was in constant correspondence with her relatives and friends in Perthshire, and though she was not included in the list of those attainted by the Act of April 18, 1746, she was nevertheless much relieved by the passing of the Act of Indemnity of 1747. A little previously she had been very urgently recommended by some friends to remove

to the north of England and keep very quiet there, with a reliable companion or two, but she continued in Edinburgh lodging until she returned to Atholl and to her residence at Lude. When her son James had attained his majority, and married his cousin-germain, Margaret Mercer, of Meikleour and Aldie—Lady Lude made her headquarters in a house that had been specially fitted up for her at Middle Bridge, and here for the most part she spent the rest of her days. She saw her six grandsons growing up to manhood—five of them entered the army and one of them the church, but, alas! none of them survived the prime of life with the exception of the eldest, William, who became a general in the army, father of the last Robertson proprietor of Lude. In concluding, the Rev. Mr. Meldrum read a number of letters which belonged to Lady Lude, and referred to her death and funeral.

#### THROUGH THE CLAN COUNTRY.

On Saturday a driving excursion of members of the Clan Donnachaidh took place from Pitlochry through part of the clan country, embracing Atholl and Struan. The Chief, who had presided at the general gathering of the clan the previous evening, was unable to be present, but Mrs. Robertson Matheson, the Hon. Secretary, accompanied the party. The country through which the excursion took place included Faskally, Lude, and Blair Atholl, all of which formerly belonged to the Robertsons. As the chiefs had supported the Stuarts from the earliest times, and taken a prominent part in the rising of the '45, there was much that was of historic interest viewed en route. The party proceeded to Struan, from which the chief takes his name, but had to abandon the intention of also visiting Dunalastair and Rannoch, as time did not permit. Although wet weather prevailed, the outing was much enjoyed. In connection with the Society's visit the tartan coat worn by Prince Charlie while in Atholl in the '45 was shown in the window of Messrs. W. & A. Robertson, drapers. The garment is in the style of the present evening dress coat.

#### COMPLIMENT TO THE CLAN.

The Perthshire Advertiser of Wed-

nesday, July 16, 1902, in an editorial on the gathering of the Robertsons, says:—

The old clan spirit still lives and fructifies. Ample testimony of the truth of this statement was found in the proceedings in connection with the ninth annual general gathering of Clan Donnachaidh, which took place at Pitlochry on Friday, and was presided over by Struan Robertson, worthy descendant of Donnachadh Reamhar (Duncan the Stout), the first Chief-tain. The gathering in the home country seemed to carry the members back to the past with its stirring and inspiring memories, and to these were added the doughty deeds of many of the brave men and true who to-day are proving in different quarters of the globe that they are the worthy sons of worthy sires.

No general meetings of the Clan were held in 1903 or 1904, owing to the serious illness of the Secretary.

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#### ANN'IAL MEETING, 1905.

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#### The Clan and Their Chiefs—A Preliminary Notice of the Meeting and a Brief History of the Clan.

The Dundee Advertiser of the 16th September, 1905, gives a history of the Clan in connection with the tenth annual meeting of the Clan Society:

The Clan Donnachaidh holds its annual gathering in Dundee on Friday. A conversazione will be held in the Victoria Art Galleries, and Struan, Chief of the Clan, whose portrait is herewith reproduced, will hold a reception from seven to eight, during which tea will be served at a buffet. A concert follows, the programme of which will be sustained by the Dundee Gaelic choir and a number of popular artists. Short addresses will be delivered by Lord Robertson of Forcviot, President of the Clan Society; Rev. A. Irvine Robertson, D.D., Clackmannan. Vice-President: Rev. James Robertson, D.D., D.S.O., Melhaven, better known as "Padre Robertson"; and Mr. James Dunnachie, Glenboig. The local arrangements are being carried out by Mr. Fred J. Robertson, C.A.



## HISTORY OF THE ROBERTSONS.

The Clan Donnachie or Robertson is fairly numerous in Dundee, and consequently a large turnout is expected. The cradle of the clan is in Perthshire, but they have obtained a good foothold in several other counties.

The descent of the clan is a little obscure, but there is no doubt that its founder was 'Donnachadh Reamhar'—Fat Duncan, who was born about 1275, in the reign of Alexander III, and, according to Skene, inherited from his father, Andrew de Atholia, a portion of the estates of the ancient Celtic Earls of Atholl, to which he added largely by two marriages. He was the first Lord of Struan, and was one of the most renowned Scottish warriors of his time. He espoused the cause of Bruce, and fought hard to secure him the crown of Scotland. It is said that he was present with his followers at Bannockburn, and there helped to turn the tide of battle in favor of Bruce.

### CLAN'S FIRST BATTLE.

Duncan died about 1355, and was succeeded by his son Robert, named after King Robert Bruce. Under this Chief, Clan Donnachaidh is recorded to have made its first public appearance as a clan by taking a prominent part in the well-known "Raid of Angus" in 1392.

### DESCENT OF CHIEFS.

On the death of Robert he was succeeded by his son Duncan, designed third Baron "de Atholia de Struan." Duncan had three sons—Robert, his heir; Duncan, of whom are the Robertsons of Inches, in Inverness-shire, and the Robertsons of Kindace and Glencalvie, in Ross-shire; and Thomas, who, through his daughter's marriage, became progenitor of some families of the name of Reid. The third Baron was succeeded by his son Robert, who, from the color of his hair, was known as Robert "Ruadh" or Red. For the assistance he gave in capturing two of the principal assassins of James I., he was offered a reward for his services by James II. All he asked was to have all the lands which he then possessed confirmed to him and his heirs by the Crown. This was accordingly done by a charter under the Great Seal, dated 15th August 1451. At the same time Robert Ruadh got an augmentation to his arms; for

crest a dexter arm supporting an Imperial crown, with the motto "Virtutis gloria merces," and below, in place of a compartment, a savage lying in chains.

Robert Ruadh had three sons—Alexander, his heir; Robert, who became the progenitor of the Earls of Portmore; and Patrick. On his death, about the year 1460, his eldest son succeeded as fifth Baron of Struan. His "clan" name in Gaelic would be "Alasdair Mac Dhonnachaidh"—Alexander Duncanson, but being the son of Robert, he assumed Robertson as his surname, and so this clan cognomen came into existence.

Alexander died about 1506, and was succeeded by his grandson William, who was murdered in 1530 by some of the followers of the Earl of Athole.

William was succeeded by his son Robert as seventh Chief. He was married to one of the MacLeans of Ardnamurchan, and had two sons, William and Donald. William succeeded his father and was succeeded in turn by his brother Donald as ninth Chief. He was succeeded by his son Robert as tenth Chief. He married one of the MacDonnells of Keppoch, and had four sons—Alexander, his heir; Donald (known in history as "The Tutor of Struan"); Duncan, who became "of Drumachine," and to whose descendants the succession to the Chiefship afterwards fell; and James.

Alexander was succeeded in 1636 by his infant son Alexander, 12th Baron. He being an infant, the clan was ruled by Donald, "The Tutor of Struan." The Tutor was an ardent supporter of the cause of Charles I., and, having raised an army of 800, of which he was made Colonel, they mustered, and, carrying with them "Clach-na-Brataich," served under the great Marquis at Inverlochy and at Kilsyth.

Alexander was succeeded by his son, also named Alexander, 13th Baron of Struan, who served under Viscount Dundee, and twice had to seek refuge in France. On the landing of Prince Charlie in 1745 Struan joined the Highland army at Perth, and on first meeting the Prince he addressed him thus: "Sir—I have devoted my youth to the service of your grand-sire, and my manhood to that of your father. Now I am come to devote my old age to the cause of your Royal

Highness." The Prince is said to have wept as he embraced the aged Chief of Clan Donnachaidh. Struan who was over 75 years of age, was prevailed upon, after the victory of Prestonpans, to retire from the Highland army. His retainers, however, remained with the standard of Prince Charlie, under the command of Donald Robertson of Woodsheal, who led his clansmen into action at Cullodea.

Old Struan, who had been out in the Risings of 1689, 1715 and 1745, died in 1749. He was the last of the direct male line of "Donnachadh Reamhair." He died without an heir, and the succession devolved on his kinsman, Duncan Robertson of Drumachine, who in turn was succeeded by his son, Colonel Alex. Robertson, who died in 1822. Having no family, the succession changed to the younger branch of the family, the representative of which was Captain Alexander Robertson, grandson of Robert Ban of Invervack.

He in due time was succeeded by his son, Major-General George Duncan Robertson. He died in 1842, leaving the succession to his only son, George Duncan Robertson, of the Black Watch. He died in 1864 without heir, and the succession fell to Alex. Gilbert Robertson. This Chief had long been settled as a planter in Jamaica, and died in 1884, and was succeeded by his only son, Alasdair Stewart Robertson, present and 20th Chief of the Clan Donnachaidh, who was born in 1863.

#### BADGE, MOTTO, ETC.

The badges of the clan are bracken — "Raineach," and fine-leaved heath — "Dhluith-fhraoch" ("erica cinerea"). An ancient motto of the clan is "Fierce when roused"—Gaelic "Garg 'n uair dhuisgear." Another is "Virtutis gloria merces," already referred to—"Glory the reward of valor." Among the tunes associated with the clan are "Teachd Chlann Donnachaidh"—the "Coming of Clan Donnachaidh"—"Struan's Salute," "The Blue Ribbon," "Struan's Rant," and "Bill an Crodh Donnachaidh" — "Turn the cattle, Duncan" — associated with a famous cattle raid in the fifteenth century.

#### STONE OF THE STANDARD.

A number of clan relics are to be exhibited at the gathering. The

most interesting of these is "Clach na Brataich," or Stone of the Standard, which is said to have clung to the standard pole when pulled out of the ground at St. Ninians, where Donnacha Reamhar and his followers encamped prior to the battle of Bannockburn. This relic in form is a ball of clear crystal, in appearance like glass, two inches in diameter. It became associated with the victory of Bannockburn, and thenceforth was accepted by the clan as its stone of destiny. It has always been carried by the chief on his person when the clan assembled in military array. It has also been regarded a charm stone against sickness. It was after a short preliminary prayer dipped in water by the chief, who then with his own hands distributed the water thus qualified amongst the applicants for it. In this connection it was used by the grandfather of the present chief, in whose possession it now remains.

The Woodsheal Medal is about the size of a four-shilling piece. It bears on one side a portrait of the Prince and the date of presentation—1750. On the obverse side is a withered oak, while springing up from its roots is a healthy sapling, symbolic of the hopefulness then of the Jacobite cause. The Clan Donnachaidh Society was founded in 1893. Mrs. Robertson-Matheson, Glendevon, by Dollar, is the Hon. Secretary.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1905.

This preliminary notice was followed by a report of the meeting, as given in the Dundee Advertiser of 16th September, 1905. It reads:—

The Clan Donnachaidh (Robertson), under the presidency of their chief, Struan Robertson, 20th of the line, last night assembled in the Victoria Art Galleries, Dundee. In times gone by the gatherings of the clan not infrequently boded ill for their neighbors, but, as one of the speakers remarked, the Robertsons have outgrown the drawbacks of their Highland fastnesses, and last night's great meeting yielded itself up to the peaceful pursuit of drinking tea, eating buns, listening to excellent music, and incidentally transacting a little business of a very pleasant character. Among those who supported the chief on the platform were:—Lord Provost

Barrie, Rev. Dr. James Robertson, D. S.O., Methven; Councillor John Robertson and Mrs. Robertson, Dundee; Mr. James Dunnachie, Glenboig; Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown Robertson and Miss Brown Robertson; Mrs. Robertson-Matheson, the secretary; Mr. W. D. Robertson, Glasgow; Mr. F. J. Robertson, and Mr. J. C. Robertson.

#### THE CHIEF'S ALLEGORY.

The chief, who had a loyal reception, briefly traced the historical connection of the clan with Dundee, and then proceeded to give an allegorical account of the birth and development of the Society under whose auspices they were met. Once in the past, he said, there was a great property, a mine of immense wealth. This mine was managed by the proprietors, from father to son, assisted by brothers and cousins and other relations. These workers all had the same interest in the mine. This mine had been worked for some hundreds of years, when one day a great calamity came about. The machinery was put out of gear, and though the property was not quite deserted most of the workers had to move away, some to distant parts, still, however, thinking of their mine. That great trouble happened 150 years ago. The proprietors and workers were separated, but a time came when it was found that under changed conditions this mine could be worked just as before. On hearing this the descendants of the old workers came to the new proprietor, and a great meeting was held, when it was discovered that not only was the old mine in good order, but that the workers who had been separated for so long could easily be brought together again. The councillors and managers were appointed, the old shafts were surveyed, and others were prospected, and this work turned out so well that quite a lot of new shafts were opened. The new shafts were found to be rich in the finest material. It was then proposed that, besides local meetings of the various shafts, a yearly meeting of all should be held at a different shaft each year, so that the workers from other shafts could when possible come and hear how the general affairs of the mine were getting on. That mine was the great heart of the Clan Donnachaidh, and what greater mine

could they have than one which produced such rich ore as mutual help and support? (Applause.) After 120 years their chief and fellow-clansmen met once more and numerous members had been gained in the principal towns and clan districts in Scotland, in the colonies, and even in the United States of America. (Applause.) The chief spoke encouragingly of the prospects of these branches, thanked Lord Provost Barrie for his official support, and concluded by intimating that the latest recruit was Herr Wilhelm Francis Von Robertson, of Hamburg.

#### PADRE ROBERTSON'S ADVICE.

Rev. Dr. James Robertson, D.S.O., delivered an address brimful of characteristic humour. Speech-making, he said, was not in his line, because he was as yet unaccustomed to civil ordinances. (Laughter.) As a civilian he had not cut his wisdom teeth yet. (Laughter.) He was sometimes asked how he liked Methven, but he was more concerned to know what the Methven folks thought about him (Laughter.) It came as a revelation to him the amount of visiting that the people took. Every old wife he met said, "Hullo, Doctor; when are ye comin' tae see's?" although he had only been away from her house ten days. (Laughter.) One point soldiers and civilians had in common—they were awfully fond of short sermons. (Laughter.) They had a most remarkable appreciation of brevity—in fact, brevity was like charity. It covered a multitude of defects. (Laughter.) In conclusion, the Doctor gave his clansmen the advice he received from his Aberdeen landlady when he quitted college:—"Good-bye, laddie; aye bear in mind ye're a Robertson—that's character enough tae maintain. Dinna forget your prayers, an' aye wear flannel neist yer skin." (Laughter.) Though they sat down and thought for centuries, they would never conceive better advice than that. (Applause.)

#### THE VALUE OF CLAN SENTIMENT.

Rev. Dr. A. Irvine Robertson said there was no town in Scotland where a meeting of that sort was more appropriate. For many generations the members of their clan had held a place among Dundee's most useful and hon-

ored citizens. (Applause.) Clan Donnachaidh had carried throughout the whole world sterling qualities matured for generations in the north. (Applause.) One of the chief purposes of their society was to foster clan sentiment, which, to his mind, resolved itself into an amplification of the Fifth Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother." He did not believe that that precept was only meant to inculcate a fireside virtue one generation deep. It was a recognition of the bond of race and blood—a sacred thing not to be ignored. (Applause.) The characteristic mark of their clan was not learning particularly, not intellect—though they had their share—certainly not wealth, but loyalty and courage. Clan Donnachaidh was looking up. It had never shown a more worthy spirit or occupied a more useful place in the life of the community than it did today. (Applause.)

#### MONUMENT TO THE POET CHIEF.

Mr. James Dunnachie, Glenboig, moved that a committee be nominated by the Chief, the President and the Hon. Secretary, to raise money by means of a shilling subscription for the erection of a suitable monument somewhere in Rannoch to the memory of Struan Robertson, the Poet Chief of Clan Donnachaidh, with power to employ any surplus that might accrue for any other purpose in the interests of the Clan Society. Struan, the thirteenth of the line, he said, was more than a brave and dashing soldier; he was a genial, warm-hearted gentleman, a man of culture, a scholar and a poet, with the true inspiration of genius. Was Struan, the poet chief, a man whose memory could be forgotten without loss? He thought not. (Applause.) His clansmen all over the world had reason to be proud of him. (Applause.) Councillor Robertson seconded, and the proposal was cordially agreed to.

The years 1906 and 1907 passed without a large gathering of the Clan.

#### DISTRICT MEETING IN 1908.

Dinner in London at Which the Chief of the Clan Presided — A Large Gathering of Clansmen.

The following extract from the

Oban Times, of 24th October, 1908, has a report of a dinner held in the Queen's Room, Holborn Restaurant, London, Eng. The report reads:—

#### CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY.

For some time past, owing to various reasons, very little has been done in London in connection with the Clan Donnachaidh Society, but Friday evening saw it come into line with other societies in the metropolis when a dinner was held in the Queen's Room of the Holborn Restaurant, High Holborn.

The room presented an interesting and picturesque appearance for the occasion. The tables were decorated with the badge of the clan, badges of the Stuarts, bracken, heath, oak leaves, thistle, and other choice blooms, while the walls of the room were hung with dress tartan, and targes were hung behind the chief. Many of the gentlemen present were in Highland costume, and nearly all the ladies wore bows of tartan ribbon.

Struan, the head of the clan, occupied the chair, and was escorted to his seat by Pipe-Major Robert Robertson and several members of the Ccmmun Pìohairean Lunnain, playing the "Atholl Highlanders," and "Struan's Rant." Struan is the twentieth chief in direct succession from the Celtic Earls of Atholl, and through them from King Malcolm Canmore.

The clan secretary, Mrs. Robertson-Matheson, was present wearing the ring given by Prince Charles Edward to Flora Macdonald, and containing a lock of his hair.

Another interesting relic shown was the Clach-na-brataich, or luck stone, of the Robertsons, found by the clan when marching to Bannockburn in the cause of Bruce. There was also shown by Dr. Robert Robertson, the violin taken from Cope's carriage by a Robertson after Prestonpans.

Amongst others present were Mrs. Dunnachie, the Right Rev. Archibald Robertson, Bishop of Exeter; Mr. Robert Duncan, M.P.; Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Robertson, Dr. G. Arbutnot Robertson, Miss Amy Robertson, Dr. and Mrs. Duncan, Capt. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Robertson, Miss MacLobbie, Major G. Coke Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Robinson, Miss

Robertson, Mrs. Robert Robertson, Mr. Robertson Webb, Miss Alice Robertson, Dr. Robertson, jun.; Mr. Jacob Robertson, Dr. George Robertson, R. N.; Mr. C. Stewart Robertson, Mr. J. C. Robertson, Mr. Herbert Robertson, M.P.; Mr. Norman Robertson, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. J. Macintyre Masson, Major G. Allan Robertson, Mr. James J. Mackay, Mrs. Royston, Mr. Dunna-  
 cnie, Miss Napier, Miss Iona Robertson and party, Mr. W. T. Jaffrey Ross, Miss Ethel Robertson, Mr. W. J. Watts Miller, Mr. Alex. Robertson, Mr. John Mackerchar, etc., etc.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair, and duly honored.

#### HEALTH OF CHIEF AND CLAN.

Dr. George Robertson, R.N., proposed the toast of "Clan Donnachaidh."

The Chief, in responding, said it touched his heart very deeply to see so many of the clan assembled together. Happily that evening they were gathered under peaceful circumstances. Though they had not then turned out with target and claymore, "all plaided and plumed in tartan array," they brought with them the same determination to preserve un-  
 tarnished the traditions they had honored in the past, and to discharge as best they may, the duty of mutual support and help in the present. (Cheers.) He rejoiced to see so goodly a muster of the clan around him. And though many far and near were unable to be present with them in body, he had reason to know many were with them in spirit and sympathy. Since the dark days of Culloden their clan as such has been scattered over the world, but he trusted by means of the clan sentiment, which he thanked God, was not yet extinct at home or in the new and mighty communities beyond the seas, they would yet, as it were, stand "shoulder to shoulder" in the performance of the great duty of mutual help, which was one of the main objects of the Society. (Cheers.) The clan sentiment so deeply implanted in the Highland heart professes to be thoroughly practical in its aims, and by united action on the part of members of the Society the Clan Donnachaidh may be in a

manner gathered together once more, so that each clansman may in his hour of need be helped by the whole strength of the clan. (Cheers.) Happily, there are not a few whose efforts in the battle of life have been largely crowned with success. Doubtless there are some who are sorely wounded and stand in need of help, and he was glad to say that since the formation of the clan Society it had been their privilege to assist a number of their unfortunate clansmen and clanswomen. He trusted that those more fortunate ones will, as members of the Clan Donnachaidh Society, come to the assistance of others. (Cheers.)

After other interesting remarks, "The Clan South of the Tweed" was given by Struan, and acknowledged by the Right Rev. Archibald Robertson, Bishop of Exeter, who remarked that if ever the North Pole was found, he was sure a member of the Clan Donnachaidh Society would be found there.

#### DONNACHAIDH CLANSWOMEN.

The toasts "The Ladies of the Clan," and "Visitors," were proposed by Mr. Herbert Robertson, M.P., and Robert Duncan, M.P.

The Clan secretary, Mrs. Robertson Matheson, in replying, assured them she was very proud of having her name coupled with the toast. Their records, scanty as they were, like those of most Jacobite clans, were full of the achievements of chiefs and clansmen, only here and there was a woman remembered at all. The earliest clanswoman known to tradition is the first wife of the famous Chief and founder of the Clan, Donnachadh Reamhar, the valiant supporter of Bruce. Donnachadh, being tired of his first wife, wished to marry another, and consulted the priest whether he could do so. "Not while your first wife is above ground," the priest solemnly assured him. Donnachadh, who was in everything a man of great resources, then imprisoned his wife in the depths of a cave in an island on Loch Con, and at once married another, being able to say truthfully that his first wife was no longer above ground. The next clanswoman known to history is the Black Lady

Margaret, sister of our famous poet chief warrior, Alexander Robertson, thirteenth of Struan. It is well known that the confiscated estates were restored to her brother in her name, but it is also said that she personally journeyed to London to beg that her brother, whose constitution was broken down by exile and misfortune, might be allowed to return to his native Rannoch. The King, who said he thought all Highlanders were savages was much struck by the white-haired beauty, and granted her more than she asked. Many stories have been told of her, but none more striking than her rescue of her brother on his way to prison after the battle of Sheriffmuir, when Struan was twice taken and twice rescued. Long after the death of Lady Margaret, Struan's niece, Sybilla Robertson, became a prominent figure in the clan, being considered the successor to the chieftainship, her brother, who was Struan's heir, having been accidentally killed when a lad. In the latter years of Struan's life the women of the clan are found guarding him from the sheriff's officers, who so often tried to arrest him. On one occasion the King's officer complained that his own life was endangered by his being held down under a running stream. A clanswoman of the same period was Emily Robertson, who became the wife of her cousin, Donald Robertson, leader of the clan in 1745 on behalf of the poet chief, when Donald was left for dead on the field of Culloden. Emily herself brought about his rescue and followed him to France. She had for her wedding ring, the ring given by Prince Charlie to her husband, long treasured in the family. Mr. James J. Mackay, ex-chief of the Scottish Clans Association, was also heard in response.

The last toast, "Struan, our Chief," was done full justice to by Mr. James Dunnachie, Glenboig.

Speaking to the toast, he said the name "Struan" made him think of events covering twenty generations of worthy men who had suffered much for honor and loyalty—who had done much for the freedom we now enjoy, and who had added much to the heroism and romance of Scottish history.

Reference was made to the Poet

Chief, and the monument to his memory to be erected in Perthshire, and at this point a humorous friend from another clan audibly remarked that "The Robertsons were the greatest cattle lifters of the lot." This brought forth a hearty laugh, and the speaker's impromptu reply, in which he said that he was proud of their achievements even in that direction, as it required qualities that were useful in every walk of life, that it was the most respectable trade then going, and suited the business circumstances of the times, being the only form of "Stock Exchange" available to the Highlanders.

He then proposed "Struan," which was enthusiastically drunk, and was responded to by the Chief.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Robert Duncan, M.P., and accorded to Mr. Alexander Robertson, for his untiring efforts in making the gathering such a success.

In the course of the evening an enjoyable musical programme was submitted. Miss Iona Robertson, who was in fine voice, charmed the company with several finely-rendered Gaelic songs. Her recitation, "The Thin Red Line," was given with excellent dramatic power, and received an imperative encore. Mr. J. Coates Lockhart delighted the guests with "Turn Ye to Me," and the "Border Ballad," given with much feeling; while the pipers gave a number of selections in perfect style. The piano selections and accompaniments throughout the evening were admirably performed by Miss Ethel Robertson. "God Save the King," sung by the company, concluded the pleasant evening.

The Clan did not hold an annual meeting in 1909.

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#### DEATH OF STRUAN.

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The Burial of a Highland Chief—The Funeral Impressive in Its Highland Simplicity.

The Celtic Monthly of September, 1910, had the following tribute to the dead Chief from the gifted pen of Mrs. S. Robertson Matheson, the Secretary of the Clan Society:—

A Highland funeral is always a

touching sight, but when it is that of the chief of an ancient clan, young—yet not too young to have been tried and found true—fair-haired, lovable, himself the descendant and representative in the male line of the old Celtic Kings of Scotland, it is one that goes to the heart.

Alasdair Stewart Robertson of Struan, twentieth Chief of Clan Donnachaidh, had died near London at dawn on King Edward's funeral day, so that there were difficulties in the arrangements for the long journey to Rannoch, and in making these known to the many who would wish to do him honor.

Those able to attend from the south had the first glimpse of the Chief's coffin amidst the din of Perth Station, where it lay in its simple state, covered with white wreaths, a few streamers of the red tartan relieving their whiteness\*. The morning was a marvellously perfect one of golden sunshine and clear windless air, and as Perth was left behind, the route, through fresh springing moorland, forest trees in shining young leaf, and serene blue stretches of the Tay, first on one side and then on the other, became ever increasingly beautiful. Remembering the tradition that the ancient possessions of the Robertsons of Struan "once stretched from the water-shed of Rannoch to the Gates of Perth," the whole journey was of most sad interest, the line passing, as it did almost without exception, entirely through or rather upon those ancient possessions. Not very long ago, Struan, whom we now escorted in death, had taken on a bright September morning this same journey, and with the same memories as we had to-day, for in his kindness he had even put these thoughts on paper for our keeping. The first spot of special historic interest was Auchtergaven, of which the following tradition is preserved. Robert, of Struan, who, in reward for capturing the murderers of King James the First, had had the whole of his extensive lands erected into the Barony of Struan, and the arms of his family augmented, with

other honors, received here his death-blow—a wound on the head—in a fight with Forrest of Torwood arising from a dispute regarding territory. This indomitable chief had his wound staunched, and with his head bound with a white cloth, was able to ride into Perth to obtain there from the King a new grant of the lands of Struan, and return home, before death overtook him.

As we move through the deep, silent firwoods of Dunkeld, the May greenery springing on their floors, scantily fringing the dangling boughs of the larches, thinly veiling the great gleaming birches, and into the flash of open hillside and scattered white town, we have many an olden memory of monks, cathedral, and diocese, stormy conflicts here through our chiefs' support of the traditions of an older faith still; of battles for many a remembered or forgotten cause, early or late, in most of which were conspicuous the intrepid ancestors of him whom we are following home to-day. We pass Logierait of ancient courts, the gate to another long valley of clan memories that but end with the end of Loch Tay; and into Pitlochry—the town all sunshine, the air warmly sweet with Highland peat-reek. Here other clansmen join the train, and we are sweeping on through Faskally and Killiecrankie, perhaps the most beautiful and historic of all the clan's ancient possessions, the "wood of trembling" hardly in full enough leaf for much trembling to-day, or unstirred in the sweet "windless sunshine; past Lude, for centuries the homes of the oldest branch of the Robertsons of Struan; and up through Garry-divided Athole, where the kingly race who were our Chief's most remote ancestors once ruled as its Celtic earls. Green and clear of mists runs up the little glen among the Athole hills where Struan of historic memory ran to earth the murderers of his King; and softly rounded with the new May grass, we pass the mound where stood his castle in the days of old. But soon the heathery braes and fragrant firwoods of the Clachan of Struan are around us, and as we alight from the train to begin the journey by road to Rannoch we hear the rushing of the Errochy and the Garry, which give this Highland spot its Gaelic name of Sruthan, or "streamy."

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\*The wreath, with ribbons of the dress tartan and white satin, sent in the name of all the members of the Clan Society, lay in the centre.

So concerned are we with our dead Chief, as he is borne to the cross-surmounted funeral carriage outside the station, that we do not remember that the forbear of whom he was perhaps the most proud, the famous old Jacob's "Poet-Chief," Alexander Robertson of Struan, lies in the kirkyard here, nor do we now remember that it is to the Poet-Chief's "sweet retreat" of Dunalastair, or Mount Alexander, that we are following his namesake to-day. A lovely cross of white and purple flowers, from mother and sister in England, and a fair white wreath from another relative at a distance, are here placed on Struan's coffin, which, strangely enough, has to rest for some little while in the place of his old and honorable name. Four clanswomen in mourning, of the old Highland stock of Struan and Athole, are found standing here to see us leave, and two join us as we take the road for Dunalastair. Past Kindrochit, among its birch trees, away up native Glenerrochy we take our way, through lands never alienated from the clan, the black cross moving slowly on in front of us, the massed white flowers beneath it, ever distinct against the lower green braes—a little farmhouse of historic Gaelic name high up here and there—until the hillsides on one hand grow wilder, and are now only peopled with multitudes of climbing birches. The roadsides are often bare, but now and then we are almost within the bright precincts of the nearer scanty woods of old and weather-twisted birch trees, their gnarled and roughly silvered trunks shining through youthful foliage. Everywhere now there is a great stillness, no sound even of bird-life around us, but a shadowy, long-shaped cuckoo flies silently over us. On past Jacobite Blairfettie; past the square house of Auchleeks, standing in front of its woods, and Trinafour, with its chastened memories of a gentle laird's hospitality. Then, as the road mounts still higher, wide heather moorland and rocks, ruins of old-time clachans of our clan, the brown shoulder of Ben Hualach, the long rocky range of the mountains of Loch Tummel side, are all around us; and soon we turn downwards towards the Strath of Rannoch, and at last pass through the north entrance of Dunalastair.

Here (like a vision, so silently have they, with others, joined us) ten men from Loch Rannoch side are now to be seen in two rows close behind our dead Chief, following with bowed heads, keeping most perfect step, their kilts swaying slowly as they move. And so we follow through the splendid scenery of Dunalastair, this most beautiful sight ever before us leading the way—the cross in the air above our dead Struan, the whiteness of the wreathed flowers around him, the retainers in their red-hued tartan behind him; above them Schiehallion, unveiled of every mist; beneath them, at the foot of yon storied green slopes, the Tummel shining blue through the bright-clad branches. Strange it seems for Struan to be passing thus through Dunalastair, once destined to be his own, stranger to see the chief-like procession drawing near to the door of the house on its way—but on past the door we slowly sweep, and down the avenue that leads from the south, only to halt where a grassy alley leads into the midst of the beautiful forest.

Struan has come home to his own, and we now see our Chief carried by relays of the Rannoch men (who include clansmen, Struan's Camerons, and tenants and servitors from his own estate at the far end of Loch Rannoch), and by kinsmen and representatives of the Clan Donnachaidh Society, the pipers in front softly playing "The Flowers of the Forest"; while we follow on foot through primroses and anemones, the shining forest trees cut close in a leafy wall on either side, the scent of the sweet white flowers borne high in the air floating back to us. So beautiful is our destination the small square-built family burial place in the woods just above the blue of the Tummel, sunshine trembling on its mellowed wall, fine trees guarding but not overshadowing aught of its brightness, the thin silver line of Loch Rannoch glimmering away to the west, that one cannot associate the place with death. Loyal hands have lined Struan's resting-place—which is close to the inner gate—with choice green boughs, and fringed the edges of the turf with hundreds of gathered primroses; and within this sunny enclosure (while we few clanswomen wait in the shadows outside the gate) the Very Reverend Canon, in



surplice and dark velvet gold-embroidered stole, reads the solemn service; and we hang on the beautiful words "Paradise" and "choirs of angels," with our hearts remembering that even this sweet scene around us had been called by the old Poet-Chief his "earthly Paradise." Once more "true men" come forward, once more arises the slow, soft wailing of the pipes in "Struan's Lament," and when it has ceased, we who knew him well steal in with our special offerings of white roses and white lilies, and find them an excuse to remain near Struan till the last.

Looking back, as we drive away, we see that all is now hidden in the trees; only Schiehallion rises high above as in most mighty and leal guardianship over the Struan we have known so long and found so lovable for his surpassing kindness, sincerity and chivalry—

Tighearna Struan, Alasdair Ban Og.

The Perthshire Courier, in one of its issues, May, 1910, said:—

"The grave last week closed over the remains of Major Alasdair Stewart Robertson of Struan, a well known Highland gentleman, whose death took place in London. Major Robertson was the twentieth Chief of Clan Donnachaidh, and the funeral, which took place at Kinloch Rannoch, was impressive in its Highland simplicity. After the cortege had passed through the grounds the coffin was carried from the north lodge to the private burying-ground at Dunalastair by representatives from the Clan Donnachaidh Society and by Rannoch men, preceded by pipers playing 'The Flowers of the Forest' and 'Struan Robertson's Lament.' The service at the grave was conducted by the Rev. Canon Lavelle, Perth, and there was a large number of beautiful wreaths, including one from the Clan Donnachaidh Society. For some time Major Robertson was a Captain in the Perthshire Militia, and subsequently in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders."

#### A MEETING IN 1911.

The Edinburgh Scotsman of 10th July, 1911, had the following report of the Clan in July, 1911:—

#### CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY.

"A gathering of the Clan Donna-

chaidh Society took place in the Clachan at the Scottish Exhibition (Glasgow), on Saturday, and in the evening a company of about forty sat down to dinner in the village inn. The Right Rev. Archibald Robertson, Lord Bishop of Exeter, occupied the chair. The chairman, in proposing the toast of 'Clan Donnachaidh,' said he specially valued the existence of the society, not only for the capital work it did in bringing occasional relief and help for those clans people in need, but in keeping alive the genuine old clan sentiment. At the business meeting previously held, Miss Robertson, of Struan, was elected president of the Society. The new Vice-Presidents included Miss Robertson, Dun-Donnachaidh, Pitlochry; the Bishop of Exeter; Mr. Duncan J. Robertson, Kirkwall; Mrs. Robertson, of Kindeace; Mr. James Dunnachie; Mr. J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, and Mrs. Robertson, Sr., of Auchleeks."

A number of interesting Clan relics were shown after dinner. The room was decorated with the red tartan, and the tables with white carnations and roses, the present of a lady member. Two members who chanced to sit side by side, found that they had met before on the swollen banks of the Tugela, in South Africa; another two who lived within fifty miles of each other in New Zealand were also surprised to recognize each other at the Clan dinner.

Mrs. Watson, great grand-daughter of Robertson, of Woodsheal, who led the Clan at Culloden, was present, from New Zealand.

Dr. Robertson, Erromanga, a Canadian missionary, who has labored for over 39 years in that remote island, and is universally loved and revered, was elected an honorary member of the Society,

#### MEETING IN 1913.

This famous Jacobite Clan held a General Gathering at Blair-Atholl, on Saturday afternoon, 6th September, 1913, under the presidency of Miss Robertson of Struan. The Right Rev. Archibald Robertson, Lord Bishop of Exeter, acted for Miss Robertson as chairman.

The company were seated round

sixteen tables, at which, after the business and a short concert were over, afternoon tea was served and some social intercourse enjoyed. The principal table, at which Miss Robertson and other office-bearers sat, was draped with the red tartan caught up with golden and green bracken, the badge of the clan, and all the other tables were fresh with ferns, and sprigs of white heather from Rannoch. Before Miss Robertson lay a newly gathered bunch of white heather from her own moors there.

Capt. Wm. Robertson, V.C. (Elands-laagte), opened the proceedings by reading some stirring verses from the poem "Thainig Clann Donnachaidh!" by W. J. Robertson.

Besides the Bishop of Exeter, the chief speakers were Alister Duncan, founder of the society; Capt. Robertson, V.C.; James Dunnachie, Glenboig; Ernest F. Robertson, of Auchleeks; Col. Green-Thompson, of Bridekirk; and William Robertson, Hamburg, a descendant of the Struan Robertsons, whose family has for generations been settled in Germany. The well-known "Padre" Robertson was also present with his son.

The following were among the clanswomen who attended:—Mrs. Robertson, of Auchleeks, Senr.; Miss Robertson, Dun-Donnachaidh, Pitlochry, a member of the Struan family; Mrs. Robertson, of Auchleeks; Mrs. Robertson, The Palace, Exeter; Mrs. Dunnachie, Glenboig; Mrs. Robertson Matheson, Giendevoon, by Dollar, Hon. Clan Secretary; Mrs. Marr, Glasgow, a descendant of the heroic Donald Robertson, of Woodsheal; and Mrs. Stewart, Pitlochry, a descendant of the famous Robert Ban Robertson, of Inverack.

The following were elected honorary members as a mark of the clan's pride in them for special distinction:—Col. J. P. Robertson, Callander; Alexander Robertson, Hope Park, Partick, Glasgow; John Ross Robertson, Toronto; Sir William Ramsay and the Bishop of Bristol.

Dr. J. R. M. Robertson, Sydney; Ernest F. Robertson, of Auchleeks; and Sir George A. Cooper, were elected Vice-Presidents; and Rev. D. R. Robertson, D.D., Dundee; R. Halley Robertson, Cupar; and Rev. Archibald E. Robertson, Braes of Rannoch, members of Council.

A sadly interesting vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Robertson, of Auchleeks, Senr., for arranging to have the meeting there in memory of her husband, the late Edgar W. Robertson, of Auchleeks, who had presided at the last Blair-Atholl meeting of the society.

#### BANNOCKBURN SEX-CENTENARY.

A deputation from the Clan Donnachaidh Society took part in the National procession from Stirling to the Field of Bannockburn on Saturday, 27th June, 1914. The representatives were in two brightly decorated motor cars, the one flying five Royal Scottish flags, and showing the Clan tartan and the green bracken fern, the other with a St. Andrew's cross of green bracken on the top, from which also hung, beneath festoons of the red tartan, a large wreath of fresh bracken and thistles, tied with silk streamers of broad blue ribbon (an riban gorm, the national streamer of Scotland), and of the red tartan. The wreath was laid on the Bore-stone (where King Robert the Bruce's standard stood in 1314), by three kilted clansmen and the Clan Secretary, while the pipes played the Clan salute. It had the inscription:—

"To the illustrious memory of King Robert the Bruce, and to the brave memory of his kinsmen and supporter in weal and woe, Duncan of Athole, our Chief, and of our Clansmen who with him left their mountains to do or die here for Scotland. From the Clan Donnachaidh Society." "Three cheers for Clan Donnachaidh!" were enthusiastically called for and given by the great crowd around the Bore-stone.

#### DONATION TO THE SOCIETY.

This publication, which contains a complete list of members down to 1914, with reports of annual meetings of the Society from 1893-1913, is the gift of Mr. J. Ross Robertson, proprietor of The Evening Telegram, Toronto, Canada, an honorary member, a vice-president and district secretary of the Society. Two thousand copies have been issued. Mr. Robertson is the only surviving son of the late John Robertson, wholesale merchant, of Toronto, born in 1800 at Moraystown in Petty, Nairnshire, Scotland, and a descendant of "Stalwart John," Burgess of Inverness.