



Moray & Nairn Family History Society

NEWSLETTER

Edition 42

July 2022

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

MNFHS Chairman's Report

I do hope that this finds you a member of the Moray & Nairn FHS have not been too affected by the covid-19 crisis. Myself caught it and was laid up for 4 weeks in April, and its had a knock on effect of me not being able to get time to get to archives as I am currently working full-time with my 'day job', so work on various publications has been paused but its not all bad news I should be able to resume research and writing within a month. So looking forward in fact to get back to Elgin Archives and to get to various other places and get some things finished.

On the subject of the newsletter, comments have been received all supporting this new style. Its easier to produce and hopefully easier for all to read no matter how you view it.

Saddened to hear that the 2023 SAFHS Conference proposed to be hosted by Aberdeen & NE Scotland FHS will again be held as a zoom. So it looks like 2024 before we get a chance to be 'public' again. Who knows things may change in the coming months.

To all take care,
Stuart Farrell
Chairman

The next Newsletter will be published in October 2022. Will members please submit articles to the Editor: newsletter@morayandnairnfhs.co.uk

MNFHS Publications

SEE THE BOOKSHOP ON THE WEBSITE FOR ALL TITLES AVAILABLE

New Books! Coming Soon!

Grange, Banffshire Poor Register 1845-1930

&

Nairn Cemetery (Victorian Section) Monumental Inscriptions.

Alexander Brodie (c 1723 – c 1781) & Janet Laing (c 1725 - ?)

By John Brodie

A Citizen of Forres

Our earliest proven Moray ancestor is Alexander Brodie, Merchant in Forres¹. It is fortunate for us that Alexander was a prominent citizen of the Royal Burgh as this makes it possible to follow his career by way of his successive designations: Merchant, Dean of Guild, Treasurer, Baillie and – briefly – Factor to James Brodie of Brodie.

Youthful Indiscretions

Alexander's name appears in the 21 Oct 1744 and subsequent Forres Kirk Session minutes, wherein it is recorded that "Alexander Brodie servant² to James Gordon, Merchant in Forres, and Janet Laing, a former servant of James Gordon, were rebuked for fornication, which took place on 25 May 1744, and fined by the Kirk elders in keeping with "the heinousness of their guilt".

This first rebuke by the Kirk Session must have been insufficiently chastening, because a second tryst almost exactly a year later between Alexander – this time identified as "merchant" – and Elizabeth Anderson, another of James Gordon's servants, is recorded in the 28 Oct 1745 Forres Kirk Session minutes. Although Alexander denied paternity on this occasion, he did admit to a physical relationship "in his own chamber" and was fined £8 for the moral relapse.

Since the intimate encounter with Elizabeth took place only 3 months after the baptism of his "natural" (illegitimate) daughter by Janet Laing, we can suppose that after the second seduction, Alexander was gaining a reputation as a philandering rogue.

Subsequent minutes note that Elizabeth Anderson appealed to the Kirk Session, "desiring a testimonial and asking to be relieved from the scandal of fornication" – which was granted.³ Nothing in the records has been found to shed light on the fate of either Elizabeth or the love child born of this liaison, except that she appeared regularly on the poor rolls receiving monies from the Kirk Session until about 1768 when her name disappears from the record.

Marriage & Children

At least somewhat offsetting his philandering propensity, Alexander eventually married Janet Laing in 1748 in Kinloss when their "natural" daughter, Jean, was 3 years old; here is a transcription of the marriage entry:⁴

Alexander Brodie in Forres and Janet Laing in Langcote, Kinloss, were Matrimonially Contracted and after being three times Proclaimed were Married on 30 Apr 1748

Alexander and Janet had nine children born to them in Forres or Kinloss during a 20-year period⁵: Jean (b 1745), Alexander (b 1749), Anna (b 1751), William (b 1754 – our

¹ Another "Alexander Brodie, Merchant and Baillie in Forres" married Jannet Whitelaw 23 Aug 1689 St. Cuthbert's, but this is too early for the generation under research and furthermore, there is no record of a son William.

² "Servant" may mean "apprentice", "junior partner", "assistant" or the like, since prior to this date Alexander had already been identified as "merchant".

³ although it is not at all clear how an admitted fornication can be undone by way of testimonial.

⁴OPR baptism register Parish of Kinloss 1748.

⁵OPR baptism register Parishes of Forres and Kinloss.

ancestor), Isabell (b 1756), Alexander (b 1758), Norman (b 1760), Janet (b 1762) and James (b 1764). What little we know of these children is described in the previous section under Siblings [of William Brodie].

Forres Kirk Session Minutes for 21 Oct 1744.

Brodie & Laing
 Janet Laing late Servitor to James Gordon Merchant in Forres being detald for Fornication was cited to this dyet and being call'd she compar'd and being asked if she was with child she acknowledged she was and being asked to whom she answer'd it was to Alexander Brodie Servitor to James Gordon Merchant in this town being asked of the time when it was begotten she said it was some time in the month of may last but could not be positive of the day - Alexander Brodie having been like wise cited to this dyet was call'd and compar'd & acknowledged his guilt with said Janet Laing & that it was upon the twentieth fifth day of may last - The kindness of their guilt being laid before them & they exhorted to repentance by the Moderators Janet Laing was appointed to appear before the Congregation next Lords day to be rebuk'd & Alexander Brodie Sabbath following The Session appointing them to satisfy the Treasurer for their penalty Alexander Brodie promised to satisfy the Treasurer for the woman & himself which accordingly he did
 Nov^r 12th 1744 (closed with prayer)

Forres Kirk Session Minutes for 28 Oct 1745

October the 28th 1745
 After prayer Sederunt Minister & Elders
 There being a report that Elizabeth Anderson Servitor to Mr Gordon in town was with child she was cited to this dyet & being call'd she compar'd and being asked if she was with child she acknowledged she was and being asked to whom she answer'd it is to Alex^r Brodie Merchant in this town being asked what time it was begotten she said it was about the latter end of May or first of June last & that it was begotten in his own room she having been exhorted to repentance was cited apud acta to attend Session at ten o'clock tomorrow forenoon And Alex^r Brodie



Forres Tolbooth and Mercat Cross ca 1995, probably looking today much as they did in the 18th century. Photo from the author's collection.

Career

Alexander, as a witness to a Forres baptism in February 1744, eight months before the first Kirk Session rebuke, had been identified as “merchant in Forres” so he was already a man of some standing early in 1744. His employer, James Gordon merchant, died in July 1745 and possibly Alexander was introduced into mercantilism by this association. From this beginning as a member of the merchant's guild, Alexander's star was to rise rapidly in the firmament of the Burgh.

In evidence of his growing status, he was elected a member of the Burgh Council in 1745, Treasurer in 1749⁶, Dean of Guild Court in 1750, and Baillie⁷ from 1755 until 1761 at which time, his star apparently fading, he was “eased” – i.e. was pushed – from Council. ⁸ During this time (1760) he was also designated as Collector of Window Taxes.

We note that his admission to Burgh Council in 1745 was only one month after his second admonishment by the Kirk Session, his moral character apparently insufficiently blemished to impair his election.

One of the few references we find to Alexander's involvement with Burgh affairs when he was Treasurer on Council is a 1750 claim of indebtedness of a local tradesman⁹:

I, Alexander Brodie Mert. In Forres Desires that Thos. Nicol wheelwright There may be Deemed to make payment to me as Treasurer of Said Burgh the sum of Two Pounds & Six Shillings & Six Pence Sterling in Balance of Meal & Malt Customs due by him ... which he refuses to do unless Compelled by Law 3rd April 1750

⁶ His election as Treasurer automatically made him a Baillie

⁷A Baillie is a Magistrate or Councillor.

⁸Douglas, Robert. *Annals of Forres*; also *Aberdeen Journal* 11 Oct 1757.

⁹Moray District Council: Forres Burgh records ZBFo B32/750/8.

A review of some history regarding involvement of Brodies with Forres Town Council is in order: Persons by the name of Brodie had been on council as early as 1702 and their influence reached a peak after the election of Alexander Brodie of Brodie, Lord Lyon, as Provost of Forres in 1743. From this date until the start of the 1760s, several members of the Brodie family served on the council in various roles. Some of them were related to Alexander Brodie of Brodie or the other landed Brodies of Moray. The easing of our Alexander Brodie, Baillie from the council in 1761 was really the final involvement of the Brodies in the civic affairs of the town. It had been evident that even as early as the Rebellion of 1745-46 culminating in Culloden, there had been friction between the Brodies on the council and the Grant family which later achieved dominance.¹⁰

Between 1768 and 1772, though no longer on council, Alexander is identified in the OPR as "Baillie Brodie in Dyke", indicating that he relocated from Forres. Then, in two 1773 Burgh documents¹¹ one month apart, a person that we believe is our Alexander is first referred to as "Factor to James Brodie of Brodie", this designation indicating that he had been retained by the Brodie Chief in an administrative or quasi-legal capacity. More on this later.

The 1745/46 Rebellion

It has been said that the Rebellion was a civil war between the British People and a French-led Highland-based minority, and that more Scots stood with the Royalist forces than did with the Pretender. Like most Lowland Scots, the landed Brodies were enthusiastic supporters of taming the bellicose Highlanders and were avid supports of the House of Hanover.¹²

It may be only indirectly relevant to our family history, but it is at least interesting that 1745, the year daughter Jean was born and Alexander Brodie was elected to the Burgh Council, coincides with assembly of the Highland rebels in and around Forres. The famous Battle of Culloden Moor in the following year (1746) between the Jacobites under Prince Charles Edward Stuart (the "Young Pretender") and the Royalist forces was fought only a few miles to the west of Forres. The Burgh records are replete with references to the impact on the community of the Highland Army's presence and the aftermath of the conflict.

The residents and Council of Forres including the landed Brodies were thrown into turmoil by these events but, at the same time, reputed to be hostile to the Rebel cause – it has been stated that Alexander Brodie of Brodie (19th) allowed the Duke of Cumberland's troops to camp in the grounds of the Brodie estate on the eve of the Battle of Culloden.¹³

The *Annals of Forres*¹⁴ refers to these events:

The Brodie family was really in control of all the civic affairs in the Burgh of Forres, and as early as the Rebellion of 1745 there was evidence of trouble. It would almost appear as though on that occasion the Brodie party deserted the sinking ship of Forres, tossed as it were by the overbearing demands of both the Royalist and Jacobite armies. ... Money was

¹⁰Personal correspondence with Bruce Bishop in Elgin.

¹¹Forres Burgh Records B32/774/8/1,2.

¹²Brodie, James. *Brodie Country* Galloper Press.

¹³National Trust for Scotland: Brodie Castle brochure.

¹⁴Douglas, Robert. *Annals of the Royal Burgh of Forres* (1934).

demanded from Forres, which the town was unable to furnish, and it was with the greatest of difficulty that the amount requisitioned was raised.

Nevertheless, an interesting opinion has been expressed by a Moray historian¹⁵ preparing a book on the subject regarding attitudes of the Brodies towards the Jacobites:

Whilst the leading members of the [Brodie] family professed to be anti-Jacobite, deep down they had sympathies with the Young Pretender, and did nothing to discourage the lesser members of the family from actively following him. This pattern was found amongst many of the other landed families of the area.

In general support of this view, another historian¹⁶ has observed that:

Not all the Brodie households supported King George. [For example] there were Brodies living in Glenbuchat, thirty miles south of Elgin, who rose for the Pretender, and there may well have been more. Gordon of Glenbuchat, "one of the stars of the Stuart cause", made William Brodie of Glenbuchat his Sergeant of Horse. There are said to be many Brodie graves in the Glenbuchat Kirkyard.

The foregoing paragraphs do not shed any light on *our* Alexander Brodie's allegiances or involvement in the rebellion but they indicate that the supposed Royalist biases of the citizenry of Forres may not have prevailed universally throughout the Burgh. As a member of town council and a resident of Forres, Alexander could not have been indifferent to, or aloof from, the historic events which swirled around him.

Certainly, the name "Alexander Brodie" (or other Brodies for that matter) does not appear in any of the comprehensive post-Culloden documents which name the rebels, and so we have no reason to suspect his participation in the Jacobite cause. The more prescient residents of the area, including Alexander, would simply have made themselves scarce during the troubles so they did not have to take sides and suffer the consequences of a bad choice.¹⁷

Social Connections

During the period 1744 to 1773 the baptism registers for Forres and nearby parishes contain numerous references to Alexander Brodie, Merchant and/or Baillie and sometimes his wife, Janet Laing, in association with prominent landed gentry such as Alexander Brodie Lord Lyon, Norman the younger of McLeod, James Brodie of Brodie, Alexander Brodie of Lethen, John Brodie of Windyhills and James Brodie of Spynie, sharing witness duties at various local baptisms.

In fact, the baptisms of two of Alexander and Janet's children were witnessed by Alexander Brodie of Brodie. This pattern of association with the landed gentry was in keeping with Alexander's elevated social stature in the community and his personal connections as a Burgess and member of the Burgh council. However, it was common for the Councilors to appear as baptism witnesses for each others' children, therefore tempting inferences regarding family relationships should not be drawn from this practice.

¹⁵Bishop, Bruce. researcher in Elgin: personal correspondence.

¹⁶ Brodie, James. *Brodie Country* (Galloper Press).

¹⁷ The involvement of our Shaws was something entirely different, as explored in the appendices.

Property

To be eligible to be a Town Councillor or Baillie, a person had to be a Burgess¹⁸. Burgesses possessed all the political power and privileges and represented a social class above the majority of the population. It is not known if Alexander Brodie was a Burgess through right of his father, or because he had been an apprentice to a Burgess.¹⁹ A Burgess would have owned land in and around Forres, and so it apparently was with our ancestor:²⁰

A 1759 Sasine²¹ documents the sale of land by the Town to Alexander Brodie and Alexander Tulloh, for whom Alexander Brodie acted as Procurator.²² As well as drawing up and signing the document, it was also necessary for representatives of the old owners and new owners to attend with witnesses and physically exchange a handful of earth and stones from the properties. This is known as the ceremony of Infefment.²³

This land acquired by Alexander Brodie and Alexander Tulloh is described in the Sasine as *... that little park lying to the westward of the Goosehill belonging in property to the Town of Forres ... and bounded ... by the said Goosehill at the east the gardine and Inclosure belonging to Dundan Urquart of Burds Yards & possessed by James Merson his tenant at the west the lands belonging to Mr John Paterson Minister at St. Andrew's at the north and the Canal that conveys the water from the wester bogg to the burn of Forres at the south ...* Window tax records²⁴ have been examined for the period 1756 to 1780, during which time Baillie Brody [sic] in 1758-61 and 1762-66 was taxed 6 pence for "1 house with 14 windows" and again in 1766-67 when Alexander Brody [sic], Merchant was taxed 6 pence for "1 house, 7 windows". The location of either house in Forres is unknown. Alexander disappears from the window tax records thereafter, which suggests that he left Forres for Dyke about 1768.²⁵

Forres Council

All references to Alexander Brodie in the Forres Town Council Minute Book during the period 1744 to 1769 have been examined and transcribed, however nothing of significance has been found therein. The minutes in many instances simply record who was present or absent, but include no information regarding the substance of the meeting itself.

Alexander's attendance at Council meetings was somewhat erratic especially throughout the period up to 1750 and, moreover, he was entirely absent between 31 Dec 1745 through 10 Aug 1746 – is it coincidental that the Battle of Culloden Moor took place on 16 April 1746, midway through the period of his absence? We might be curious about Alexander's activities during this eventful time.

¹⁸ Burgesses were "freemen", i.e. merchants or craftsmen who owned property in burghs and were allowed to trade free of charge. They could obtain these rights by inheritance, by marriage, by purchase, or by the gift of a burgh.

¹⁹Very possibly Alexander was apprenticed to James Gordon, Merchant and Burgess.

²⁰ Yet Alexander was a Baillie as early as 1756, so he must have owned land prior to 1759.

²¹ Sasine is the giving possession of feudal property by symbolic delivery of earth and stones and the legal document thereof.

²² A "Procurator" is a lawyer or agent acting before the lower courts.

²³Ron MacGregor, Elgin: personal correspondence.

²⁴Forres Burgh Records E326/1/170.

²⁵Bruce Bishop, researcher in Elgin: personal correspondence.

Involvement with James Brodie of Brodie (21st)

In 1766, a Sasine²⁶ in the name of “the Laird of Brodie” records Alexander Brodie, Merchant in Forres, acting as Procurator on behalf of James Brodie of Brodie. This document confirms that in 1766 Alexander was still in Forres and acting as legal agent for the Brodie Chief. From entries naming witnesses in the Dyke baptism register, it appears that Alexander Brodie moved from Forres to Dyke between 1766 (when he was designated “Baillie in Forres”) and 1768 (when he was designated “Baillie in Dyke”).

On 26 October 1773, Alexander Brodie “Factor to James Brodie of Brodie” prepared a document which was signed by William Duncan²⁷, pursuing seven debtors who had failed to make payment of his Bill.²⁸ On 23 November 1773, the debtors were “put to the horn” (outlawed). The actual process of doing so is paraphrased from the Proclamation, which serves to show how unrepentant debtors in the late 18th century Scotland were dealt with:

At the Mercat Cross, Edinburgh, after Crying Three Oyesses and reading the Proclamation, the Debtors were pronounced His Majesty’s Rebels and Put to the Horn by three several Blasts thereof.

The foregoing two Burgh documents, dated less than one month apart, are the *only* original ones located which identify Alexander Brodie as “Factor”. The other reference to his role as Factor was in the OPR baptism entry dated 22 November 1773.

When James Brodie of Spynie succeeded as male heir to the Brodie estates in 1759 he found them burdened with a debt of £31,500 mainly as a result of the expenses associated with improvement of the estate over previous decades by Alexander Brodie of Brodie (19th), Lord Lyon. However, James himself was reputed to be a poor financial manager.

Consequently, in 1774 the Brodie lands were put up for sale.²⁹ James Brodie of Brodie’s brother-in-law, the Earl of Fife, purchased the debt and received in exchange the whole Brodie estate except for the mansion-house and farm at Brodie, which were returned. A series of land transactions involved in the Judicial Sale are described under “The Family of Brodie” in *Annals of Forres*, which says this concerning the relationship of the parties:

Though, considering the extent of Brodie’s embarrassments, the arrangement with Lord Fife was unquestionably beneficial to him ... [it was Brodie’s conviction] that Lord Fife had taken advantage of his necessities to acquire a large portion of his family possessions at much less than their real value [and] ...it certainly occasioned a misunderstanding between Brodie and his brother-in-law, Lord Fife, which seems to have continued until their deaths.

Our Alexander Brodie appears to have been involved at least in a minor way with management of James’s indebtedness. As noted earlier in connection with Alexander’s son (William, writer in Edinburgh), in Sept 1773 James Brodie of Brodie raised a Feu-Charter³⁰ to give possession of the Barony and Lands of Lochloy to Alexander Brodie in Dyke; then in April 1774 a Disposition (registered in 1781) by Alexander Brodie in Dyke returned possession of the Barony and Lands of Lochloy to James Brodie of Brodie.

²⁶A photocopy of the Sasine was provided by Ron MacGregor in Elgin, unfortunately without including archive reference. The page numbers of 223 to 225 appear at the top of the pages.

²⁷ William Duncan later married Alexander’s daughter, Jean.

²⁸ Forres Burgh Records B32/774/8/1,2.

²⁹*Aberdeen Journal* 25 April 1774.

³⁰Feu-Charter: a grant of title from a feudal superior to a vassal.

This to-and-fro transaction appears to be a holding operation pending the Judicial Sale of the Brodie Lands by the Crown.^{31,32} Yet neither in Sept 1773 nor April 1774 was Alexander identified as “Factor”, in contrast to the “horning” of Oct/Nov 1773. On 11 Jan 1774, Alexander Brodie in Dyke is identified in a Forres Burgh document³³ as *late* Factor, confirming that his tenure as Factor is over (rather than he being deceased).

It has been established that throughout the period 1771-1774, James Brodie of Brodie’s official Factor for sale of the estate was not our Alexander Brodie, but William Dunbar, whereas the Earl of Fife’s Factor was William Rose.³⁴

Archives at Brodie Castle for the period 1770-1775 have been examined and *not a single reference* to Alexander Brodie as Factor to James Brodie of Brodie has been found.³⁵ Yet he was clearly identified as “Factor” on two specific occasions in Burgh records and one occasion in the OPR. Since all three references to Alexander Brodie as Factor were between October and November 1773, we can only conclude that Alexander was retained to undertake specific legal tasks on behalf of the Brodie Chief during a one-month period in 1773, but he did not have on-going duties as his official Factor.

Death

Between 1774 and 1780, no references to our Alexander Brodie have been found, and the absence suggests that Alexander had retired from Burgh activities and any business association with James Brodie of Brodie. Neither does his name appear as a witness to baptisms in the area during this period.³⁶

An Oct 1781 entry of his name in the List of Forres Burgh Heritors³⁷ suggests he was still alive in late 1781 whereas the Oct 1782 list and subsequent lists up to 1788 merely refer to “Alexander Brodie Heirs” (but do not name them). Therefore, a date of death between 1781 and 1782 is consistent with the Heritors List. Yet, a place of interment for Alexander Brodie in burial grounds near Dyke or Forres³⁸ has not been found, and neither has a will, testament, deed or Sasine transferring his land and assets to his heirs.³⁹

³¹ The Judicial Sale was advertised in the *Aberdeen Journal* of 25 April 1774.

³² These details are also described in E. Dunbar-Dunbar’s *Documents Relating to the Province of Moray* (The British Library 3 May 2010).

³³ Moray District Council Forres Archives ZBFo B32/774/4/3

³⁴ Bruce Bishop in Elgin: personal correspondence 2001.

³⁵ Bruce Bishop: commissioned research.

³⁶ Possibly he moved from the area to spend his final days with one of his children in another parish.

³⁷ Heritors were property owners responsible for paying for the upkeep of the parish Church and the salary of the parish schoolmaster.

³⁸ According to the *Annals of Forres*, The St. Lawrence Church burial ground in Forres containing primarily 18th century graves was built over by the town of Forres during a series of “improvements” in the 1970s and the stones lost. This tidying up was partially occasioned by the “mephitic gas or offensive effluvia”, i.e. the “stink” issuing forth from the site.

³⁹ Note that a search of *Aberdeen Journal* from 1774 to 1784 for a notice of death or notice for Creditors to Alexander Brodie was unsuccessful.

Morayshire Miscellany



This photo of a grave of an Elgin 'loon' was sent to the Society by Jenny Wren whilst holidaying in NW Australia. The grave is located at a site called Old Onslow Cemetery which lies 1400KM northwest of Perth. She notes that there are other Clarks in the Cemetery – details on Find a Grave.

Nairnshire Miscellany

Nairnshire Mirror Marriages 1854

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

5 Jul 1854 - At the Cathedral, Montreal, on the 1st ult., by the Lord Bishop, **Joseph Knipp**, Esq. of Montreal to **Annie**, eldest daughter of **Duncan MacTavish**, Esq. Garthbeg, Scotland and grand-daughter of Mrs Chief Justice **Reid**.

5 Jul 1854 - At the parish church of Burnley, Lancashire on the 15th ult., by the Rev. J Butler, M.A; **Edward Francis Ward**, Esq. Lieutenant, 5th Royal Lancashire Militia to **Elizabeth**, second daughter of Mr **Donald Mackay**, late Drumnadrochit, Inverness-shire.

5 Jul 1854 - At 7 Moray Place, Edinburgh, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. John Brown Johnston, Captain **William Hodge**, of the Martello steamer, Inverness to **Wilhelmina Mary**, only daughter of the late Captain **Willox** H.M.'s service.

19 Jul 1854 - At Tomich, Beauly, on the 13th inst., **Colin Mackenzie**, Esq. Shipowner, Elgin to **Sarah**, eldest daughter of **John McLennan**, Esq. Corn Factor and Shipowner,

19 Jul 1854 - At Sherriffmill, near Elgin, on the 6th inst., by the Rev. R J Watt, Mr **William Sharp**, Merchant, Rothes to **Isabella**, fourth daughter of Mr **W Coull**, Sherriffmill.

19 Jul 1854 - At the parish church of St. Mary, Newington, London, on the 6th inst., Mr **Edward Ahronfield**, Commercial Traveller, to **Christina Mackinnon**, daughter of Mr **Norman Mackinnon**, late of Fort Augustus.

2 Aug 1854 - At Mansefield, Perth, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. Alexander Falconer, of St. Paul's, **Isaac Wallace**, Esq. M.D. Perth to **Margaret Jane**, eldest daughter of **Hugh Barclay**, Sheriff-substitute of Perthshire.

16 Aug 1854 - At Clevening, the seat of Earl **Stanhope**, the father of the bride, on the 2d inst., Lord **Harry Vane**, M.P., to the Lady **Dalmeny**.

30 Aug 1854 - At Greenock, on the 15th instant, Mr **Archibald Campbell**, Oban to **Ann**, daughter of **Hugh MacDonald**, Esq. Canada, late of Inverness.

30 Aug 1854 - At Dee Street, Aberdeen, on the 15th inst., **John Duguid Milne**, jun., Advocate in Aberdeen, to **Helen**, youngest daughter of the late Rev. **George Ross Munro**, Minister of Huntly.

13 Sep 1854 - At Tain on the 24th ult., by the Rev. John MacDonald, Free Church Minister, Fearn, Mr **John Ross**, Dareness to **Margaret**, eldest daughter of Mr **George Munro**, Newton, Tain.

13 Sep 1854 - At 100 High Street, Elgin, on the 7th inst., by the Rev. R J Watt, Mr **Roderick McRae**, Coach-builder to **Helen**, second daughter of the late Mr **Alexander Russell**, Tailor.

13 Sep 1854 - At Keith, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. James Thomson, Mr **Reason**, Tailor, Aberdeen, to **Jane**, third daughter of Mr **Alex McKenzie**, Mason, Keith.

27 Sep 1854 - At Lonnie, Petty, on the 21st inst., by the Rev. John Ross, Rosskeen, **James Russell**, Esq. Marchant, Barrie, Canada West to **Jane**, daughter of Mr **Hugh Rose**, Farmer.

27 Sep 1854 - On the 19th inst., at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Forres, Diocese of Moray & Ross, by the Rev. T Ferguson Creery, A.B. Incumbent-elect of the Charge, the Rev. **T D Harford Battersay**, Rector of Keswick, Diocese of Durham to **Mary**, only daughter of **George Forbes**, Esq. of Relugas, county of Moray, and neice of the late Lord **Medwyn**.

27 Sep 1854 - At Forglen House, county of Banff, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. James Christie, M.A of Trinity Chapel, Turriff, **Alex Henry Abercromby Hamilton**, Esq. second surviving son of the deceased **Alexander Hamilton Hamilton**, Esq. of the Retreat, Topham, Devonshire to **Sophia Anne Adelaide**, fifth surviving daughter of Sir **Robert Abercromby**, Bart of Birkenbog and Forglen, Banffshire.

11 Oct 1854 - At Manse of Rattray, Blairgowrie, on the 25th September by the Rev. Adam Ross, **Robert Cowpar**, Esq. of the 1st Bombay Fusiliers and Deputy Collector and Magistrate of the Upper Seinde to **Eliza**, youngest and only surviving child of the late **Thomas Milne**, Esq. Surgeon, Kirriemuir.

11 Oct 1854 - At Kurrachee, on the 20th of July, Captain **Henry Vincent**, 7th Regiment, Bombay Native Infantry, and Paymaster of the Seinde Division of the Army, to **Caroline**, seventh daughter of the late Colonel **Hugh Rose** of Kilravock, Nairnshire.

11 Oct 1854 - At Invermoriston, on the 26th ult., **Frank Morrison**, Esq. third son of **James Morrison**, Esq. of Basildon Park, Berks to **Harriet**, fourth daughter of **James Murray Grant**, Esq. of Glenmoriston and Moy.

The full list of these marriages will be made shortly on our web page.

Nairn's Masonic Lodge War Memorial

The Nairn War Memorial was unveiled on the 15 January 1922 but other smaller war memorials were unveiled in the town prior to and after this. The following article from the *Nairnshire Telegraph* of 31 October 1922 records the unveiling of the memorial in the Masonic Lodge.

St Ninian Masonic Lodge, Nairn, No. 575.

Memorial Tablet Unveiled and Dedicated.

On Monday evening a very large number of the brethren of the above Lodge attended a regular meeting in the Temple for the purpose of taking part in the ceremony of unveiling and dedicating a War Memorial. This has been erected as a symbol of fraternal regard for the Brethren who fought and fell in the Great War, and also as an enduring testimony to their fidelity.

The Memorial, which is finely designed and very appropriate in its form, consists of a mural tablet of white marble, surrounded with an edging of black marble, and was supplied by Brother Alexander Morrison, sculptor, Nairn.

An organ voluntary, the entry of Office-bearers and Officiating Brethren, the rendering of a hymn and the 23rd Psalm preceded the unveiling ceremony. This duty was performed by R. W. Bro. James A. Cameron, M.D., Past Provincial Grand Master of Elgin and Moray – 1908-1913, Past Master of St. Ninian No. 575 – 1876-78, 1883-86, 1901-02.

After the reading of the Masonic Roll of Honour, by Brother Alex. Innes, Secretary, the Memorial was then dedicated in prayer by V. W. Brother the Rev. W. R. Pirie, D.D., Senior Chaplain Grand Lodge of Scotland, and Provincial Grand Master, Elgin and Moray.

A "Lament" and the "Last Post" concluded this touching and affecting portion of the service for the men who will return no more, and then came the triumphant rendering of the 66th Paraphrase, "How bright these glorious spirits shine."

The memorial contains a Masonic symbol, with the inscription: "In Fraternal Remembrance of the Brethren of Lodge St. Ninians No. 575 who served in His Majesty's Forces and fell in the Great War. 1914 – 1919."

Beneath this inscription the names are recorded as follows:

Brother Malcolm G. S. Blane.	Brother James Bochel.
Brother William A. Henderson.	Brother Robert Innes.
Brother Robert A. Jameson.	Brother Isaac Main.
Brother Robert McLean.	Brother Archd. E. McDonald.
Brother John Melville.	Brother J. Mein Main.
Brother David Primrose.	Brother Roderick Ralph.
Brother John Scaife.	

This is finished by the word "Fidelity" thrice repeated.

The memorial was received into the custody of the Lodge by Bro. the Rev. A. H. Forbes, B.D., M.C., Right Worshipful Master, and will be preserved in lasting remembrance of the Brethren whose names are commemorated. The hymn, "Now the evening shadows closing," and the rendering of the National Anthem terminated the eventful proceedings in the history of the Lodge.