

18th JANUARY, 1893.

At this meeting, Mr Alex. Macdonald moved, and it was unanimously agreed to, that the Society record in their minutes, their loss and deep regret at the death of Ex-Councillor William Gunn, Inverness, who was always an active and energetic member of the Society from its foundation. The rest of the evening was devoted to the nomination of office-bearers for 1893.

25th JANUARY, 1893.

At this meeting office-bearers for 1893 were elected, and Dr Cameron and Dr Cruickshanks, Nairn, were elected members of the Society. Thereafter the honorary secretary, Mr William Mackay, read a paper contributed by the Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair, Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia, on the "Macintyres of Glennoe."

Mr Alex. Macbain, M.A., moved, and Mr W. Mackay, hon. secretary, seconded, the following motion, which was cordially approved of by the meeting, viz. :—"That the meeting pass a resolution expressive of the great loss which Highland and Celtic literature have sustained in the lamented death of Sheriff Nicolson, Edinburgh, one of the Honorary Chieftains of the Society, whose intimate acquaintance with the Gaelic language, and his unwearied interest in all that tended to benefit his fellow-countrymen, caused his name to be well known and deeply revered among Highlanders in all parts of the world." The Secretary was instructed to forward an extract of the minute, with an expression of the sincere condolence of the Society, to Sheriff Nicolson's sister, in Edinburgh.

Mr Sinclair's paper was as follows :—

THE MACINTYRES OF GLENNOE.

The name Macintyre, Mac-an-t-Saoir, means son of the carpenter. It may be regarded as a fact, then, that the progenitor of the Macintyres was known as "an saor," or the carpenter. But why was he called the carpenter? Was he a real carpenter? Or was he merely a man, who, owing to some act or other performed by him, came to be spoken of as the carpenter?

The earliest traditional account of the carpenter from whom the Macintyres have sprung is substantially as follows :—Olave

the Red, King of Man, came with his fleet to a certain loch in the Western Isles with the purpose of bringing the whole of the islands into subjection to him. Somerled, Thane of Argyle, came to the other side of the loch, and calling out asked Olave how he fared. Olave replied that he was well. Then Somerled said that he would assist him in his expedition, if he would give him his daughter in marriage. Olave replied that he would not, but told him that he would have to go with him. Somerled resolved to go with Olave, and brought his two galleys over to the place in which Olave's ship was lying at anchor. Maurice Mac Neill, Somerled's sister's son, was in Olave's company. Maurice came to Somerled and told him that he would find means of getting Olave's daughter for him. In the night time Maurice bored Olave's ship with a number of holes and overlaid them with tallow and butter. Olave, Somerled, and their followers sailed in the morning. When they had passed the point of Ardnamurchan, Olave's ship sprung a leak and began to sink. Olave cried for help to Somerled, but Somerled would not save him unless he would consent to give him his daughter. At last being in danger of losing his life, Olave promised with a solemn oath to give Somerled his daughter. Somerled then received him immediately into his galley. Maurice went into Olave's ship, and took with him pins which he had in readiness. He put the pins in the holes and saved the ship from sinking. From that day he was known as the carpenter. He was the ancestor of those who call themselves Macintyres, or sons of the carpenter (*Collectanea De Rebus Albanicis*, page 283).

According to Duncan Ban Macintyre, the progenitor of the Macintyres was at sea in a boat, and used his thumb instead of a pin to fill up a hole through which the water was rushing in. He cut the thumb off and drove it into the hole with a hammer. He belonged to Sleat, in the Isle of Skye, and was a descendant of Conn Ceud-Chathach.

“ Bha sibh uair gu grinn a seoladh
 Air druim sàile ;
 Chaidh tarrung a aon de bhordaibh
 Druim a bhata ;
 Leis a chabhaig, sparr e 'n ordag
 Sios na h-aite ;
 'S bhuail e gu teann leis an ord i,
 'S ceann d' i fhagail.”

For the latest form of the tradition about the origin of the Macintyres we are indebted to that accomplished, noble-hearted, and patriotic Highlander, the late John F. Campbell of Islay.

According to Mr Campbell's informant, a woman named Flora Macintyre, there was a King in Islay long ago who was known as Rìgh Fionnaghal. He was a Macdonald, and had his residence on the island in Loch Fionn-lagan. He had an illegitimate son. He was one day at sea in a boat, and had this son with him. The peg in the bottom of the boat came out and was lost. The young man thrust his thumb into the hole and chopped it off with an axe. "Mo laochan air saor na h-ordaig!"—"Good on your head, thumb carpenter"—said his father. The King's son was from that day known as Saor na h-Ordaig, or the Thumb Carpenter. The Macintyres are descended from him (*Popular Tales of the West Highlands*, Vol. IV., page 35). Rìgh Fionnaghal, properly Rìgh Fionnghall, King of the Fair Strangers, was no doubt the title by which Olave the Red was known among the Highlanders. As the Lords of the Isles were successors of Olave, the same title would be given them. The fair strangers were the Scandinavians who had settled in the Western Islands.

The story which represents the progenitor of the Macintyres, as cutting off his thumb to stop a leak in the bottom of a boat with it, is a little too absurd for credence. It is possible, however, that he did something like that which Maurice Macneill is said to have done. At the same time he may have been a real carpenter. A good ship carpenter would be a very useful and prominent man.

According to tradition, the Macintyres came from one of the Western Isles. They lived for some time south of Ben Cruachan. They tried on several occasions to drive their cattle through the passes of that mountain, but were always stopped and turned back by a spirit that acted as guardian of the mountain. This spirit, however, was by no means unfriendly to them. He told them one day that they had been taking the wrong passes, and directed them to the pass or opening that led to Glennoe. He also told them to follow a white cow that they had in their herd, and to build a house for themselves on the first spot on which the cow would lie down to rest. They followed his advice. The result was that they settled in the beautiful valley of Glennoe.

The Macintyres occupied the farm of Glennoe for a long period. According to an old saying, an apple tree at Loch Eive and Macintyre of Glennoe were the oldest farmers in Scotland—"Craobh de dh-abhall a gharaidh aig taobh Loch Eite agus Mac-an-t-Saor Ghlinn-Nodha da thuathanach a 's sinne 'n Albainn." General Stewart of Garth states that the Macintyres settled in Glennoe about the year 1300. They were foresters of the Stewarts of Lorn, and were continued in the same employment by the Campbells of Glenurchy.—*Sketches of the Highlanders*, vol. I., p. 80.

The Macintyres never owned Glennoe. They held it, however, upon very easy terms, first, from the Stewarts, and afterwards from the Campbells. All that they had to do was to give the proprietor a fatted white calf every year and a snowball in the middle of the summer. They could easily get a snowball from the crevices of Ben Cruachan; and very fortunately they had always one or two white cows that supplied them with the calves required from the time of their settlement in Glennoe until the year 1806. When the Highland lairds began to grow greedy like other mortals, the Earl of Breadalbane, by which title Campbell of Glenurchy had come to be known, persuaded Macintyre of Glennoe to pay him a nominal rent instead of giving him a calf and snowball. In the course of a few years the nominal rent was increased to a real rent, and increased to so large a sum that the Macintyres could not pay it and make a comfortable living. They were thus under the necessity of parting with the home of their fathers.

The Macintyres of Glennoe were the chiefs of the Macintyres. Duncan Ban, in his "*Rainn Gearradh-arm*," speaks of James of Glennoe as "*Seumas an ceann-cinnidh nach treig gu brath sinn*" — James, the clan-head, who will never forsake us.

Duncan Macintyre of Glennoe, chief of the Macintyres, married Mary, daughter of Patrick Campbell of Barcaldine, Para Beag, by whom he had Donald, his successor. He died in 1695. He is buried in the Priory of Ardhattan.

Donald of Glennoe got into trouble with the Stewarts of Appin, and was under the necessity of fleeing from their vengeance to Keppoch. It is said that the cause of his trouble with them was that he had killed one of their followers accidentally in a brawl. He remained in Keppoch for some time. He was married twice. By his first wife, Janet, daughter of Archibald Macdonald of Keppoch (*Gilleasbic na Ceapich*), he had one child, a daughter. By his second wife, Catherine, daughter of Macdonald of Dalness, he had three children, James, Catherine, and Mary. His eldest daughter was married to Alexander Campbell of Ardhattan. Catherine was married to Charles Campbell, an officer in the Excise Customs. Catherine and her husband lived together over eighty years. They had one son. He was a merchant, and died in Charleston, South Carolina. Mary was married to Donald Macnicol, a grazier, and for some time keeper of the stage-house or inn at Dalmally. Mary had two sons, John and Donald. She had three daughters.

James of Glennoe was born about the year 1727. He was educated by the Earl of Breadalbane until he was able to bear

arms. He studied law for some time, but gave it up after his father's death to take charge of Glennoe. He was a man of high culture, and an excellent Gaelic scholar. He was the author of several Gaelic poems, in one of which he makes a bitter attack upon Dr Johnson. He married Ann, daughter of Duncan Campbell of Barcaldine, and sister of Caillein Ghlinn Iubhair. He had three sons and six daughters—Donald, Martin, Duncan, Catherine, Ann, Isabel, Mary, Lucy, and Jean. He died in 1799. His wife lived to the advanced age of 103 years.

James Shaw, bard, Loch-nan-Eala, composed a truthful and pretty song about James of Glennoe—

“Fear dubh, fear dubh, fear dubh, fear dubh,
Fear dubh, fear dubh 's e liath-ghlas ;
Fear dubh, fear dubh 's a chridhe geal,
Le spiorad glan gun iargain.

“Cha n-aithne dhomh 's na criochan so—
'S cha mhis' a theid ga t' fhiachainn—
Aon duin' a chumas seanachas riut,
'S gun chearb a tigh'nn o d' bhial air.”

Martin, second son of James of Glennoe, died in the 18th year of his age. Duncan, the third son, was a captain in one of the Highland regiments. He succeeded his father in Glennoe. He married Ann, daughter of Campbell of Duneaves, in Perthshire, by whom he had a daughter Jane, who died unmarried. Duncan died in London, in 1808. He was the last Macintyre that held Glennoe. His widow married a Major Stephenson. She retained possession of the manuscripts that had belonged to James of Glennoe. What became of these manuscripts I do not know. Among them were the history of Smerbie Mor and the history of the Sons of Usnoth.—*Macnicol's Remarks, Livingstone's Edition* page 147.

Catherine, eldest daughter of James of Glennoe, was married to Peter Macintyre ; Ann to Donald Macintyre, Peter's brother ; Isabel to Archibald Maclellan ; Lucy to John Macintyre ; and Jean to the Rev. Duncan Macintyre, minister of Kilmallie. Mary died unmarried. Catherine, Ann, and Isabel came with their husbands to Ontario.

Donald, eldest son of James of Glennoe, succeeded his father in the chiefship of the clan. He was a doctor. He studied in Edinburgh. He came to New York in 1783. He married Esther Haines, by whom he had four sons—James, Donald, Thomas, and

Martin. He practised his profession in two or three different places. He died in 1792. He is buried at Sunbury, in Pennsylvania. Donald, his second son, had four daughters; Thomas had three sons and four daughters; Martin died unmarried.

James, eldest son of Dr Donald Macintyre, was born in Newburgh, Orange County, New York, in 1785. He went to Scotland in 1806. He was a factor during several years. He married, in 1817, Ann, daughter of Peter Campbell of Corries, in Glenurchy, by his wife Joan, daughter of John Cameron of Fassiefern. He returned to the United States in 1822, and settled on a farm about four miles north of Johnstown, in Fulton County, New York. He had six sons—Donald, Peter, James, Ewen, Archibald, and Martin. He died in 1863. His wife died February 26th, 1887. She was born at Inverary in 1792. She was ninety-five years of age, except five months, at the time of her death.

Peter, second son of James Macintyre, is a farmer; James is in the glove business in Johnstown; Ewen is a druggist in New York; Archibald is a wholesale provision merchant in Albany; Martin is a druggist at Fonda.

Donald, eldest son of James Macintyre, settled on a farm near the village of Fonda, in the State of New York. He married Phebe Shepard, by whom he had one son, James, and four daughters. He died in October, 1887. He is buried at Johnstown. James, his only son, was born January 24th, 1864. James is the present chief of the Macintyres.

I have seen it stated that the Camerons of Glen-Nevis were originally Macintyres (the *Highland Monthly*, Vol. II., p. 191). What foundation there is for this statement I do not know. It is true that the Macintyres were not lairds. Still, as they claimed descent from Gillibride na h-Uamha, Somerled's father, it is not likely that any of them would change their name, even to please Lochiel.

I find the Clanntyre Vic Coshem mentioned in a bond of manrent, in 1612. They lived in Creignish, and seem to have been Macintyres. The head of the family was Malcolm, son of Duncan Macintyre Mac Coshem (*Collectanea De Rebus Albanicis*, p. 206). Duncan Ban had a gun which he called "Nic-Coiseam."

John Macintyre of Camus-na-h-Eireadh was tenth in descent from Macintyre of Glennoe. He fought under Prince Charles, and was wounded at Falkirk. He composed a few Gaelic poems. He died in 1755. He had at least two sons, Duncan, and one who had a son named Peter. Duncan was a minister. He was

ordained in 1784. He became minister of Laggan in 1809, and of Kilmallie in 1816. He married Jean, daughter of James of Glennoe, by whom he had John and Martin. He died in 1830. His wife died in 1855. John, the accomplished Dr Macintyre, of Kilmonivaig, was the author of several Gaelic poems. Peter, grandson of John Macintyre of Camus-na-h-Eireadh, was a captain in the Royal Marines. He died in 1855. He was the author of "Traghadh mo Dhuthcha" and other Gaelic poems.

"'S e traghadh mo dhuthcha
A dhruigh air mo chom ;
I muthadh 's a tionndadh
Mar uspairt nan tonn ;
Na fìor Ghaidheil dhileas
A diobairt nan tom,
Is ciobairean diblidh
Feadh fhrithean nan sonn."

31st JANUARY, 1898.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL DINNER.

The Twenty-first Annual Dinner of the Society took place in the Caledonian Hotel this evening, and possessed more than ordinary interest, celebrating as it did the 21st anniversary of its institution. During that period the Society has published seventeen volumes of Transactions, and its present state of membership, and general activity in revising old and breaking in new fields of research, gives promise of still greater literary wealth. Rev. Dr Norman Macleod, one of the chieftains of the Society, presided, supported by Colonel Malcolm, C.B. ; Provost Macpherson, Kingussie ; Mr William Mackay, solicitor ; Mr A. F. Steele, banker ; Mr H. V. Maccallum, solicitor ; Mr Duncan Mackintosh, secretary to the Society ; Mr Alex. Mackenzie, publisher ; Mr Williamson, banker ; Mr Bannerman, Southport ; Captain Ruari Chisholm, Seaforth Highlanders ; Mr Chisholm, Colorado. Mr Duncan Campbell, of the *Chronicle*, and Mr John Robertson, inspector of schools, were croupiers.

During the progress of the dinner, the Society's piper, Pipe-Major Ronald Mackenzie, played a variety of tunes with characteristic ability.

After dinner, the Chairman gave the loyal toasts in a few choice sentences, followed by that of the "Army, Navy, and