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## Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for January 19th, 2018

To see what we've added to the Electric Scotland site view our What's New page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/whatsnew.htm>

To see what we've added to the Electric Canadian site view our What's New page at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/whatsnew.htm>

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/>

### Electric Scotland News

I see that Scotland is experiencing a lot of snow this week with many stuck overnight on the border roads. We continue to have cold weather here in Canada and especially in the eastern half of the country.

Noted an alternative recipe for Haggis for the Burns celebrations, Haggis Yorkshire pudding with onion gravy and pea puree. You can read about this on the Scotsman at:

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/recipes/burns-night-recipe-haggis-yorkshire-pudding-onion-gravy-pea-puree/>

And talking about Burns I also noted the Scotsman article on Burns where they talk about the Atlanta Burns Cottage in the USA. Our own Frank Shaw of Robert Burns Lives! fame did an article on it which you may like to read at:

[http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns\\_lives154.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns_lives154.htm)

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

Note that this is a selection and more can be read in our ScotNews feed on our index page where we list news from the past 1-2 weeks. I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in newspapers such as the Guardian, Scotsman, Courier, etc. you will find many comments which can be just as interesting as the news story itself and of course you can also add your own comments if you wish.

The UK Single Market

The SNP believe that the UK leaving the EU will damage EU/UK trade - I agree.

Read more at:

<http://chokkablog.blogspot.ca/2018/01/the-uk-single-market.html>

Another blow for Sturgeon as Scots reject SNP Brexit stance

PROFESSOR JOHN CURTICE must be the closest thing that Scotland has to a national treasure

Read more at:

[http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read\\_full=13416](http://www.thinkscotland.org/todays-thinking/articles.html?read_full=13416)

The Customs Union and the World Trade Organisation

Those who continue to argue that we need to be in the Customs Union of the EU, or need to copy it from outside the Union as we leave, need to answer two very simple questions.

Read more at:

<http://johnredwooddiary.com/2018/01/14/the-customs-union-and-the-world-trade-organisation/>

From songs to stamps

Robert Burns references in popular culture

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/culture/books/from-songs-to-stamps-robert-burns-references-in-popular-culture-1-4662595>

Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

Added another video talk by this organisation on A Journey through Scotland's Past: The Age of Stone[

View this at:

[http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5283-Historic-Environment-Scotland-\(HES\)](http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5283-Historic-Environment-Scotland-(HES))

The SNP's Conversion

Yesterday the SNP published "Scotland's Place in Europe". It's a good piece of work and a worthwhile read for anybody who wants to gain an understanding of the (UK wide) issues surrounding Brexit and the various options we face.

Read more at:

<http://chokkablog.blogspot.ca/2018/01/the-snps-conversion.html>

Celtic Connections music festival celebrates 25 years

Celtic Connections is celebrating its 25th anniversary, featuring over 2,000 musicians from across the globe.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-42730724>

Statues cast of Scottish founder of Chile's navy

Bronze statues of a Scottish Royal Navy admiral are to be installed in Chile in honour of his founding of the Chilean Navy in 1818.

Read more at:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-42731590>

We have a good article about him at: [http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/cochrane\\_thomas.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/cochrane_thomas.htm)

The UK's first independent drive-through bakery has opened in Fife

Stephens Bakery put a twist on their traditional format and opened the new business in Dunfermline, Fife.

Read more at:

<https://foodanddrink.scotsman.com/in-the-news/uks-first-drive-bakery-opened-fife/>

It's time for interest rates to rise again

With the UK, USA and Canada all seeing interest rates rising it's time to look again at your personal debt.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/its-time-for-interest-rates-to-rise-again/>

## Electric Canadian

Transactions of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers

I discovered a lot of volumes of these transaction which are very detailed and note that they are very popular downloads so assume civil engineers are enjoying the details given in these transactions.

I've added the 1919 volume and will add others each week. You can view these at the above page at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/industrial/index.htm>

This issue's main articles are about the Montreal Tunnel, From an Economic Point of View - Remarks regarding Rural Roads and Doubly Reinforced Beams.

Songs of the Great Dominion

Or Sketches from Transatlantic Life by Captain R. G. A. Levinge (Second Edition) (1847) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/songs.pdf>

Memorial from the Committee of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.  
For Promoting the Religious Interest of the Scottish Settlers in British North America (1826) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/Religion/memorialscottish.pdf>

The York Pioneers Log Cabin 1794-1894

The following lines were read at the meeting of the Society of York Pioneers, held at the Log Cabin in the grounds of the Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, on Thursday, Sept. 7th, 1894, and are printed by request.

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/YorkCabin.pdf>

Echoes from the Backwoods

Or Sketches from Transatlantic Life by Captain R. G. A. Levinge (Second Edition) (1847) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/nb/EchoesfromBackwoods.pdf>

Conrad Black's articles

Michael Wolff and the Death Rattle of Trumpophobia

<http://www.conradblack.com/1360/michael-wolff-and-the-death-rattle-of-trumpophobia>

Trudeau courts disaster as U.S. economy surges under Trump

<http://www.conradblack.com/1361/trudeau-courts-disaster-as-us-economy-surges>

## Electric Scotland

Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

Thought you might like to know more about this organisation. On their web site you can get to many interesting articles and some YouTube videos. Here is one such article...

Cooking in the Village

Today we are used to having a wide choice of food every day. We can choose from a huge range of food from all over the world in our supermarkets. Most foods are available all year round. We eat strawberries in winter time, kiwi fruit from New Zealand and can choose from Italian, Indian or Chinese carry out meals in the evenings. Five hundred years ago, life for ordinary people in Scotland was very different.

What kind of food did ordinary people eat?

Most ordinary people ate the same food every day. They had two meals a day, made from food which they had grown or produced themselves. They ate a lot of food made with oats – a heavy kind of oat bread, porridge and rough, thick oatcakes called bannocks. Stews and thick soups called pottage were also common and sometimes you might have mutton from sheep. If you lived near the sea you would be able to eat fish. At different times of the year there would be different types of fruit and vegetables. Many people kept cows and hens for milk and eggs. Honey was the only way of sweetening food. Everyone - even children! - drank a weak kind of home-made beer made from barley because it was difficult to make sure that water was clean.

Where did the food come from?

Most people had a patch of land for growing crops. People grew oats, barley and vegetables, such as a kind of cabbage called kale, beans, peas and onions. If the harvest was bad, then families would be short of food and people would die because of hunger. Families kept a cow or two, or goats to provide milk for making cheese and for the meat. The cows were killed in the autumn because there was not enough food for them to eat during the winter. Hens were kept for their eggs and meat. People collected food from the woods – nuts, berries and mushrooms. They also laid traps for rabbits and for small birds. If you lived near the sea you would have the chance to catch fish such as herring and to collect shellfish like cockles and mussels. The rich local landowner was the only person allowed to catch fish from rivers – but you might have tried to catch them anyway, by poaching at night time.

How was the food cooked?

Most people lived in small houses with just one room. In the middle of the room was an open fire. The smoke would drift out through gaps in the roof. All food was cooked over the fire. Food could be boiled up in a pot which sat or hung over the fire, or could be roasted over the fire. Oatcakes were made on a kind of frying pan called a griddle.

How did people keep food?

There were no fridges in those days so fresh food could not be kept for long. It was possible to dry certain foods such as fish, meat and herbs over the fire. Vegetables could be pickled to make them last longer.

And here is where you can see one of their videos...

[http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5283-Historic-Environment-Scotland-\(HES\)](http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/5283-Historic-Environment-Scotland-(HES))

Dunfermline Sketches & Notes

By Robert Somerville (1917) (pdf). Added a link to this book at the foot of our Dunfermline page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/dunfermline/>

Dunfermline Videos

Took the opportunity to update the videos on our Dunfermline page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/dunfermline/>

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

Got in section 2 of the February 2018 edition at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Clan Wood

Got in a wee contribution on Clan Wood which I've added to their history on our Clan Wood page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/stoz/wood2.html>

Under Ten Viceroys

The Reminiscences of a Gurkha by Major-General Nigel oodyatt, C.S., C.I.E. Colonel 7th Gurkhas (1922) (pdf)

I read this entire book and learned a lot from it. You can read this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/Gurkha.pdf>

The Chronicle of the Family of Innes of Edingight

By Colonel Thomas Innes of Learney (1898) (pdf).

Added a link to this book from our Clan Innes page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/htol/innes.html>

From Empire to Commonwealth

By Philip Kerr

DURING the past twenty years a very marked change has taken place in the character and constitutional system of what is known as the British Empire.

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/independence/sip/commonwealth01.pdf>

Scots in Brunei

Our thanks to Richie Doyle and Roger McInroy for helping with this article which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/articles/brunei.htm>

General View of Agriculture of Galloway

By Rev. Samuel Smith (1810) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/agriculture/agricultureofgalloway.pdf>

## The Story

A gift between friends: Scotland & Canada celebrate 150 years of the Confederation

16 Oct 2017

A ceremony is taking place today in Ottawa, to celebrate the strong relationship between Scotland and Canada. Canada, which is

also celebrating the 150th anniversary of its confederation this year, has an enduring friendship with Scotland, as well as many cultural and historical links. Amazingly, almost five million Canadians claim full or partial Scottish heritage. This makes us the third largest ethnic group in Canada and accounts for a massive 15% of the country's total population.

The 150th anniversary is an incredibly special year for Canadians all around the globe. It's an event that symbolises not only what it means to be Canadian today, but also recognises the proud diversity of the country. Scots were actually amongst the earliest European settlers in Canada, beginning to arrive as far back as the early 17th century. Scottish settlers founded one of the first colonies in 1621 at Nova Scotia, a name which literally translates as 'New Scotland'. However, it was the large waves of immigration between 1760 and 1860 that saw thousands of enterprising Scots move to Canada to start new lives and make their marks in the New World.

Our relationship is one that is marked by familial links, a shared culture and collaboration across education, trade and so much more. Early Scottish migrants established crucial settlements, created companies, built places of worship, and explored the country – playing crucial roles in the birth of a Canadian identity. Later, these immigrants and their descendants became leading figures in politics, business and education. Several of the driving forces behind the confederation movement itself were Scottish born or descended – including Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, and other 'Fathers of the Confederation' George Brown and Alexander Tilloch Galt.

The ceremony in Ottawa will also be marked by the presentation of a gift to the Canadian Government, which has been specially designed by Historic Environment Scotland. A hand-carved stone sculpture featuring an etching of the Hector, the ship that carried some of the first Scottish settlers to Canada, will be handed over. Discussions are also well underway to ensure that the sculpture will be housed in the Canadian Museum of History.



The main portion of the sculpture is crafted from a stone taken from the shores of Loch Broom, from where the Hector set sail for Nova Scotia in 1773. The timber base of the sculpture is made from a piece of recovered elm, felled in the garden of Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh. The decorative, stylised edge rope carving references both the ship's rigging and the strong physical and cultural bond that exists between Scotland and Canada. The Gaelic text on the plaque translates to "Forever Friends", both fitting representations of the bond that keeps our two countries close.

And that's it for this week and hope you have a great weekend..

Alastair