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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for November 8th, 2013

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Electric Scotland News

Well we got our Electric Scotland Community back up again and we have our forums page back as our home page.

We installed a more recent version of our Arcade and I ended up having to download and re-install the games for it. Mind if you had a favourite game and it doesn't show any more then feel free to email me and I'll do my best to get it back for you.

We still have the issue of some games not saving high scores and we are following up with the Arcade software people to see if we can fix it. It might be something as simple as giving write access to the directory where the games are held but we'll wait to hear back from them.

We still have issues with our Picture Gallery so we have an email out to the authors asking for some help. While the albums show we can't display the actual pictures and we also note that some picture galleries are missing.

Part of the reason for the delay in getting back ended up having to do with the release of the PHP software. According to the docs we had the correct version installed but it ended up that we needed the later version of the software to correct a date and time issue. Once we installed the later version we were back.

So we are making progress.

I spent the whole day on Saturday attending a Knight Templar series of meetings. That meant I had to get up at 7.00 am and that's real early for me! I got back just after 11 pm so that was a long but interesting day. I also spent much of a day finding and downloading games for our Arcade and getting them installed so most of two days out to handle these things.

Electric Canadian

The Barren Ground of Northern Canada
By Warburton Pike (1917).

We're now up to Chapter VIII of this book.

You can read this book as we get in up at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/nwt/barren/index.htm>

Canadian Fishing Industry
Information on the Canadian Fishing Industry.

Surrounded by the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and home to the Great Lakes, Canada boasts one of the world's most diverse fisheries in the world. That's why in Canada we often refer to Coast to Coast to Coast!

You can read about the industry and watch a few videos at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/fishing/index.htm>

The Flag in the Wind

This weeks issue was compiled by Jim Lynch in which he comments on the state of the independence debate and what needs to be done to do better for the YES camp.

You can read this issue at <http://www.scotsindependent.org>

Electric Scotland

The Scottish Historical Review
We are on Volume 13 and have now added the January 1916 issue. You can get to this at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/review/volume13.htm>

There is an interesting article about the Charter Chest of the Ramsay family.

Also another article, Whitekirk and "The Burnt Candlemas". This is the period around 1356.

You can read the previous issues at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/review/>

Songs Of Scotland, Prior To Burns
This book is by Robert Chambers who is famous for collecting old Scottish Songs.

Added another three songs...

Logie O' Buchan
Jenny Nettles
Low Doun In The Brume

You can get to this book at the foot of the page at:
http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/chambers_robert.htm

Enigma Machine
This is where we are publishing this set of puzzles created by Doug Ross which can now be found in Doctor's Surgeries, Old Folks Homes, etc.

Added Enigma Machine 39 puzzle which you can get to at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/enigma/enigma039.htm>

The other puzzles we've already published can be found at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/enigma/index.htm>

I might add that if you follow the Enigma Machine thread in our Community you can work with others on figuring out each puzzle.

You can get to these messages at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forumdisplay.php/17-Thistle-amp-Whistle>

Hugh posts each new puzzle in there and then by the end of the week will provide the answers and then add the next one. He also gives the odd hint to help you solve the puzzle.

Leaves from the Journal

From our life in the Highlands from 1848 to 1861 (1868)

We're now on her second book and this week added chapters on...

Visit to Holyrood and Edinburgh 13 Aug 1872

Visit to Dunrobin 6 Sept 1872

Dr. Norman Macleod March 1873

Visit to Inverlochy 9 Sept 1873

Home-coming of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh 29 Aug 1874

Departure of the Prince of Wales from Abergeldie before leaving for India 17 Sept 1875

Visit to Inveraray 21 Sept 1875

Here is an excerpt from the chapter on Dr. Norman Macleod on whom we have a whole biography which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/hiStory/macleod/index.htm>

[March, 1873.—I am anxious to put on record all my recollections of my dear and valued friend Dr. Norman Macleod, who has been taken from us, and whose loss is more deeply felt every day.

I have therefore made the following extracts from my journal since the year 1862, when my heavy misfortune brought me into very close contact with him.]

Balmoral, Sunday, May 11, 1862

Hurried to be ready for the service which Dr. Macleod was kindly going to perform. And a little before ten I went down with Lenchen and Affie (Alice being still in bed unwell) to the dining-room, in which I had not yet been. The ladies and gentlemen were seated behind me, the servants, including Grant and some of the other Highlanders, opposite. And never was service more beautifully, touchingly, simply, and tenderly performed. There was the opening prayer, then the reading from Scripture, which was most beautifully selected as follows: the twenty-third chapter of Job, the forty-second Psalm, the fourteenth chapter of St. John, some of the first verses, and then from the twenty-third verse to the end, and the seventh chapter of Revelations to the end.

All so applicable. After this came another prayer, and then the sermon, entirely extempore, taken from the twelfth chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews to the thirteenth verse, also alluding to the tenth chapter, and occasionally turning to the Corinthians. The sermon was admirable, all upon affliction, God's love, our Saviours sufferings, which God would not spare Him, the blessedness of suffering in bringing us nearer to our eternal home, where we should all be together, and where our dear ones were gone on before us. He concluded with another prayer, in which he prayed most touchingly for me. The children and I were much affected on coming upstairs.

You can read the rest of this chapter at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/leaves/chapter67.htm>

You can read the other chapters at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/leaves/>

Merchant's Guide to Stirling & District

You can find this book towards the foot of our History of Stirlingshire page.

This week I added the chapters on...

The River Forth at Stirling

Tower at Cambuskenneth Abbey and Tomb of James III

You can get to this book which we'll be adding to over the next few weeks at:

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

Lord Charles Neaves

Added three more of his poems...

Hey for Social Science, O!
I'm Very Fond of Water
The Permissive Bill

You can view these at: http://www.electricscotland.com/history/men/neaves_charles.htm

Scotland, Picturesque: Historical: Descriptive

This is a book we're serialising from the author of Historical Tales of the Wars of Scotland And of the Border Raids, Forays and Conflicts by John Parker Lawson (1839)

You need to scroll down the page to get to this book where we've now added...

The New City
Leith and its Vicinity

You can get to this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/wars/>

David Herschell Edwards

His 16 volumes of modern Scottish Poets is probably the most massive collection of poetry by anyone in the world and it's all about Scots poets which makes it all the more amazing. Each volume portrays around 100 poets and each poet has their own wee biography, a critical assessment and a few examples of their poetry.

Added volume 10 this week.

You can get to this at: http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/edwards_david.htm

Robert Louis Stevenson

A weekly serialisation of this intimate two volume biography of Robert Louis Stevenson by his cousin Graham Balfour.

Added this week...

Chapter VII. Transition 1876 - 79

Chapter VIII. California 1879 - 80

You can read this chapter towards the foot of the page at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/rlstevenson.htm>

Christine McKelvie's Column

Added her column for 7th November 2013 which you can read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/mckelvie/131107.htm>

Recollections of a Speyside Parish

By James Thomson (1902)

This is a new book we're starting. Here is what the Preface says...

FOURTEEN years ago the first edition of my "Recollections of a Speyside Parish" were issued in book form. The criticisms passed upon it by the press, and the favourable reception it met with by the public, were a pleasant surprise to the Author. The issue was soon sold out, and he thinks the present a favourable time for the issue of a second and enlarged edition. The social and domestic conditions of life on Speyside have undergone such a revolution since the Author's boyhood, that he feels sure the inhabitants of Strathspey cannot fail to be interested in a record of the obscure and simple lives of the people before the iron horse invaded the Strath. The present generation cannot possibly realise how homely and primitive the modes of living were sixty years ago. The Author rejoices in the marvellous advance that has taken place during that time in all the conditions of life amongst the people of his native district. His earnest desire is to put on record the impressions left upon his mind by the sayings and the doings of the people among whom he spent his early days. Their homely joys and the vicissitudes of their every-day life left upon his mind impressions that death alone can efface..

You can read this book at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/speyside/>

Chamberers's Information for the People

Edited by William and Robert Chambers, fifth edition.

The Chamber family contributed an enormous amount of information on many aspects of Scottish history. I thought I'd provide you with yet another publication that they created. The publication is in 2 volumes and you can get to these at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/info.htm>

George Kerevan: Europe break-up gives Scots choice

What is the point of exchanging our bosses in London for their counterparts in Berlin and Brussels, asks George Kerevan. To this article is added an excellent comment from Dr James Wilkie.

You can read this article at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/independence/131101.htm>

Robert Burns Lives!

A Young Irish Scholar's Transatlantic Pilgrimage to The Burns Club of Atlanta and Beyond by Dr Jennifer Orr.

While sitting with Atlanta's Consul General of Ireland Paul Gleeson during our Burns Supper last January at the Burns Cottage, I was able to tell him about Dr. Jennifer Orr, a young Irish scholar whose book, *The Correspondence of Samuel Thomson*, had become a magical one for me. Her volume opened new doors about Robert Burns that I had been unfamiliar with until its publication. I explained to Paul that Jennifer was an academic who I hoped could one day speak to our Burns Club of Atlanta on the subject of Irish connections with Burns. Ever the helpful friend to Scots and naturally one of everything Irish, Paul volunteered right then and there to help with transportation costs if Jennifer could also speak to some Irish groups while in Georgia. Over the next few weeks we had the Burns Club of Atlanta onboard for additional expense money, thanks to club vice president Woody Woodruff, and along with a few other contributors, the trip became a reality.

Jennifer has had extensive experience at Oxford University, Glasgow University, Dublin's Trinity College, and she recently became lecturer at Newcastle University in northeast England. She is Director of Ulster Romantic Thought and Practice, a project funded by the Irish Research Council. Word on the street is that she has another publication lined up, and I can't wait! Jennifer was a hit with the membership of our Burns Club and that is sometimes not an easy audience to impress. She will win you over with her descriptive narrative below. (FRS: 10.31.13)

You can read this article at: http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns_lives184.htm

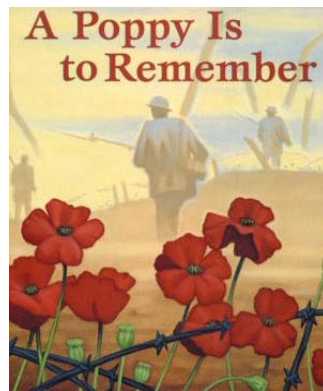
And finally...

High price

TWO women were discussing the trials and tribulations of their teenage children in a west end coffee shop at the weekend when one of them declared:

"You know the definition of a teenager, don't you? God's punishment for enjoying sex."

And so that's it for now and hope you all have a great weekend and hope you've purchased your poppy for Remembrance Day!



Alastair