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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for March 20th, 2015

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

BBC Scotland Radio had a half hour program on Genealogy and you can listen to it at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b054szj3> but note that it's only available for a few weeks.

Carnoustie Country – Every Golfer's Dream Destination

Carnoustie Country encompasses the 34 golf courses within a 40-minute drive of Carnoustie Championship, the jewel in the crown – and venue of the 2018 Open.

Carnoustie Country's 34 courses provide golfers with a virtually unrivalled selection of places to play – from famous championship links to unique and often testing parkland and heathland courses, many of which were designed by golf's greatest architects, including Old Tom Morris and James Braid. And all the while surrounded by the most glorious natural scenery, whether exposed to the raw beauty of the Angus coastline or nestled in the foothills of the Cairngorms, with the surrounding glens providing a breathtaking backdrop.

The return of the Open to Carnoustie Championship in 2018 is a major sporting coup for the local area. However, this is only one of the major golfing events in the Carnoustie Country calendar.

From 15-20 June 2015, the Amateur Championship will be held at Carnoustie Championship and Panmure. With almost 300 competitors from 30 countries, this is one of the world's leading amateur championships and was won last year by young local golfer Bradley Neil. In 2016, The Senior Open will return to Carnoustie Championship, providing an opportunity to watch many of the golfing legends of the last fifty years battle it out across one of golf's toughest courses.

For those who prefer competing to spectating, the Carnoustie Country Classic from 10 – 14 May, 2015 is a popular 4 night/5 round stableford competition. This annual tournament is played on four of Carnoustie Country's finest links courses - Monifieth, Montrose, Panmure and Carnoustie Championship. The Carnoustie Country Classic attracts up to 160 players every year, with many of them taking advantage of the stay-and-play packages which are available in a range of hotels, including Carnoustie Golf Hotel and Woodlands Hotel in Broughty Ferry.

As part of the annual Carnoustie Country Festival of Golf, the 10th anniversary World Hickory Open will be held at Carnoustie from 19 – 23 October, 2015. The World Hickory Open, one of the world's leading hickory tournaments, is open to all golfers, with or without experience of hickory golf. This tournament attracts over 100 of the world's best professional and amateur hickory golfers, with the 2014 World Hickory Open being won by former Open and US Masters Champion, Sandy Lyle.

Carnoustie Country is OPEN for business, with tee times available to book on ALL of Carnoustie Country's 34 courses. Several courses offer special packages, providing a high standard of facilities both on the courses and in the club houses.

And after an appetite-stirring round of golf, Carnoustie Country has a wide range of highly-rated eating places, with many specialising in the excellent local produce, including seafood, soft fruit, game, beef, lamb and pork and, of course, the local delicacies of Arbroath

Smokies and Forfar Brides.

A very good choice of accommodation is available locally, including golf resorts (Murrayshall, Forbes of Kingennie and Carnoustie Golf Hotel), smaller, affordable hotels within walking distance of golf courses (Woodlands Hotel, Park Hotel and Links Hotel in Montrose), historic castles offering luxury accommodation (Kinnettles) and the latest addition to the Carnoustie Country portfolio, 5-Star exclusive-use mansion, House of Turin.

There are also a large number of very good smaller hotels, B&Bs, guest houses, restaurants with rooms and self-catering accommodation providers, as well as camping and caravanning facilities.

Carnoustie Country – first class golf and so much more!

[Learn more about Angus in history.](#)

DNA study shows Celts are not a unique genetic group
A DNA study of Britons has shown that genetically there is not a unique Celtic group of people in the UK.

According to the data, those of Celtic ancestry in Scotland and Cornwall are more similar to the English than they are to other Celtic groups.

The study also describes distinct genetic differences across the UK, which reflect regional identities.

And it shows that the invading Anglo Saxons did not wipe out the Britons of 1,500 years ago, but mixed with them.

You can read more about this at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-31905764>

Electric Canadian

Rick posted up a message in our community to tell us about a band in British Columbia - King Crow and the Ladies from Hell. You can watch a video of them at

<http://www.electricscotland.org/showthread.php/4806-King-Crow-and-the-Ladies-from-Hell>

Electric Scotland

George Douglas, Eighth Duke of Argyll K.G., K.T. (1823 - 1900)
Autobiography and Memoirs edited by the Dowager Duchess of Argyll with Portraits and Illustrations in two volumes.

The chapters added this week explores the state of the country and the political state of things...

Chapter XXIX. Sympathy with the Ant-Stavery Movement - Visit of Mrs. Stone to England and to Inverary - Difficulty with China - General Election

Chapter XXX. Indian Mutiny - Sir Colin Campbell - Lord Dalhousie - Commercial Crisis

Chapter XXXI. Lord Palmerson's Administration

Chapter XXXII. The Derby Administration

Chapter XXXIII. Lord Palmerston's Second Ministry

Chapter XXXIV. The American Civil War

Chapter XXXV. Foreign Politics

You can read this book as I get it up at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/argyll/argyllindx.htm>

Northern Lights

Pen and Pencil Sketches of Modern Scottish Worthies by Rev. Jabez Marrat (1877). A new book we're starting.

We've added so far...

Chapter I. Sir Andrew Agnew

Chapter II. Sir David Brewster

Chapter III. William Chalmers Burns, M.A.

Chapter IV. T. Chalmers, D.D., LL.D.

Chapter V. Thomas Guthrie, D D.

You can view these at <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/northernlights/index.htm>

"Select Writings of Robert Chamber's Popular Rhymes of Scotland" (1847). I'm starting to add this book to his page and have now added the first eight sections. The chapters added this week are Slogans and Rhymes respecting Weather.

You can read this towards the foot of the page at
http://www.electricscotland.com/history/other/chambers_robert.htm

Renfrewshire
By Frederick Mort (1912). A new book we're starting.

John Henderson came across this book and felt it added more information to the book we already have up and so he's sending us several chapters a week until complete.

You can find this book on our current Renfrew page at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/renfrew/>

William Walker
The King of the Filibusters.

Walker was born in 1824, in Nashville, Tenn. He was the oldest son of a Scotch banker, a man of a deeply religious mind, and interested in a business which certainly is removed, as far as possible, from the profession of arms. Indeed, few men better than William Walker illustrate the fact that great generals are born, not trained.

I've extracted this account from a book I discovered and you can read about him at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/walker.pdf>

Captain Philo Norton McGiffin
Descended from the Clan MacGregor and the Clan MacAlpine and you can read about him at :
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/mcgiffin.pdf>

The History of the Troubles and Memorable Transactions in Scotland 1624 to 1645
Containing an interesting Narrative of the Proceedings of the great Families in Scotland during that Period, Rising of the Highland Clans in Arms, etc.

I have provided a link to download this 2 volume publication but also found that both volumes have been edited to make them much more readable and so have also linked to these edited versions as well.

You can read these volumes at <http://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/troubles.htm>

Memoir of Colonel John Cameron, Fassiefern, K.T.S.
Lieutenant Colonel of the Gordon Highlanders, or 92nd Regiment of Foot by Rev. Archibald Clerk, 2nd Edition.

THE demand for the "MEMOIR OF COLONEL CAMERON" having been such as speedily to exhaust the First Edition, Sir DUNCAN CAMERON, in order to gratify the wishes of the many interested in the subject, has issued this Second Edition. A few verbal inaccuracies, which had escaped notice in the first issue, are here corrected; and slight additions have been made to some of the Notes, but no material alteration has been made either in the Text or the Notes.

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

Article by Dr James Wilkie
Comment on the SDA and it's development from the Scotland-UN committee.

You can read this at <http://www.electricscotland.com/independence/article01.htm>

Did Scotland and the Knights Templar Influence the Founding of America
A World Exclusive Interview with Gary Gianotti, Feb 22, 2015

The official version of who designed and executed America's Great Seal has been that three committees submitted designs, and ultimately the final designs were arranged by Charles Thomson and William Barton. Their designs were officially approved by Congress on June 20, 1782. Dr. Bob has always accepted this conclusion. Gary Gianotti has been working for years to document that Robert Scot, the engraver of the first die, was the actual man in charge of the final design. Gianotti presents his genealogical research

that raises questions about how the Scot family is directly associated by marriage to families of the Knights Templar. According to his theory, Robert Scot did not come to America to win the respect of the Founding Fathers in an attempt to get the job of making the United States Seals. Instead Scot was trained and sent to the United States to do the job as part of the secret influence of these families. Called the "Unknown Superiors," these were secret Jacobites exiled from Scotland, and Gianotti asks the crucial question of what role did Scotland and the Templars play in the founding of America and the design of America's Great Seal?

You can read more about this and listen to the 2 part radio interview on 21st Century Radio at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/articles/greatseal.htm>

Irish and Scots Early Settlers of Pennsylvania
By George Chambers (1871)

I've added a link to this book to our Pennsylvania Scots & Scots Irish page at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/scotsirish/pennsylvania/index.htm>

Scoto-Gadelica

Or Books Printed in the Gaelic of Scotland from the year 1567 to the year 1914 with Bibliographical and Biographical notes by The Rev. Donald MacLean (1915).

About the middle of last century the need for a Bibliography of Gaelic Literature was much felt by scholars and others interested in that language. Since John Reid published his *Bibliotheca Scoto-Celtica* in Glasgow in 1832, a great many new books appeared in Gaelic from the printing-presses of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other places, but hitherto there has been no work of reference available to guide the student in his selection of suitable books. Reid's work dealt with Gaelic Literature under several different subjects, and although it possessed considerable merit, so backward was the state of education over the Highlands and Islands of Scotland at the time of its appearance and for many years afterwards that the book was hardly known even to those who had a fair knowledge of the Gaelic language.

About sixteen years ago I resolved to compile a Bibliography of Books printed in the Gaelic of Scotland from their Incunabula to the present year. I was aware of the magnitude and difficulty of the task, but many friendly letters from literary Celts who appreciated the value of my work helped in no small degree to encourage me to persevere in my effort.

The late Professor Donald Mackinnon placed at my disposal very valuable bibliographic material which he had collected for many years before he became the first occupant of the Celtic Chair in Edinburgh. It is not possible for me to acknowledge fully my indebtedness to this collection.

The reader will see that I have confined myself entirely to books printed in the Gaelic of Scotland, which I have arranged in alphabetical sequence according to the names of the authors. Only in very few instances has this order been departed from, and in each case for some reason.

I have given a verbatim et literatim transcript of the Title-Pages, adding a full collation of each work by pagination rather than by signatures. Occasionally I have given a detailed description of some books and their authors, more especially where the nature of the works invited comments or statements that would likely be appreciated by readers. In transcribing some of the Titles, I had, in a few instances, to correct manifest typographic errors that led to ambiguity or obscurity, and which, in a few instances, even amounted to mis-statements. No attempt has been made to reproduce the assortment of type used in the originals. I have included the leading religious tracts and pamphlets, as well as tractates of controversial literature, ecclesiastical and secular. Mere leaflets of no merit or originality are excluded.

It is most likely that there have been some booklets and editions of which I have not heard, but it is my belief that the reader in this work has before him practically a full Inventory of the Printed Books that appeared up to date in the Gaelic of Scotland. To ensure comprehensiveness and accuracy I have spared neither labour nor expense. I have searched the leading Libraries of Great Britain, and I have been in communication with Colonial and Continental Librarians and Booksellers. I have approached private collectors as far as I could go, and I have for many years scanned and noted the pages of booksellers' and auctioneers' catalogues.

I trust that literary Celts, Booksellers, Librarians, as well as the general public, will find in this work something of interest and value. It will, I hope, show those ignorant of Gaelic that the venerable language has a wide field of literature; and to the scholar already cognisant of that fact it will reveal the exact extent as well as the nature and quality thereof. Gaelic literature, like the literature of most countries, has been contributed to by native Poets, Theologians, Philologists, Educationists, and Patriots, as well as by men and women from many spheres in life, to whose genius and efforts their countrymen of the present day owe, in great measure, their intellectual and material advancement alongside the other races that make up our mighty empire.

The Author desires to express his acknowledgments to the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland for their offer of financial assistance towards the expenses of the publication of this work.

DONALD MACLEAN.
DUNVEGAN.

I felt this is an excellent reference book for anyone interested in the Gaelic language and so have added a link to it from our page at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/gaelic/scoto.htm>

Robert Burns Lives!
Edited by Frank Shaw

Far Fam'd RAB': Scottish Labouring-Class Poets Writing in the Shadow of Robert Burns, 1785-1792 By Corey E. Andrews.

We welcome back to the pages of Robert Burns Lives! a good friend and dedicated scholar, Dr. Corey Andrews. Over the years, I've had several offers to write a preface or introduction to a book or two but refused because there were no footnotes to substantiate the works, something I feel very strongly about. Corey has provided 81 footnotes on his paper, an excellent and thorough read by themselves! Burns scholarship has improved tremendously over the last 10-plus years, and it is because Burnsians like Corey write well and credit the people whose work they reference. I hope you enjoy his article, I did! (FRS: 3.18.15) We welcome back to the pages of Robert Burns Lives! a good friend and dedicated scholar, Dr. Corey Andrews. Over the years, I've had several offers to write a preface or introduction to a book or two but refused because there were no footnotes to substantiate the works, something I feel very strongly about. Corey has provided 81 footnotes on his paper, an excellent and thorough read by themselves! Burns scholarship has improved tremendously over the last 10-plus years, and it is because Burnsians like Corey write well and credit the people whose work they reference. I hope you enjoy his article, I did! (FRS: 3.18.15)

You can read this article at http://www.electricscotland.com/familytree/frank/burns_lives214.htm

THE STORY

Many years ago now Lu Hickey started to send me in information on the American Civil War and the many Scots that were involved in it on both sides. The collection of stories can be read at:

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/civilwar/> and the story below is just one of the stories in her collection...

THE CONQUERED BANNER by Abram Joseph Ryan (1838-1886)

Furl that Banner, for 'tis weary;
Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary;
Furl it, fold it, it is best;
For there's not a man to wave it,
And there's not a sword to save it,
And there's no one left to lave it
In the blood that heroes gave it;
And its foes now scorn and brave it;
Furl it, hide it--let it rest!

Take that banner down! 'tis tattered;
Broken is its shaft and shattered;
And the valiant hosts are scattered
Over whom it floated high.
Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it;
Hard to think there's none to hold it;
Hard that those who once unrolled it
Now must furl it with a sigh.

Furl that banner! furl it sadly!
Once ten thousands hailed it gladly.
And ten thousands wildly, madly,
Swore it should forever wave;
Swore that foeman's sword should never
Hearts like theirs entwined dis sever,
Till that flag should float forever
O'er their freedom or their grave!

Furl it! for the hands that grasped it,
And the hearts that fondly clasped it,
Cold and dead are lying low;
And that Banner--it is trailing!
While around it sounds the wailing
Of its people in their woe.

For, though conquered, they adore it!
Love the cold, dead hands that bore it!
Weep for those who fell before it!
Pardon those who trailed and tore it!
But, oh! wildly they deplored it!
Now who furl and fold it so.

Furl that Banner! True, 'tis gory,
Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory,
And 'twill live in song and story,
Though its folds are in the dust;
For its fame on brightest pages,
Penned by poets and by sages,
Shall go sounding down the ages--
Furl its folds though now we must.

Furl that banner, softly, slowly!
Treat it gently--it is holy--
For it droops above the dead.
Touch it not--unfold it never,
Let it droop there, furled forever,
For its people's hopes are dead!

Perhaps no poem ever touched and thrilled the hearts of the people of the South as did the "Conquered Banner," by Father Ryan. It came from the heart of the poet at the time when the Southland stood in grief and in untold sorrow. Though his face wore a serious and almost sad aspect, he dearly loved to gather children about him, as he seldom spoke to older people. He always held that little children were angels and walked with God, and that it was a privilege for a priest to raise his hand and give spotless childhood a blessing, writes "Aquila," in the Colorado Catholic.

It was several years ago that "Aquila" met with a young lady from the South, who related to him the following beautiful and touching incident in the poet's life. The little story is as follows:

"One Christmas - I was then a little girl," says the young lady - "I came to Father Ryan with a bookmark, a pretty little scroll of the 'Conquered Banner,' and begged him to accept it. I can never forget how his lips quivered as he placed his hands upon my head and said (a little kindly remembrance touched him so): 'Call your little sisters, and I will tell them a story about this picture. Do you know, my children,' he said as we gathered about his knee, 'that the "Conquered Banner" is a great poem? I never thought it so,' he continued in that dreamy, far-off way so peculiarly his own; 'but a poor woman who did not have much education, but whose heart was filled with love for the South, thought so, and if it had not been for her this poem would have been swept out of the house and burned up, and I would never have had this pretty book-mark or this true story to tell you.'

"O you are going to tell us how you came to write the "Conquered Banner!" " I cried, all interest and excitement.

"Yes,' he answered, 'and I am going to tell you how a woman was the medium of its publication.' Then a shadow passed over his faces a dreamy shadow that was always there when he spoke of the lost cause, and he continued: 'I was in Knoxville when the news came that Gen. Lee had surrendered at Appomattox Court-House. It was night, and I was sitting in my room in a house where many of the regiment of which I was chaplain were quartered, when an old comrade came in and said to me: "All is lost, Gen. Lee has surrendered." I looked at him. I knew by his whitened face that the news was too true. I simply said, "Leave me," and he went out of the room. I bowed my head upon the table and wept long and bitterly. When a thousand thoughts came rushing through my brain. I could not control them. That banner was conquered; its folds must be furled, but its story had to be told. We were very poor, my dear little children, in the days of the war. I looked around for a piece of paper to give expression to the thoughts that cried out within me. All that I could find was a, piece of brown wrapping paper that lay on the table about an old pair of shoes that a friend sent me. I seized this piece of paper and wrote the "Conquered Banner " Then I went to bed, leaving the lines there upon the table. The next morning the regiment was ordered away, and I thought no more of the lines written in such sorrow and desolation of spirit on that fateful night. What was my astonishment a few weeks later to see them appear above my name in a Louisville paper! The poor

woman who kept the house in Knoxville had gone, as she afterward told me, into the room to throw the piece of paper into the fire, when she saw that there was something written upon it. she said that she sat down and cried, and, copying the lines, she sent them to a newspaper in Louisville. And that was how the "Conquered Banner" got into print. That is the story of this pretty little scroll you have painted for me.'

"When I get to be a woman,' I said, ' I am going to write that story.'

"Are you?' he answered. 'Ah! it is dangerous to be a writer, especially for women; but if you are determined, let me give you a name,' and he wrote on a piece of paper 'Zona.' 'It is an Indian name,' he said in explanation, 'and it means a snowbird to keep your white wings unsullied. A woman should always be pure, and every mother should teach her boys to look upon a woman as they would upon an altar.' "

Thus was the incident related to me by my Southern friend. Many and many a time in the hurry and bustle of the noisy world the words of the gentle poet-priest came back to me, and in writing this little sketch of how it was through a woman's thoughtfulness that the great Southern epic was given to the world I can not refrain from repeating this little talk, which was the outgrowth of this story, and which might prove a help and a benediction in many a woman's life.

No inspiring column marks the spot where the priest, patriot, and poet is sleeping, but his words still live in the hearts of the people, and the regard, the respect, the high esteem he held for woman bespeaks the purity of his soul.

Rest there, saddest, tenderest, most spiritual poet heart that has sought our hearts and breathed in them a music that the lapse of years can not still, sleep and rest on! The visions that came to the mind of the priest as he walked down the valley of silence, down the dim, voiceless valley alone, are living on, for they are prayers.

Upon reading this account of the origin of the "Conquered Banner," Mrs. J. William Jones (wife of our Chaplain-General, and a devoted Confederate from that day in the early spring of 1861 when she buckled her husband's armour upon him and sent him to the front down to the present day) has written the following lines:

HOW FATHER RYANS CONQUERED BANNER WAS RESCUED FROM OBLIVION.

He shared their every hardship, as he did their hopes and joys,
Inspiring faith and courage as he cheered those ragged boys.
Our soldier-priest and poet stood unflinching at his post,
Till the news of Lee's surrender told the story: "All is lost."

He could bare his breast to bayonet, be torn with shot and shell:
With victorious, tattered banner, he could bleed and die so well.
But when those dreadful words, "All lost," broke o'er him like a flood.
His very heart seemed Weeping, and his tears all stained with blood.

How illy could he bear it all, so sudden was the blight,
glut for the poet's genius, which filled his soul with light.
He sought in vain material his burning words to give
To future generations, and to hearts where he would live.

A crushed brown paper on the floor served then his purpose well
For though it seemed a conquered cause, he must its story tell.
He wrote it out and fell asleep: next morn thought of it not.
New troubles filled the poet's heart his poem was forgot.

The morning dawned: that broken priest, but soldier never
Was gone, but left, all blurred with tears that paper on the floor.
A woman, loving well our cause, found, and its folds unfurled,
The "Conquered Banner," and it floats unconquered to the world.

At last he bivouacs in peace: no monument stands guard
To point us where the poet-priest sleeps sweetly 'neath the sod
His glorious rhythmic poems rare a monument will stand;
He was its architect, and built both gracefully and grand:

And that's it for this week and hope you all enjoy your weekend.

Alastair