



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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and My Great-Granduncle Charlie*

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Please include a brief biographical sketch and a passport-type photograph.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Cover Illustration:

Prince Alamayu and Captain Speedy

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

From the Editor:

For both members who were, and those who weren't in the record-breaking audience at BIFHSGO's first meeting in Ben Franklin Place this January, the issue leads off with Patricia Roberts-Pichette's tale of Captain Tristram Charles Sawyer Speedy's amazing adventures.

Brenda Turner offers an informative look at antique rifles, which she investigated after discovering some that had belonged to her great-great-grandfather Archie Turner.

John Reid has uncovered an interesting historical footnote—the royal practice of giving sovereigns to newly-born triplets throughout the British Empire—and provides a list of the Canadian families who applied for or received the award.

We mark Hall of Fame member Betty Warburton's long service as the BIFHSGO Librarian.

And in preparation for the BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting in June, we invite members to review the official minutes of the 2014 AGM.



Jean Kitchen

From the President



We have now held two meetings in our new location, Ben Franklin Place, and they have been just as successful as those held at Library and Archives Canada. It

would appear that location has very little to do with why people attend our meetings; there were good turn-outs for both our Before BIFHSGO sessions and the main talks. All four sessions were provided by members, and all were useful and very interesting. It's clear we have awesome members who all have fascinating stories to tell.

Our members have responded well to our survey; the initial response rate was over 40 per cent. I hope that the rest of you will take the time to submit your views, to give us the best possible basis on which to plan BIFHSGO's future direction. See page 43 for the link to the survey.

I was also pleased that so many people volunteered in February to either give a talk or provide a display for a county/shire-focussed Discovery Table. Dave Cross's idea of highlighting local areas at each meeting seems a popular one, and I look forward to connecting with more members through these displays.

In February we also celebrated Betty Warburton's many years of service to BIFHSGO. Since joining in 1995, she has volunteered in several capacities, and for the past 17 years has played a key role in managing our library. We are grateful for Betty's dedication and wish her great pleasure in having time to focus on her own family history.

Betty's departure has prompted the Board to investigate how best to move forward with the library. A committee is investigating possibilities while maintaining our partnership with the City Archives. The City Archives not only houses our library but provides facilities for special interest group and conference committee meetings. It is a valuable relationship on both sides and one we want to maintain.

As spring approaches, so does a genealogist's season of conferences and cemetery hunting. RootsTech 2015 has just finished and Gene-O-Rama (Ottawa) and the Ontario Genealogical Society (Barrie) Conferences are just around the corner. I hope each of you will gain knowledge and find success wherever your research may take you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara J. Tose'.

Barbara J. Tose

The Queen's Photographer, an Abyssinian Prince and My Great-Granduncle Charlie[©]



BY PATRICIA ROBERTS-PICHETTE

Patricia, a BIFHSGO Hall of Fame member and Middlemore Home Children specialist, first recounted this story of derring-do and human pathos at the January 2015 BIFHSGO monthly meeting.

The photograph below, which is in

the collection of the National Gallery of Canada, I consider part of my family collection and the only reason I decided to tell the story behind it. It was taken on 20 July 1868, of 7-year-old Prince Alamayu of Abyssinia and 32-year-old Captain Tristram Charles Sawyer Speedy, my great-granduncle Charlie. Both are wearing Abyssinian court dress. Several years ago, searching for something on Charlie (as I will call him), I was surprised to find that this well-known family photo was held by the National Gallery. I had grown up on stories and photos of Charlie and the Prince, but I knew nothing about the photographer, Julia Margaret Cameron, an Isle of Wight photographer patronized by Queen Victoria and by the British artistic elite in the early days of photography.

This family history tale revolves around what happened when a friendly letter from one sovereign to another went unanswered. The action is between England and Abyssinia (now Ethiopia), and the focus is on my great-granduncle Charlie's involvement. Included are



Prince Alamayu and Captain Speedy

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tristram_Speedy

the founder of a nation turned madman, political foot-dragging, a royal gift of matched pistols, a military expedition to free prisoners in Abyssinia, its aftermath and two of my relatives. It is part of a minor historical event with continuing political repercussions.

For the National Gallery collection, this photograph is valued as an example of Julia Margaret Cameron's work; the sitters are unimportant (except to my family, Queen Victoria, some Ethiopians, and a few historians). The soft focus and the use of costumed models are typical of Julia's work, which has become increasingly influential with the passage of time.



Julia Margaret Cameron

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

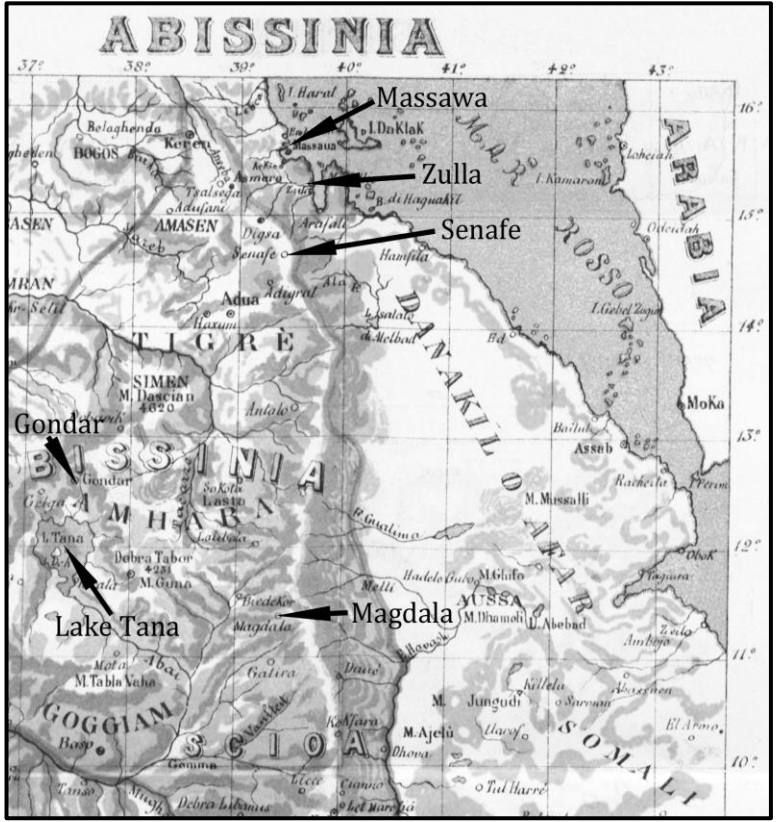
File: Julia_Margaret_Cameron,_by_Henry_Herschel_Hay_Cameron.jpg

Julia, born in India in 1815, was brought up in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) on her parents' tea estate. In a family of beautiful women, she was considered the brainy ugly duckling. She married Charles Hay Cameron in 1838. Ten years later the family arrived in England, and in 1860 they bought property at Freshwater on the Isle of Wight. For her 48th birthday in 1863, Julia's daughter gave her a camera to amuse herself with while her husband was in Ceylon on family business. She quickly became engrossed in photography and worked tirelessly on her passion, winning numerous awards.

Charlie was 6 feet 6 inches tall, handsome, with a full red beard, and very short-sighted. He was kind and gentle, fun-loving, organized good parties, and enjoyed amusing children with exciting stories and games. He was also a highly entertaining public speaker. His father, Major James Speedy, had been a translator for the Indian Army, speaking and writing at least Persian, Hindi and Urdu. Charlie also had a facility for languages and quickly learned new ones wherever he went.

Like Julia, Charlie was born in India, but in 1836 of military parentage. He was 9 when his parents, before returning to India after home leave, left him with his mother's cousin to be educated. He entered the British Army and was posted to India

shortly after his retired father, with the rest of the family, left England for health reasons to settle in New Zealand. Charlie served in the North-West Frontier Province for six years. In 1860, aged 25 and dissatisfied with canton life, he sold his commission in order to join his family in New Zealand.



Key locations in Abyssinia

Source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Old_maps_of_Ethiopia#mediaviewer/File:Map_of_Abyssinia_%281887%29.jpg

Instead of taking ship directly, he returned to Britain to visit relatives in England and Ireland and to prepare for a big-game hunting expedition in Nubia. His father's family was from Ireland, and I knew that his father's sister Augusta had married a Dr. Kerans, but nothing else. In reading about Charlie and the Abyssinian Expedition I had noted mention of an Irishman called "young Kerans" (no initials or age) who was said to

be related to Charlie. Was this true? I needed more information.

At last, a Google search in late 2012 yielded treasure: a draft of a Treanor family history that included a descent from Augusta Speedy Kerans. I wrote to the author and we exchanged information. Yes, Augusta and her husband had a son Laurence, who was with Charlie in Abyssinia; they were first cousins!

While Charlie was visiting Augusta and her family, Laurence, aged almost 16, probably begged to go big-game hunting. Apparently Charlie agreed and his parents gave permission. (Laurence is important because some details that follow come from a letter he wrote to his brother after returning to Ireland.)

Charlie and Laurence probably arrived in Egypt around the New Year in 1861 and organized support for the hunting party before travelling up the Nile to start the hunt. Nubia (now Sudan) stretched south from Egypt to Abyssinia, and from the Red Sea to west of the River Nile. Like Egypt, Nubia was part of the Ottoman Empire, as was the coastal area between Abyssinia and the Red Sea (now Eritrea, Djibouti and Somalia).

The time line from 1860 to mid-1862 is very muddy, and Laurence's letter is not helpful about dates or exact locations. Laurence wrote that the big-game hunting was not very good and that his responsibility was getting meat for the pot. Laurence noted:

In the way of small game, partridge, woodcock, guinea fowl, wild duck, hares, all of which are very good to eat. I certainly enjoyed the life very much. I got accustomed to that wild way of living—first of all being my own master & next above all, I had liberty.

During the hunt both Charlie and Laurence became fluent in Arabic.

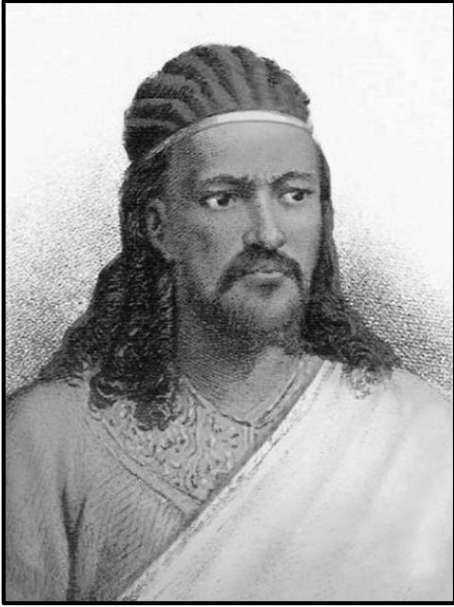
Laurence wrote that they were on the hunt for two years, but later events suggest that by mid-1862 they had left Nubia. Charlie wanted to enter Abyssinia. Laurence was seeking employment and wrote:

Unfortunately one never is satisfied with anything in life. I thought I might better myself by going under C. Speedy's service as private secretary, to [meet] Captain Cameron, the English Consul in Abyssinia & getting under government employ.

They must have gone to Massawa, a dirty, hot, steamy, town on the Red Sea, used as an exchange port by East African coast slave-traders with cargo for Turkey. It was also the location of the British Consulate to Abyssinia. The Consul, Captain Charles Duncan Cameron, had arrived there in February 1862 bearing gifts from Queen Victoria for the King of Abyssinia, among which was a pair of beautifully matched decorated pistols. Subsequent events confirm that Consul Cameron did employ Laurence, possibly in mid-1862.

King Tewodros of Abyssinia [known in England as mad King Theodore], claimed descent from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Tewodros was well educated, and he is now recognized by modern Ethiopians as the founder of their country. When he came to the throne in 1855, he promised a modern Christian state without slavery, formed of a number of previously warring feudal

fiefdoms and defended by a well-trained and equipped army, and he was moderately successful.



King Tewodros of Abyssinia

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tewodros_II

But by mid-1862 he was becoming extremely worried about the Ottoman Empire's designs on his country (as were Cameron and the previous consul) and the disinterest of some regional chiefs in the threat. Further, since the death of his beloved first wife, who had successfully helped keep him calm, the King's temper was becoming increasingly uncertain. Tewodros could be exceedingly violent and cruel, even bloodthirsty, if crossed or angry. On the other hand he could be exceedingly polite, generous, apologetic and forgiving.

Somewhere Charlie learned that if he wanted to hunt in Abyssinia he must seek permission from the King (who liked to meet English travelers) and set off to Gondar to meet him. The King would already have been informed about Charlie; his height and beard made him an object of interest, and Tewodros had spies and informers everywhere. He welcomed Charlie warmly and presumably gave the necessary permissions.

In October 1862 King Tewodros wrote a letter to Queen Victoria and gave it to Consul Cameron to deliver. As king of a Christian country, Tewodros wanted an alliance with another Christian country to help reduce the growing pressure he felt from Egypt. His main request was for permission to set up an embassy in London, in order to allow an exchange of ambassadors. He also requested some skilled artisans as military trainers and metalworkers.

The letter was written in Amharic and had to be translated. Laurence was familiar with its contents and described it as "civil," possibly confirming he was the Consul's secretary when the letter was translated.

The background to the Abyssinian story is now set: Charlie is in Abyssinia, Laurence is secretary to the Consul in Massawa, and King Tewodros has sent a letter to Queen Victoria.

Not long after his arrival, Charlie accepted the King's offer to help train his army in modern warfare. He probably worked with the King's army for less than six months—it cannot have been any longer—and probably went big-game hunting with the soldiers. Tewodros was pleased with Charlie's work, giving him the title "Basha Felica" ("Sir" or "Commander Speedy").

As military trainer, or with hunting parties, Charlie quickly developed an excellent working knowledge of Amharic and probably of other languages as well. He also accumulated knowledge of Abyssinian clans, their culture, dress codes and landscape, and he came to understand the mind, character and ambitions of Tewodros, as well as the complicated royal protocols. Charlie was also in Magdala and no doubt met Queen Terunesh, wife of Tewodros and mother of Prince Alamayu. Although he remained friendly with the King, Charlie also developed friendships with the clan chiefs unsympathetic to the king.

By late 1862 Charlie was anxious to leave for New Zealand, but Tewodros was reluctant to let him go. One special tale recounted in my family was of how Charlie managed to escape the clutches the fierce Abyssinian King to get to New Zealand, join the militia and fight in the Maori Wars. Great story, wonderfully told, but not exactly true. Research revealed that the King actually gave

Charlie the necessary exit permit, along with a favourite horse and a ceremonial spear and shield (see final photo). Charlie, after his departure, did get into the King's bad books, however. Apparently someone told the King that Charlie spoke disparagingly about him to some Turks in Massawa and called the Abyssinians asses.

By early 1863 Charlie was in Massawa en route to New Zealand but delayed his departure. Cameron, wanting to escape Massawa's heat and dirt for a while, asked Charlie to act as Vice-Consul in his absence. While there, Charlie wrote to his father, saying he expected to be in New Zealand by the end of the year. (The letter's arrival was noted in his father's August 1863 diary). On the Consul's return, Charlie departed, while Laurence, now 18, remained in Massawa as Cameron's secretary.

Not long after Charlie's departure, Tewodros met Consul Cameron and was furious to learn that the Consul's absence had not been to personally deliver his letter to Queen Victoria. Nearly six months had passed and there was no reply, although Tewodros had received a reply to a similar letter he had written to France.

In England, the letter had arrived at the Foreign Office, been sent to India, returned and forgotten about. Queen Victoria was not informed.

Politicians did not want an Abyssinian embassy in London because they were anxious to remain friendly with Turkey, in order to ensure unimpeded passage to India through the Suez Canal. The response to Cameron from the Foreign Office was brief: "It is not desirable for Her Majesty's Agents to meddle in the affairs of Abyssinia."

Hoping to encourage a British reaction, Tewodros imprisoned and put in chains the British and European missionaries who had been training Abyssinians in metalworking near Gondar. Nothing happened.

About October 1863, a year after he wrote the letter, the King called Cameron to Gondar for consultation, or more likely for a dressing-down. During this consultation diplomatic mail from the Foreign Secretary, Lord John Russell, arrived at Massawa. Laurence brought it to the Consul, arriving at Gondar on 22 November 1863. Laurence wrote:

When I arrived at Gondar the King asked me for [the] letters & [demanded] "Is there any answer from the Queen" I said "I don't know your Majesty, but Capt. Cameron will be able to inform you of all." [The King] immediately had Lord Russell's letters to Cameron translated into Amharic and they were anything but an answer to Tewodros' letter. They were merely a reprimand to Cameron for leaving his post at Massawa. Then Tewodros drew himself up and said "Who is this Queen of Eng-

land—that *woman* does she not condescend to answer my letter?" & threw the letters on the ground.

To soothe the king's hurt feelings, Laurence gave him a beautiful and expensive carpet. Laurence, entranced with big-game hunting, was too young to think about how the King might react to a design showing a French lion-hunter killing a lion with an Arab chief as protection. The king, seeing himself as the lion—after all, one of his titles was "Lion of Judah"—interpreted the carpet's message as being that the British, aided by the Turks, were going to kill him. Tewodros immediately put Laurence and Cameron in chains with the imprisoned missionaries. Laurence continued:

After about three months he ordered us to march chained [in pairs] to Magdala—the journey was a fearful one—dragged along a road like so many wild beasts, sometimes made to ride on mules—worse again they gave one prisoner a good mule—& the other a fearfully bad one—then [the one on the good mule was] told to ride ahead, a big negro driving you and your [good] mule with a great stick or whip, of course both of the prisoners, being tied together, the good mule dragged the other after him, pulling you out of the saddle, tearing your wrists to pieces. The negro, not having the slightest sympathy gave you a lick of the whip and made you mount again. So we dragged in this fearful torture 200 hundred miles to Magdala. After we arrived at the

Fortress they took off the hand chains & supplied us with 10 [pound] feet irons & afterwards chained hand and foot, that being extra punishment: your hand was attached to your foot with a chain 3 or 4 inches long so there you remained not able to stand up or lie down for 7 months.

Now the British Government took action—foreign countries don't imprison British consuls. Queen Victoria was informed and wrote a reply to King Tewodros. Further, the Foreign Office appointed Aden's Assistant Political Resident, Hormuzd Rassam, as Envoy to carry the Queen's letter (after translation) to Tewodros.

The translated letter arrived at Aden in July 1864 and Envoy Rassam left immediately for Massawa. After exchanging many letters, Tewodros agreed to meet Rassam in January, 1866, nearly 18 months after Rassam's arrival in Massawa, and 3½ years since he wrote to Queen Victoria. Things started off well between the two men: the prisoners were brought from Magdala to the King's encampment near Lake Tana and released. By April 1866 they were on their way back to Massawa in the care of Rassam and his advisors when the King changed his mind. The whole party (numbering about 20) was arrested, taken to Magdala and put in chains.

The British Government immediately called for their release or

Tewodros would suffer military action. The prisoners were not released. General Sir Robert Napier, then serving in India, was appointed to plan and lead a force of British and Indian soldiers to free the prisoners. Planning took nearly a year, during which Napier wrote to the commander of the New Zealand Militia requesting Charlie's service as translator and as advisor on Abyssinian customs. The request was granted.



General Sir Robert Napier

Source: *The Illustrated London News Supplement*, 29 September 1867, page 349

Timing was critical. To avoid the torrential summer rains, the campaign had to be completed by June 1868. Fortress Magdala was some 400 miles to the south of Massawa, over tablelands with deep ravines that were impassable when flooded.



Napier's troops in the Devil's Staircase

Source: <http://www.britishempire.co.uk/forces/armycampaigns/africancampaigns/campabyssiniaimages7.htm>

On-the-ground preparation started on 1 October 1867, when a reconnoitring party arrived at Massawa; they found it an unsuitable landing port, so built one in Annesley Bay, at Zulla, about 30 miles south. The moderately large mission consisted of 13,000 troops and 8,000 auxiliary workers (somewhat larger than a self-contained First World War infantry division of 18,000).

Transport was by thousands of mules, hundreds of camels, and 44 Indian elephants. Food animals, mostly sheep and goats, were obtained from Mediterranean countries.

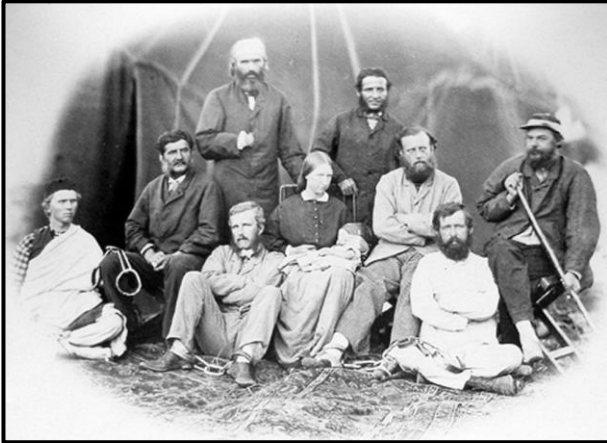
The force began its southern march on 26 January 1868. Some idea of the mountainous and hostile terrain can be gained from the photograph to the left.

Napier's immediate advisors were a small group. Charlie, who had arrived at Massawa in early January, was ordered by Napier to wear Abyssinian dress at all times. Charlie's knowledge of Amharic and Arabic, and his friendship with many of the clan chiefs through whose territory the army would pass, were essential for the expedition's success. Napier used Charlie's skills when negotiating treaties with local chiefs for protecting British lines, ensuring secure supplies of animal forage, and explaining that the expedition was NOT a conquest—it was solely to rescue the European and Abyssinian prisoners held at Fortress Magdala.

Progress was about 20 miles a day. It took 11 weeks with two battles to reach the base of the fortress. Napier arrived in the vicinity of Magdala on Thursday, 9 April 1868, and the next day, Good Friday, saw the second battle on the open plain below the fortress.

Tewodros knew he was beaten and over the next two days released the consular and missionary prisoners, who joined the military camp. However, Tewodros also forced more than 100 Abyssinian prisoners over the cliffs to their deaths.

The King's final challenge to Napier was single combat on horseback. Charlie offered to be Napier's champion, but Napier refused the challenge. The King apologized with a gift of a huge herd of cattle and sheep, which Napier also refused, deeply insulting the King. Napier was now so incensed with the King's cruelty to both European and Abyssinian prisoners that nothing but his capture dead or alive and the destruction of Fortress Magdala were acceptable.



Laurence Kerans, left, among released prisoners

Source: <http://www.britishempire.co.uk/forces/army/campaigns/africancampaigns/campabyssiniaimages58.htm>

On Easter Monday, Napier mounted a three-pronged attack. One attack party went to the main entrance and hacked through the gate. The king's body was found nearby. After sending his friends and soldiers away, King Tewodros had shot himself with one of Queen Victoria's

pistols, rather than submit to her army. Priests cremated the body and buried the ashes inside the church.

Among those still in the King's House were Queen Terunesh and Prince Alamayu, the king's only legitimate son. When in Magdala, Tewodros took a great interest in Alamayu and his training as a prince; but the King rarely stayed for long, preferring tent life with his soldiers. Well-educated Queen Terunesh had objected to her 1860

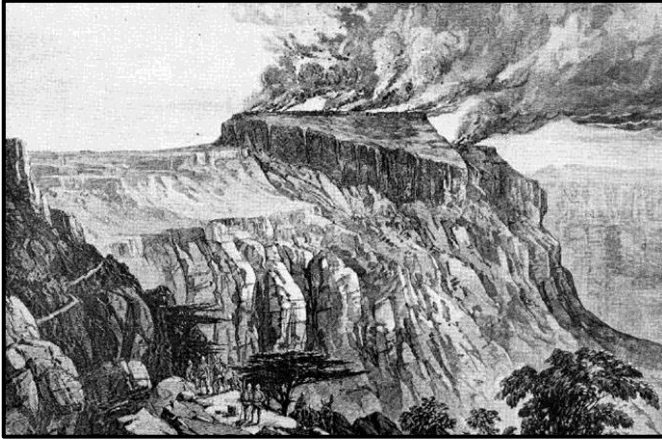
marriage to the King, because she wanted to be a nun, but relatives insisted. She did not love Tewodros; he, disliking her, took another female companion.

After the attack, the military released the remaining Abyssinian prisoners, who either went off on their own or joined the British camp until closer to their homes. General

Napier brought the Queen, Alamayu and their retinue to his camp. Soldiers ransacked the fortress, including the church, treasury and mint, collecting manuscripts, silver and gold religious and public treasure and much more; then they set the fortress alight.

Once settled in the camp, Napier questioned the Queen on her future.

She replied that the King wanted Alamayu to receive training in England and had appointed a tutor, the priest and scholar Alika Zenub, and a servant for him. She of course would accompany them.



Fortress Magdala burning

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Expedition_to_Abyssinia

When the army started on its return journey, Napier provided the Queen's party with a protective detail so they could travel separately and behind the main contingents. Sometime later, the Queen, who was not well when she left Magdala, took very ill. Dr. Henri Blanc, Rassam's medical advisor, attended her, suspecting tuberculosis. As she lay dying, she sent for Charlie and requested him to be a father to Alamayu, a responsibility he accepted. She died on 15 May and was buried with full royal and Christian honours in a nearby church. Alamayu, Charlie and Napier attended.

And so the army continued back to Zulla, where General Napier and his party (which now included Charlie and the Prince) boarded the troopship *Feroze* on 10 June for Alexandria and home. One night, while in the Suez Canal, Charlie was awakened by Alamayu's screams and rushed to find the cause. One of Napier's officers intercepted him to say that the disturbance had come from the Prince's area but that Charlie must go immediately to Napier's quarters, where he found Alamayu cling-

ing to Napier in paroxysms of fear and terror.

Alamayu rushed into Charlie's arms. At first he would not talk, but later he told Charlie that his tutor was a "Bad man, who put the Evil Eye on Alamayu. He would never speak to him again." Alamayu kept the threat, although since his mother's death, he had always slept in Zenub's company. The boy refused to change his mind, screaming and trembling whenever he saw Zenub. The priest could not explain to Charlie the cause of Alamayu's reaction to him, contending that the Prince had never before shown such superstitious behaviour. Charlie had been happy to have Zenub's help with Alamayu, but now, much to his disappoint-

ment, it was finished. Once at Alexandria, Napier released Zenub and provided him with money for his services and the return to Abyssinia.

From Alexandria, the *Feroze* proceeded to Malta, where Charlie and Alamayu disembarked, apparently to separate Alamayu from the *Feroze*. It may also have been to obtain European clothing for Alamayu, because at Alexandria Charlie had received a telegraphed invitation from Queen Victoria for Alamayu to meet her once in England.

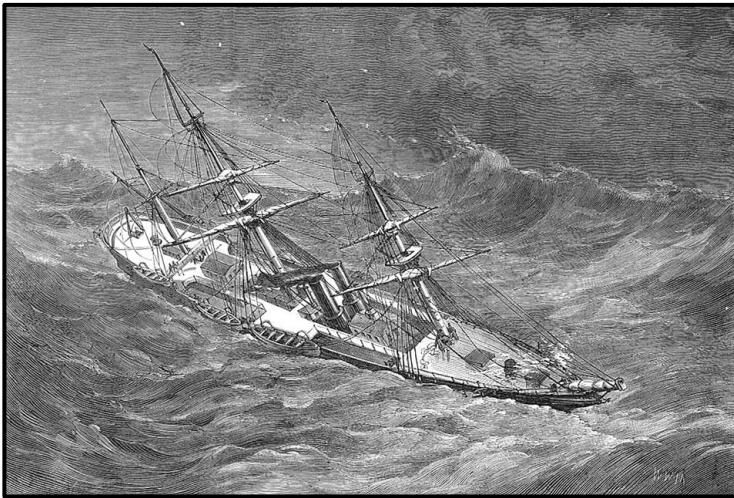
After 10 days in Malta, Charlie and Alamayu boarded the HMS *Urgent* (an iron screw troopship) and on

On 17 July they left by train for Portsmouth in answer to the Queen's invitation.

Newspaper reports about Alamayu were extensive; everyone wanted to see him. A large crowd gathered at the Portsmouth railway station to see the Prince and rather alarmed him with a cheer of welcome. After leaving the train, Charlie and the Prince embarked on the royal yacht for Osborne House. There are no details of this visit except Queen Victoria's comment in her journal, "I gave him a peach, which he seemed to enjoy." The government confirmed Charlie as Alamayu's guardian, with the Queen's strong approval.

It must have been very frightening and incomprehensible for 7-year-old Alamayu—everything was so different. He had to learn English customs, language

and table manners. The activities at Plymouth, the reception at Portsmouth, the wearing of English dress, were all foreign to him. The visit to Queen Victoria he would have understood, even in the strange environment. Alamayu knew he was a prince.



HMS *Urgent*

Source: *The Graphic*, 18 March 1871, page 257

14 July they landed at Plymouth for a busy day. They breakfasted with the port admiral, met the military commander-in-chief, then visited the dockyard and surrounding area.

Then there was the session with Julia Margaret Cameron on 20 July 1868, three days after visiting the Queen. I think Alamayu looks completely exhausted. His photograph was also taken by Jabez Hughes, another Isle of Wight photographer, sometime afterwards. Alamayu is probably wearing the suit he wore to meet Queen Victoria. Note that his hatband bears the name of the ship on which he arrived in England.

Charlie found a place to stay at Freshwater. For about three months, Alamayu refused to go outside alone, and insisted on sleeping enfolded in Charlie's arms lest the Evil One should take him. If he awoke and Charlie was asleep, he would wake Charlie and beg him to remain awake until Alamayu was asleep again.

Charlie was worried about this and asked what he should do about it. Apparently the advice was keep doing it. Charlie nurtured and comforted him, and gradually Alamayu emerged as a bright but reserved youngster who loved to ride and join the hunt.

Queen Victoria became very attached to Alamayu; she invited him to Osborne House whenever she was in residence, and used to write to him when she was not. She noted Charlie's "kindly judicious and almost maternal care—the one person to whom [Alamayu] seems to cling most tenderly."

Alamayu's next big experience was in December 1868 as groomsman for Charlie's wedding to Cornelia Cotton, daughter of Benjamin Cotton and his wife (also Cornelia), of Freshwater. Even though his bride was very tall, Charlie always called her Tiny, as I will.



Prince Alamayu by Jabez Hughes, 1868

Source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portrait_of_Ethiopian_prince_Alamayu_wearing_western_clothing_and_hat.jpg

In July 1869, Charlie, Tiny and Alamayu left England for North India: Charlie had been appointed District Superintendent of the Oudh Police. The departure was described by Mrs. Cotton in a small memoir (*Anecdotes of Alamayu*) detailing the six months that, once married, Tiny and Charlie with Alamayu lived in her home. Alamayu called Mr. and Mrs. Cotton Grampa and Grandma.

About 18 months later, Charlie was ordered to a new post in Malaya. There he received orders from the Chancellor of the Exchequer for Alamayu to return to England to be educated. The family left for England in November 1871. Much to the fury of Queen Victoria, the government removed Alamayu from the Speedys' care because it cost £700 per year, and because 11-year-old Alamayu was not writing English properly and despised book learning.

The government took over guardianship and in October 1872 placed the Prince in the care of Dr. Thomas Jex-Blake, headmaster of Cheltenham College, at a cost of £700 per year. "Boarding school would soon fix him." But Alamayu actually lived with the Jex-Blakes and their nine daughters.

Charlie and Tiny were devastated. They had been bothered by Alamayu's scholastic weaknesses and had employed tutors for him. On the other hand, Alamayu was very good at sports and horsemanship, was considered knowledgeable and very bright. Charlie knew only too well what boarding school was like without his parents nearby, but he had to return to his post in Malaya. Tiny, however, stayed in England in case Alamayu needed her.

The government notified the Jex-Blake family that Tiny could visit Alamayu, but despite Tiny's many

requests, only once did Mrs. Jex-Blake allow a visit.

In 1874, when Dr. Jex-Blake was appointed headmaster at Rugby School, Alamayu went with him. Because he was not a good scholar, the Government decided that Alamayu should go into the army. He entered Sandhurst Military Academy in 1878, aged 17, without taking the entry examination.

Queen Victoria knew he would be unhappy and wrote to the Commandant asking that he make sure Alamayu was not teased as he had been at school.



Prince Alamayu in 1878

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prince_Alamayehu

Alamayu was not long at Sandhurst (and I cannot find his name in the online register). In October 1879, he was in the home of Cyril Ransome (father of Arthur Ransome), where he contracted pleurisy, dying on 14 November. Besides Cyril Ransome, both Charlie and Mrs. Jex-Blake were with him. (Charlie and Tiny had recently returned to England.)

Included among the mourners at Alamayu's funeral in St George's Chapel, Windsor, were Charlie, Lord Napier, the Queen's son-in-law Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, a new Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Dr. Jex-Blake. The Queen recorded in her journal "It is too sad! All alone in a strange country, without a single person or relative belonging to him . . . His was no happy life." She also commissioned a bronze bust of Alamayu for Osborne House.

Alamayu was buried outside St George's Chapel near the west wall, and a cross was raised over his grave. Inside the Chapel, a hand-somely engraved brass tablet was inscribed

Near this spot lies buried Alamayu, the son of Theodore, King of Abyssinia. Born 23 April 1861, died 14 November 1879. This tablet is placed here to his memory by Queen Victoria. "I was a stranger and ye took me in."

Within a circle above the lettering are the Abyssinian coat of arms—

a crowned lion surmounted by a cross—and beneath is a representation of the Abyssinian patron saint, Saint George, with the Dragon. The Rugby School chapel also has a memorial tablet for Alamayu, placed there in 1880.

I will conclude with what happened to the other main characters in this story. Google will bring up masses of information on the history of everyone, except Laurence Kerans.

Laurence, on the return journey, took ship in Alexandria for Liverpool, then a ferry to Dublin. To greet him in his home village, friends and family raised a huge welcoming banner.

The British Government did not recognize Laurence's services as interpreter to Rassam and Cameron during his captivity; nor did it recognize the useful medical skills his father had taught him, something Dr. Blanc commented on favourably.

Unable to find employment, Laurence left for North Africa in June 1871 hoping his language skills and Abyssinian knowledge would make him useful. An acquaintance, the recently appointed Governor of Massawa, considered employing him. They went on an inspection tour together in extremely hot weather. After the first day's march inland, Laurence collapsed from sun exposure and died the next day, 1 September 1871. He was 26.

Julia Margaret Cameron's photographic career was short, lasting only 10 years in England and 14 in total. Her family was well known in artistic circles, counting many writers and artists as friends (e.g. Lord Tennyson, Charles Dickens, and the Pre-Raphaelite painters). These and family members all became her sitters, while her sister Sarah's gallery and salon in Kensington displayed her work. Her photographic skill made Julia famous, though during her lifetime many criticized her soft focus. In 1875 she and her husband returned to the tea plantation in Ceylon, where she continued her work until her death four years later, aged 64.

General Sir Robert Napier was elevated to the peerage as Baron Napier of Magdala on 11 July 1868 and subsequently held military and diplomatic posts overseas. He died in 1890 and was buried in Saint Paul's Cathedral, London.

And now for Charlie. Suffice to say, he saw more service in Malaya, twice returned to Abyssinia as advisor and interpreter for British missions, lectured on his experiences in Britain and New Zealand, and went big-game hunting with Tiny. He and Tiny never had children of their own. Tiny's letters to her mother during the big-game hunt were published as *My Wanderings in the Sudan*. Library and Archives Canada has a copy.



Captain Speedy in Abyssinian dress

Source: www.ephotozine.com/article/captain-speedy-goes-to-ethiopia-auction-at-bonhams-20752

Charlie died in Church Stretton, Shropshire, in 1910; he was cremated and a memorial plaque placed in the Birmingham cemetery chapel. Great-granduncle Charlie was a hero of my childhood and remains one, even if the story about escaping King Tewodros is not exactly accurate. I mentioned at the beginning there were current political repercussions. Yes, there are appeals from Ethiopia for the return of both Prince Alamayu's body and more of the Magdala plunder, some of which has already been returned.

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Archie's Rifles

BY BRENDA TURNER



Brenda, who was a prizewinner in the BIFHSGO writing competition, is a keen genealogist; she loves to research her own family and that of her late husband, Ed Cooke.

It still amazes me how many cousins I have discovered of whom I had never heard before beginning family history research.

In late 2000, some years after I had started researching my family's history, a half second cousin I had not heard of before 1998, Mary Murphy (a Turner before her marriage), gave me a copy of a note written by her aunt, whom I had never met or even heard of, and who passed away in 1955 when I was 2 years old. This lady was Mary Beatrice Turner, usually called Beattie by her family. Beattie was born in 1885 and lived most of her life in West Templeton, Quebec, where many of my Scottish Turner ancestors had lived.¹ Her father was Allan James Turner, son of James Turner and his second wife Mary Barber. James was also my great-grandfather.²

The handwritten note read:

This gun was bought from the Indians who had camped near the home of Archibald Campbell Turner, for his son James Turner who was a boy about ten yrs old. That was near

New Lanark or Guelph. I do not know which. It is about one hundred and twenty two yrs old, at least at this time, 1951.

Beatrice Turner

James Turner, born 1819.³

This note was not with a gun, but obviously it was created in order to record the circumstance of a gun coming into James's hands. So where was the gun? Mary had no idea, and of course, neither did I.

I was well aware by that time that James had indeed been born in about 1819, depending on whichever record you happened to be looking at.⁴ And I already knew that Archie Campbell Turner was my great-great-grandfather, who had immigrated to Canada in 1820 and settled on a lot at the Perth Military Settlement in the area of modern Perth, Ontario.⁵ I also knew the oral family history that Archie had been killed by a falling tree at the newly developing town of Guelph, Ontario, in 1828, leaving his by then four children without a father.⁶

If Beattie was correct, then James would have been given that rifle just

before Archie's own unfortunate early death, likely in Guelph. But where was the rifle? And was this information about it correct?

By sheer chance the following year I spoke with Auntie Dorothy about this note. Auntie Dorothy was the widow of my uncle, Grant Turner, and therefore connected by marriage to the descendants of James Turner's third marriage to Marion Boyd Robertson, like myself.

I wondered out loud where the rifle was. Auntie Dorothy spoke up quickly: "Ask my son Don, he has them." Them? There was more than one? How had those rifles been inherited in a different descendant line? And were the rifles really that old?

Dorothy put me in touch with Don, whom I had not seen in probably 30 years. He lives in Kingston but agreed to bring the rifles to his mother's home here in Ottawa and meet me there with them. Don told me that Laura Langford, whom I knew as Aunt Laura but who in fact was Beattie's sister and my half second cousin once removed, had given the rifles to his father before Grant passed away in 1974.

I knew nothing whatever about guns, but I was thrilled by how beautiful these two rifles were. They stood up to my adult shoulder-height, and they certainly looked very old. One, stamp marked Willets, seemed to me to be a strong, heavy, workman-like sort, with only a fancy serpent design in brass on the breech.



Serpent design on the Willets rifle
Source: author

The other rifle seemed a much more delicate, lighter, and ornamental type, perhaps a lady's rifle, with a lot of silvery metal filigree marking on it.

With Don's permission I borrowed the rifles and took them to be examined by Phil White, a firearms curator at the Canadian War Museum, on 9 April 2001.

Walking into the warehouse storage facility of the firearms that Phil curated was exciting. There were hundreds of rifles like Don's carefully stowed in rows on open metal shelving. Rich dark woods, bright steel, and soft brass tones gleamed in the bright institutional light. I had never seen anything like this collection before. It was stunning.

The curator told me that the rifle marked Willets had been made in the U.K., almost certainly exclusively for export to the Colonies. Phil consulted a large book of historic gun manufacturers and told me that it would have been made in the late eighteenth century by one of three Willets arms manufacturers based in Birmingham and Liverpool.

The rifle had marks as follows: a crown stamp with the letters GR, a crown stamp with two crossed swords, another crown stamp with the numbers 1 and 5 below, and a four-prong fork stamp.

Phil explained that all four were inspection stamps, called "proofed for firing marks" to show that the rifle had been inspected and was ensured to withstand the force of the blast of powder from firing. The crown stamp with the letter GR stood for George Rex: that is, either George III or George IV, whoever was on the throne when the musket was manufactured.

A fifth mark, of a circle with a figure of a fox inside it, was hard to distin-

guish. The Hudson's Bay Company had exclusive rights from the Crown to sell rifles marked this way, and to trade them as payments for furs brought to Hudson's Bay trading posts by Indians. The North West Company used a similar mark, of a fox on a tombstone-shaped design.

He added that Indians had become wary of some of the shoddy rifles that had been used to pay for the furs they traded with the Hudson's Bay and North West companies here in early Canada; the guns would explode, injuring the shooter, or simply not fire at all. By the early 1800s in Upper Canada (the areas west of Quebec) they would not trade furs for rifles without the fox and circle stamps. So this was clearly Hudson's Bay material, and that company had been in business here in Ontario in the fur trade at the time when Archie and his family had arrived in Canada. So far this was looking pretty good!

Phil told me that the rifle had been manufactured originally as a flintlock musket, a muzzle-loading smoothbore long gun. He said that it had been converted by another later settler, perhaps even James, to a percussion cap musket. It was the percussion cap firing mechanism that had made flintlock muskets obsolete. Percussion cap muskets were safer and less likely to misfire during wet or damp weather.



Percussion cap firing mechanism

Source: author

There were two sights on the musket: one was the small raised metal projection at the very end of the barrel, and the other a 2- or 3-inch straight line scratched onto the top of the barrel just before the screw head on the barrel's upper surface. Phil said there would have been a third sight on the middle of the barrel, but it was missing. The hammer, which was decoratively etched somewhat, would have been a standard stock piece off the manufacturer's shelf. The trigger guard was quite large, which I certainly had not noticed, and he said it showed the manufacturer's understanding that the rifle would have been used in the wilds of Canada, including in winter, so there was room for the owner to have been wearing gloves or mittens. There was a tamper rod for the powder and shot, held in fittings below the

rifle's barrel, which Phil said was original to this musket.

Phil expressed a lot of interest in the note written by Beattie in 1951, and I also showed him documents recording Archie's assignment of his

land at the Perth Military Settlement in 1820. He pointed out that for a 10-year-old boy to load this musket for firing, or even to just fire this musket would have been very difficult, as it would have been much taller than he was. Simply the weight of the gun would make it difficult for a small boy to hold and aim accurately without wobbling.

The shooter would have had to carry two horns or packs, one with powder and one with shot. The rifle would have had to be stood on its butt end, powder poured into the barrel, wadding added and tamped down, then the shot and more wadding added and tamped down, all without letting the barrel become horizontal.

Phil noted that this rifle could have easily brought down a deer weighing 200 pounds; it was a tough, heavy, and very lethal weapon in 1825. He said that it was probably used for hunting food during the

first few years after immigration to Canada, before much land had been cleared, and before there were enough crops to feed a growing family. Hmmmm.

The other rifle with no manufacturer's name was a smoothbore half-stock barrel musket, probably of Belgian manufacture. Phil said it probably dated to after 1810. The tamper rod was not original to the rifle, he commented, and he showed me that it did not fit into the rifle's barrel. He said it was made about the same time as the musket, but had probably been locally made in Canada, with a tip of a cow's horn or hoof. The fancy and very attractive metal fittings and trigger guard were made from a material called German silver, which Phil laughed about and told me was cheap white brass and contained no silver at all.

This gun had been manufactured, he said, as a percussion cap musket, and not modified as the other had. He seemed rather dismissive of it, and said these muskets were not very well made, but being so ornamental, they were quite commonly seen as antiques.

Phil estimated the value of the Willets rifle as about \$1,000, and said the Belgian rifle had a value of about \$100 to \$150. Interesting that the heavy solid musket had so much more value than the fancy lighter one, even after having been altered!

We don't know if Beattie ever knew the date of Archie's death with any accuracy. Her note was written about 123 years after the stated gift of the rifle. James, Beattie's grandfather, himself died in 1889, when Beattie was only 4 years old.⁷ She could not have had much memory of him, certainly not enough to have composed that letter. Her father, Allan James Turner, the likely source of much information about James Turner, had passed away in 1934.⁸ Beattie's writing of the note was in 1951, 62 years after James's death, and almost two decades after her father had died.

The story had plenty of time in 123 years to be embellished by the generations, with repetition over a fire in the evenings. And it probably was, out of fondness and remembrance. That it is probably inaccurate is irrelevant. Beattie's note is a lovely bit of family lore. The charm of the story, the verified accuracy of the musket's manufacture and history, and the heritage they represent have enormous value to all members of this family.

Reference Notes

¹ Interviews with Mary Murphy, 1998, 1999, 2000.

² *Ibid.*

³ Photocopy of original document, owned by Mary Turner Murphy.

⁴ Turner family Bible, owned by Mr. Grant Peterkin, Calgary, Alberta.

⁵ Crown Grant of 100 acres, the Western half of Lot 12 on the 6th Concession Road at the Perth Military Settlement, from a list available at the Middleville Museum, Middleville Ontario, compiled from Library and Archives Canada material, accessed 2000. Also, Lanark County Land Records Office, Almonte Ontario, accessed 2000.

⁶ Interviews with Mary Turner Murphy, 1997, 1998. Photocopy of original letter addressed to "Widow Turner, c/o Hugh McLatchie, New Lanark, Concession 7th, Lot 11th, Upper Canada," marked Guelph, U.C., and dated 3 May 1829, stating "the 17th of March is past and one twelvemonth of your widowhood is gone on that day," author unknown. Transcribed by Doug-Douglas Turner, 1995.

The copy has a notation in a different handwriting that the original is

owned by Mrs. John Shatford, who was the third daughter of Marion Boyd Robertson Turner, living most of her life in rural Manitoba. Descendants of Mrs. Shatford I was able to contact were unaware of this note, and the original has probably been lost.

Hugh McLatchie was Archie's wife's father, living on the lot named above, and his son William was living on the lot alongside that one, Lot 12. Evidently the widow Turner had no choice, with four children and no father to support them, but to return to her parents in Lanark.

⁷ Turner family Bible, owned by Mr. Grant Peterkin, Calgary, Alberta; Turner family headstone, West Templeton Cemetery, West Templeton, Quebec.

⁸ Ibid.

The Sovereign's Sovereigns: A Royal Bounty for Triplets

BY JOHN D. REID

John, who along with his BIFHSGO volunteer work publishes the Anglo-Celtic Connections blog, also enjoys tackling various research challenges; here he investigates a little-known royal award.



In August 1849 Queen Victoria, while on a visit to Ireland, established the practice of granting sovereigns (£1 sterling coins) to

parents of triplets, one for each child. The bounty was "to enable the parents to meet the sudden expenses thrown upon them."

Who benefited?

To qualify, the children had to be still alive and born in wedlock, with the parents British subjects. Until 1938 the parents had to be "in necessitous circumstances."

The payment was obtained by application, which had to be made within four months of the birth, a rule later relaxed to within one year. Parents of quadruplets and quintuplets received proportionally more.

The program was suspended during the reign of Edward VII, although a few payments were made. George V revived the program, which continued until 1957.

In that year Queen Elizabeth instituted several changes for the monarchy, including ending the presentation of debutantes at court. The Royal Bounty for triplets was replaced by a provision for sending a congratulatory message instead.

Unlike messages for 100th birthdays and 70th wedding anniversaries, which are available through application to the Governor General in Canada, greetings to parents of triplets are no longer advertised.

The program operated throughout the British Empire and the Commonwealth. In Canada, records exist of applications for the bounty that relate to 167 cases; they mostly consist of letters of transmittal and

acknowledgement, and they can be found in the archives of the Governor General at Library and Archives Canada.

Many parents did not qualify; in 1920 alone 99 triplets were born in Canada—33 multiple births—yet only two applications were submitted. Often parents were unaware of the program or became aware too late to get the paperwork processed in time. Many parents were not in sufficiently needy circumstances.

The first Canadian case I found, in 1906, was for triplet girls Mabel, May and Marjorie, born to John and Marguerite Matheson of East Nisour, Oxford County, Ontario. The last, in 1970, referred to additions to the Hjørleifson family of St Vital, Manitoba.

There were two cases of quadruplets: in 1950 the Hargreave family of Sault St Marie, Ontario, and in 1954 the Doucet family of Bathurst, New Brunswick. There was no record of an application from or payment to the Dionne quintuplets.

The following records of applications or awards are abstracted from three volumes in the Governor General's files (RG7) at Library and Archives Canada. In a few cases the listings are augmented by information from newspapers and miscellaneous sources.

The Royal Bounty Program in Canada, 1906–1960

Last Name	First Name	Year	Place	Prov	Birth	Comment
Matheson	John	1906	E Nissouri	ON		
Finklestein	John	1907	Toronto	ON	Dec/11	
Blair	R J	1910	Finch	ON	Apr/20	
King	Harry	1910	Bathurst	NB	Aug/05	
Tessier	Maxime	1911	Warren	ON	Jan/01	
Hardy	R A	1911				Denied
Hache	Pierre P	1912	Robertville	NB		
Von Zuben	Adolph	1912	Toronto	ON		
May	James	1912	Earlscourt	ON		
Thomas	Jessie Jackson	1912	Belleville	ON		
Primeau	A de L	1913	Montreal	QC		
Couling	A N	1913	Creston	BC	Nov/10	not pursued
Little		1914	Merriton	ON		
Matthews	D A	1914	Prince Albert	SK		did not live
Watson	William W	1914	Bathurst	NB	Dec/13	too late
Couture	Charles	1916	Bathurst	NB	Feb/05	
Bernstein	M	1916	Montreal	QC	Jun/09	
Wiener		1916	Langdon	AB		too late
Harrison	G R	1916				
Phelan	Frank	1916	Rover View	ON		
Cloaks	Howard Stuart	1917	Montreal	QC		
Miller	Charles	1917	York Co.	NB		
Gilmour	Joseph	1917	Montreal	QC	Aug/14	denied - not indigent
Tozer	Norman J	1917	Toronto	ON	Dec/19	
Thompson-Sawyer	James	1918	Mount Pleasant	QC	Apr/25	
Leboeuf	Armand	1918	Valleyfield	QC		
Michaelis	Daniel John	1918	McDougall	ON	Jul/30	
Nicholson	Adam Alexander	1918	St. Catherines	ON	Dec/19	
McLachlan	Hugh Alexander	1918	Ramsayville	ON	Jul/01	Too late
Lynch	William W	1918	Belleville	ON	Apr/30	Too late
Haines	Ed G	1919	Elfree	SK		

Doris	Albert B	1919	Peterborough	ON		
Paige	George	1919	Trenton	ON	Aug/01	
Coyetche	M	1919	Petit de Grat	NS	Nov/11	
Stevenson		1919	Birch Hills	SK		too late
Phaneuf	J L	1920	Pointe Claire	QC		
Larocque	James	1920	Perth	ON		Ineligible - lived 1 hour
L'Ecuyer	Alfred	1921	Valleyfield	QC		2 died
Williams	W M	1921	Saskatoon	SK	Oct/20	
McCarter	W J	1922	Decker	MB		
Ashcroft	John	1922	Birtle	MB		
Dunseith	Frank	1923	Dublin	ON	Jan/22	
McManus	Bernard	1923	Smith	ON	Mar/04	
Stanley	Richard F	1923	Madison	SK	Jun/01	
Rattray	Norman J	1923	Picton	ON	Apr/26	
Penner	E F	1923		MB	May/08	
Pittman	Thomas	1924	Kemptville	ON		request for \$1000 for each baby
Mahaney	T D	1924	St. John	NB		
Calligan	Peter	1924	Toronto	ON	Apr/23	denied – died
Primeau	George	1924	Cornwall	ON	Feb/29	
Tilley	W A	1924	Toronto	ON	Mar/25	application not made
Bowers	F C	1924	Oshawa	ON		
Jarvis		1925	Toronto	ON		not necessity
Dillon	James	1925	Kerrobert	SK		
Theoret	Osias	1925	St. Telesphore	QC		
Lennox	Wesley	1926				
Patrey	Adrien	1926	Montreal	QC		
Loiseau	Joseph	1926	Montreal	QC		
Pitre	Alexandre	1926	St. Benoit de Matapedia	QC		
Kilbride	Percy J	1926	Port Hill	PEI		
Keegan	J T	1926	Kimberley	BC		
Schlamp	Philip	1926	Regina	SK		
Kerr	R Lindsey	1926	Mountain	ON		
Brunet		1926	Drummondville	QC		

McGill	Clarence	1926	Englehart	ON	
Provost	Marguerite	1927			
Perras	Thomas	1927	Thurso	QC	
Massicotte	Joseph	1927	Montmagny	QC	
Kendall	Walter	1927	Elgin Mills	ON	Aug/21
Reddall	Joseph	1927	Toronto	ON	Sep/20
Pettman	William	1927	Tilsonburg	ON	Sep/23
Tully	J	1928	Edmonton	AB	Mar/19
Caswell	J A	1928	Durham	ON	May/11
Guillemette	Arsene	1929	St. Dominique	QC	
Cameron	W	1929	Toronto	ON	
Burling	James	1929	Toronto	ON	Mar/13
Noble	Lorne	1930	Penetanguishene	ON	Jan/06
Kelsey	G S	1929	Walkerton	ON	
Thompson	Thomas	1930	Toronto	ON	Dec/16
Scott	Frank	1931	Brechin	ON	Jan/04
Williams	C H	1932	Pennant	SK	
Guillemette	Arthur	1932	Richmond	QC	Mar/15 too late
Thomas	Ivor	1933	Mount Dennis	ON	
McLaughlan	John	1933	Grafton	NB	
Dick	Kenneth	1933	Beaver Crossing	AB	Jul/30 too late
Latozman	Philip	1933	Toronto	ON	
Aubin	Charles	1933	Lisieux	SK	Nov/22
Chisholm	W H	1934	New Glasgow	NS	
Lagace	Joseph	1934	St. Didace	QC	
McMurray	Jack	1934	Toronto	ON	Sep/15
Cormier	Arthur	1935	Upper Sackville	NB	Oct/01
Bouchard	Amable	1935	St. Pascal	QC	
Fleet	Henry	1935	Kirkland Lake	ON	May/21
Malloff	Adon	1935	Toronto	ON	Jun/07
Richmond	Alex	1935	Toronto	ON	Sep/16
Lahaye	Real	1936	Cap de la Made- leine	QC	not qualified
Tavara	Joseph	1936	Lauzon West	QC	Apr/18
Erich		1936	Torquay	SK	too late

Case	Charles	1936	Vancouver	BC	Dec/12	
Wild	John W	1936	Cedar Springs	ON	Oct/19	
Jean	J Antoine	1937	St. Pascal	QC	Apr/22	
Salyha	P N	1937	Hairy Hill	AB		
Bull	Stuart J	1938	Minden	ON		
Kundsgaard	Laurine O	1938	Rossland	BC		
Lynds	Crawford	1938	Emerson	NB		
Beettam	H G	1938	Toronto	ON	Dec/17	dropped – not needy
Biron	Emmanuel	1939	Ottawa	ON		
Letourneau	Rene	1939	Clarenceville	QC		
Herbert	Jacques	1939	Napierville	QC		
Salteric	Josephine	1939	Prince's Lodge	NS		
Person	E	1939	Melfort	SK		
Racicot	Sophie	1939	Fassett	QC		
Vogt	George	1939	Waterloo	ON	Jun/29	dropped – not needy
Robbins	Mrs Ivan	1940	Corunna	ON	Feb/05	
Smith	Rev and Mrs Stanley	1940	Middleville	ON	Nov/12	
Flyer	Leading Seaman Frank	1940			Nov/07	
Robbins	Ivan	1940	Corunna	ON		
Savard	Mrs Fernand	1941				
Thiffault	Mrs Leo	1941				
Wettlaufer	Mrs Ezra	1942	Neustadt	ON	Mar/24	
Thompson	Mrs R G	1942	Belleville	ON	Feb/25	
Morrison	Mrs A A	1942	Collingwood	ON	Oct/17	
Griffin	Mrs J F	1942				Not needy
Peeler	Mrs M	1943				Not needy
Hardwick	Mrs C A	1943	Toronto	ON	Jul/09	
Strachan	Mrs Donald S	1943	Norwich	ON	Sep/07	
Starr	Mrs Clinton E	1943	East York	ON	Oct/29	
Brown	Mrs M A	1944	Haney	BC	Oct/14	
Hatt	Mrs Roy F	1945	Tobermory	ON	Mar/07	
Staskow	Mrs	1945	St. Catharines	ON	Aug/29	

Sciarra	Mrs Louis	1946	Thorold	ON	Jul/20	
Losier	Mrs Exhibe	1946	Tracadie	NB		
Hersikorn	Mrs A G	1946	Doncrest	SK	Mar/09	
Holtz	Mrs Wallace A	1946	Powassan	ON		
Kelly	Mrs Grace	1946	Winnipeg	MB	May/03	
Hislop	Mrs J O	1946	Verdun	QC		
Bond	F W	1946	Toronto	ON	Sep/02	
Levasseur	Albert	1947	Mont-Joli	QC	Jun/28	
Lamontagne	Roger	1947	Iberville	QC	Sep/30	
Jones	Morton H	1948	Toronto	ON	Apr/04	
Miller	T J	1948	Lakeburn	NB	Mar/18	
Dimmock	Percival S	1949	West Hill	ON	Aug/31	
Mercille	Adrien	1950	Cap de la Mad	QC	Jul/30	
Hargreave	Ozzie	1950	Sault St. Marie	ON	Oct/13	Quads
Kenny	Mrs Margaret	1951	London	ON	Apr/12	
Baker	Mrs D Roy	1951	Hamilton	ON	Feb	
Hester	E N	1951	Toronto	ON		
Martin	Mrs Arthur	1952	Lac Megantic	QC		
Herder	Mrs L W	1953	South Burnaby	BC		
Delmaire	Mrs Andre	1953	Wauchope	SK		
Robitaille	Mrs Jean-Paul	1954	St. Jean	QC		
Baker	Mrs R A	1954	Petawawa	ON		
Hamilton	Mrs D	1954	Pickering	ON		
Zubko	Mrs Peter	1954	Sturgis	SK		
Poplar	Mrs John	1954	River Herbert	NS		
Bauer	Mrs Arthur Walter	1954	Trochu	AB	Dec/04	
Charter	Mrs Norman A	1954	Three Hills	AB	Oct/15	
Perron	Mrs William	1954	Mountain Brook	NB		
Doucet	Mrs Laurent C	1954	Bathurst	NB	Oct/18	Quads
Cockell	Mrs W B	1954	Montreal	QC	Apr/30	
Johnson	Mrs John D	1954	Hitchcock	SK	Oct/07	
Mueller	Mrs E H	1955	Champion	AB	Jun/05	
Palidwor	Mrs Gloria	1956	New Westminster	BC	Apr/03	
King	Mrs A F C	1956	Chippewa	ON	Jun/26	

Oulton	Mrs Ralph G	1958	Jolicure	NB	Feb/08
Reeve	Mrs Harry	1959	Morden	MB	Nov/06
Hjorleifson	Mrs Ray William	1960	St. Vital	MB	Feb/01

Documents for volumes 1 and 2, to 1941, are located on microfilm reel T-1171, available as a digital microfilm via *Canadiana-Héritage* at http://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_t1171/1?r=0&s=1 starting at page 562. Subsequent years are from hardcopy in RG 7 G-26 Volume 107, File 3450-B KING'S BOUNTY FOR TRIPLETS—APPLICATIONS 1941-1960 at Library and Archives Canada.

Techniques and Resources

Cream of the Crop

Top items from recent posts on the Anglo-Celtic-Connections and Family Tree Knots blogs



BY KEN MCKINLAY AND JOHN D. REID

Ancestry Additions

Ancestry U.K. has helped fill a gap in recent records for the British Isles with new indexes for death records. "England and Wales, Death Index, 2007-2013" contains 1,492,728 records based on *GreyPower Deceased Data* compiled by Wilming-ton Millennium. The original data is compiled from funeral directors' records and obituary notices and is

estimated to cover about 55% of the deaths in England and Wales. A similar database, "Scotland and Northern Ireland, Death Index, 1989-2013," is from the same source, with 413,518 records, and is estimated to include 45% of the deaths.

Also at *Ancestry U.K.*, "Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929" records the money owed, not personal effects. Records typically include the name of the soldier, his next of kin and their relationship, the date of death and sometimes the place, plus other details. In some entries the soldier was discharged as insane, in which case the place and date of discharge are often recorded in the place and date of death field.

The collection includes images to help sort out those pesky transcription errors.

New Irish Records

Findmypast has been busy the past several months adding to its collections. New record collections are routinely released on Fridays. *Thom's Irish Almanac & Official Directory 1884* consists of almost 2,000 pages of information about Ireland, the government, and Dublin city and county. Also included are the government office directory, law directory, ecclesiastical directory, and postal directory of Dublin county and city.

"Irish Poverty Loan Records, 1821–1874" from The National Archives in Kew has almost 700,000 records, primarily loan applications of the "industrious poor." There you may find the names of the borrower and the guarantors, the borrower's occupation, and whether the borrower emigrated.

New records available from elsewhere for Ireland include a searchable, online database of all the landed estates and historic houses in Connacht and Munster between 1700 and 1914. Included are the names of the families that owned the homes, along with descriptions and locations of the properties. About 4,500 pictures of the various estates and homes may be found in the database at <http://www.landedestates.ie/>.

The Tipperary North Genealogy Centre has added the 1798–1899 records from the Roman Catholic parish of Loughmore-Castleiney to its database at www.tipperarynorth.rootsireland.ie, which is also where you can connect to other local records online.

New Scottish Records

New for Scotland are more than 2.1 million indexed names from the Scottish 1925 Valuation Rolls, now available along with those for 1875, 1885, 1895, 1915, and 1920 at the ScotlandsPeople website, www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/.

"Scotland Poll Tax, 1694–1698" records, only available as part of a subscription to ScotlandsPlaces, are taken from 88 volumes of the poll tax records imposed in 1694, 1695, and twice in 1698 to pay off the debts of the army and navy. Only the poor and children under age 16 were exempt from this tax. These images are searchable by parish. Find these and many other tax rolls at <http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/historical-tax-rolls/poll-tax-1694-1698/>.

Manx Parish Registers

For those with ancestors from the Isle of Man, not only have the parish registers for the period between 1598 and 2009 been digitized by *FamilySearch*, but the database also includes a searchable name index. This collection, available free at <http://familysearch.org/search/>

collection/1784428/, was created as part of the development of Manx National Heritage's iMuseum (<http://www.imuseum.im>).

Probate Calendars Added

Family history researchers received a long-awaited boost when probate calendars for England and Wales from 1868 became available online from the U.K. government. That's in addition to the 1996 and later probate records and soldiers' wills previously available.

A search on surname and year at <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/#wills> brings up the appropriate page of the probate calendar for the year specified, even if there's no death for a person by that name probated during the year. The indexing uses the first three letters of the surname; common names may mean needing to scroll. You can click to move back and forth year by year. (Remember, probate doesn't necessarily occur in the year of death.) The calendar entry usually gives the date and place of death, amount probated and name of the executor/executrix. You can order a complete copy of the probate document online from the calendar page. It's a more complete collection than has been available on *Ancestry*, although not as well name-indexed.

London's Livery Company Records

If your ancestor was a London apprentice or freeman the *Records of*

London's Livery Companies Online (1400–1900) may just have someone you are seeking. Presently the searchable database includes the apprenticeship bindings and freedom admissions for nine of London's livery companies, but there are plans to add records for the other companies. The RLLCO website can be found at <http://www.londonroll.org>.

Of Dubious Repute

Would you feel at ease in the company of "footballers, artists, techies, drunks, rioters, publicans, ranters, ravers, academics, Cancan dancers, anarchists, stoners and other ne'er do wells"? If so, there's a group in Bristol, England, where you'd feel right at home.

This motley crew, known as the Bristol Radical History Group, have placed on their website at <http://www.brh.org.uk/> a data listing by decade of the burials at Rosemary Green, where people who died in Eastville Workhouse found their final resting place in unmarked graves. The dates are 1847 to 1895. Data given are date of death/burial, name, age, parish, grave number and comments. Each decade has a listing of those deceased and summary statistics.

Perhaps you'll find ancestors of dubious repute in the book entitled *A BLACK LIST Of the NAMES, or Reputed NAMES, of Seven Hundred Fifty Two Lewd and Scandalous Persons,*

who, by the Endeavours of a SOCIETY set up for the promoting a Reformation of Manners in the City of London, and Suburbs thereof, have been Legally Prosecuted and Convicted, as Keepers of Houses of Bawdry and Disorder, or as Whores, Night-Walkers, &c. And who have thereupon been Sentenced by the Magistrates as the Law directs, and have accordingly been Punished (many of them divers times) either by Carting, Whipping, Fining, Imprisonment, or Suppressing their Licenses. All which (besides the Prosecution of many Notorious Cursers, Swearers, Sabbath-breakers, and Drunkards, not here incerted) hath been effected by the Society aforesaid. It's one of the items in the "Early English Books" collection at <http://www.lib.umich.edu/news/25000-early-english-books-open-public/>. Search from <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebogroup/>.

Articles on Migration

"Exodus: Movement of the People" was a conference organized in September 2013 by the Halstead Trust. A legacy of the conference is a series of short articles on various aspects of immigration, emigration, and migration, on stories of immigrants made good and on the present Relics of Empire. It is available at <http://www.exodus2013.co.uk/>. You may be interested in the articles on Palatine Migration into England, Short Sea Migration to the UK, Diaspora in the East End, The

Silk Weavers of Spitalfields, Migration to the UK in Pre-history, and more.

Some articles with a Canadian connection are Empire Settlement Schemes After WW I, The Great Migration of Canada, Assisted Emigration from Ireland, Barnado's Emigrant Children, The Female Middle Class Emigration Society, Irish Diaspora and the Typhus Epidemic of 1847, Fur Traders in Canada, the Hudson's Bay Company, Britain's Child Migrants, The Petworth Project, Emigration to Upper Canada in the 1930s, The Absurd and the Brave, From Yorkshire to Nova Scotia: Reflections on a Migration, and Newfoundland "the other Ireland."

Newfoundland Censuses

A reminder that images of the 1921, 1935, and 1945 censuses of Newfoundland have made their way to *FamilySearch*. Although there is no index available with this collection, the census indexes and transcriptions found on the Newfoundland's Grand Banks site at <http://ngb.chebucto.org/> may help to point you to the correct image on *FamilySearch*. Along with the census records *FamilySearch* has also added a new index and images of births, delayed registrations of births, marriages, and deaths for Newfoundland. There are 16,711 indexed records and more to explore in 58,839 images.

More WW I Material Available

Finally, as we proceed through the centennial of the Great War, items continue to find their way online. Library and Archives Canada's website is gradually adding complete page images of service files for the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Those are official records.

For the soldier's viewpoint, diaries and memoirs are appearing from all directions. The Dorset History Cen-

tre is posting and tweeting (@RSM_GBeck) the diary entries recorded 100 years ago by Regimental Sergeant Major George Beck. Reflecting the boredom and terrors experienced, his thoughts are usually brief and may include comments like "Very quiet" and "Wet miserable day." The daily excerpts can be found at <http://news.dorsetforyou.com/rsm-beck-diary/>.

The Bookworm



BY BETTY WARBURTON

Are you planning a research trip to Ireland this summer? Now is the time to think about what you

need to research and where you will find the information. Having a list will ensure that your research is faster and more efficient.

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library has books to help you. While you are visiting the Irish archives or library, however, be aware that new records may have been added.

General Guides to Ireland

Paton, Chris. *Tracing Your Irish Family on the Internet: a Guide for Family Historians*. Pen and Sword, 2013. (929.1072 PAT). Why waste time in Ireland looking for sources

you can examine on the Internet in the comfort of your own home?

Ryan, James G. *Irish Records: Sources for Family and Local History*. Ancestry USA, 1997. (016.9415 RYA).

Lists what is available at every Irish county record office.

Grenham, John. *Tracing your Irish Ancestors: a Complete Guide*. Genealogical Publishing, 2012. (929.1072 GRE). A necessity for any researchers looking for their ancestors in Ireland.

County Guides

These guides to county records may lead you to other sources unique to the area, as well as impart a little of the history of the county.

Republic of Ireland

Franklin, Margaret. *Tracing Your Limerick Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2002. (929.1072 FRA)

Hamrock, John. *A Guide to Tracing Your Roscommon Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2007. (929.1072 HAM)

Meehan, Helen/Duffy, Godfrey. *A Guide to Tracing Your Donegal Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2008. (929.1072 MEE)

McCarthy, Tony/Cadogan, Tim. *A Guide to Tracing Your Cork Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2011. (929.1072 MCC)

O'Connor, Michael H. *A Guide to Tracing Your Kerry Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 1990. (929.1072 OCO)

O'Dowd, Peadar. *A Guide to Tracing Your Galway Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2010. (929.1072 ODO)

Ryan, James G/Smith, Brian. *A Guide to Tracing Your Dublin Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2009. (929.1072 RYA)

Ryan, James G. *A Guide to Tracing Your Sligo Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2012. (929.1072 RYA)

Smith, Brian/Kennedy, Gerry. *A Guide to Tracing Your Clare Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 2013. (929.1072 SMI)

Smith, Brian. *A Guide to Tracing Your Mayo Ancestors*. Flyleaf Press, 1997. (929.1072 SMI)

Northern Ireland

Maxwell, Ian. *Researching Armagh Ancestors: a Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian*. Ulster Historical Foundation, 2000. (929.1072 MAX)

Maxwell, Ian. *Researching Down Ancestors: a Practical Guide for the Family and Local Historian*. Ulster Historical Foundation, 2004. (929.1072 MAX)

Maxwell, Ian. *Tracing Your Northern Ireland Ancestors: a Guide for Family Historians*. Pen and Sword, 2011. (929.1072 MAX)

Roulson, William J. *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors: the Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600–1800*. Ulster Historical Foundation, 2005. (929.1072 ROU)

* * *

While you are visiting the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library, take a few minutes to browse in our library's holdings, and in those of the Ottawa Branch OGS Library and the United Empire Loyalist Library. You may be surprised by what you will find.

Enjoy your trip to Ireland and walking where your ancestors walked.

Long-time BIFHSGO Librarian Betty Warburton Retires

BY SUSAN DAVIS

As a girl, Betty (née Morris) Warburton would sometimes finish reading a book on her way home from the library. Now, at age 87, Betty has officially retired after 17 years of service with BIFHSGO's Brian O'Regan Memorial Library, as Assistant Librarian and then Librarian.

A BIFHSGO Stalwart

As Member No. 29, she had joined BIFHSGO in January 1995. It was a brochure in the Ottawa Public Library that drew Betty to the Society. She had just gotten interested in genealogy and had already travelled to Toronto to take courses offered by the Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society.

A snowstorm did not deter Betty from attending the Society's first meeting. Nor was she alone. She remembers that organizers had planned for 50 people and had to keep putting out chairs when about 100 people showed up.

By this time, Betty was hooked on genealogy and the Society, and she has enjoyed researching her family

in England and Wales and her late husband's family in Ontario and England.

When she was made a member of BIFHSGO's Hall of Fame in 1999, Betty's citation read:

In 1995, when the Society's first president Jim Heal asked for volunteers to help with the Fall Conference, the first hand that went up was Betty Warburton. Betty worked on the registration for each of the first five conferences. When the Society asked for volunteers for our Library, it was no surprise that Betty came forward.

Immigrating to Canada, Twice

Born in Kidderminster, Worcestershire, Betty first came to Canada in 1930 with her family. They settled in Guelph, Ontario. After the tragic death of her 36-year-old mother, Betty's father took the children back to Kidderminster to live with his wife's mother, and he returned to Guelph. When Betty's grandmother died in 1936, her father brought the children back to Canada again. When she was 10 years old, her dad remarried and Betty enjoyed a close relationship with her stepmother.

After working for a year at the Brantford Library, Betty obtained a degree in Library Science from the University of Toronto in 1950. She gained more library experience at the new Cape Breton Regional Library, the



Hamilton Public Library and the library of Health and Welfare Canada in Ottawa. She married, and she and her husband raised four children. A volunteer experience at a local nursery school led Betty to train as an early childhood educator; for several years she worked part-time in local nursery schools. All this library and volunteer experience came in handy when the BIFHSGO Library was opened in 1999.

***Mr. Kipling's Army: All the Queen's Men* an Inspiration**

Retirement gives Betty more time for her current project—she is writing a series of stories or articles about her ancestors, and two of her more recent stories have been published in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. One, entitled *John Price and the "Perthshire Grey Brecks,"* and another about her grandfather Herbert

Betty Warburton at the BIFHSGO Library

Charles Morris, who served in India with the British Army in the 1880s, were strongly influenced by the book *Mr. Kipling's Army: All the Queen's Men*, by Byron Farwell. This donation to the BIFHSGO Library led to Betty purchasing her own copy online. It explores the social history of Britain's nineteenth-century army and provided her with a greater understanding of what her grandfather and her 4-times great-uncle might have experienced.

When asked about volunteering, Betty replied, "You have to give something back to the community." And her volunteer work for BIFHSGO has not ended; she plans to continue writing "The Bookworm" column for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.



Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots!

21st Annual BIFHSGO

Family History Conference

Featuring

-  *Scottish Family History*
-  *Photographs in Genealogy*
-  *Technology for Genealogy*



Expert Lecturers—Marketplace

Seminars—Research Room

Something for everyone!

18–20 September 2015

**Ben Franklin Place
101 Centrepointe Drive, Ottawa**

For registration information

**www.bifhsgo.ca
conferenceregistrar@bifhsgo.ca
613-234-2520 (voicemail)**

Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

14 June 2014

The 20th Annual General Meeting (AGM) began at 9:00 a.m. on 14 June 2014, in the Library and Archives Canada auditorium at 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. The notice of the meeting and the 2013 AGM minutes had been published in the Spring 2014 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

A quorum of at least 25 was declared, with attendance estimated at approximately 110. Anne Sterling was appointed the Recording Secretary.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks:

The President, Glenn Wright, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2013 AGM:

No comments or corrections were received either prior to, or at, the 2014 AGM. It was moved by Mary Anne Sharpe and seconded by Cliff Adams *that the minutes as published be approved*. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of the Minutes of the 2013 Special General Meeting:

It was moved by Gerry Glavin and seconded by Barbara Tose *that the*

minutes as published be approved.

MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of the President and Directors:

These reports were published and distributed as a yellow booklet handed out to members as they arrived at the meeting.

President Glenn Wright stated that the directors had worked diligently on behalf of the members during the year, as reflected in the reports. He noted that BIFHSGO is an active and engaged society with an average of 180 people attending monthly meetings; no other genealogy society in the country has an attendance this high in numbers. The education sessions have become very popular. We have an excellent main program. Socialization is an important part of our Saturday morning meetings as well.

The President reported that a total of 275 people registered for our September 2013 conference, which offered a strong, diverse program. Our Society continues to do more research on British Home Children, we are embracing social media

more and more, our library collection is growing, and newspapers are being indexed.

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2013:

The Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement of the Society for the fiscal year, being from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013, were sent to members by email or Canada Post in advance of the meeting.

Financial Statements, Auditor's Report, Appointment of Public Accountant for 2014

Treasurer:

Treasurer Marnie McCall presented the financial statements and informed members that BIFHSGO had an overall profit of \$15,000 for the year (\$9,000 from the conference alone). The Society's assets are more than \$100,000, including \$17,000 in non-financial assets (computers and the library collection).

Auditor:

Craig O'Brien, BIFHSGO 2013 Auditor, had reviewed the financial statements in the early spring and reported in person to the Board members in May, including recommending minor adjustments to procedures for efficiency.

Mr. O'Brien reported to the AGM that the statements prepared by the Treasurer were a fair representa-

tion of the financial status of our Society. It was moved by Marnie McCall and seconded by Mary Anne Sharpe *that the financial statements be received.* **MOTION CARRIED.**

Appointment of Public Accountant:

According to the regulations of the new *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*, the members now must either appoint a paid public accountant or unanimously waive the appointment of a public accountant. A public accountant is not allowed to perform this duty as an unpaid volunteer. The cost of paying a public accountant is likely to be about \$3300.00 for the first year.

It was moved by Marnie McCall and seconded by Mary Anne Sharpe *that the Society not appoint a public accountant for 2014.* It was pointed out during the discussion that waiving the appointment required the unanimous vote of all members, not just those present. Since not all members were present to vote, the appointment could not be waived. **MOTION DEFEATED.**

It was moved by Mary Anne Sharpe and seconded by Judy Thamas *that the firm McCay Duff LLP be appointed as public accountant for the 2014 year.* **MOTION CARRIED.**

Marnie McCall thanked Mr. O'Brien for his service and also expressed appreciation for the assistance provided to her by Cliff Adams.

Awards and Presentations:

Christine Jackson was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Anglo-Celtic Roots Article of 2013* for her article, entitled "The Cowley Family Saga, Part I," published in the Fall 2013 issue.

Barbara Tose was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Presentation by a Member at the Monthly BIFHSGO Meeting* for the 2013–2014 season. Her talk, entitled "Travels with My Aunt in Europe 1914" was delivered at the February 2014 meeting.

Election of Board of Directors for 2014–2015:

Mary Anne Sharpe, Vice-President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, oversaw the election proceedings.

President:

Acclaimed at the 2012 AGM, Glenn Wright has completed his second term as President and is therefore retiring from this position. Mary Anne Sharpe has completed her second term as Past President and is also retiring.

Barbara Tose agreed to stand for President and was elected by acclamation as President for a two-year term.

Directors:

Four director positions have become vacant as their terms expired (the maximum allowed by the Socie-

ty's bylaws in any one year). The current incumbents indicated their willingness to stand.

Further nominations from the floor were solicited three times for the four positions. There were no further nominations.

Re-elected by acclamation for two-year terms on the Board were: Marnie McCall (Treasurer), Susan Davis (Communications), Mary-Lou Simac (Publicity), and Kathy Wallace (Membership). Ken McKinlay was also welcomed as a Director at Large.

The continuing Board members are: Anne Sterling (Secretary), Jane Down (Program), Mary Donnelly (Education), and David Cross (Research and Projects), each of whom is a member of BIFHSGO in good standing.

Other Business:

No other business was raised at the meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, at 9:50 a.m. it was moved by Glenn Wright and seconded by Jane Down *that the meeting be adjourned.* **MO-TION CARRIED.**

*Prepared by Anne Sterling,
Secretary,
4 September 2014*

Notice of the 2015 BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting Saturday, 13 June 2015, 9:00 a.m.

Take notice that the Twenty-first Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa will take place on Saturday, 13 June 2015, at 101 Centrepointe Drive, Ottawa, to receive and conduct business in accordance with the bylaws. Members are reminded that, in accordance with the bylaws, they may appoint a proxy to attend the meeting and act on their behalf. The proxy holder must also be a member.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting
3. Summary of the Directors' reports
4. Presentation of the financial statements for 2014
5. Report of the Auditor
6. Approval of the financial statements for 2014
7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2015
8. Awards and presentations
9. Report of the Nominating Committee
10. Election of Directors
11. Any other business
12. Adjournment

The normal monthly meeting will follow after a short break.

BIFHSGO SURVEY REMINDER

If you have you completed the BIFHSGO survey,
THANK YOU!

Haven't filled it in yet? Please go to

<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/HWCN0w>

and submit it now.

Contact Ken McKinlay at **directoratlarge1@bifhsgo.ca** for assistance.

The survey will be available for a limited time.

Ensure your views are included by completing it now!

Thank you for your participation.

Membership Report

BY KATHY WALLACE

New BIFHSGO Members 7 December 2014–2 February 2015		
Member No.	Name	Address
153	Diana Hall	Ottawa, ON
1694	Gloria Beek	Merrickville, ON
1695	Francine Belanger	Ottawa, ON
1696	Claire Daniels	Golden Lake, ON
1697	Jillian Glover	Winnipeg, MB
1698	Karin Keyes Endemann	Ottawa, ON
1699	Karen Lyall	Nepean, ON
1700	Helen Ashton	Nepean, ON
1700	Robert Ashton	Nepean, ON
1701	Janet Vuori	Ottawa, ON
1702	Marlene Dance	Chilliwack, BC
1703	Barbara Shaw	Deep River, ON
1704	Harry Liston	Ottawa, ON
1705	Pam Cooper	Ottawa, ON

Great Moments in Genealogy

13 June 2015

**Elizabeth White, Elizabeth Dwight or Elizabeth Jones? Mother of 39
and My Eight-times Great-Grandmother**—by Tara Grant

Misplaced Twigs on a Branch—by Ken McKinlay

Digging Up the Bownes in My Family Tree—by Lesley Anderson

**Tragedy at Sea: How My Family History Nearly Ended
Before It Began**—by John Reid

BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2014–2015

President	Barbara Tose	613-729-1015
Recording Secretary	Anne Sterling	613-596-2955
Treasurer	Marnie McCall	613-736-1101
Research & Projects	Dave Cross	613-258-3934
Membership	Kathy Wallace	613-746-6796
Communications	Susan Davis	819-568-0081
Publicity	Mary-Lou Simac	613-837-8256
Programs	Jane Down	613-741-1463
Education	Mary Donnelly	613-445-3432
Director-at-Large	Ken McKinlay	613-828-6457
Past President	Glenn Wright	613-521-2929

Associate Directors 2014–2015

Editor <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i>	Jean Kitchen
E-newsletter Editor	Christine Woodcock
Web Manager	Gail Dever
Photographer	Dena Palamedes
Associate Treasurer	Cliff Adams
Publication Sales	Brian Chamberlain
Librarian	Vacant
Queries	Sheila Dohoo Faure
Voicemail	Ann Adams
Conference 2015	Jane Down, Brian Le Conte
Public Accountant	McCay Duff LLP

The Society

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally incorporated society and a registered charity (Reg. No. 89227 4044 RR0001). Our purpose is to encourage, carry on and facilitate research into, and publication of, family histories by people who have ancestors in the British Isles.

We have two objectives: to research, preserve, and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history, and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education, showing how to conduct this research and preserve the findings in a readily accessible form.

We publish genealogical research findings and information on research resources and techniques, hold public meetings on family history, maintain a reference library, and participate in the activities of related organizations.

Membership dues for 2015 are \$40 for individuals, \$50 for families, and \$40 for institutions. Members enjoy four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, ten family history meetings, members-only information on bifhsgo.ca, friendly advice from other members, and participation in special interest groups.

BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

Saturday Morning Meetings

The Chamber, Ben Franklin Place,
101 CentrepoinTE Drive, Ottawa

- 11 Apr 2015** *My Ancestors Were All “Ag Labs:” or Were They?—* Christine Jackson used lesser-known online resources to research the early origins of her grandmother’s West Sussex family, finding “circumstantial evidence” that led to a fascinating discovery.
- 9 May 2015** *Invisible but Audible: Postwar English Immigrants in Canada—* Marilyn Barber and Murray Watson will discuss the findings in their new book about English-born Canadian immigrants who arrived after 1945: why they emigrated, why they chose Canada, and how they settled in, created a home, coped with family separation, found work and built a career.
- 13 June 2015** *Annual General Meeting and Great Moments in Genealogy—* After the AGM (9:00) and a short break, BIFHSGO members will describe some exciting experiences in breaking down brick walls while researching their ancestors. For more information go to pages 43 and 44.

Schedule

- 9:00–9:30 Before BIFHSGO Educational Sessions (April and May): check www.bifhsgo.ca for up-to-date information.
- 9:30 Discovery Tables
- 10:00–11:30 Meeting and Presentation
- 12:00–1:00 Writing Group

For information on meetings of other special interest groups (Scottish, Irish, DNA, Master Genealogist Users), check www.bifhsgo.ca.

Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for publication in the Summer issue is 2 May 2015.