



Sprig Of Heather



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Clan Little Society New Zealand & Australia



Editors Quill

LITTLE BY LITTLE

We seem to be in a season of Politics. Australia has just held yet another election, in the UK the Conservatives have been entangled in the Brexit debate and here in New Zealand it's time for the Annual Budget. Politicians of all persuasions seem to be watching and waiting for the big picture to come into focus and the media are doing their best to stir whenever possible. Government in early Scotland included all forms of administration, from the crown, through national institutions, to systems of local government and the law, between the early sixteenth century and the mid-eighteenth century. It roughly corresponds to the early modern era in Europe, beginning with the Renaissance and Reformation and ending with the last Jacobite risings and the beginnings of the industrial revolution. The crown remained the most important element of government throughout the period and, despite the many royal minorities, it saw many of the aspects of aggrandisement associated with "new monarchy" elsewhere in Europe. Theories of limited monarchy and resistance were put forward by Scots, particularly George Buchanan, in the sixteenth century, but James VI advanced the theory of the divine right of kings, and these debates were restated in subsequent reigns and crises. The court remained at the centre of political life, and in the sixteenth century emerged as a major centre of display and artistic patronage. The Privy Council and the great offices of state, remained central to the administration of the government, even after the departure of the Stuart monarchs to rule in England from 1603, but they were often side-lined and were abolished after the Act of Union of 1707, with rule direct from London. Parliament was also vital to the running of the country, providing laws and taxation, but it had fluctuating fortunes and never achieved the centrality the national life of its counterpart in England before it was disbanded in 1707. Revenue remained a continual problem for Scottish government, even after the introduction of regular taxation from the 1580s, with receipts insufficient for the business of government and, after 1603, much of the costs being paid out of English revenues. Attempts were made in local government to increase its effectiveness, with the creation of Justices of Peace and Commissioners of Supply. The continued existence of courts baron and introduction of kirk sessions helped consolidate the power of local lairds. In law there was an expansion of central institutions and professionalization of lawyers as a group. Scottish law was maintained as a separate system after the union in 1707 and from 1747 the central courts gained a clear authority over local institutions. Modern Royal watchers give endless commentary around anything remotely connected to our Royal family and our Monarch endures in longevity.

Allen Little **Steward**

Shorty's from Scotland

- ❖ Caller to British Telecom Directory Enquiries: "I want a knitwear company in Woven" Operator: "Woven? Are you sure? Caller: "Yes, That's what it says on the label. Woven in Scotland."
- ❖ Little boy called Jamie asked father, called Wallace, "what will my name be when I grow up?" Father said "Jamie of course". Little Jamie said "do you mean to say I will have a little boy's name when I'm a grown up man?" rudeness - someone who keeps talking while your are trying to interrupt.
- ❖ Lady, at pedestrian crossing, waiting to cross the road saw the little Green Man and heard the audible sound so duly crossed over to the other pavement. An American visitor asked what was the purpose of the audible sound. On being told it was for blind people said, 'Oh, we don't let them drive in America!!
- ❖ The Scots have an infallible cure for sea-sickness. They lean over the side of the ship with a ten pence coin in their teeth."
- ❖ "In some Scottish restaurants they heat the knives so you can't use too much butter."
- ❖ McTavish broke the habit of a lifetime and bought two tickets for a raffle. One of his tickets won a 1,000 pound prize. He was asked how he felt about his big win. "Disappointed" said McTavish. "My other ticket didn't win anything"
- ❖ McDougal walked into a fish and chip shop. "I want 10 pence worth of chips, please. I want lots of salt and vinegar on them and two pence worth of pickled onions. And wrap the whole lot in today's newspaper".
- ❖ You should be careful about stereotyping the Scots as mean. There was a recent letter to a newspaper from an Aberdonian which said "If you print any more jokes about mean Scotsmen I shall stop borrowing your paper."
- ❖ After discovering that they had won 15 million pounds in the Lottery, Mr and Mrs McFlannel sat down to discuss their future. Mrs McFlannel announced "After twenty years of washing other people's stairs, I can throw my old scrubbing brush away at last." Her husband agreed - "Of course you can, hen. We can easily afford to buy you a new one now."
- ❖ A Scottish prayer - "Oh Lord, we do not ask you to give us wealth. But show us where it is!"

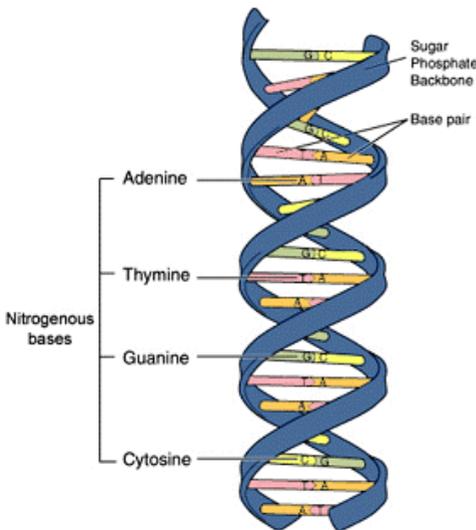
Genetics from there to here... !

In genealogy and family history these days 'Having your DNA done' is a popular topic of conversation.

Our genes are part of what makes us the 'person' we are. We are all different from everyone else alive now and everyone who has ever lived. Our genes also mean we might probably look a bit like other members of your family. Some of us are told there are physical similarities or 'look alike' features similar to those from ancestors or relations.

Genes influence what we look like on the outside and how we work on the inside. They contain the information our bodies need to make chemicals called proteins. Proteins form the structure of our bodies, as well playing an important role in the processes which keep us alive.

Genes are made of a chemical called DNA, which is short for 'deoxyribonucleic acid'. The DNA molecule is a double helix: that is, two long, thin strands twisted around each other like a spiral staircase.



This DNA double helix shows the base pairs

The sides are sugar and phosphate molecules. The rungs are pairs of chemicals called 'nitrogenous bases', or 'bases' for short.

There are four types of base: adenine (A), thymine (T), guanine (G) and cytosine (C). These bases link in a very specific way: A always pairs with T, and C always pairs with G.

The DNA molecule has two important properties.

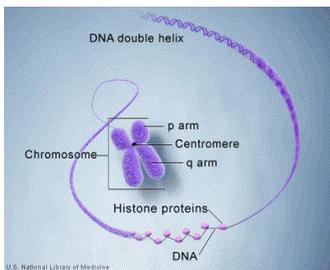
Image adapted from: National Human Genome Research Institute.

1. It can make copies of itself. If you pull the two strands apart, each can be used to make the other one (and a new DNA molecule).
2. It can carry information. The order of the bases along a strand is a code - a code for making proteins.

Genes: A gene is a length of DNA that codes for a specific protein. So, for example, one gene will code for the protein insulin, which is important role in helping your body to control the amount of sugar in your blood.

Genes are the basic unit of genetics. Human beings have 20,000 to 25,000 genes. These genes account for only about 3 per cent of our DNA. The function of the remaining 97 per cent is still not clear, although scientists think it may have something to do with controlling the genes.

Chromosomes: If you took the DNA from all the cells in your body and lined it up, end to end, it would form a strand 6000 million miles long (but very, very thin)! To store this important material, DNA molecules are tightly packed around proteins called histones to make structures called chromosomes.



Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes in every cell, which makes 46 chromosomes in total.

A photograph of a person's chromosomes, arranged according to size, is called a karyotype.

The sex chromosomes determine whether you are a boy (XY) or a girl (XX). The other chromosomes are called autosomes.

A genealogical DNA test is a DNA-based test which looks at specific locations of a person's genome, in order to find or verify ancestral genealogical relationships or to estimate the ethnic mixture of an individual. Since different testing companies use different ethnic reference groups and different matching algorithms, ethnicity estimates and more distant DNA matches for an individual will vary between tests, sometimes dramatically. Only for close DNA matches can secure conclusions be made.

Three principal types of genealogical DNA tests are available, with each looking at a different part of the genome and useful for different types of genealogical research: (1) autosomal, (2) mitochondrial (mtDNA), and (3) Y-DNA.

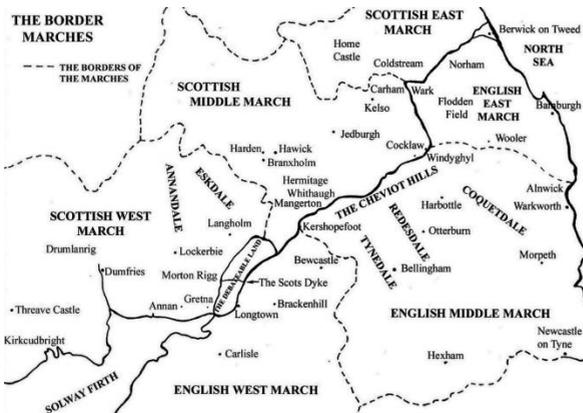
Autosomal tests may result in a large amount of DNA matches (others test persons that the individual may be related to), along mixed male and female lines, each match with an estimated distance in the family tree. However, due to the random nature of which, and how much DNA is inherited, by each tested person from common ancestors, precise conclusions can only be made a small number of generations back. Autosomal tests are also used in estimating ethnic mix. Y-DNA tests are much more objective. However, they give considerably fewer DNA matches, if any, since they are limited to relationships along a strict female line and a strict male line respectively. ::

South West Scotland

At a distance its often difficult for those of us in the Scottish diaspora to understand home land geography. People who emigrated from Scotland and their descendants in countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia, England, New Zealand, Argentina, Chile and Brazil carry their culture forward to the new lands. We have a complex and proud history.

South West Scotland is the lowland region in a triangle bounded to the west by the Firth of Clyde and to the south by the Solway Firth. It's mostly rural, but with a strip of resort towns along the Clyde coast and industry inland. The region includes Ayrshire, Galloway, Dumfriesshire, the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, as well as Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire. It's from within and about these local communities that our ancestors migrated.

The unquestionable boundaries of South West Scotland are the border with the nearby county of Cumbria in North West England and the sea, namely the Solway Firth, the North Channel and the Firth of Clyde. The area has a complex cultural history. At one time it formed part of the Kingdom of Strathclyde, the last stronghold of the Britons in what is now Scotland, after what was then called Lothian and would now be called South East Scotland succumbed to the Anglo Saxon Kingdom of Northumbria. Later it became subject to settlement by Anglo **Saxons**, **Gaels** and perhaps **Vikings** or **Norse Gaels**.



There were administrative area known as Marches set up in a treaty between Henry III of England and Alexander III of Scotland in 1249 in an attempt to control the border. **The Little family were from the West March.** On both sides of the border there were the West, Middle and the East March. In the late 13th century Edward I of England appointed the first

Lord Warden of the Marches, who was tasked with overseeing these regions and keeping their monarch's domain secure; when it was in their interests they would encourage cross-border raiding, or even full-scale war.

For centuries the Marches on either side of the boundary were areas of mixed allegiances, where families or clans switched which nation or side they supported as suited their family interests at that time, and lawlessness abounded.



Before the two kingdoms were united in March 1603, under the personal union of Scotland and England under **James VI** of Scotland, the border clans would switch allegiance between the Scottish and English thrones depending on what was most favourable for the members of the clan at the time. Powerful local clans dominated a region on the border between England and Scotland, known as the Debatable Lands, where neither monarch's writ was heeded.

During this era, the Border Reivers were raiders who attacked local residents. There were both English and Scottish clans in these groups, and they would attack regardless of nationality. Local farmers would often need to make payments to the various clans as a form of protection money to ensure they are not attacked. These agreements were called "Black mal", where mal was an Old Norse word meaning agreement. The modern word blackmail entered the English language in 1530 as a result.

The fluid nature of the border, and the frequent wars between Scotland and England, made the Marches fertile ground for many bandits and reivers (raiders) who exploited the situation. The Wardens of the Marches on either side of the border were entrusted with the difficult task of keeping the peace and punishing wrongdoers; the Scottish and English Wardens would meet to co-ordinate their efforts against free-lance reivers at "days of march" (or "days of truce"), when they implemented March law, a kind of customary law agreed upon by the two realms during times of peace. The Reiver period produced one unique architectural feature in the old Reiver country the peel tower, a defensive structure found on many great houses (and indeed on Carlisle Cathedral). It has also produced a great deal of romantic literature, most famously the works of Sir Walter Scott.



Berwick-upon-Tweed, a strategic town on the north bank of the River Tweed, (the traditional border in the East March), is slightly closer to Edinburgh than to Newcastle. It was fought over many times: between 1147 and 1482, the town changed hands between the two nations more than 13 times. As late as the reign of Elizabeth I of England, the English considered it worth spending a fortune on the latest style of fortifications to secure the town against Scottish attack. The Scottish Marches era came to an end during the first decade of the 17th century with the creation of the Middle Shires, after the personal union of Scotland and England under James VI of Scotland (James I of England).

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Urr Um !



Duke of Buccleuch selling Border land.



His Lordship the Duke of Buccleuch

One of Scotland's largest landowners, the Duke of Buccleuch and his family, are to sell nearly 9,000 acres of their rolling Borders Estate for more than £19 million.

Many of our Little ancestors and kin had various relationships with His Lordships family over time. **Richard Scott** is the 10th Duke and his title was created

twice in the Peerage of Scotland. The second creation dates to the 20 April 1663. The Dukedom was for the Duke of Monmouth, who was the eldest illegitimate son of Charles II.

Current tenant farmers at Canonbie in Dumfries and Galloway will be given the opportunity to buy their farms ahead of the open sale, which is expected to generate £19.5m in total.

His Lordships forestry and agricultural lands close to the A7 south of Langholm and comprises some 8,959 acres. The land will be available as a whole or in 18 separate lots as part of the "Evertown" portfolio, named after a hamlet in the area. Buccleuch, which comprises the business interests of the Buccleuch family, said any sale of land including tenanted farms would see leasing agreements honoured, while long-term tenants could buy their farms in advance.

Over the generations its been clear there needs to be responsible development, maintenance and management of the estates. Each one is as unique as it is beautiful, and demands a different skill set from the teams operating them. The Estates are not only businesses but hubs for a number of rural communities, providing employment, education and the opportunity for sustainable development say His Lordships officials. "Working with a holistic approach to the land, we strive to balance the triangulation of economics, communities and environment in order to drive our estates forward" said His Lordship.

John Glen, chief executive of Buccleuch, said: "As the Buccleuch business continues to evolve, we have to reflect the fact that the productive use of land is a far more complex proposition than it was previously. We are committed to achieving the best use of land possible and part of that strategy involves reducing our footprint.

These land holdings being brought to market offer a wide variety of opportunities for prospective owners. “We have been in discussion with tenant farmers, who have expressed an interest in buying their farms for some time and these are continuing. Other tenant farmers who have not yet indicated an interest to buy can, of course, do so. “Farms occupied on 1991 Act tenancies are not part of this marketing and current lease arrangements on other farms would be honoured by the new owner as we have stipulated as part of the sale process.”



Charles Dudgeon of Savills, which is advising Buccleuch, said: “While the properties sit in a beautiful part of the world, amidst a rolling landscape, they are conveniently located close to the main Edinburgh to Carlisle trunk road, providing quick access to the motorway network. “We are anticipating a good level of interest at a time when there is a lack of supply and opportunities across the UK.”



Do you know the old Scottish legend
of how the thistle came to be
the flower of Scotland?



The story goes that an invading Norse army
planned to ambush the Scots
by slaughtering them while they slept.
This attack required as much stealth as possible
so the invaders attacked barefoot.
Unfortunately for them, one of the attackers
stepped on a thistle,
and his cries of pain were enough
to wake the sleeping Scotsmen,
who charged into battle
and defeated their enemies.

And so the thistle was named
The Flower of Scotland



The Border Reiver Heritage Society has a Facebook following of some 4700+. The founder of this excellent group **Carol Beattie Selbiger** says she had a great responses at the Central Florida Highland Games and the St. Augustine Celtic Festival. And she has begun an Unruly Reiver Clan group which is the process of organizing a trip back to the Liddsdale region. Exciting things happening. Both Clan Scott of Scotland and the Kerr Clan Chief are supportive of this important work being lead by Carol.



in

[Carol Beattie Selbiger](#)

Although there were other Riding Families in the border lands, only 17 were ever named Clan. ! In 1587 the Parliament of Scotland passed a statute: "*For the quieting and keeping in obedience of the disorderit subjectis inhabitantis of the borders hielands and llis.*" Attached to the statute was a Roll of surnames from both the Borders and Highlands. The Borders portion listed 17 'clannis' with a Chief and their associated Marches: During the time of the Border Reivers, from the 13c -17c, the Anglo-Scottish border was split into three Marches: the East, the Middle and the West. The Western Marche was deemed to be the most dangerous, unpredictable and violent place to live. Carruthers as a Clan, albeit smaller in numbers than the Johnstons, Douglas or Maxwell's, played their part in the mayhem that as the lives of a Reiver family. So much so, out of all the Clans living on the Scottish side of the border, Carruthers was one of the named in the listing of the unruly Border 'Clannis' mentioned.

The list of the 17 are: Middle March - Armstrong, Elliott, Nixon and Crozier
West March - Scott, Batesons, **Little**, Thomson, Glendenning, Irvine, Bell, Carruthers, Graham, Johnstone, Jardine, Moffat and Latimer

For more information email Carol on cbselbiger@borderreiverheritage.com

Crest Or Arms

The crest badges used by members of Scottish clans are based upon armorial bearings recorded by the Lord Lyon King of Arms in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland. The blazon of the heraldic crest is given, and the heraldic motto with its translation into English. While all the crest badges of the clan names listed are recognised by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, only about one half of these (about 140)[1] have a clan chief who is acknowledged by the Lord Lyon King of Arms as the rightful claimant of the undifferenced arms upon which the crest badges are based.

ARMS OF THE 17 LOWLAND CLANS IN THE 1587 ACT OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

MIDDLE MARCH



CROZIER



ARMSTONG



ELLIOT



NIXON

WEST MARCH



SCOTT



BATESON



LITTLE



THOMSON



GLENDINNING



IRVINE



BELL



LATIMER



GRAHAM



JOHNSTONE



JARDIN



MOFFAT



CARRUTHERS

Sir James Little 1761-1829

Twice a Knight, Sir James was the son of Matthew Little, and his wife, Helen Pasley (Otherwise Helen Paisley). He was born on 28 June 1761 and his baptism was registered at Langholm in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, on 2 July 1761. He died at Chipstead in England on 24 October 1829 according to the Monumental Inscription at St. Margaret's Church in Chipstead. The Monumental Inscription in the Graveyard of St Margaret's Church says "*In memory of Sir James Little, KNT and also Knight of the most illustrious Spanish order of Charles III, (Sacred to virtue and merit,* He was described as being "Possessed of the most amiable disposition and living in the exwearied exercise of public and private benevolence he was justly endeared to all who knew him. The Spanish Knighthood was awarded in consideration of his great Humanity and many Eminent Services rendered at various times to the inhabitants of the Island of Teneriffe – particularly during the prevalence of the Yellow Fever."



Teneriffe: The largest of the Canary Islands with a land mass of 2,034.38 square kilometres is Located in the Atlantic Ocean off West Africa.

An outbreak of Yellow Fever on Tenerife devastated the island's population, so James Little mobilised help and considerable assistance to the local population, helping to set it on the path to recovery. His humanitarian action endeared him to the people, and to Spain, their fatherland. The Cortes of the Kingdom of Spain nominated him for the honour of A Knight of the Royal Order of Charles the Third. This was subsequently confirmed by His Majesty Ferdinand VII of Spain. The Spanish Knighthood was granted by Royal Diploma dated 11th January 1815. James was a British subject. Lord Vis. Castleborough, Principal Secretary of State and Foreign Affairs was a trifle uncomfortable when he heard of the Spanish Knighthood, and he ruled that James could not wear the Insignia granted by Spain, since it had not been awarded for military service.

These were times of turmoil in Europe. Napoleon Bonaparte had designs on annexing Spain to France, and thereafter intending to launch a naval attack on England. The Spanish Navy, and the coast of Spain would be two essential assets to Napoleon's objective of establishing his Empire. In the early 1800's Spanish loyalty became divided, but the majority, under the Cortes, formed a liaison with England.

Thanks Tony Little ::



Clan Little New Zealand & Australia now publishes 'Sprig Of Heather' twice a year and its distributed to members by email and from our web site www.littleclan.net The next Summer edition is scheduled for December 2019.

Revisiting the Treaty !

Scottish merchants saw economic advantages from a union with England and in 1706 and they agreed to open negotiations with England. The Scots wanted a federal union but the English refused. However in 1706 a treaty was drawn up. The two nations would share a flag and a parliament. Scotland would keep its own church and its own legal system. The Scottish parliament accepted the treaty of Union in 1707. The United Kingdom came into existence on 1 May 1707.

The Act of Union was unpopular with many Scots and it soon became more so. Meanwhile James II, the king who was deposed in 1688 died in 1701 but his son James Edward was keen to regain the throne. His followers were called Jacobite's from the Latin for James, Jacobus. James had many supporters in the Highlands and in 1715 the Earl of Mar proclaimed him king. Lord Mar also denounced the Act of Union. Highlanders flocked to join Lord Mar and in September 1715 his forces captured Perth. However towns south of the Tay stayed loyal to the government.



Jacobite Standard Raised

On 13 November the Jacobites fought government troops at Sheriffmuir near Dunblane. The battle ended indecisively. However afterwards the government army was reinforced. On 22 December 1715 James Edward landed at Peterhead but the government army advanced and the Jacobites withdrew from Perth. James Edward grew discouraged and on 4 February 1716 he and Lord Mar left Scotland. Afterwards the

rebellion petered out. However the Highlanders were by no means defeated and they remained a threat to the government. Still the government took some measures to control the Highlands. Fort Augustus was built in 1716 and in 1725-36 General Wade built a network of roads in the Highlands to make it easier for government troops to march from place to place.

Then in August 1745 Charles Stuart, grandson of the king who was deposed in 1688 landed in Scotland hoping to reclaim the throne. 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' persuaded some of the Highlanders to support him and in September 1745 they captured Edinburgh. They then routed a government army at Prestonpans. The Jacobite's then marched south and in December they reached Derby. However the English failed to rise to support Charles and some of his Highland troops deserted. So on 6 December 1745 the Jacobite's began a retreat.

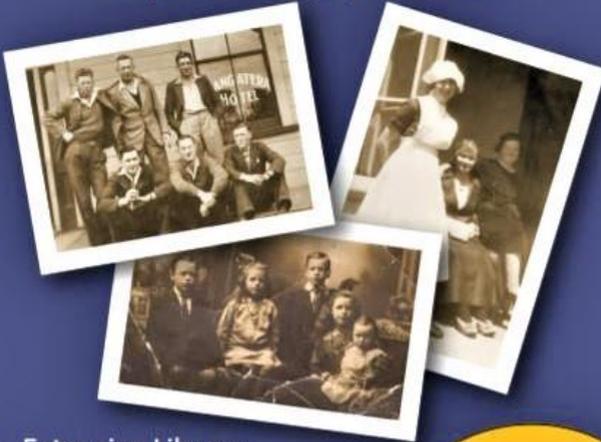
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Te Rangapū Kaihikohiko o Aotearoa

Family history - Preserving our past for the future



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- And much more...

Members also receive our award
winning magazine
'The New Zealand Genealogist'
for free

For more information on
joining, visit us at
www.genealogy.org.nz

Sprig Of Heather is published twice a year by Clan Little Society New Zealand & Australia. All correspondence should be directed to: Allen Little, Steward, 7 Earl Street, Levin 5510 New Zealand