

"The Parish of Strathblane and Its Inhabitants from Early Times: a Chapter of Lennox History" by John Guthrie Smith (died 1894), F.S.A. Scot., James Maclehose and Sons, Publishers to the University, 1886.

Pages 93, 95: THE DUNCANS IN LEDLOWAN IN KILLEARN, AND DRUMMIEKEICH IN STRATHBLANE

Among the families in Killearn who were not possessed of lands was an old race of the name of **Duncan**. They were leading people in the parish in the seventeenth century, and though the main line is extinct in the district, there are many families both in Strathblane and elsewhere descended from this good old stock.

John Duncan in Ledlowan, in Killearn, and afterwards in Drummiekeich (part of Blairquhosh Cunninghame), in Strathblane, married in 1703 Elizabeth Graham, one of the large clan in Strathblane which had grown and multiplied since David de Grahame was settled at Mugdock about the middle of the thirteenth century. **John Duncan and his wife had three sons,** of whom afterwards, and two daughters -

Elizabeth, who married in 1740 William Finley of Moss, and had (1) William of Moss, who was the father of the late William Finlay of Moss, who died childless; Mrs. James Adair Lawrie, of whose family the eldest son, Archibald Campbell Lawrie, advocate, now of Moss, is a judge in Ceylon; and Mrs. Dixon. (2) Jean, married David Bannerman of Letham Hill, whose only surviving child Elizabeth, married at the Moss in 1805 the Rev. John Graham of Fintry, afterwards of Killearn (see Grahams of Ballewan), and had issue, Captain Thomas Graham, late of Balfunning, and three daughters. (3) Mary, married James Dennistoun of Golfhill, banker in Glasgow, and four sons - (i.) Alexander, M.P. for Dumbartonshire in 1834, who succeeded his father in Golfhill, and was head of the great house of J. & A. Dennistoun. The survivors of his family are Alexander H. Dennistoun, now of Golfhill, and Eleanor, wife of Professor Sellar of Edinburgh. (ii.) William, died young. (iii.) James, married, but died childless. (iv.) John, from 1837 to 1847 M.P. for Glasgow, and a partner of J. & A. Dennistoun. The survivors of his family are John, a merchant in London, and Constance, whose first husband was John Hamilton, and who is now the wife of Archibald C. Lawrie of Moss. Mary Finlay and James Dennistoun had also two daughters, Mrs. Walter Wood, died childless, and Mrs. John Wood, whose grandson, John Walter Cross, married George Eliot, the celebrated authoress. Mr. Dennistoun by a second marriage had three daughters.

Jean, the second daughter of **John Duncan** and Elizabeth Graham, married in 1736 James Smith of Craigend. (See Craigend.)

Andrew Duncan, the eldest of the three sons, died young, and **John** and **James** were tenants in Drummiekeich. **John Duncan** married Agnes Lyle, a daughter of another old Strathblane family, and had two sons - **John**, born in 1738, and **Charles**, born in 1739 and a daughter, **Bethia**, who married Robert M'Indoe of Carbeth, and had issue. **James Duncan** married Margaret Taylor of Fintry, and had a large family, of whom the three eldest, **James, William** and **John**, went to Virginia to push their fortunes there along with their cousins, **Charles Duncan** and **Archibald Smith**, afterwards of Jordanhill, a younger son of James Smith of Craigend and **Jean Duncan**, his wife. **Ann Duncan**, the youngest daughter of **James Duncan** and Margaret Taylor, married Archibald Craig of Dalsholm, of the Ballewan family (which see).

Of the Strathblane cousins who thus settled in America, **Charles Duncan** remained there, married, and had two daughters, one of whom married James Dunlop of Rosslyn, Virginia, afterwards of Russell Square, London, and the other was Mrs. Gamble. Mrs. Dunlop had a son, and Mrs. Gamble a daughter, but both died unmarried. **James, William** and **John Duncan** and Archibald Smith, on the breaking out of the War of Independence in 1774, left America, the **Duncans** settling in Dublin, and Archibald Smith, as a West India merchant in Glasgow. (See Craigend.)

Leaving **James Duncan**, the eldest of the three brothers, till afterwards, we find that **William Duncan**, the second of them, married a Scottish lady, Miss Baird, and had (1) **William**, who went to South America, and fought in the War of Independence in 1824 under General Bolivar, with the rank of colonel. His two sons, Colonel **James Duncan** and **William Duncan**, are well-known citizens of Baranquilla (sic), South America. (2) **James**, who also went to South America. (3) **Maria**, married David Taylor of Edendale. Their eldest daughter, Agnes Maria, married John Craig, son of Archibald Craig of Dalsholm, of the family of Ballewan, Strathblane, and had issue Archibald David Craig and the Rev. John Duncan Craig, D.D., incumbent of Trinity Church, Dublin. (See Ballewan.) (4) **Rebecca**. (5) **Jane**. (6) **Agnes**.

John Duncan, the youngest of the three brothers who returned from Virginia, married a sister of **William Duncan's** wife. His son settled in the United States, married, and had a daughter, who married Dr. Emmett, a New York physician, and nephew of the celebrated and unfortunate Robert Emmett, one of the leaders of the Irish rebellion, and who was executed in 1803. **John Duncan** had a daughter, Mrs. John Hutton, whose eldest son is John Hutton of Merovyn, County Wicklow; her daughter Maria married the Rev. John D. Malet, D.D., whose son is Professor Malet of the Queen's University, and her daughter Henrietta married Charles J. Fox of Redford Lodge.

James Duncan, the eldest of the three brothers, returned from Virginia and became a West India merchant. He lived in Eccles Street, Dublin, and by his marriage in 1796 to Hannah, daughter of William Arnold, he had a daughter, **Elizabeth**, born in 1797, who married George Peyton of Driney, County Leitrim, and had issue; and a son **James**, born 1798.

James Duncan, the son, was manager of the Bank of Ireland at Sligo. He married Harriett Crosthwait, daughter of Leland Crosthwait, Governor of the Bank of Ireland, and had five daughters and two sons, of whom the eldest, **James**, died in 1853. **James Duncan** died in Dublin in 1874, and is buried at Sligo. The second son, **Leland Crosthwait Duncan**, fourth in descent from **John Duncan** of Ledlowan and Drummiekeich, and Elizabeth Graham, his wife, was born in 1831. He is an officer in H.M. Customs, and lives in London. He married in 1861 Caroline Ellen, daughter of F. Lewis, of Her Majesty's Treasury, and has issue, **Leland Lewis Duncan**, of the War Office, born 1862; **Caroline Annette**, and **Amy Adela**.

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