1974

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EDITORIAL NOTE

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NEWBIGGING,
TWEEDSMUIR,
BIGGAR,
LANARKSHIRE.

JAMES VEITCH.
THOMAS ANDERSON
President, Burns Federation
ROBERT FERGUSSON 1750-1774

A BI-CENTENARY TRIBUTE

BY ALEX. MACMILLAN

The bi-centenary of Robert Fergusson’s death is a fit occasion for a re-appraisal of that ill-fated poet’s work. The last thorough examination of the poet, as far as the Burns Chronicle is concerned, was in 1913, when Duncan McNaught published the late Frank Beaumont’s lecture ‘Fergusson and Burns; the Shaping of a Poet’. This was a very sound piece of work, taking into account the various interests of both poets, and providing a background to the work of Burns, in which Fergusson’s influence loomed large. It really stood by itself until Professor Allan MacLaine’s biography, Robert Fergusson, published 1969. MacLaine’s work, in spite of being overlaid with decorative adjectives in praise of almost every poem, does adequate justice to Fergusson’s muse. Perhaps he over-emphasises the debt, both in material and form, which Burns owed the younger poet, but in his conclusion he very fairly strikes a balance, acknowledging the ‘greater range and maturity of Burns’s imagination’.

Robert Fergusson was born in Edinburgh and nurtured in that cultured, dirty, grimy, yet beautiful eighteenth century city. He was a clever chiel, and won a bursary from the High School to St. Andrews University, where he was said to be destined for the Kirk. But apart from acquiring a name as a writer of witty verses, one poem of which survives, he does not appear to have been a shining intellectual light. He had to leave the University suddenly, in 1768, in order to support a widowed mother. He found an occupation as a copyist of legal documents—a job to send any young man to drink—and cultivated his ambition to be a poet. It may be that he regarded the job as a ‘pit-by’ until he had established himself. By 1771, his ambition was in part realised, for in that year he had eight poems published by the paper The Weekly Magazine or Edinburgh Amusement. These poems were in imitation of the English poet Shenstone, whom Burns also took as his early master, but the poems have not stood the test of time.

Then, suddenly, in 1772, Fergusson began to write in Scots, with the publication of ‘The Daft Days’ (the days between Christmas and New Year). This was the first of thirty-one poems in Scots which flowed from his pen in 1772 and 1773. It brought him fame in the taverns, in the town and finally throughout
Scotland itself. He was a poet of the city in all its hurly-burly and its village-like atmosphere. Here was a successor, and a superior, to Allan Ramsay. But it did not bring him money or patronage, in a period when men and women in Edinburgh were trying to get rid of their Scottishness. In this respect he was less lucky than Robert Burns. The most he got was a gift of two suits a year from his publisher, Ruddiman. Small wonder that Burns wrote:

'O Fergusson! thy glorious parts
Ill-suited law's dry musty arts.
My curse upon your whunstane hearts
Ye Enbrugh gentry
The tythe o what ye waste at cartes
Wad stow'd his pantry.'

The Cape Club became the centre of his convivial life. It was a typical howff of the time, and like most of the clubs, had its mock ritual. Its members were called ‘Knights’, and Fergusson, no doubt because of his fine singing voice, was dubbed ‘Sir Precentor’. His fine voice may have been the reason for his friendship with the Italian tenor Tenducci, who directed opera in Edinburgh, but who was as penniless as Fergusson.

The young poet, then, was known to artists, singers and actors, and had his friends in ‘The Cape’. If he was an educated, impoverished and under-estimated Edinburgh celebrity at the age of twenty-two, he had at least the consolation of living in an atmosphere which encouraged him to write. Nevertheless, it was a rackety life for an ill-fed poet whose drinking habits were already excessive. If he could ill afford a drink of London porter, there were always friends in the Club to ply him with brandy and gin.

An unsuspected manic-depressive strain began to show itself in January, 1774. His gaiety gave way to feelings of insecurity and guilt. He shut himself from his world. Some months later, on a visit to a friend, he fell down a flight of stairs, causing a brain injury. His distraught mother had to commit him to the Edinburgh Bedlam. There, in the straw, alone, Fergusson died on October 17, 1774.

Fergusson had only his two short years therefore—his climacteric—in which to do so much to rescue the vernacular. Perhaps because the period was so short, he has been called simply a fore-runner of Burns. But Burns knew better. He saw in Fergusson ‘my elder brother in the Muses’...in other words, a young poet with a maturity of writing that kitted up his rustic reed.

It is in the main a poetry of Edinburgh causesys, taverns, oyster-cellers, of folk and their behaviour on special occasions, of fairs and
ROBERT FERGUSSON 1750-1774

festivities. If the poetry lacks the flashing phrase and depth of feeling of Burns, there is ample wit and ironic laughter from the pen of this genial young spirit. Had his genius had time to mature, what might he have accomplished? As it is, here is an educated vernacular poetry, lively and true to life.

‘Upo’ the tap o’ ilka lum
The sun began to keek,
An bade the trig-made maidens come
A sightly joe to seek
At Hallow-fair, whare browsters rare
Keep guid ale on the gantries,
An dinna scrip ye o a skair
O kebbucks frae their pantries
Fu saut that day!

It is an argued point whether Burns first read the edition of Fergusson’s verse in Templeton’s book-shop in Irvine, or whether it was brought to him from Edinburgh while he was in Mauchline. However it was, by 1784, Burns was writing in his ‘Common-place Book’ ‘I am pleased with the work of our Scotch poets and particularly the excellent Ramsay and still more excellent Fergusson’. Speaking of the year 1783—one of the leanest of Burns’s poetic years, he writes ‘Rhyme I had given up, but meeting with Fergusson’s Scotch Poems, I strung anew my wildly sounding lyre with emulating vigour’.

Not only the content of Fergusson’s poems received that emulation, but also the poetic format. First there was the traditional ‘Habbie’ stanza of ‘The Daft Days’:

‘Auld Reekie, thou’rt a canty hole
A bield for mony a caldrife soul
Wha snugly at thine ingle loll
Baith warm and couth
While round they gar the bicker roll
To weet their mouth.’

Then there was the Heroic Couplet in which he wrote his ‘Eclogues’, such as the one between two farmers, later used by Burns in the ‘Twa Dogs’, and the stanza originating in ‘Christis Kirk on the Green’, exploited in his ‘Hallow-fair’ later to be used in Burns’s ‘Holy Fair’. The closest parallel, both in verse-form and theme, is of course between ‘The Farmer’s Ingle’ and ‘The Cottar’s Saturday Night’. Here many critics part company. MacLaine says ‘in all respects Fergusson’s poem is by far the better’, while Beaumont says ‘there we have a series of vivid but hasty sketches;
here (in the "Cottar") we have a finished picture, painted out of fullness of knowledge and with a glowing heart'. It is futile to argue over this: in the one Fergusson strives to fill his poem with intimate detail to create atmosphere, with an occasional forced rhyme; Burns’s ultimately has more universality of theme. It could be said fairly that while Fergusson’s poem is more homespun, the intrusion of the stanzas in English mar the unity of ‘The Cottar’:

‘In its auld lerroch yet the deas remains,
Where the gudeman aft streeks him at his ease.
A warm and canny lean for weary banes
O lab’rers doil’d upon the wintry leas:
Round him will badrins and the colly come,
To wag their tail, and cast a thankfu’ eie
To him wha kindly flings them mony a crum
O kebbuck whang’d, and dainty fadge to prie;
This a’ the boon they crave, and a’ the fee.’

From ‘The Daft Days’ to ‘Auld Reekie’, Fergusson’s last work, we are reminded forcibly of passages in Burns. ‘Caller Oysters’ makes us think of ‘To a Haggis’, although in Fergusson’s day, oysters were the food of the poor rather than the rich. Moreover they seemed to have curative powers that the haggis lacks. Fergusson asserts that they cure plouky noses in drunkards, or help out the social hour:

‘Whan big as burns the gutters rin
Gin ye hae catcht a droukit skin
To Luckie Middlemist’s loup in
An sit fu snug
O’er oysters an a drap o gin
Or haddock lug.’

Burns’s ‘The Twa Dogs’ and ‘Scotch Drink’ both owe something to a ‘Drink Eclogue’—a flying between:

‘Twa chappin bottles, pang’d wi Liquor fu’
Brandy the tane, the tither Whisky blue’

and the landlady, who comes in at the end of the poem to arbitrate. This is a lively satire, as whisky accuses brandy of being a fashionable craze in Scotland, whereas in its own country it is only a drink for shirtless soldiers:

‘Truly I think it right you get your alms,
Your high heart humbled among common drams;
Braw days for you, whan fools, newfangle fain,
Like ither countries better than their ain;
For there ye never saw sic chancy days,
Sic ball, assemblies, operas, or plays;
Hame-o'er you hae been blithe to pack
Your a' upon a sarkless soldier's back . . .'

One poem which has certainly stood the test of time is 'Leith Races', which had a powerful influence on Burns's 'Holy Fair', each unique in its own right. Burns uses Fergusson's stanza form again, but the figure of Mirth in Fergusson gives way to Fun, Superstition and Hypocrisy. But Mirth:

'I dwall among the caller springs
That weet the Land o Cakes,
And aften tune my canty strings
At bridals and late-wakes.
They ca' me Mirth; I ne'er was kend
To grumble or look sour,
But blythe wad be a lift to lend
Gin ye wad sey my power
An pith this day.'

Leith Races was an annual festival, a series of horse-races with elaborate civic ceremony involved, held for a week in July on Leith Sands. The poem starts off with the meeting with Mirth, who offers to show the poet the amusing sights . . . the fashionable ladies, the pedlars, the city guardsmen, the tinkler bodies, the wives hawking the ale and whisky, the fishwives, the dishonest gamblers, the Lord Lyon arriving, the races themselves, and the inevitable aftermath of the drunks and a final warning about the City Guard. This is surely the most brilliant of Fergusson's longer poems.

What of this young man as a poet of Nature? Apart from occasional pieces, and his 'Farmer's Ingle' his output on this theme was small. 'Ode to the Gowdspink' (Goldfinch), 'Ode to the Bee' and 'On seeing a Butterfly in the street':

'Daft Gowk, in macaroni dress
Are ye come here to show your face
Bowden wi pride o simmer gloss
To cast a dash at Reekie's Cross
Flees braw by art tho worms by nature'.

All three poems have a moralistic trend, as in 'The Gowdspink' when Fergusson, after praising the bird: 'The bravest mang the whistling choir,' goes on to speak of humankind:

'Mang men, wae's hert, we aften find
The bravest drest want peace o mind
While he that gangs wi ragged coat
Is weel contentit wi his lot.'

He uses Nature to draw a parallel, with humanity at a disadvantage.
Although Fergusson had a good singing voice, he did not show more than a dilettante's interest in lyric writing. Two songs in Scots may have been written by him, one on the 'Lea-rig' theme, the other 'Hallowfair'. Vigorous enough, but lacking in proper development of theme. His other lyrics were mostly in English... songs for the Cape Club, and songs for the opera 'The Royal Shepherd', which he wrote for his friend Tenducci, which, alas, the tenor forgot to acknowledge. One of his songs became popular, but as will be seen, is a poor thing wanting the tune:

'No repose can I discover
Nor find Joy without my lover
Can I stay when she's not near me?
Cruel fates, once deign to hear me.

The charms of grandeur don't decoy me;
Fair Eliza must enjoy me;
My crown and sceptre I'll resign;
The shepherd's life shall still be mine.'

There is no doubt that in his two years of major poetic output in Scots, Fergusson's work, both in form and content, add to Scottish literature the gift of social description. The peculiar brand of Scots humour which has ever a tincture of satire, a continuation of the flyting tradition, these he brought into being again in Scots verse, when they could well have been lost. Where Fergusson excelled was in his close observation of life as it was lived in late eighteenth-century Edinburgh, and here he is in a class by himself. If Burns began as a poet of the farm and the village, Fergusson was the poet of the city. He did not live long enough to develop his great talent, amounting on occasion to genius. But apart altogether from the huge debt owed to him by Burns, he deserves to be read for his own sake. Burns, it is true, wrote more from the heart, had a wider vision, and created a separate genius in himself with his immortal songs; Fergusson, in a narrower range of achievement, has a niche of his own in the hall of poetic fame.

'A poet, but brunt his rhymes'
Dae ye tell me so? There are times
When I ken that yon voice sae clear
Will ring even-on 't my ear
Till the close o my mortal times.
COMMEMORATION CAIRNS UNVEILED

GLEN AFTON AND HARVIESTOUN CEREMONIES

From early times, stone cairns have been a feature of the Scottish landscape. They are the simplest and most durable of all memorials.

Arising out of this, two new cairns were unveiled in 1973. One overlooks Afton Water, near to the Laight farm, whilst the other is situated at the gate of East Harviestoun estate lodge, not far from Dollar.

The first was unveiled on Sunday, 24th June, in the presence of a large attendance of old and young alike. This cairn, standing against an idyllic background of trees in a pleasant little picnic park, is the work of members of New Cumnock Burns Club who, as part of their 50th anniversary celebrations, chose this method of marking Burns’s association with the district.

The Reverend D. C. Macpherson of the Old Church conducted the dedication service and the unveiling ceremony was carried out by Mrs. James Shankland, wife of the president of the Club.

Mr. Dave Black, the club’s master of music, led the singing of ‘Flow gently, sweet Afton,’ which a newspaper described in its report of the proceedings as being ‘something of a national anthem in the upland parish’.

Mr. Shankland took the opportunity to express thanks to all those who had helped in the construction of the cairn and the landscaping of the area around it, and the ceremony concluded with Mr. Black’s rendering of the song, ‘The Star o’ Rabbie Burns’. Musical accompaniments were supplied by New Cumnock Silver Band.

Members of the local Burns Club have every reason to be well satisfied with the result of their labours. The cairn, built with stones taken from Afton Water, is a fitting memorial to Burns, who, in a letter to Mrs. Dunlop, dated Ellisland, 5th February, 1789, wrote: ‘There is a small river, Afton, that falls into the Nith, near New Cumnock, which has some charming, wild, romantic scenery on its banks. I have a particular pleasure in those little pieces of poetry, such as our Scots songs, etc., where the names and landscape-features of rivers, lakes, or woodlands, that one knows, are introduced. I attempted a compliment of that kind to Afton . . .’

New Cumnock Burns Club has acknowledged the compliment in a way that Burns himself would have appreciated.
Mr. George Vallance, convener of the Memorials Committee of the Burns Federation, was present at the ceremony and on Sunday, 26th August, he attended a similar event at East Harviestoun.

As you may know, Burns and Nicol set out in a chaise from Edinburgh on 25th August, 1787. Travelling by way of Linlithgow, Falkirk and Stirling, they arrived at Harviestoun on the 27th and were welcomed by Gavin Hamilton's relatives. Margaret Chalmers was in Edinburgh at the time, but Charlotte Hamilton was there and made up one of the party who accompanied Burns to places of local interest. The following day, he and Nicol departed on the next stage of their tour.

With Dr. James M. Adair, Burns paid a longer visit to Harviestoun. Having written the lines of 'The Banks of Devon', he told Margaret Chalmers, 'I am determined to pay Charlotte a poetic compliment, if I could hit on some genuine old Scotch air'. He did, and the song was completed about the beginning of December. Again he wrote to Margaret Chalmers, 'The air is admirable: true old Highland. It was the tune of a Gaelic song, which an Inverness lady sung me... never set before'.

To commemorate Burns's brief visit and its outcome, Councillor Alexander B. McIver of Dollar Town Council, had an idea. As secretary of Dollar Burns Club, he attended a meeting of the Federated Clubs of Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perthshire, and mooted the building of a cairn. Upon this being agreed to, plans then went ahead.

The cairn itself was built by Mr. Tom Love, a Tillicoultry stonemason, the stones being obtained from Harviestoun Castle after its demolition in May.

The base, with stones taken from the Devon, and cement path were laid by Mr. Alex. Cook, Hon. President of the Burns Federation and Secretary of Coalsnaughton Burns Club. At the annual conference of the Burns Federation at Dumfries, Mr. Cook told me that in a metal box he had placed a 1973 Burns Chronicle, a Burns Federation badge, pocket diploma, a copy of the Kilmarnock Standard, an explanatory note, and an old penny and half-penny. The box, wrapped in damp-resistant material, was placed inside the cairn whilst it was being built.

As at Glen Afton, a large crowd witnessed this latest dedication ceremony. Among the visitors was Professor Toshio Namba of Nihon University, described by Mrs. Jane Burgoyne in the 1972 Burns Chronicle as 'our man in Japan'. Acting hosts were officials and members of Coalsnaughton Burns Club.
The dedication service was conducted by the Reverend James Currie of Dunlop, Ayrshire, and the unveiling ceremony was carried out by Mr. Daniel J. McIldowie, J.P., a Past President of the Burns Federation. In his speech, Mr. Charles Easton, President of the Burns Federation, thanked those who had contributed to the building, the final dedication and the unveiling of the cairn. During the service, the musical accompaniments were provided by a group from Alloa Burns Band.

MASEL

Some folks hae ids an’ egos,
But I jist hae masel,
An’ what the mixter-maxter is
There’s nane but me can tell.

My freends may ca’ me this an’ that,
They dinna ken the half o’t;
An’ when I see hoo faur they’re wrang,
It’s me that gets the laugh o’t.

I’ve kent masel for sixty years,
But still I get surprises
At some o’ the byordnar things
This ither me devises.

There’s freends that I can lippen tae,
There’s some that I loe dearly,
The trysts I’ve kept hae helped me on,
But ae thing I see clearly.

I mauna boo aneath the wecht
That whiles maks me forfochen,
For gin I’m sorry for masel,
Masel’s no’ worth a docken.

But gin it’s worth the warsle—
This queer-like thing that’s me,
Then I masel maun shouter it
Until the day I dee.

KATE Y. A. BONE
'GILBERT . . . MY SUPERIOUR'

By Farquhar McKenzie

'The Moral Law as a rule of life, must be of indispensable obligation, but it is the glory of the Christian religion, that if we be upright in our endeavours to follow it and sincere in our repentance upon our failing or shortcoming, we shall be accepted according to what we have, and shall increase in our strength, by the assistance of the Spirit of God co-operating with our honest endeavours.' So spake William Burnes in his *Manual of religious belief*, in which, by question and answer, he outlines the Christian way of life to his children.

Some years later, in August 1787, Robert Burns was to write thus of his brother, Gilbert: 'When my father died . . . my brother wanted my harebrained imagination as well as my social and amorous madness, but in good sense and every sober qualification he was far my superior.' Further on in this famous letter to Dr. Moore (Ferguson no. 125) he adds in full honesty: 'I gave up my part of the farm to my brother, as in truth it was only nominally mine.'

These quotations, by his father and brother, are the essence of this tribute to Gilbert Burns and are supporting evidences of a loyalty and honesty never readily acknowledged in the Burns movement. Gilbert has, in some quarters, been condemned for his lack of defence of his famous brother but those who make this accusation are ignorant both of the social and political injustices of the time and of the harrowing financial circumstances of the whole Burns family. Gilbert's advice that 'Dr. Currie has been misinformed but he must not be contradicted' aided 19th century strictures against his brother's intemperate living but it aided also Currie's editing of the works, thus contributing towards the well-being of his brother's family. On Burns's death, few indeed of his friends enhanced their reputations in relation to their intimacy with the poet—in the beginning John Syme and Alexander Cunningham conducted a dialogue between Dumfries and Edinburgh in establishing means of providing for Burns's widow and family, but their glory became tarnished through Syme's carping about his expenses and through his unworthy treatment of Gilbert in the matter of the Nasmyth portrait. Creech, made wealthier by his cheap acquisition of Burns's copyright, refused to give up that copyright to aid the family. Mrs. McLehose, no longer worthy of Burns's immortalising her in
his practice of the troubadours' *idée* of compliment, makes written application to Syme for the return of her letters to the Bard—Syme having 'done everything in my power . . . to allow them to be published, which she peremptorily refuses'; Maria Riddell, as adroit and clever as ever, manipulates Currie with a practised hand and appears in terms acceptable to herself; Clugston, a Dumfries book-seller, refuses to pay £1.17.0 for books received from Johnson—a sum which Johnson agreed Syme should collect and pay into the fund for the family; Ayrshire, too, appears in a bad light when Syme writes to Cunningham: 'Col. Fullarton etc. in Ayrshire have as yet done nothing—nay, those friends in Ayr, etc. whom the Bard immortalized have not contributed a sous. By heavens, they should be immortally d . . . . d, and a list of the d . . . . d should be made out.' One shining example, however, is brother Gilbert whose struggle to repay his debt is indeed of dramatic quality.

When Robert, the wonder of all the gay world, returned from his Edinburgh triumph, his great friend and benefactor, Gavin Hamilton, suggested that he, Robert, should act as Gilbert's security for the working of the unprofitable Mossgiel Farm. This occasions the famous letter from Burns to Hamilton in which he writes: 'The language of refusal is to me the most difficult language on earth, and you are the man . . . . to whom it gives me the greatest pain to hold such language.—My brother has already got money and shall want nothing in my power to enable him fulfill his engagement with you . . . .' (Ferguson no. 222). Elsewhere, Burns stated his indignation both at Hamilton's suggestion and at his inference that he could ignore his brother's plight. From the date of this letter, it is evident that Burns, on the strength of monies owed him by Creech, had issued a note for some £200 in his brother's favour. It is equally clear that Burns regarded this loan as his personal contribution to the family situation and that he never expected any return from it. In a later letter to Dr. Moore (Ferguson no. 294) he explains: 'I have a younger brother, who supports my aged mother; another still younger brother, and three sisters, in a farm. On my last return from Edinburgh it cost me about £180 to save them from ruin. Not that I have lost so much: I only interposed between my brother and his impending fate by the loan of so much. I give myself no airs on this, for it was mere selfishness on my part. I was conscious that the wrong scale of the balance was pretty heavily charged and I thought that throwing a little filial piety and fraternal affection into the scale in my favour might help to smooth matters at the grand reckoning.' In other words, Burns is admitting that, whilst he
enjoyed the Edinburgh triumph, he also had the grace to admit that he had forsaken the honoured role of responsibility as head of the family and had left Gilbert to fend for the several dependents—including Burns's carefully omitted 'dear-bought Bess'.

This is reiterated in his letter of 25th March, 1789, to Mrs. Dunlop (Ferguson no. 324): 'To keep my brother from ruin, and scattering my aged parent and three sisters comfortless in the world, I advanced him about £200; this you know was an indispensible affair, as their well-being is certainly to me the same as my own.' Like Syme, Robert was to change his stance so that when 'crazed with care' he tells Mrs. Dunlop in 1794 that Gilbert 'has every shilling I am worth in the world among his hands, I am nearly certain that I have done with it for ever.—This loss, as to my individual self, I could hold it very light, but my little flock could have been the better for a couple of hundred pounds: for their sakes, it wrings my heart.'

Come July, 1796, the family, according to Syme was 'in a pitiable condition. We will here (Dumfries) exercise our benevolence.' With Burns's death his three principle female correspondents—Dunlop, McLehose, and Riddell—withdraw to their private thoughts whilst Syme and Cunningham, along with (Sir) James Shaw in London and a circle of Liverpudlian admirers co-operate to raise funds for the family.

At this point, March 1797, it is realised that Gilbert is his brother's principal debtor since he admitted to the loan of £200. Furthermore, he makes no move to conceal the fact that the loan had been arranged at an interest of 5 per cent. In a statement dated 1st September, 1796, Gilbert accounts for his payment of his brother's outstanding debts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Rae, Taylor</td>
<td>1 12 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Richardson, Butcher</td>
<td>2 4 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter Scott</td>
<td>0 11 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Turner</td>
<td>0 12 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. McCornock</td>
<td>3 10 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Georgeson</td>
<td>0 14 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Brown</td>
<td>2 3 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Chalmers</td>
<td>0 11 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Armor for cheese purchased in Machline</td>
<td>1 17 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

£14 15 0

Against this is a statement of Gilbert's own finances, showing an overall debit of £71.1.0 (not including his household furniture, family provisions, etc.) which draws Syme to opine that whilst
Gilbert is at present unable to pay the debt, 'I hope it will be secure in the end'. As the Trustees of the fund for Burns's widow and children threaten Gilbert with litigation through the medium of William Thomson, Secretary (and McMurdo's son-in-law), McMurdo himself writes that he 'shall be extremely pleased if you (Dr. Maxwell) can make any arrangement with him (Gilbert) short of bringing his affairs to a Bankruptcy'.

It is now Gilbert's turn to be 'crazed with care' and his Account Book, lodged in the Burns Museum, Kilmarnock, shows his fight against poverty on behalf not only of his own increasing family but for his mother, his sisters and brother Robert's 'dear-bought Bess'. For his mother, Robert had arranged an annuity of £5, and payment for Elizabeth's bed, board, washing, clothes, books and school wages. Meantime, the fund had by April, 1797, risen to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts of subscriptions raised in Edinburgh</td>
<td>£171 19 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumfries, paid but considerably (more?) due</td>
<td>93 4 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liverpool</td>
<td>73 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Literary Society</td>
<td>25 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkcudbright</td>
<td>10 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auchencrue, Mr. Oswald, more coming</td>
<td>61 4 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private donations</td>
<td>34 12 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£470 0 0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

whilst Syme adds that 'This is about what has already been received and at least £100 is still due, and more is expected'.

In July, 1797, he reports to Cunningham that 'Patrick Laurie ... tells me that he and a Mr. Shaw (of Kilmarnock) have collected in London no less than £400 for the family'. During this time, however, Gilbert's circumstances were so straitened that he made application to the fund for a loan on behalf of the Poet's family but this, despite support from James Fergusson and Tennant of Auchenbay, was ignored. The off-hand treatment by the Trustees must, over the years, have been most humiliating for Gilbert, and Thomson's strict legal and unfeeling interpretations would have made Gilbert have feelings of resounding guilt. This is instanced where Gilbert left Dinning in 1801 and his brother-in-law, John Begg, supplied Jean Armour Burns and family with supplies of cheese, barley, potatoes, etc. 'to the amount of £3 per year until 1809,' but 'had not kept a distinct account of these things'. In reply to this, Thomson states that as *factor loco tutoris* for the children he 'does not consider himself entitled to allow credit for sums that are not legally vouched, however just he may suppose them to be'.
Slowly, doggedly, Gilbert kept an exact statement of his debt and of his attempts to reduce it, including the harrowing entry on 21st July, 1796, relating to his payment for details of Burns's burial:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grave</td>
<td>2 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mort-cloth</td>
<td>3 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bells tolling</td>
<td>5 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Given to Mrs. Burns</td>
<td>1 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>11 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That 1/- 'given to Mrs. Burns' reaches untold depths and ought to have shamed many a wealthier and sycophantic acquaintance. Gilbert struggled on until May, 1798—even paying Syme's travelling expenses from Whitehaven and correcting an under-charge of 5/3d in his accounts for 1st September, 1796. By May, 1798, Gilbert had reduced his debt to £158.15.5 and, by exhausting his credit in Ayrshire, he was able to give Jean Armour Burns the sum of £40—£10 short of the sum requested by the Trustees. From this period to the year 1809 he contributes only payment in kind for the simple reason that he just had no hard cash to spare. From 1809 the struggle is so despairing that it can be assuredly stated that Gilbert lived in a style inferior to that ever suffered by his more famous brother.

By this time, Syme was wearying of his responsibilities and harped to Cunningham about charging all the expenses they have sustained. Perhaps this weariness partly explains his conduct over the Nasmyth portrait which had been used to illustrate Currie's edition. In 1805, long after the publication of the fund-raising work by Currie, the portrait is still in Cunningham's possession in Edinburgh. Gilbert maintained that it was the property of Jean Armour and her children but Syme loses all patience with him and writing thus to Cunningham: 'Gilbert's letter is a stiff Presbyterian piece. Plague on the stubborn man—but the style is so studiedly diplomatic that I see nothing you can do but give him tit for tat, i.e. keep the portrait and keep so unrelenting a character at a distance. For my part I am done with him...' The battle between Gilbert and Syme is indeed on—'Gilbert's phrase of 9/10ths of the world who can be supposed competent judges will decide against you and me. Patrick Laurie (a London merchant)... is decidedly of mind that the Portrait is yours, at least it ought to be and must remain with you. That 'tis wickedness and absurdity to dispense it among the family.' Again, 'On the subject of Burns's portrait—I will Pawn my all to confirm it in your possession.' Syme continues this carping battle until 1808 but, in the end, the portrait was returned to the family. Yet,
to Syme's credit, his enthusiasm returns and in 1809 he opines that 'Tis a disgrace we have no distinction of that kind for the Bard' and suggests a monument to Burns in Dumfries, eventually chairing the initial meeting in December, 1813, which led to the Mausoleum in St. Michael's Churchyard.

And Gilbert? After his work for the Cadell and Davies edition we find him in 1820 doubting his ability to repay the loan despite the editorial fee of what must have been astronomical proportions to his lowly estate. However, a twist of fate speeded the conclusion of this epic struggle—Robert Burns's eldest son, Robert II, had accumulated large debts in London and was in dire danger of losing his position in the Stamp Office. To save the family from such a disgrace, Gilbert drew up a statement, going back to the 1798 figures and, most generously, calculated the interest at 5 per cent from then until 1820, and proposes a final payment of £216.5.10 to conclude the business. This figure was submitted to Thomson and only because of Robert II's dilemma does he act, and only after amending the balance to £220.7.6.

These Kilmarnock papers are of importance because they contain two of the three known specimen of Jean Armour Burns's signature—a refutation that she was illiterate. Their greater import lies in the dedicated struggle of Gilbert Burns to pay off a debt which on the one hand his brother had written off after originally having given the money over as 'conscience money', and after the Trustees had harried him for years. I am indebted to Mr. Alan Moodie, F.I.M.T.A., Burgh Chamberlain of Kilmarnock, who checked these accounts and advises me that, for the original bill of £200, Gilbert Burns eventually repaid a total sum of £382.18.10, comprising total interest of £220.7.6 and cash and goods amounting to £162.11.4—a charge of nearly 100 per cent.

Gilbert Burns's personality may have been condemned by Syme as being stiff Presbyterianism but his early assumption of family responsibility is to his eternal credit. Not only did he care for his mother and sisters but, even in 1820, he is to be found seeking a teaching position for his nephew, William Begg. But, beyond everything else, his sense of obligation and loyalty is superlative. If there is another world, many of the famous cronies and intimates of Burns will cast their eyes very lowly in the presence of Gilbert Burns. After a life-time of near penury, he eventually paid off his 'debt' but, in the meantime, never once bemoaned his fate—even when the only windfall in his life was used to pay off the debts of his nephew at a time when the nephew's mother was living in really
comfortable circumstances compared with his own lot. How strange that we acknowledge the financial help and patrimony of Sir James Shaw to Jean Armour and, especially to the future colonels in the East India Company—James Glencairn Burns and William Nicol Burns . . . and forget that Shaw's only connection with Robert Burns was through Gilbert's marriage to Shaw's niece, Jean Breckenridge of Kilmarnock. Yet Gilbert, despite all, never sought the help of this most rich of uncles.

Surely full circle is completed in William Burnes' 'Moral Law' when one regards the self-sacrifice of his second-born, Gilbert; and in Robert Burns's own words ' . . . in good sense and every sober qualification,' Gilbert 'was far my superior'.
Specimen of the handwriting of Wilhemina Alexander
(see page 18)
1798, List of Debts Due by God.
2nd May

To my brother, family, a balance of my bill £165.
To my mother by bill £70 with interest 2s. 7d. £72.15
To James Brown by bill £10 with a year's interest £16.16.
To Margaret Bliss balance of bill £12.12
To Mr. Cram by bill £5 with a year's interest £6.5.
To Patrick Robertson by bill £8.8
To John Duncan by bill £80
To Mr. Alexander half of last year's rent which by his usual mode of collection ought to be paid by the 1st of June.
To his current year's rent 20s with public bedding £75.

£491.1.

Before these there are some other debts which my wife and land are owing me with nearly a balance.
My cattle, crops, and farm utensils of food at a fair price ought to bring at least £20.

Deficiency £71.1.

In this £ I do not include my household, furniture, family provisions.

Photostat of Gilbert Burns's List of Debts
(see page 10)
Photo stat of the entry in Gilbert Burns’s Account Book which shows Jean Burns’s signature
The Mini-bus presented by the Tam o' Shanter Burns Club No. 845
COVENTRY CLUB'S FINE ACHIEVEMENT

MINI-BUS FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

The Robert Burns School for Mentally Handicapped Children is situated at Poets' Corner, a district in Coventry where the roads are named after British poets.

In 1972, the Tam o' Shanter Burns Club, No. 845, decided to 'adopt' the School on account of its name, and the secretary, Mr. James McCaw, got in touch with the head teacher, Mrs. Darnell, who is also a Scot.

When asked what she would like for the children, Mrs. Darnell replied without hesitation, 'A mini-bus to get the children about'.

The members of the Club took this in their stride and immediately set to, with the result that in the space of seven months they had raised enough money to put the bus on the road!

The presentation, a red-letter event, was made on 20th January, 1973, as part of the Burns Anniversary celebrations.

We are sure our readers will join with us in saluting the officials and members of the Tam o' Shanter Club, Coventry. They have every reason to be proud, as we are proud, of their praiseworthy achievement.

ADVICE FRAE THE CRITICS

By L. M. STIRLING

'We've had eneuch o' Burns,' they say,
The undoch critics o' the day.
'Come, gie us poetry frae the brain
That tak's a critic tae explain.
Gae set yer intellects tae wark.
Forget the wee moose in a park,
Forget puir Mailie in a ditch,
The skriech o' deil, or eldritch witch.
Gie's nae mair droolin' frae the hairt
O'er lads an' lassies doomed tae pairt.
Emotive themes are o'er revealin'
For modern makars void o' feelin'.
Tak' up yer pens an' write a screed.
O' what ye write tak' little heed,
An' ye'll mak' siccar o' success
Wi' lairded publishers an' press.'
Lovers of Burns will recollect how on a July evening in 1786, at a critical time in his life, he spied in his favourite woods of Ballochmyle 'one of the finest pieces of Nature's workmanship . . . an amiable, beautiful young woman'; how he struck off a sonnet to the Lass which 'cost me some pains and that I valued a good deal'; how, having no mutual friend through whom he could ask her permission to print this poem in his second edition, months later he plucked up courage to write to her direct, and received no reply . . .

Until now all we have known of Miss Wilhelmina Alexander, beyond this, is her parentage and dates (1756-1843). Was she beautiful? What was her character? Who were her friends? What kind of life did she lead? Luckily the Alexander family have a group of letters written by her before she met Burns, another lot written by her in old age, her diary-account of George IV's visit to Edinburgh, her long account of her favourite brother Boyd's death, and mentions of her in family correspondence in her pre-Burns period.

She turns out to be a good diarist and at times an excellent letter-writer, with a vivid and amusing turn of phrase, even though she wasn't well educated. She writes as she talks, artlessly and yet shrewdly. Her letters are full of gossip and scandal, yet she is charitable and compassionate and never, I think, ill-natured. She laughs at herself and her little failings as much as at other people; she is sensible, religious (the groundwork of her character), modest, devoted to her family with a strong sense of duty, and (alas for the shade of Burns) a dyed-in-the-wool Conservative, at least in later life.

When she was born in April, 1756 her Uncle William Cuninghame of Craigends wrote to her father, Claud Alexander of Newton, commiserating on the birth of this fourth daughter, which to a Scot meant the giving away later on of a dowry in order to get rid of her. Cuninghame writes, 'Tho' these girls are troublesome, we must submitt and be thankfull'.

The next we hear of her is in March, 1775, in a letter to her elder brother Claud in India from his old University tutor Archibald Arthur, the Glasgow University Librarian and later Professor of Moral Philosophy there—a man of some distinction. He writes to Claud, 'your sisters are as pretty and as agreeable as ever'. A similar
comment on their good looks was made in May, 1782 by the family lawyer and man of affairs, Robert Barclay of Capelrig, writer in Glasgow. He writes to Claud: 'I find you are rather surprised that none of the young ladies are settled, and indeed it is to be regreted as they are handsome and in their prime.'

These independent early remarks on their good looks are important: they show that Burns was not flattering the Lass in his sonnet, even though poetic fervour led him to exaggerate. It was not for lack of looks that she did not marry, which was evidently her own choice. As we shall see from her letters to her brother, she was in immense demand in Glasgow and local society amongst the young officers and gentry during the raising of the regiments for the American War, and was the gayest of the gay. But these young men were being sent off on active service in America, the West Indies and India as the war increased in severity and scope; soon there was to be a great shortage of men in South-West Scotland. Perhaps someone she was fond of was killed or died on active service...

When writing to her younger brother Boyd in India in December, 1779 she jestingly raises this very point. Girls were going to India, where there was a great surplus of eligible men, by the shipload to seek husbands and fortunes. The Lass says: 'An old lady told me t'other day I was a great fool that did not go to India, for I would doubtless get an Nabob. I said nothing I would like better than to go to India, but bore it not the air of a despairing virgin, which was a melancholy reflection. No indeed, said she, ye far from that. I know a young lady going just now from the County of Angus: Miss Neill of Millfield, she is the most accomplished girl I ever saw, has been three years in France and Italy, has two thousand pound and nothing but India, India; 'she dreamt of it and could talk of nothing else... Now would you be monstrously surprised if I arrived upon you. Ha, ha, ha, I think I see your confounded face; would you make me welcome? Yes, you would; I can judge from the goodness of your heart you would be happy to see me; whether it in the main were proper or not I can't say. Claud wrote me long ago if I would come out he would get me a Counselor.'

Boyd sent this letter on to Claud, fearful that his sister was taking them at their word: 'It seems you promised Willie a Councillor if she would come to India, and by her letter she seems more than in jest in talking of coming out. A pretty kettle of fish you have brought on yourself. I dare say she would not be long unmarried.' They needn't have worried: apart from the fact that she was joking, she evidently decided that such a step was not 'proper'—i.e. she was not
going to be mercenary and to run all that way after a man, putting herself up to auction. From her later letters one gets a feeling of her being an independent person with a proper degree of pride; indeed, as an old lady she remarked ‘I’m a true Alexander and cannot put up with it!’

For somebody of her social status and looks it was, in fact, not necessary to go to India to get married. In the winter of 1777-8 they were all busy recruiting for the raising of the Glasgow Regiment, Macdonald’s Highlanders (the 76th) and other regiments. She tells Boyd of their mutual friends who have joined up and describes their gay uniforms, particularly those contrasting ones of her cousins, William Cuninghame of Craigends, his brother Sandy (also kilted), and John: ‘Never was there such a merry a winter as we spent recruiting and dancing away, every night some funny party... William is the finest merry fellow I ever met with and alway in love and ever in love by far the most of a ladies man in the family. But Sandy in his compleat uniform with the belted plaid is thought to be quite the thing. But John laughs at both of them with their petticoats. John’s uniform is blue, Sandy’s yellow and Will’s green. So much for regiments. I dare say you are sick of both me and them, but you must forgive me, you know, ’tis a favourite subject.’

Evidently her brother (in a letter to her sister Peggy) had twitted her about calling in her fine clothes on officer friends in ‘the garrets’, which here must mean a watch-tower, or a turret in the old part of the town in which they were billeted. So she writes to him on the subject in the letter quoted above, and adds an amusing bit about servant difficulty, which shows her forthrightness: ‘Peggy tells me you was very witty at the thoughts of how I was to like the garrets. Much better than expectation, never was happyer in my life. Annie P[orterfield] and I came to town after the hollidays and kickt. up such a dust: ’twas just the gay time, a publick place every night and I do beleive ’twas thought we went to too many, but no help for that. To be sure we used to have a little laughing at telling the chairmen to carry us to Major Hastie’s garrets: ha, ha, ha the fine ladies. There is a thing vexes me not a little: my Mother, since this odious tax upon servants, won’t keep a boy and in my humble oppinion a maid is a monstrous awkward affair. Th[e]y all laugh at me, but mother won’t get a boy. Our old boy you may remember (Peter) went from us to Duchall and is still there; ’tis wonderfull the affection he bears us all.’

But although she had such a gay time, like her brothers she calls it ‘that unnatural war,’ and remarks on how it affected Glasgow
THE LASS O’ BALLOCHMYLE

business: ‘Some individuals in Glasgow have made great fortunes by it, but in the main it has been most distressing to it. Will: Clark has been most successful what with tobacca, insurances, prizes, and some say gaming. He has made a great sum and keeps such a grand house he has bought an estate upon Loch Lomond a beautiful laying place with the finest garden in the country.’

The most striking paragraph in these early letters is her sad, compassionate and understanding account of the fate of her first cousin Margaret (née Porterfield of Duchal) who had married the rich Houston Stewart-Nicolson of Carnock, brother of Sir Michael Stewart of Ardgowan. She fell out with her husband and ran away from him to England at Christmastide 1778. The Lass writes: ‘I fancy you are no stranger to the giddy manner Mrs. Nicolson has been going on of late: not poor woman that I believe she ever did a bad thing, but for a woman in her situation did many imprudent ones; in short, she has had all the world against her this long time. She was too handsome and accomplished not to be the envy of our sex, and poor woman she had but a bad life with wicked tongues; all her friends had spoke to her about it and she wanted much to get a house of her own or go abroad, as Duchall was not an agreeable home for her. Her friends would not hear of it, so she came to Glasgow about two weeks ago, paid all she owed in the world and took leave of us to go home. She was not heard of for eight days when Mrs. Milliken got a letter from her telling her before she received this she would be far from her with a firm resolution never to see friend she had nor country more, that she was tired of a bad world who had ever been cruel to her, and that she now thought of nothing but preparing herself for another world. She is gone to a cheap retired place in England, boards in a genteel family, and if she keeps to her plan happy, happy will it be for her. But her poor Mother is quite unconsolable: she was her darling child, and a good attentive child she ever was to her. All the rest of the family are well, but alas what a changed house it is particularly at this time it is striking when we used to be all so merry.’ This letter is perceptive and well-written for a girl of twenty-two.

Her shrewdness in judging character is shown in her vignette of Maxwell, the Laird of Bredieland who, despite his birth and position, only became a personage of consequence when his vote for the Parliamentary election for Renfrewshire was needed. A remarkably small number of people had votes for some of these Scottish county and borough elections, so that every voter was important to the candidate—in this instance Willie Macdowall of
Castlesemple, grandson of the sugar magnate, and Tory M.P. for Renfrewshire several times from 1783. The Lass thus describes Maxwell: 'You can't think how he is improven and what a person of consequence he is now that it is near election time. We had him twice at Milliken and Castlesemple, and Bob and I carried him [to] Jordanhill where he was some days. He is far from bright, and much good laughing at "the Laird" we had, for he never got another name. However he has promised to vote for Willie Mcdowall.'

The above quotation shows that the Lass was very much persona grata at the big houses in Renfrewshire and the Glasgow area, in some of which she might spend weeks on end in the summer. Being closely related to ancient families like the Cuninghames of Craigend, the Shaw-Stewarts of Ardgowan and the Porterfields of Duchal, she had the entrée into County Society, which was an interesting mixture of these really ancient families (in some cases near extinction), of old families like the Macdowalls who took a new lease of life, influence and power when they started the Glasgow sugar-refining industry, and of new merchant families like the Millikens and the Houstons of Jordanhill. Many other names come up casually in her letters as established friends (in a few cases for generations past)—Lord Sempill, Mure of Caldwell, Fleming of Barochan, Campbell of Blythswood, Macrae, Bogle, Dunlop ... It is interesting that she knew the fourteenth Earl of Glencairn, who became Burns's most important patron and counsellor in Edinburgh society. It was even rumoured that she was flirting with the Duke of Hamilton.

In her letters of 1778-79 she has been revealed as a handsome, gay, spirited and forthright young woman of twenty-three, observant and shrewd, and with a strong sense of humour. All this would have appealed to Burns when he saw her and knew about her in 1786, by which date she was just thirty. But her letters and journals in old age, written between 1822 and 1836 show three further important qualities which he would not have liked—her deep religious feeling, her loyalty to the throne, and her Conservatism. The letters were written to her favourite niece, Miss Joanna Alexander, a great friend of Mendelssohn and of J. G. Lockhart (Scott's biographer and a staunch Tory).

The Lass's Conservatism comes out amusingly in two letters on events preceding the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832. On 22nd March 1831 the second reading of the Bill was passed in the House of Commons by one vote. The Glasgow Town Council ordered a general illumination after receipt of the news, the city bells were rung
and the crowds paraded about cheering. She was living with her unmarried sister Peggy at No. 12 George Square and was forced to illuminate her windows so that they would not be smashed by the mob. The Provost was Robert Dalglish, son of a muslin manufacturer and himself a printer. He was one of the exponents of reform and had a genuine interest in the poor, which the Lass has the grace to admit. In April, 1831 she writes: 'My dearerst Joanna, I had the pleasure to receive your most cheerful last letter March 18th and would have replied to it long before this, but thought it right to give you a little respite, for sure I am you must be greatly plagued with me. I get so keen in politicks and alas you had nothing good to communicate to cheer me; and you long 'ere this must have discovered that I have not nerves nor patience for this Bill! And just think of being obliged in our own defence to illuminate! Oh, how I could in part amuse you with the scene altogether, owing to our Chief Magistrate being a low man tho' I'm told a very good man, and to be popular with the Mob is all he desires.'

Her other remark on the subject was occasioned by the rejection of a Petition to the House of Commons by the unsuccessful Whig candidate for Lanarkshire, who was defeated in the autumn of 1830 by fifteen votes by a Peer's son. This was the point that raised the gall in the unsuccessful candidate, Sir John Maxwell of Pollock, the seventh Baronet, who was chiefly noted as a sportsman with little interest in politics. So his petition speaks 'of the evil example so wantonly set them [the people] by Peers sending their nominees into the House, and praying the House to stay and to stop this unconstitutional innovation'. He petitions as the 'Chairman of a Meeting of the Noblemen, Gentlemen, Freeholders, Commissioners of Supply, Heritors, Magistrates of Towns, Justices of Peace, Merchants, and Manufacturers of the County of Renfrew'. The Lass's letter alleges that it was not representative of the County gentry. He asks for the franchise to be widely extended, for voting by ballot, and for three-year Parliaments only. The most interesting part of the petition is the warning of the widespread discontent and distress of 'the industrious classes', 'all ranks of the people being now wide awake to a sense of their wrongs' and he wisely warns that concessions to them must be 'granted in time and with a liberal hand'. Burns would have approved every word of this petition. Alas that the Lass should have commented: 'You cannot suppose how all moderate good people rejoiced at Sir John Maxwell's Petition being thrown out of the House of Lords! But what vexes and provoks me is their always calling it "The Renfrewshire Petition", when there was not
a Gentleman in the County put their name to it but themselves three!' To be fair on the Lass, her attitude must have been influenced by the fact that Sir John Maxwell's son and heir had twice defeated her beloved brother Boyd in the Renfrewshire elections—a seat which Boyd had held many years before and constantly tried to regain as a Tory.

Although late in life Burns professed loyalty to the King because he was attacked for his Jacobinism during the war with Revolutionary France and feared for his Excise post, he might not have liked the Lass's adoration of George IV during his visit to Edinburgh in 1822. But it was a truly romantic occasion—one of the most important events in modern Anglo-Scottish relations; even working-men cheered boisterously along the route. As the King entered the city for the first time, on his way from Leith Harbour to Holyrood Palace, the Lass had a splendid and close view of him from a friend's balcony in York Place. She writes in her diary: 'Most beautiful was it to see the splendid carriages and elegant people. And after waiting two hours and a half the Procession began, which altogether was most beautiful! But the King! the King! himself, magnificent!!! and looked so well! and so gracious! bowed to us as he passed with dignity and condescension. 'Twas a noble sight, never, never to be forgotten—worth many a hundred miles travel to see. We afterwards paraded thro' the mob as far as Princes Street to see everything; such numbers were never before seen... How many many thousands has he gratified this day of his loyal subjects is impossible to conceive!!! All the bells rung some hours, all all rejoicing.'

She was treated as a person of consequence in the Duke of Hamilton's official apartments, etc., when she watched the presentation of the ladies to the King at the 'Drawing Room'; one of them was her sister-in-law, Mrs. Boyd Alexander of Southbar. Lord Archibald Hamilton, whom she mentions, was the Duke's younger brother, a radical reformer and M.P. for Lanarkshire for a quarter of a century. As the ageing Lass, sonneted by Burns thirty-six years earlier, she must have been famous all over Scotland. She writes in her diary: '... were received into the Duke of Hamilton's apartments and met with the greatest attention from the attendants, and the Duke and Lord Archibald frequently came to us, hoping we found ourselves comfortable, and when the Picture Gallery was quite full, the servants asked us to walk into another fine room and throwing open the folding doors we were in a manner in the Gallery, we saw all the company so well and could have spoke to them all. It was the finest sight I ever beheld!! and all agreed that
there never was a finer or more brilliant at St. James’s. On coming out an Archer carried us to the Private Door outside where the King goes into his carriage, where there was an immense crowd! Who should I meet with but Mrs. Leitch [of] Glasgow, who was so glad to see me and held me firm till the King came, when I got so fine a sight of him! I bowed to him which was graciously returned. Mrs. Leitch was delighted! calling out “You caught his eye, what a smile he gave you”.

Her other quality which Burns would not have liked was her deep religious feeling, expressed in the conventional phrases of the period. But her sincere religion gave her strong support when one by one her closest and dearest relatives were struck down by illness or death—her favourite brother Boyd, her favourite nephew Claud of Ballochmyle, her favourite ‘Angel sister’ Peggy with whom she had lived all her life until Peggy died in Glasgow in 1834. When she was put into her coffin ‘our own Minister of St. George’s [Presbyterian Church] gave us most excellent prayers: poor me quite stupid—sometimes could not walk—often thought or feared I had entirely lost my mind; yet the Almighty supported me and enabled me to do my duty in all things’. This shows her indomitable spirit at seventy-eight and her strong sense of duty and decorum. From her window in George Square she watched the departure for Paisley of the hearse followed by the mourning coach filled with her brothers and then, saddest of all, an empty carriage which represented her as chief mourner—prevented by age and the custom of the time from making this last journey in her dead sister’s company.

Although she was now in her seventies, the Lass had not lost her forthrightness, acumen and sense of humour, as is shown by her two comments on Lord John Campbell, later seventh Duke of Argyll. He was then a Whig supporting the Reform Bill—hence the political meeting at Dumbarton mentioned below. His third wife, a young widow of twenty-nine (he was fifty-four), was the eldest daughter of the John Cuninghame of Craigends, about whose blue Grenadier uniform the Lass had raved in 1778. She thus describes the engaged couple in December 1830: “This morning I have a letter from our cousin Mrs. George Monteath informing us of her marriage to be—to Lord John Campbell; well, she has fought to bring to bear, and most curious stories are in circulation about it; but no matter for that, she has brought it to pass and is a cunning puss, as Boyd used to call her. And they are raking up old stories how she contrived to get her first husband, who was in very bad health at his marriage. Lord John is a very weak subject: has regular epileptic fits, but has
two fine stout boys and a spoilt little girl.'

This marriage of an ailing, elderly man to a young bride was physically nearly too much for him within three months of his marriage, as so often happens and as the Lass describes in April 1831: 'Lady John Campbell had nearly lost her little Lord: at the great Political Meeting at Dumbarton he was of course in the Chair, they were kept very late, and he took spasms in the night and fits, which he has long been subject to, and was some days confined to bed. But she will be kind to him and nurse him. His doctor is fond of him but owns “He is a poor subject”.’ There was so much hereditary disease in old families in those days that a clean, healthy stock was worth its weight in gold. This the Alexanders were, as she remarks in another context—‘a healthy race of Alexanders—as we have all hitherto been’.

It is appropriate to end with the only comment we have by her on Burns and his sonnet, which is in her last letter, dated November 1836. It shows her essential modesty. Her niece Mary had recommended to her a new *Life and Works* of Burns by the poets William Motherwell and James Hogg, who was called the Ettrick Shepherd because he was born there and started life as a shepherd at the age of seven. There were several parallels with Burns in his life—e.g., he failed as a farmer in Dumfriesshire, and his father before him had also failed as a farmer. He is best known today for his original *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*. The Lass writes: ‘She [Mary] also asks me if I have seen the new *Life of Burns*, edited by the Ettrik Shepherd—where she thinks he maybe mentions the Lass—is uncommonly good. Do ask my good friend Mr. Lockhart if he thinks so much of it. A gentleman told me he had heard the Shepherd say that so much was he delighted with what Burns said of her that he would go one hundred miles to see her; how lucky he never did—he would have been so much disappointed! Don’t mention me in this at all, I know you will not.’

Did she read the passage referred to in this book? It is a comment by the Shepherd on the sonnet, and defends the Lass for not replying to Burns’s letter—in terms which may anger some Burns enthusiasts. The passage runs: ‘Then there was Miss Alexander, “the bonny lass of Ballochmyle!” Blessed be that dear lady’s name, whose beauty and elegance drew forth one of the sweetest love songs that ever was penned. When I first read that song it made the hairs of my head creep, I thought it so beautiful. Burns took it heinously amiss that Miss Alexander never made any reply to the flaming letter which he sent her along with the song. I think it would have
been very unnatural if she had; for how could she think with patience of a great black curly ploughman, with brawny limbs and broad shoulders, straining her nightly to his bosom. It was really too much of a good thing this!'

Author's note:
If anyone knows whereabouts of letters from or to the Lass, will they kindly inform me.

Editor's note:
Boyd Alexander is a great-great-great nephew of the Lass o’ Ballochmyle. He is a leading authority on William Beckford of Fonthill (1760-1844), the writer and collector, on whom he has produced several books and many articles. He has lectured at many American Universities, and at Universities in Canada, Jamaica, Egypt and Rhodesia. He is working on his Family MSS for a family history. He was a History Scholar of Magdalen College, Oxford, where he graduated with First Class Honours.
BOOK REVIEW


The two journals kept by Robert Burns, one of his Highland Tour, the other of his Border Tour, were compiled at the time of the tour-making, in 1787.

They were originally published by Allan Cunningham, who in Raymond Lamont Brown's opinion was an inaccurate sort of editor.

Mr. Brown's editorship is invaluable, if only for the very full critical background he provides for the text, accompanied by excellent annotations, so that anyone who has not visited the Border country need have no qualms about understanding Burns’s references. Not only this, but he dedicates the book to Professor Toshio Namba, who has many friends in Scotland, and not only for the interest which he has taken in Burns lore.

The original MSS. had many vicissitudes. No doubt they were in Currie's hands; they were certainly in Sime's, and later in Lockhart's, and now they are in the safe keeping of the family of John Murray, the publishers. In the course of their wanderings, some nine leaves were torn out from the beginning of the Journal. It would appear that these contained verses, which, Mr. Brown opines, were such as would have shocked a 'tender Victorian's righteousness' (whatever that may be).

Burns went to the Borders, because, as he had confided to Mrs. Dunlop, he 'desired to make leisurely pilgrimages through Caledonia'. He had another reason. He could have a look at Patrick Miller's promised land of a farm on the Nith. He had as companion Robert Ainslie, whom he held in high esteem, although it is doubtful in hindsight if Ainslie merited it.

The Journal is not written in the same style as Burns's letters. It is in fact a note-taking Journal. In it he accepts the boredom of the fame which had travelled before him, and the pleasures of good company he describes occasionally with a sardonic twist. It is people who interest him, not the Border scenery which even today retains much of its romantic overtones. Indeed the poet makes no mention of the battlefields... and there are plenty... the border feuds, the balladry, the history of the ancient monastic houses. The rivers he noted... 'glorious river Tweed; clear and majestic'... and 'Jed a fine romantic little river'. The towns came in for
BOOK REVIEW

mention...‘ride to Berwick; an idle town, but rudely picturesque’ the climate...the soil, the husbandry...‘climate and soil of Berwickshire and even Roxburghshire superior to Ayrshire—bad roads—turnip and sheep husbandry their great improvements’. But above all, he was interested in the farmers and the lairds and the Lords, and of course, the lasses. Burns thus describes Isabella Lindsay, whom he met at Jedburgh ‘an engaging face and manner, un tout ensemble that speaks of her as of the first order of female minds...I am afraid my bosom still nearly as tinder as ever.’

Burns reached Newcastle on 29th May, and the Journal entries which follow are no longer in the original MSS., but are printed by Allan Cuningham. They tell very shortly of his journey from Newcastle to Carlisle by way of Hexham and Longtown; of a kind of flirtation in Carlisle, and thence to Annan. There the Journal ends, but the poet did continue his journey to Dumfries and thence to Mauchline.

Mr. Brown has done a service to Burnsiana by the reproduction of this Journal. The book is embellished with thirty-six pictures of the Border country in Burns’s time, and by nineteen pages of annotations which help the reader greatly. Included also are the seven letters of the Tour, one of which is the famous letter in Scots to Wm. Nicol of the High School of Edinburgh. Included also is the poem written by Mrs. Eliz. Scott of Wauchope House (Jedburgh) and Burns’s reply. (Burns refers in his Journal to ‘her consummate assurance of her own abilities’.)

The only contentious matter in this reprint is the inclusion of the two bawdy poems ‘Ellibank and Ellibraes,’ and ‘Tweedmouth Town,’ which can only have been inserted because they belong to the Borders. Of the first, the author says that the poet ‘collected this ribald old song in his “Merry Muses of Caledonia”.’ But they weren’t Burns’s ‘Merry Muses’, for the first publication of these took place in curious circumstances about 1800, and of these only a handful are attributable to Burns. The ‘Ellibank’ poem is well-known, but ‘Tweedmouth Town,’ says Mr. Brown, was probably collected by the poet while visiting the Borders. This is difficult to accept, for it has no poetic merit, and so to speak, little bawdy merit.

ALEX. MACMILLAN
During the summer of 1787, Robert Burns undertook a short tour of the West Highlands. Very little is known about it. He kept no journal, or if he did, it has never been found. The little that is known has been pieced together from his letters and other scraps of information.

A document which has been almost completely ignored by Burns biographers is ‘Hints respecting Burns the Ayrshire Poet’ by Dr. George Grierson, first printed by the Rev. Peter Hately Waddell in his edition of ‘Burns’s Life and Works’ published in monthly parts between 1867 and 1869.

The Grierson MS. was extant in 1867 and was then in the possession of John Reid, Kingston Place, Glasgow, as were also several Burns letters, which he made available to Waddell. Since Waddell’s ‘Life and Works’ is not easily accessible, the text of the Grierson document is reprinted here for the benefit of readers.

WEST HIGHLAND TOUR
Burns at Inverary and Dumbarton
by Dr. George Grierson

Whoe’er thou art that lodgest here,
Heaven Help thy wofu’ case;
Unless thou com’st to visit Him,
That King of Kings, his Grace.

There’s Highland greed, there’s Highland pride;
There’s Highland scab and hunger;
If Heaven it was that sent me here,
It sent me in an anger.

N.B.—The above lines were written at the Inn at Inverary by
R. Burns, on the pane of glass, in presence of George
Grierson, in 1788.

Burns wrote an encomium on Mary McLachlan, the Innkeeper’s daughter, at Tarbert—ending with
To fair Maria add McLachlan,
Quod Burns, a rhymer lad frae Mauchlin.
George Grierson was with him when he wrote the stanzas on
Miss McLachlan, in 1788; and he, a day or two after this,
wrote an Invocation to the Sun, at Bannachra, on the banks of Lochlomond.—It was in June, 1788; when Burns made a young man, Duncan McLachlan, son of Mr. McLachlan of Bannachra, bring out the largest bowl of punch his house could furnish, and made all the ladies and gentlemen kneel down, till he would repeat extempore, at the dawn of Day, an Invocation to the Sun. The company were Dr. Grierson, Mr. McLachlan, junior, and the family, Mr. McFarlan from Jamaica, Mr. John Sheddan, merchant, and Miss Sheddan of Glasgow, Mr. Gardner of Lady-Kirk, and the two Misses Butters from Edinburgh. Next day, Messrs. Grierson, Gardner and Burns left Arden in the evening, and in coming to Dumbarton met with a Highlandman riding with his bare-back—on a bare-back horse. Burns pursued the Highlandman, till he was thrown from his horse into a thorn tree, and Burns’s face was all bloody, he having fallen from his horse and cut his face.—They came that night safe to Dumbarton—when the magistrates did them all the honour of conferring the freedom of their city [on them]; and Oliphant preached next day, being the Fast-day, against the parties foresaid, and found great fault [with] the magistrates for conferring honours on the author of vile, detestable, and immoral publications.

[From original, entitled ‘Hints respecting Burns the Ayrshire Poet, by G. Grierson,’ in possession of John Reid, Esq., Kingston Place, Glasgow.]

The Rev. P. Hately Waddell was an independent minister of the gospel from Girvan, who has been described by Prof. James Kinsley as ‘the high-priest of the Romantics’. While it is true that his edition of the ‘Works’ with its ‘Spiritual Biography’ is highly coloured and his judgement was often at fault, he nevertheless made a valuable contribution to the collection of Burns letters, publishing about thirty of them for the first time. Prof. J. De Lancey Ferguson, the recognised authority on the poet’s letters, has this to say of Waddell: ‘As editor of the letters Waddell displayed in the collation of such manuscripts as he had access to a meticulous accuracy which one seeks vainly in any predecessor’. One may safely assume, therefore, that the text of the Grierson MS., as printed by Waddell, is an accurate copy of the original.

Very little is known of Grierson. His name appears on the list of subscribers to the 1787 Edinburgh Edition as ‘Mr. George Grierson, Glasgow’. He subscribed for 36 copies of the poems—easily the largest Glasgow subscription—and from this may be gathered that
his interest in the poet and his works extended beyond that of a normal subscriber.

On his return from the West Highland Tour, Burns presided at a meeting of the St. James Masonic Lodge, Tarbolton, of which he was Deputy Master. The entry in the minute book, in Burns’s own hand, records:

MAUCHLINE, 25th July, 1787

This night the Deputation of the Lodge met at Mauchline, and entered Brother Alexander Allison of Barnmuir, an apprentice. Likewise admitted Bros. Professor Stuart of Cathrine, and Claude Alexander, Esq., of Ballochmyle; Claude Neilson, Esq., Paisley; John Farquhar Gray, Esq., of Gilmiscroft; and Dr. George Grierson, Glasgow, Honorary Members of the Lodge.

Robt. Burns. D.M.

It seems reasonable to assume that Grierson and Burns were on very friendly terms during this period. Waddell states that an important series of letters addressed to Grierson from the poet were in the possession of John Reid of Glasgow, but were destroyed when the flood waters of the Clyde inundated his house in 1831. These must be discounted but it is very probable that Burns and Grierson exchanged letters.

A study of the document would suggest that it was written some years after the actual journey took place, as Grierson gives the date as 1788, whereas the tour was undertaken the previous year. He could have been misled in his recollection of the exact year, a not uncommon fault when recalling past events. Dr. James Adair, who accompanied Burns on his second visit to Harvieston in October, 1787, and John Syme, who was the poet’s travelling companion on the tour of Galloway in 1794, obviously experienced the same difficulty. Both furnished Dr. James Currie, Burns’s first biographer, with accounts of the respective journeys and although their reports are substantially correct as to the main facts, they contain inaccuracies in some of the dates.

Grierson’s version of the lines written on a pane of glass at Inverary, differs from the text usually given in the printed works, but there is nothing unusual in this, when one considers the variants in the texts of many of Burns’s poems.

There seems to have been some doubt in Waddell’s mind as to whether the Tarbert referred to in the document was Tarbert, Loch
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THE CAIRN AT GLEN AFTON
(see page 7)
THE CAIRN AT HARVIESTOUN
(see page 7)
Fyne or Tarbet, Loch Lomond, and he was influenced, possibly by the spelling, into believing that it was Tarbert, Loch Fyne. It should be remembered, however, that this form of spelling was used at that time for both places. For instance a map of Dunbartonshire with Loch Lomond and its environs by Charles Ross, dated 1792, shows the spelling as Tarbert.

Of the people mentioned by Grierson very little is known. It has been established from records of the period that the tenant or tacksman of Bannachra in 1787 was Archibald McLachlan. He was 'farmer and grasser,' and it probably was he who acted as host to Burns and entertained him so regally. A Mr. Peter McLauchline, Bannochray (another form of spelling), is listed as a subscriber to the 1787 edition and no doubt was related to Archibald. Their names appear in the Parochial Register for Luss in connection with the births of members of their respective families over the years 1753 to 1769. The address of both is given as Bannachra, but there is no record in the register of the birth of a male child called Duncan.

No trace now remains of the other members of the company, although it is of interest that a Mr. John Shedden is listed in Jones's Directory of Glasgow for 1787, as a merchant residing on the west side of Dunlop Street.

The events, as recorded by Grierson, follow very closely Burns's own account which he gave to his intimate friend, James Smith, in a letter dated 30th June, 1787, probably written from Dumbarton:

On our return, at a Highland gentleman's hospitable mansion, we fell in with a merry party, and danced till the ladies left us, at three in the morning. Our dancing was none of the French or English insipid formal movements; the ladies sung Scotch songs like angels, at intervals; then we flew at Bab at the Bowster, Tullochgorum, Loch Erroch Side, &c. like midges sporting in the mottie sun, or craws prognosticating a storm in a hairst day. When the dear lasses left us, we ranged round the bowl till the goodfellow hour of six; except a few minutes that we went out to pay our devotions to the glorious lamp of day peering over the towering top of Benlomond. We all kneeled; our worthy landlord's son held the bowl; each man a full glass in his hand; and I, as priest, repeated some rhyming nonsense, like Thomas-a-Rhymer's prophecies I suppose. After a small refreshment of the gifts of Somnus, we proceeded to spend the day on Lochlomond, and reached Dumbarton in the evening. We dined at another good fellow's house, and consequently, pushed the bottle; when we went out to mount
our horses, we found ourselves 'No vera fou but gaylie yet'. My two friends and I rode soberly down the Loch side, till by came a Highlandman at the gallop, on a tolerably good horse, but which had never known the ornaments of iron or leather. We scorned to be out-galloped by a Highlandman, so off we started, whip and spur. My companions, though seemingly gaily mounted, fell sadly astern; but my old mare, Jenny Geddes, one of the Rosinante family, strained past the Highlandman in spite of all his efforts with the hair halter; just as I was passing him, Donald wheeled his horse, as if to cross before me to mar my progress, when down came his horse, and threw his rider's breekless a--e in a clipt hedge; and down came Jenny Geddes over all, and my Bardship between her and the Highlandman's horse. Jenny Geddes trode over me with such cautious reverence that matters were not so bad as might well have been expected; so I came off with a few cuts and bruises, and a thorough resolution to be a pattern of sobriety for the future.

Numerous speculations have been made as to the identity of the 'good fellow' at whose house Burns dined and 'pushed the bottle,' following his merry evening at Bannachra. Grierson supplied the answer when he wrote, 'Next day Messrs Grierson, Gardner and Burns left Arden in the evening'. At that time Arden was the home of Mr. George Buchanan, a Glasgow tobacco lord, whose name appears on the list of subscribers to the Edinburgh Edition. About the year 1770, according to Waddell, he acquired the lands of Auchindennan—Dennistoun and the adjoining lands of Bannachra. He renamed the estate Arden, by which name it is still known today. The word of Burns's arrival in the area would no doubt reach Arden, as the McLachlans of Bannachra were tenants of George Buchanan.

The fact that there were three travellers in the party which left Arden for Dumbarton is confirmed by Burns himself. In his letter to Smith he states, 'My two friends and I rode soberly down the Loch side'. A closer study of his letter would seem to indicate that he was accompanied by his friends throughout the entire tour. He opens by using the first person plural and note what he says, 'On our return . . . we fell in with a merry party'.

It is perhaps the final part of the Grierson report which provides the most interest. He claims that when the three travellers reached Dumbarton:

. . . the magistrates did them all the honour of conferring the freedom of their city [on them]; and Oliphant preached the
next day, being the Fast-day, against the parties foresaid, and found great fault [with] the magistrates for conferring honours on the author of vile, detestable, and immoral publications.

For well over a century a tradition existed in Dumbarton that Burns had been made an honorary burgess during his visit in 1787. No official record existed. Tradition also had it that the reason for the absence of Burns’s name from the town council records was due to the opposition of the Rev. James Oliphant, the Auld Licht Minister of Dumbarton Parish Kirk, who had denounced the magistrates for their action. Oliphant had been lampooned by Burns the previous year (1786) in his poem ‘The Ordination’;

Curst common-sense, that imp o’ hell,
Cam in wi’ Maggie Lauder;
But Oliphant aft made her yell
An’ Russel sair misca’d her.

Before his translation to Dumbarton in 1773, Oliphant was Minister of the High Kirk, Kilmarnock for eleven years. His successor was ‘Black’ Jock Russel, another Auld Licht, who had incurred Burns’s satire on more than one occasion. He is known to have ‘shared the tent’ with Oliphant at ‘Holy Fairs’ in Dumbarton, and no doubt would pass on to him all the ‘scandal’ concerning the young anti-clerical Ayrshire poet.

It is very unlikely that the absence of Burns’s name from the Burgh records was due to Oliphant’s opposition. The practice at that time was for the names of all those admitted as ordinary burgesses to be recorded in the minutes of the town council (it was necessary to be a burgess in order to trade). In the case of gratis or honorary burgesses, however, their names were seldom recorded. The names of those so recorded during the 18th century could be counted on one hand. It seems that the practice of admitting honorary burgesses was so abused during this period that almost anyone could be admitted. Fergus Roberts, a former Town Clerk of Dumbarton, who compiled a Roll of Dumbarton Burgesses and Guild-Brethren from the Town Council records and other sources, writes:

The fact that the admission of such burgesses provided a source of revenue, not only for the Common Good, but also for the Town Clerk, and made possible a carousal for the members of Council, contributed to the laxity shown in this matter. In the ‘Historical Accounts of the Government and Grievances of the Royal Burghs of Scotland’ it is reported that in Dumbarton between 1767 and 1787 many hundred honorary
burgesses were made for no other reason than to give the Town Clerk a fee of 3s. 6d. for each burgess ticket out of the revenue of the Burgh.

In the light of these circumstances, Grierson’s claim that all three travellers—Burns, Gardner and Grierson—were made honorary burgesses, does not appear unreasonable.

Burns’s burgess ticket, bearing the date 29th June, 1787 came to light in 1911, thereby ending the speculation that had existed for over a hundred years. While it established that Burns had been made an honorary burgess, it did not dispose of the tradition that Oliphant had denounced the Magistrates for their action.

The first mention in print of this tradition was made by Waddell in 1867. He paid a visit to Dumbarton, obviously to collect material for his ‘Life’, where he met John Denny, then Town Clerk. He writes:

That Mr. Oliphant did so preach on the day in question, and on that subject, is a distinct tradition in Dumbarton—and that he was very bold and bitter on the occasion.

In 1877, Donald MacLeod, a local historian, who collected much valuable material on past local worthies, published a History of the Castle and Town of Dumbarton. It included a short biographical sketch of the Rev. James Oliphant, in which he wrote:

It is well known to the readers of Burns’s Life that he spent a few pleasant days under the hospitable roof of Mr. MacAulay of Levengrove. While there it has always been understood that the poet was made a burgess of this Royal Burgh. The parish minister was so indignant thereat, that report says he bullied the Council to such a degree as prevented them from recording the same in their minutes.

Grierson’s testimony that Oliphant ‘found great fault with the magistrates’ certainly lends credibility to the belief that existed in Dumbarton throughout the nineteenth century. The words printed in italics in Grierson’s account are probably the actual words used by Oliphant.

The only brief reference subsequently made to the Grierson MS. is to be found in Dr. William Wallace’s revised edition of Dr. Robert Chambers’s ‘Life and Works of Robert Burns’, published in 1896 on the centenary of the poet’s death. Commenting on the lines written at Inverary, as quoted by Grierson, Dr. Wallace writes:

To this version is attached the note ‘The above lines were written at the inn at Inverary, by R. Burns in the presence of George Grierson in 1878’. The erroneous date given is sufficient
to make this version 'suspect'.

One would have thought that Dr. Wallace would have quoted the 'erroneous date' [1788] correctly. No doubt in his case it was a typographical transposition of figures, but it serves to illustrate how easily mistakes can be made in dates. It also helps to disprove his assertion that the Grierson version is suspect.

The Grierson MS. cannot be so easily dismissed. Although it is a rather curious and plain-worded document, if read in conjunction with Burns's letters which refer to the West Highland Tour, and especially the one to James Smith, already quoted, it must be admitted that it is essentially correct in the facts, as related by the poet himself. It helps to shed additional light, however little, on a journey that is vague and perplexing to all students of Burns.
POETRY YOU'LL ENJOY

RHYMES O' AULD REEKIE by Douglas Fraser. £1.00.
TWICE FOR JOY by J. K. Annand. 65p.
(Both published by Macdonald Publishers, Loanhead, Midlothian.)

In his attractively produced book, illustrated with pen and wash drawings by Jim Nicholson, Douglas Fraser has gathered together his poems on Edinburgh, some reprinted from his earlier collection Landscape of Delight. Among these is 'Music amang the Raeburns' (inspired by the lunch-hour recitals at the Scottish National Gallery) and that perennial favourite 'To the Wind':

O gallus wind o' Reekie toun,
Ye breege through ilka space
which deservedly won a prize in the Burns Bicentenary Competition promoted by the Scotsman for 1959.

The publishers rightly describe the Rhymes as 'this loving but by no means uncritical collection,' for the salt of humour is refreshingly present throughout. The lively poems, with their varying verse patterns, depict certain aspects of Edinburgh to the life. Here is the opening stanza of 'Reekie Braes':

Gang your gate in Reekie,
There ye'll find
Bell's Brae, Church Lane
And Castle Wynd.
Fowk wha bide in Reekie
Ken richt weel
There's aye braes, stey braes,
Aye braes to speel.

As might be expected from its unity of theme, this book makes a more unified impression than its predecessor, in which the author presented poems grave and gay, some in English, others in the simple straightforward Scots of the Rhymes. Possibly Scots is his true medium of expression; but this remains to be seen from his subsequent work.

Twice for Joy is the third collection of verse by J. K. Annand, who consistently writes in Scots. In his first book, Two Voices, may be found, with certain alterations and additions, that powerful poem, 'Arctic Convoy,' which won the prize offered by the Burns Federation for the best original poem in the Scottish dialect (see the Burns Chronicle for 1956). Mr Annand's engaging book of bairn-rhymes Sing it Aince for Pleisure, delightfully illustrated by Dennis Carabine, has run into three editions since its publication in 1965.
And now comes *Twice for Joy*, drawing its title from the last verse of the ‘Mavis’ poem in the preceding volume.

Sing it aince for pleasure,
Sing it twice for joy,
Sing it thrice to shaw us
That ye’re the clever wee boy.

Joy and Pleasure are indeed the key-notes of both these gay-hearted books. This latest one is also illustrated, by C.M., whose effective line-drawings are in black and white, whereas bright colour occasionally enlivened the pages of the preceding volume. In the verse is the same genuine empathy with the child-mind which caused *Pleasure* to be so popular with the young and the young at heart. As the poems are short, perhaps it may be permitted to quote ‘Hollow Holly Tree’ in full.

A houlet blinked at me
Frae a hollow holly tree
And fluffing out her feathers said
‘Awa and let me be.
I was huntin’throu the nicht
Till I nearly tint my sicht
And nou I want to dover in
My hollow holly tree.’

Here the owl illustration is particularly telling.

The mavis sang thrice, so it is to be hoped we may look forward to yet another volume of bairn-rhymes as bright and gay and charming as the first two.

*Alice V. Stuart*
FLAX AND FLAX DRESSING

IRVINE BURNS CLUB IS INDEBTED TO MR. BRUCE P. LENMAN, M.A., M.LITT., LECTURER IN SCOTTISH HISTORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS, FOR THE PREPARATION OF THIS ARTICLE.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MR. D. K. RAMSAY.

First comes its name and appearance. There are many flaxes. They all belong to the Linaceae family and the one which is of commercial importance is the one called Linum Usitatissimum, or Common Flax. It is an annual plant with erect slender stems extending to about one and a half feet high. Its narrow lance-shaped leaves are arranged alternately and at a distance from each other. The flowers are large, and purplish-blue in colour, borne in a loose terminal corymb (or convex flower cluster). It has five petals, as here illustrated.

It is a fairly demanding crop which needs well-watered and fairly heavy soils.

When ready it is gathered by plucking the entire plant by hand. In the days of Robert Burns agricultural labour in Scotland would still be cheap enough for this to be an economic proposition, but as the 19th century went on, the fact that you could not mechanise the gathering of flax (without losing a substantial part of the yield) made it economic to grow flax only in areas where there was a supply of cheap land where you could afford to cut the flax mechanically and accept a lower yield. The Americans had enough cheap land to mechanise flax culture, and the Baltic States, which were part of Tsarist
Russia and have been part of Soviet Russia since 1939, had very cheap labour. The result was that 19th century Britain increasingly imported flax from Riga or St. Peterburg. The growing of flax in Scotland died out. In Northern Ireland flax growing lingered longer but in the 20th century it has declined in the face of cheap, imported Baltic Flax.

By-products of the flax-seed, e.g. linseed oil, are an important feature of the flax trade. The seeds are separated from the main plant at an early stage in the process of preparation. Once this is done the plant fibres, from which linen is ultimately made, lie gummed in bundles around the woody central stem of the plant, and are covered by an outer bark. Dressing flax consists in separating bark and stem from fibres and converting the latter into a state in which it can be easily spun. 1781, when Burns was learning to be a flax dresser, nearly all the process would still be executed manually.

The initial separation between fibre and stem is effected by RETTING. This means that the plant is steeped in water until the central stem rots ('retting' is an old word form meaning rott ing). Care has to be taken that the long bundles of flax fibre are not adversely affected by the water. You can still occasionally see old retting ponds in parts of the Scottish countryside where flax was grown.

Once the woody core was rotten the flax was removed and Scutched. In Burns's time this would look rather like this:—

The flax is fixed in a slot in a vertical board and is beaten with the crescent shaped tool. The bundle of flax would be turned and reversed at intervals. This shatters the BOOM (which is the technical term for the woody core). Today the principle is much as before but the striking element is mechanised.

Below is a very over-simplified sketch of a Rotary Scutcher (also known as a 'Flemish Mill'). You can see at a glance how similar the process is to the previous sketch.

After RETTING and SCUTCHING the flax is still full of impurities.
Most of these are in the form of Shives or small splinters of woody material. It is at this point that the Combs and Hand Cards in the Irvine Burns Museum become relevant.

The Hand Combs were used in pairs. They were heated on a comb-pot or small stove and a bundle of fibre—say 4-6 oz—was worked into one comb. Then the combers sat and worked the combs, one across the other until a long flat tress was combed out.

Carding was the next process. You do find Hand Cards, but the Card in the Irvine Museum is too big and heavy to have been used in any way other than as illustrated on the wall-mural, i.e. it must have been set on a bench and the already combed flax whisked through it either by hand or (less probably) with the aid of a smaller hand card. It is often stated, incorrectly, that the object of carding is to lay the fibres absolutely parallel to one another. In actual fact carding parts the fibres and breaks any natural locks but produces a light and fluffy mass suitable for spinning. The total loss in the flax dressing process is, overall, high. About half the bulk of the flax is composed of impurities or Shorts (too short for spinning) which can only be used for Tow.

At this point in the 18th century the process would pass to the womenfolk on the farm who would be expected to spin the fibre on Treadle-operated Spinning Wheels. In practice it proved difficult to apply the mechanical weaving inventions of the late 18th century to flax. Flax has not the elastic properties of cotton or wool though.
it is very much stronger. The result was that in the late 18th century the hard, brittle linen wefts (i.e., the side to side threads) were liable to break under the jerk of the powered shuttle. Not until 1824 did Maberly & Co. of Aberdeen set up extensive power-looms for linen.

What linen did for Scotland was to establish a valuable tradition of textile working. The West coast tended to go on to specialise in cotton and the East in hemp and then jute, while Northern Ireland and Leeds between them tended to monopolise what was left of linen-manufacture (though, of course, it never quite died out in places like Dundee, even though they increasingly specialised in other fabrics). Burns, unwittingly, participated in an important stage in Scotland’s ‘take off’ into self-sustained industrial growth.

BRUCE LENMAN

BURNS A FLAX DRESSER IN IRVINE
(1781-82—Age 22-23)

‘My twenty-third year was to me an important era. Partly through whim, and partly that I wished to set about doing something in life, I joined a flax-dresser in a neighbouring town, to learn his trade. This was an unlucky affair. My (here in the original passage, suppressed in Currie’s Biography, the poet charges his partner with having swindled him. The partner was a relative—on his mother’s side—named Peacock), and to finish the whole, as we were giving a welcome carousal to the new year, the shop took fire and burnt to ashes, and I was left like a true poet, not worth a sixpence.’

(’O why the deuce should I repine, and be an ill-forboder?
I'm twenty-three, and five-feet-nine,—I'll go and be a sodger!’)

‘I was obliged to give up this (flax-dressing) scheme: the clouds of misfortune were gathering thick round my father’s head; and, what was worst of all, he was visibly far gone in a consumption; and to crown my distresses, a belle-fille whom I adored (reference here, according to Mrs Begg, to Ellison Begbie), and who had pledged her soul to meet me in the field of matrimony, jilted me with peculiar circumstances of mortification. The finishing evil that brought up the rear of this infernal file, was my constitutional melancholy being increased to such a degree that, for three months, I was in a state of mind scarcely to be envied by the hapless wretches who have got their mittimus—“Depart from me, ye cursed”.’—Autobiography.
A 'CHRONICLE' READERS' CHECKLIST

Compiled by R. Peel

The following list includes all important Burns books which are currently in print, with a selection of those which it is hoped will interest readers who take Burns as their centre and then move outwards through the rest of Scottish literature. The connection of several books with Burns may appear somewhat tenuous, but either they share the same period in time and therefore contribute to an understanding of Scotland in the eighteenth century, or they are part of the vernacular tradition which flows from the early Makars down to the present time.

Many books will be already familiar to Burns enthusiasts, but they are included both for the sake of completeness and because some readers may not know that they are still obtainable.

BY BURNS

1. THE POEMS AND SONGS OF R.B. Ed. J. Kinsley. 3 vol. 1625 pp. £15.00 OUP '68. Single vol. condensed ed. 804 pp., hardback £2.50 '69. Paperback £1.71. The long awaited definitive edition. See reviews in '69 and '70 'Chronicle'.

2. POEMS CHIEFLY IN THE SCOTTISH DIALECTS. 1786 302 pp. £5.00 and £2.00 Scolar Press, Menston, Yorkshire '71. The Kilmarnock edition with an Appendix containing the additional poems in the Edinburgh edition.


4. POEMS. 272 pp. £0.40 Penguin '72. First pub. '46. Of the many cheap editions this can be singled out for its arrangement and marginal gloss.

5. THE SONGS OF R.B. Ed. J. C. Dick. Reprint of 1903 ed. $18.00 AMS U.S.A.

6. SONGS OF R.B. with NOTES ON SCOTTISH SONGS by B. Ed. Dick, and ANNOTATIONS OF SCOTTISH SONGS by B. by Davidson Cook. In 1 vol. $12.50 Gale U.S.A. See review in '64 'Chronicle'.


7. **The Merry Muses of Caledonia.** Ed. J. Barke and S. G. Smith. 224 pp. £0·40 Panther '70 also Luxor Press £0·48 '68. Bawdy folksongs at their best (or worst!). See review in '66 'Chronicle'.

First Commonplace Book 1783-85. Reprinted from the Adam ed. of 1872.

9. **Commonplace Book.** Ed. J. C. Ewing and D. Cook 1938. Reprinted with a further intro. by D. Daiches. 43 pp. transcript followed by the poet's manuscript in facsimile. £6·30 Centaur '65.
A true collector's piece. One of the most handsome items to be published in recent years.

Singly bound volume of both vol. of Gribbel's 1914 facsimile. 5 ill.

11. **Letters of R.B.** Ed. J. De Lancey Ferguson. 2 vol. $39·50 Scholarly Pr. '71 U.S.A.
First pub. in 1931. No longer listed in current British catalogues.


13. **The Wit of R.B.** Selected by G. Irving. 95 pp. £1·20 Leslie Frewin '72.
A rather hastily prepared selection of poetry and prose.

14. **Burns Birthday Book.** 128 pp. £0·25 to £0·55 Collins '64.
A quotation for every day of the year.

**BIOGRAPHY AND LITERARY CRITICISM**

See review in '70 'Chronicle'.

3. Crichton-Browne, Sir James. 'Burns from a New Point of View.' 92 pp. $6·00 Kennikat U.S.A. Reprint of the 1937 ed. explaining the medical history of B.


5. Daiches, D. 'R.B. and his World.' 128 pp. £1·95 Thames and Hudson '71. Retells the B. story with the aid of 120 illustrations.

6. Lacey Ferguson, J. 'Pride and Passion. R.B. 1759-96.' $10·00 Russell '64 U.S.A. First pub. 1939. A perceptive study by an esteemed scholar.

7. Fitzhugh, R. T. 'R.B. Man and Poet.' 528 pp. £3·50. W. H. Allen '71. Burns can be discussed in a franker manner now than was permissible in pre-war studies. However it improves on Snyder only in that it resolves the Highland Mary 'coffin board' episode. See review in '71 'Chronicle'.

8. Hecht, H. 'R.B.' 328 pp. £2·00 Portway Reprints '71. First pub. in English in 1936. Lives up to Snyder's claim (made in 1932 of the German 1919 ed.) that it is 'the best brief life of B. that has yet appeared'. See review in '72 'Chronicle'.

9. Lindsay, M. 'Burns Encyclopaedia.' 414 pp. £4·50 Hutchinson '70. Reprint, in a handier size and with minor corrections, of the 1959 ed. Useful, with good cross references.


12. RENWICK, W. L. 'B. as Others Saw Him.' 49pp. £0·20 Saltire '59.
  Interesting descriptions of B. by his contemporaries.
13. SNYDER, F. B. 'The Life of R.B.' 524 pp. $14·00 Archon '68 U.S.A.
  Reprint of the 1932 ed. The standard biography that, despite its cost (about £6), should be on the bookshelf of every B. enthusiast. See review in '69 'Chronicle'.
14. HENDERSON, T. F. 'Scottish Vernacular Literature.' $18·50 Gale U.S.A.
  Reprint of 1910 ed. This was for long the standard work.
15. SPEIRS, J. 'The Scots Literary Tradition.' 229 pp. £1·80 Faber '62.
  Traces Scots literature from 15th century to the present. Readers can find some of the B. material in the Pelican 'Guide to English Literature. Vol. 5. From Blake to Byron'.
  A useful and scholarly appraisal, but it is regrettable that Wittig's 'The Scottish Tradition in Literature,' Oliver and Boyd 1958 is no longer in print.
16. STEVENSON, R. L. 'Familiar Studies of Men and Books.' £0·65 Collins '56.
  First pub. 1882. Contains an interesting chapter on B. and his morals.

TOPOGRAPHY
1. PORTRAIT OF THE BURNS COUNTRY. H. Douglas. 190 pp. £2·00 Hale '73. First pub. 1968.
   Also in this series are:
   'Portrait of Edinburgh.' I. Nimmo. 208 pp. £1·50. '69.
   'Portrait of the Scott Country.' M. Lochhead. 186 pp. £1·30. '68.
2. R.B. AND EDINBURGH. J. McVie. 95 pp. £0·75 Burns Fed. '69.
   Colour guide. See '73 'Chronicle'.
4. R.B. A. Bold. 24 pp. £0·25 Pitkin '73.
   Accurate text enhanced by many good photographs and prints.
   Jarrold also publish 'The Scott Country with Edinburgh and the Lothians,' and both Jarrold and Pitkin have companion booklets on Bonnie Prince Charlie.
1. **COMPLETE GLOSSARY TO THE POETRY AND PROSE OF R.B. J. Cuthbertson.** 464 pp. $17.50 Johnson Reprint. Reprint of the Paisley 1886 ed. Several U.S.A. publishers have reissued this guide, the cheapest being $16.50.


5. **SCOTS DICTIONARY.** A Warrack. 717 pp. £2.00 Chambers '68. First pub. 1911. Covers the period from about 1650.

6. **LOWLAND SCOTS GLOSSARY.** I. MacKinnon. 36 pp. £0.15 Learmonth Stirling '66.

**EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BACKGROUND**


2. **CAMPBELL, R. H.** 'Scotland since 1707. The rise of an Industrial Society.' 354 pp. £2.65 Blackwell '65.


4. **COCKBURN, H.** 'Memorials of his Time.' 484 pp. £3.25 Mercat Press '71. This facsimile of the 1856 ed. gives an insight into the world of B.
5. CRAIG, D. 'Scottish literature and the Scottish People. 1680-1830.' 344 pp. £2·25 Chatto '61.

6. DAICHES, D. 'The Paradox of Scottish Culture. The 18th Century Experience.' 120 pp. £0·60 OUP '64.

7. HAMILTON, H. 'An Economic History of Scotland in the 18th Century.' 470 pp. £3·00 OUP '63.


9. JOHNSON, D. 'Music and Society in Lowland Scotland in the 18th Century.' 223 pp. £3·30 OUP '72. Interrelationships of folk and urban cultures, and the influences from Classical Europe.

10. JOHNSON, S. 'Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland' is contained with Boswell's 'Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides'. 494 pp. £0·75 OUP '70. Boswell's Journal was not pub. until after the death of J. in 1784.


13. SHAPIRO, H. 'Scotland in the Days of Burns.' 106 pp. £0·33. Longman '68. Also in this 'Then and There' series, which are designed for school children, are:—

'Edinburgh in its Golden Age.'
'The Jacobite Rising of 1745.'
'Glasgow and the Tobacco Lords.'
'Scotland in the Time of Wallace and Bruce.'
Robert Fergusson

The only R.F. books in print are:


Allan Ramsay

We should be ashamed that a selection of Ramsay's poems is not in print on this side of the Atlantic.

1. The Ever Green. $25.00. 2 vol. reprint of 1724 ed. AMS Pr. U.S.A.

2. Poems. $55.50. 2 vol. reprint of 1877 ed. AMS.

3. Tea-Table Miscellany. $21.00. Reprint of 1760 ed. AMS.

4. The Gentle Shepherd. £1.25 and £0.60. Forthcoming pub. of 1725 ed. Scolar Press, Menston, Yorkshire.

Sir Walter Scott

Virtually all Scott's novels are in print (through Collins or Dent), and the poems through OUP (978 pp. £2.25).

A selection of criticism, additional to those reviewed in the '70 'Chronicle,' is:


2. Daiches, D. 'Scott and his World.' 144 pp. 143 ill. £1.95 Thames and Hudson '71.
3. **Devlin, D. D.** 'Scott: Author of Waverley.' 142 pp. £2.95 Macmillan '71.


5. **McLaren, M.** 'Scott.' 256 pp. £2.75 Heinemann '70.


**James Hogg**

1. **The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner.** £1.50 OUP '69, and £0.50 OUP '70. First pub. 1824.

2. **Selected Poems.** Ed. D. S. Mack. 183 pp. £2.10. OUP '70. Issued to commemorate the bi-centenary of his birth.


   Two well-known sources in one volume.

**Charles Edward Stuart**

If we leave aside the songs he inspired, then Bonnie Prince Charlie was arguably the worst thing to happen to Scotland, but his appeal continues. More recent editions are:

1. **Daiches, D.** 'Charles Edward Stuart.' 336 pp. 31 ill. £3.50 Thames and Hudson '73.

   Interesting in that Daiches draws heavily on Jacobite sources.

2. **Gibson, J. S.** 'Ships of the '45. The Rescue of the Young Pretender.' 172 pp. £1.75 Hutchinson '67.

3. **Linklater, E.** 'The Prince in the Heather.' 128 pp. 40 ill. £2.00 Hodder and Stoughton '65.

   Captures the romance of the Highlands.

4. **McLaren, M.** 'Bonnie Prince Charlie.' 224 pp. £2.50 Hart-Davis '72.

   See review in '73 'Chronicle'.

5. **Prebble, J.** 'Culloden.' 368 pp. £3.00 Secker & W. '69 and £0.40 Penguin '70. Author of 'Glencoe,' £3.00 '66 or £0.40 '69, and 'The Highland Clearances,' £2.75 '63, or £0.45 '69.
A 'CHRONICLE' READERS' CHECKLIST

6. SELBY, J. ‘Over the Sea to Skye.’ 170 pp. £3.90 Hamish Hamilton '73. Neutral account of strategy by a military historian.

ANTHOLOGIES

1. OXFORD BOOK OF SCOTTISH VERSE. Ed. MacQueen and Scott. 664 pp. £2.85 OUP '66.
2. PENGUIN BOOK OF SCOTTISH VERSE. Ed. T. Scott. 526 pp. £0.50 '70.
3. BOOK OF SCOTTISH VERSE. Ed. Mackie and Lindsay. 480 pp. £0.90 World's Classics OUP '67.
4. CHOICE OF SCOTTISH VERSE 1470-1570. J. & W. MacQueen. 224 pp. £3.00 and £1.50 Faber '72.
5. CONTEMPORARY SCOTTISH VERSE. Ed. Lindsay. 68 pp. £0.70 Saltire '71.
6. SCOTTISH POETRY. £0.75 Edin. Univ. Pr. '68, '69, '70. Ed. Bruce, Lindsay, Morgan.
7. ANTHOLOGY OF SCOTTISH POETRY. 1965-70. Ed. Glen. 96 pp. £1.15 and £0.65 Akros '70.
8. MODERN SCOTTISH POETRY. Ed. Lindsay. 199 pp. £1.05 Faber '66.
9. TWELVE MODERN SCOTTISH POETS. Ed. King. 208 pp. £1.25 and £0.95 Univ. Lond. Pr. '71.
10. BALLADS—OXFORD BOOK OF. Ed. Kinsley. 711 pp. £2.00 OUP '69.
    BOOK OF BRITISH. Ed. Brimley Johnson. 342 pp. £0.80 Everyman No. 572. Dent.
12. ANCIENT AND MODERN SCOTTISH SONGS. D. Herd. 696 pp. 2 vol. £5.00 the set '73 Reprint of 1869 ed. First pub. 1776.

INDIVIDUAL POETS

The Middle Scots poets have an extremely small following among general readers, but Barbour, Henryson and Douglas are in print by OUP, and Dunbar by Faber.
A 'CHRONICLE' READERS' CHECKLIST

A selection of more popular poets is:

1. **Hugh MacDiarmid.** Penguin publish a selection of his poems at £0.25, and have recently issued a choice of Robert Henryson by MacDiarmid (£0.30 '73).


4. **Modern Scottish Poets.** Ed. David Morrison. About 48 pp. £0.65 and £0.30 Caithness Books. (Obtainable through Scotbooks, Thurso.) This series comprises separate volumes on David Morrison, Charles Senior, Robin Fulton, Robert Garioch, etc. Future vol. will include Sydney Goodsir Smith, George Campbell Hay among others.

5. **William McGonagall.** His 'Poetic Gems' still sell and one of the most entertaining books published recently must be the tragi-comedy of his life, now in paperback, 'No Poet's Corner in the Abbey.' D. Phillips. 222 pp. £2.50 and £0.80 Duckworth '71.

FICTION

The novel may have fallen out of favour, but some of the best of modern Scottish fiction remains in print. The more important items are:

1. **G. Douglas Brown.** 'The House with the Green Shutters.' 256 pp. £0.60 Cassell '67.

2. **Neil M. Gunn.** 'The Serpent.' 256 pp. £0.45 Club Leabhar, Balloch, Inverness '70. 'Morning Tide' (£1.20) and 'Silver Darlings' (£1.50 and £0.30) are both pub. by Faber '69.

3. **Lewis Grassic Gibbon.** 'A Scots Quair.' Pan paperback.
   (i) 'Sunset Song.' 245 pp. £0.40.
   (ii) 'Cloud Howe.' 223 pp. £0.35.
   (iii) 'Grey Granite.' 220 pp. £0.35.
A trilogy of life on a small farm in the Mearns. First pub. 1932-34.
4. Fionn MacColla. The four published books can be obtained through Scotbooks, Thurso.
   (ii) ‘Scottish Noel.’ £0.75.
   (iii) ‘And the Cock Crew.’ £0.62½.
   (iv) ‘At the Sign of the Clenched Fist.’ £1.75.

   Separate volumes are available or forthcoming on: Neil M. Gunn, Fionn MacColla, Lewis Grassic Gibbon, Sydney Good-sir Smith, Tom Scott, George Mackay Brown, Iain Crichton Smith.

   Not a modern novel (it was written in 1771) but it may interest some solely because of its influence on Burns, who prized it 'next to the bible'.

In conclusion the above list contains some 100 books, though some are normally available only in the U.S.A. Readers in Britain who are interested in obtaining American books are reminded that Foyle's, Charing Cross Road, London, offer an excellent Overseas Service. Regular advertisements are placed in the 'TLS' by Orsay Books, 86-32T Eliot Avenue, Rego Park, New York, NY 11374, but I have found their service somewhat expensive.
In this extract there is evidence that Burns’s genius was leading to the theatre. Section 11 ended with the words: ‘And so humorists are creators and the greatest of them have naturally had recourse to the novel and the theatre.’ Section 111 continues:

Burns carried within him the same need. We may say that there was in him a dramatic author who tried in vain to break through unfavourable circumstances but who never stopped trying to do so.

He possessed the first gift for the task: the taste for moral observation, the insight into character, the sharp, penetrating glance that constantly discerns the secret springs and the dissimulated play—that sees the motives behind the actions and the intentions behind the words.

He had made for himself a special study of the judgment of men and had begun by applying himself to knowing himself. For him it was one of the first duties of a man. In his autobiographical letter to Dr. John Moore he writes: ‘It is ever my opinion that the great unhappy mistakes and blunders, both in a rational and religious point of view, of which we see thousands daily guilty, are owing to their ignorance or mistaken knowledge of themselves. To know myself has been all along my constant study. I weighed myself alone; I balanced myself with others; I watched every means of information how much ground I occupied both as a Man and as a Poet: I studied assiduously Nature’s DESIGN where she seemed to have intended the various LIGHTS and SHADES in my character.’ His conduct and his works show that he knew himself well. It was thanks to that full and stable appreciation of himself that he had been so firm and dignified in Edinburgh. His correspondence is constantly filled with the analysis of his thoughts, and his letters to his friends contain more internal than external accounts. When he spoke of himself in his poetry he did so with such accuracy and such frankness that one is obliged to have recourse to it in the last resort and to quote his lines as the most definitive judgments that have yet been made of him.

He brought the same application to bear on others and viewed them with equal penetration. He owed this penchant to his father. He said that the latter, in the long years of his wandering life, interrupted by sojourns here and there, had picked up a great stock of
observation and experience, to which he owed almost all his own pretentions to wisdom. He had, he added in the letter quoted above, ‘met with few who understood men, their manners and their ways, equal to him’. He had begun early to practise his profession of observer, of watching faces, of analysing their expression, of building upon a few indications in the features or the clothes the entire character or the preceding life of the person; of attaching himself to a man and following him around, having an inkling of what his gestures and words would be; of wandering about and losing himself in the crowds, with eyes half-closed, so as to diminish the effort of watching and keep people from feeling themselves observed. An attractive occupation, if one did not see on so many faces the marks of illness or the traces of grief! As early as January 15, 1783, he wrote from Lochlea to Murdoch, his teacher, ‘I forget that I am a poor, insignificant devil, unnoticed (sic) and unknown, stalking up and down fairs and markets, when I happen to be in them, reading a page or two of mankind, and “catching the manners as they rise,” whilst the men of business jostle me on every side, as an idle encumbrance in their way.’ And it was knowingly, with a strange kind of prejudice and dilettantism, that he was already studying men, for in that same letter he wrote these words which are still more remarkable coming from a young peasant not yet twenty-four years of age: ‘I seem to be one sent into the world to see and observe; and I very easily compound with the knave who tricks me of my money, if there be anything original about him which shews me human nature in a different light from anything I have seen before. In short, the joy of my heart is to “study men, their manners and their ways”; and for this darling subject I cheerfully (sic) sacrifice every other consideration.’ In the midst of the dull-witted people around him he was proud of his powers of observation and discernment. When he arrived in Edinburgh and found himself in another world, mingling with different classes, all of them new to him, he was again all attention to ‘catch their manners’. The journal which he had begun opens with these words: ‘As I have seen a good deal of human life in Edinburgh, a great many characters which are new to one bred up in the shades of life as I have been, I am determined to take down my remarks on the spot...’ And further on: ‘I will sketch every character that anyway strikes me, to the best of my ability, with unshrinking justice.’ Following these declarations are exact, precise portraits of Blair, Dugald Stewart, Robertson, Greenfield and Creech. Later on, when he entered the Excise, he wrote that one of the advantages of his new position was the knowledge
that it gave him of various shades of human character. (Letter to Lady Eliz. Cunningham, Dec. 23, 1789.) He lost no opportunity of finding himself among crowds and observing them. During an election period he wrote to one of his friends, Provost Maxwell of Lochmaben (Dec. 20, 1789): ‘If at any time you expect a field-day in your town, a day when Dukes, Earls and Knights pay their court to Weavers, Taylors and Coblers (sic), I should like to know of it two or three days beforehand. It is not that I care three skips of a cur-dog for the Politics, but I should like to see such an exhibition of Human Nature.’

It is evident that this inward observation attracted him more than any other kind. Everywhere and always he sought the human being. That was almost the only thing that he noted. In his travels he is less struck by the picturesque aspect of the country or even by the historic memories than by the people he met. The journals of his Border and Highland Tours are made up almost solely of remarks about persons and short sketches of characters drawn in a few words. One constantly finds notes like these: ‘Old Mr. Ainslie an uncommon character; his hobbies, agriculture, natural philosophy, and politics’ (May 6, 1787). ‘A Mr. Dudgeon, a poet at times, a worthy remarkable character—natural penetration, a great deal of information, some genius and extreme modesty.’ ‘Mrs. Brydone a most elegant woman in her person and manners; the tones of her voice remarkably sweet’ (May 8). ‘Wauchope—Mr. Scott exactly the figure and face commonly given to Sancho Panza—very shrewd in farming matters and not unfrequently stumbles on what may be called a strong thing rather than a good thing.’ And so on throughout his whole journal. The impressions which he notes in the evening are always glimpses and sketches of characters. At times one feels that he has sought without really finding; he has made a mistake, he is slightly resentful and writes down the remark: ‘A cousin of the landlord’s, a fellow whose looks are of that kind which deceived me in a gentleman at Kelso, and has often deceived me: a goodly handsome figure and face, which inclines one to give them credit for parts which they have not.’ Yet he does not make his pronouncements lightly. He needs time to examine and to get into his subject, otherwise he prefers to leave it: ‘See a horse-race and call on a friend of Mr. Nicol’s, a Bailie Cowan, of whom I know too little to attempt a portrait.’ (Highland Tour). Sometimes he does not know how to tackle the subject: ‘Dine with Provost Fall, an eminent merchant, and most respectable character, but undescrivable, as he exhibits no marked traits.’ (Border Tour). The deciphering of man and
women had been a constant occupation with him, and had become
a habit. Wherever he went he took note of people as others take note
of landscapes or of stories.

In order to get to the real substance of each man he had seen that
it is necessary to strip him of his titles, honours, riches—of every
thing that hides and covers him—and to take away all the extraneous
 paraphernalia so as to get right through to him, and in La Bruyère's
words, 'see him without that great number of rogues who serve him
and those six animals that draw his carriage'. From the very first
he had adopted this method, which is in truth more difficult to apply
than to discover. He prided himself on having succeeded with it.
Writing to Charles Sharpe (April 22, 1791) he says: 'I value the
several actors in the great drama of life simply as they perform their
parts. I can look on a worthless fellow of a Duke with unqualified
contempt, & can regard an honest Scavenger with sincere respect.'
He might have said with Montaigne: 'We must not evaluate a man
when he is all wrapped up: let him appear in his shirt.' There was
no quality which he esteemed more in others than that energetic
glance that seizes a man, undresses him and exposes him as he is.
He greatly admired Dugald Stewart and there were in this wise,
amiable man many admirable qualities; but of them all it is this
one that he always picks out and puts first: 'Externals, things totally
extraneous of the man, steal upon the hearts and judgments of
almost, if not altogether, all mankind; nor do I know more than
one instance of a man who fully and truly regards "all the world
as a stage, and all the men and women merely players," and who values
these players—the dramatis personae, who build cities, and who reap
hedges; who govern province, or superintend flocks, merely
as they act their parts.' (Letter to Mrs. Dunlop, Nov. 4, 1787).
He comes back to this several times. One can understand this enthui-
siasm. He was, under his peasant's clothes and in his obscure life,
one of the few superior individuals of his time. He was to suffer
(and had suffered, more than once) from being treated according
to his rough costume and his name of 'peasant'. But his heart
preserved a smile and a gratitude as deep as his pride for the one
who had seen in him a human soul of the first order and had treated
him as a friend.

When he had put aside the tinsel trappings and thus revealed
the real men hidden behind the social personages, he judged the
characters in themselves. In order to appraise them, he took them
to pieces and reduced them to their principal constituent elements.
He detached the main faculty and grouped the component parts
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according to their proportions. He wrote them down, so to speak, with their coefficients in a kind of chemical formula. Speaking of Dugald Stewart, he said in a letter to John Mackenzie, 1st Nov., 1786, 'I think his character, divided into ten parts, stands thus: four parts Socrates—four parts Nathaniel—and two parts Shakespeare's Brutus.' And referring to a girl, Miss Ainslie, whom he met in the Borders, he said: 'She united three qualities rarely to be found together: keen, solid penetration; sly, witty observation and remark; and the gentlest, most unaffected female modesty.' Of his publisher, Creech, he says: 'My worthy bookseller, Mr Creech, is a strange multiform character. His ruling passions of the left hand are an extreme vanity and something of the more harmless modifications of selfishness.'

We see that in order to reach people's minds he had taken up the very difficult, very attractive study of faces. Such an examination presupposes finding some order in the ever-shifting confusion of innumerable countenances; discerning secret analogies which assemble and arrange the features round certain types; recognising that hidden rapport of the features as a whole, and of the features with the colours and the look of the person; discovering or at least disentangling the meaning of the features, the intimate relations of their form with certain characters, and of their play with certain sentiments; seizing here and there upon physiognomies indications which will serve as analogies (but more involved ones) to interpret some of them; guessing by the permanent expression of the features the habits of a mind, and its movements by their present expression; asking the wrinkles themselves for information and confidences; seeking in everything imperceptible signs, and as it were the scattered letters of an infinite, mysterious alphabet which would give the key to men's souls and enable them to be read. An incredibly delicate task demanding subtlety of the organs and rapidity of insight, and at the same time a tremendous task. Science (1893) is hardly beginning to touch it hesitatingly. The observations of the poets and the painters would give its elements, if it were not so complex that it becomes indecomposable, like the workings of instinct, and did not its results always remain personal and intransmissible.

Burns, probably unconsciously, had applied himself to it. It is easy to realise the attention with which he looked at human faces, from the way in which he describes them. 'Miss Lindsay, a good-humoured, amiable girl; rather short et embonpoint, but handsome, and extremely graceful—beautiful hazel eyes, full of spirit, and sparkling with delicious moisture—an engaging face—un tout
ensemble that speaks her of the first order of female minds’ (Border Tour). And in a letter to Gavin Hamilton (28th August, 1787) we have this still finer study in very pretty colouring of the face of another girl: ‘Of Charlotte I cannot speak in common terms of admiration: she is not only beautiful, but lovely. Her form is elegant; her features not regular but they have the smile of sweetness and the settled complacency of good-nature in the highest degree; and her complexion, now that she has happily recovered her wonted health, is equal to Miss Burnett’s. After the exercise of our ride to the Falls, Charlotte was exactly like Dr Donne’s mistress:

   Her pure and eloquent blood
   Flow’d in her cheeks, and so distinctly wrought
   That one would almost say her body thought.
Her eyes are fascinating, at once expressive of good sense, tenderness and a noble mind.’ And let it not be thought that it was only amiable young visages that he looked at so closely. Perhaps he got a certain satisfaction in describing them, but he also observed the others. He meets Neil Gow, a famous fiddler: ‘Neil Gow plays—a short, stout-built, honest Highland figure, with his greyish hair shed on his honest, social brow—an interesting face, marking strong sense, kind open-heartedness, mixed with unmistrusting simplicity.’ (Highland Tour, 21st Aug., 1787). Thus you see that he picked out on the faces of those whom he was observing the salient, characteristic expression, the one that is put there by the continuity of the same preoccupations, what a physiognomist calls ‘the professional look’. ‘Mrs Scott—all the sense, taste, intrepidity of face, and bold, critical decision which usually distinguish female authors’. (Border Tour, 10th Aug., 1787).

Above all, the greatest proof of the care with which he studied faces is that he remembered them, set them side by side, compared them, classified them to some extent, found features in common, resemblances in expression, family looks and affinities on various countenances. Here are some examples of his Highland Tour in 1787: ‘An old lady from Paisley—a Mrs Dawson—like old Lady Wauchope, and still more like Mrs C——, her conversation is pregnant with strong sense and just remark, but like them a certain air of self-importance and a duresse in the eye, seem to indicate, as the Ayrshire wife observed of her cow, that “she had a mind o’ her ain!”’. At every moment this work of comparison was going on in his mind: ‘Mr Grant, minister of Calder, resembles Mr Scott of Inverkeithing’; ‘Mr Ross, a fine fellow, like Professor Tytler’; ‘Miss Bess Scott, like Mrs Greenfield’; ‘Miss Munro, an amiable,
sensible, sweet young woman, much resembling Mrs Grierson.’ And elsewhere, writing to Gavin Hamilton (28th Aug., 1787) he says of a girl: ‘I scarcely ever saw so striking a likeness as is between her and your little Beenie; the mouth and chin particularly.’ I believe that there is no stronger proof of the care with which one looks at things than these analyses of faces; and at the same time it is strange to see how the great observers agree in their procedures and methods. ‘To remember a face easily one must first of all take many heads and compare the mouth, the eyes, the nose, the chin, the throat, the neck and the shoulders.’ These lines are by Leonardo da Vinci.

He flattered himself that he knew characters and judged them impartially. When he happened to make a mistake, he seemed to feel vexed about it. Writing to Miss Chalmers (7th April, 1788), he says: ‘Strange! how apt we are to indulge prejudices in our judgment of one another! Even I, who pique myself on my skill in marking characters . . . I was unacquainted with Miss K.’s very uncommon worth.’ The fact is that he had attained a remarkable sureness and promptitude of judgment. Nothing is more interesting in this respect than the journals of his Border and Highland tours. They extend to some ten pages: they are rapid notes, jotted down in the evening in a few lines, often a few words. It is really incredible how many observations, portraits, characters there are, seized rapidly and fixed with a stroke of the pen. We have made a survey of the people whom he thus observed, understood and described at the first glance, in a single meeting. There are not less than a hundred.

And what variety! There are farmers—gentlemen farmers and burly working farmers; clergymen of different kinds, some old and venerable, others boisterous, others sadly addicted to the clerical vice of punning; merchants; ships’ officers; a provost; ‘a discreet, sensible, ingenious agent’; a bishop; a captain who had been for several years a prisoner of the Indians in North America, ‘a polite, soldier-like gentleman’; a naval doctor, ‘an agreeable, climate-beaten old veteran, now retired to a romantic but rather moorish place’; and there are dukes, professors, inn-keepers, even ‘a curious old fish of a shoemaker’ and a miner from Cumberland, whom he met on a highway. They are all sketched in a masterly fashion, one or two features being indicated by a few strokes of the pencil. Here we have Mr Bowmaker, ‘a man of strong lungs and pretty judicious remark, but ill skilled in propriety, and altogether unconscious of his want of it’; Mr Brydone, ‘a most excellent heart,
kind, joyous and benevolent, but a good deal of the French indiscriminate complaisance—from his situation past and present an admirer of everything that bears a splendid title, or that possesses a large estate'; Mr Hood, ‘an honest, worthy, facetious farmer'; Mr Ker, ‘a most gentlemanly, clever, handsome fellow, a widower with some fine children—his mind and manners astonishingly like my dear old friend Robert Muir, in Kilmarnock—every thing in Mr Ker’s most elegant'; Mr Clarke, ‘a clever fellow, but whose looks a little cloudy, and his appearance rather ungainly, with an every-day observer may prejudice the opinion against him'; Mr Falconer, ‘a spare, irascible, warm-hearted Norland, and a non-juror'; bishop Skinner, ‘a man whose mild, venerable manner is the more marked of any in so young a man’.

Sometimes the notes are even shorter, mere words without sentences, pencil marks with no outline to join them, and yet the people are there. ‘Supper—Messrs Doig, the schoolmaster; Bell; and Captain Forrester of the castle—Doig a queerish figure, and something of a pedant—Bell a joyous fellow, who sings a good song—Forrester a merry, swearing kind of man, with a dash of the sodger’. And others, of every colour: shy folk, fops, babblers, described with one word.

The women’s portraits are equally numerous and varied. Naturally there are girls who are pretty and girls who are very pretty: they are in the forefront, agreeable, laughing, gay, good-humoured, and healthy, as he seems to have preferred them; but there are also elderly matrons, fine, judicious, blythe and amiable persons; cross-grained old maids, ugly and slanderous; intellectual women, women of every shade, whom one really feels one has seen. Here is Mrs Brydone, ‘a most elegant woman in her person and manners; the tones of her voice remarkably sweet’. Here again is Mrs Burnside, a distinguished woman: ‘simplicity, elegance, good sense, sweetness of disposition, good humour, kind hospitality are the constituents of her manner and heart’. There is the good housewife, Mrs Miller, ‘an agreeable, sensible, modest, good body, as useful but not so ornamental as Fielding’s Miss Western—not rigidly polite à la francaise, but easy, hospitable and housewifely’. There is the gay young widow, ‘jolly, frank, sensible, and love-inspiring’; and Mrs Belches, ‘gawsie, frank, affable, fond of rural sports, hunting, &c’. There is that strange figure of Esther, wife of a simple gardener, ‘a very remarkable woman for reciting poetry of all kinds, and sometimes making Scotch doggerel herself—she can repeat by heart almost every thing she has ever read, particularly Pope’s
Homer from beginning to end—has studied Euclid by herself, and in short is a woman of very extraordinary abilities. On conversing with her I find her fully equal to the character given of her. She is very much flattered that I send for her, and that she sees a poet who has put out a book, as she says. She is, among other things, a great florist and is rather past the meridian of once celebrated beauty.' Is not that a singular character, clearly evoked in a few lines? And what could be prettier than the double portrait of Mrs Rose the mother and Mrs Rose the daughter, reminding one of a line from Horace: the mother 'a true chieftain's wife,' the daughter 'a little milder'; old Mrs Rose 'sterling sense, warm heart, strong passions, and honest pride, all in an uncommon degree; Mrs Rose milder, perhaps owing to her being younger'. Is not his sketch of these two brusque women in whom flows the same blood and who resemble each other at different moments of life, well observed? And the remark that the temperament of the mother will develop in the daughter when the mildness and the trace of youthful tenderness have left her and the years of wilfulness have come— is not that finely and accurately noted?

And these are only the outstanding characters and scenes. Behind them there is a veritable multitude, a real, solid mass of indications: proper names, professions, meetings. Once again let it not be forgotten that all that is compressed into some ten small pages, where remarks and portraits literally stifle each other. If one thinks that this is only a herbarium, that each of these notes represents a complex impression or a host of impressions, just as the withered corolla recalls the living flower and even the whole plant, one will have some idea of the sureness, the speed and the activity with which Burns's brain observed human nature.

This quality of observation struck those who met him as one of the most outstanding features of his strong intelligence. Dugald Stewart had clearly noticed it: 'Among the subjects on which he was accustomed to dwell, the characters of the individuals with whom he happened to meet was plainly a favourite one. The remarks he made on them were always shrewd and pointed, though frequently inclining too much to sarcasm.' And Dr Mackenzie of Mauchline said even more emphatically: 'His discrimination of character was great beyond that of any person I ever knew; and I have often observed to him that it seemed to be intuitive. I seldom ever knew him to make a false estimate of character, when he formed the opinion from his own observation.' (J. Walker, Memoir of Burns.)

But that insight would not be enough: it can remain immobile.
or fragmentary, and consist of a series of sharp but separate glances. Something that extends and animates that sagacity is needed: the rarest of gifts, because it includes them all, the dramatic gift, that is to say, of not only seeing and describing a person, but of reconstituting him, continuing him, possessing him to the point of living in him; the gift of thus creating several characters, of making them move together, and while feeling for each of them, yet lending them all a combined movement, a common life, which constitutes the organism of a dramatic work. It is the most extensive and most varied gift with which a poet can be favoured, when he possesses it in its entire width and richness. It really seems that Burns was endowed with it, within the limits of his genius. One remains almost convinced of it when one reads the most surprising, perhaps, of his productions, his famous 'Jolly Beggars'.

The story of this poem is most curious. It is known in what circumstances it was composed in 1785. Passing a public-house in Mauchline one evening with two of his friends and hearing singing, Burns had gone in. He had found a company of beggars and vagabonds drinking and revelling. This picture had struck him so forcibly that he had almost immediately described it in verse. As usual a real event lies at the origin of the piece: that is a remark that one must never tire of making. Some days after this encounter he had recited the new poem to his friend Richmond, who later told that as far as he remembered, it had contained two songs which are no longer in it: one by a chimney-sweep, the other by a sailor. At the same time Burns had given him a part of the manuscript. Strange, he seems to have attached no more importance to this masterpiece than to one of his tavern improvisations. Perhaps that was because (according to Chambers's testimony) his mother and his brother had not cared for it. However that may be, this charming production disappeared. He never spoke of it again and seems to have forgotten it completely. In reply to a question by Thomson who had probably heard Richmond speak of it, he replied in 1793—that is, eight years later—: 'I have forgot the Cantata you allude to, as I kept no copy, and indeed did not know that it was in existence; however, I remember that none of the songs please myself, except the last—something about

'Courts for cowards were erected,
Churches built to please the priest'.

It was only in 1799, three years after Burns's death, that the rest of the manuscript, of which he had made a present to another of his friends, was found, and it was only in 1802 that the poem was pub-
lished in full, completed by the portion found in Richmond’s possession. It had just missed disappearing altogether. That proves how easily Burns dispersed his poems at that time, and how little difference he made between his written compositions and his conversations, which were by all accounts equally surprising.

The piece could have as an epigraph this line from a French poet, Mathurin Régnier, of whom Burns will remind us more than once:

‘Puis les gueux en gueusant trouvent maintes délices’—

that is: ‘Beggars in begging find many delights’. This is an orgy—a beggars’ bacchanalian revel. The scene is in Mauchline, in the inn kept by a poor woman, Poosie Nansie. The low house still exists at the corner of the street, opposite the cemetery. Today it is a bright, clean tavern; at that time it was a disreputable joint, a nightly lodging for vagabonds. When one goes there today and reads ‘The Jolly Beggars’ one must mentally strip the plaster from the walls and dilapidate them, blacken the beams, light a glowing peat and brushwood fire in the hearth, and illuminate the room with one or two smoky candles. In this way one has the thick atmosphere, the dark, gloomy background, and the reddish reflections that give all its colour to this strange picture. The sacred Sabbath rest condemned all these beggars, all these highway stragglers, all these idlers by bridges, all this itinerant world to a day’s immobility. They would assemble on the Saturday night in some hovel of their choice, with the week’s profits, which consisted not only of cash but of gifts of flour and old clothes, which they then sold to pay their bill. It was a swarm of this kind that had met together that evening. Some twenty men and women of every profession from begging to thieving had arrived: invalided soldiers, street buffoons, village fiddlers, itinerant tinsmiths, ballad-singers, street-walkers, every type of rogue, beggar and marauder; scum of the highways, flotsam of every trade, jail-birds, a whole motley fraternity of tramps, tattered and torn and marvellously picturesque. This pack of ragamuffins form a circle round the fire, some sitting on stools, others crouching or sprawling on their sacks. They drink whisky from their bowls. Outside the weather is severe, and the poor devils who have neither fire nor shelter and are harassed all week by its inclemency are enjoying the comfort of being warm. They are singing, bellowing, braying, yelping all together, keeping time to their din by clashing their wooden cups and tin mugs against each other. It is a jumble of flushed, bawling, bloated faces, of elbows rising, of arms beating time, of hands passing the beer-jugs, of tankards
being raised to faces: a tumult of grotesque grimaces and gesticulations: a regular brawl of gaiety. Each person in the group sings his song. All take up the choruses with hurricanes of loud mirth, making the house tremble. At the same time, in dark corners, gross love-affairs—ribald idylls—are beginning. Loud kisses resound in this drunken revelry, followed as usual by jealousies and quarrels. Threats are exchanged, a dagger gleams in the shadows. The dispute is settled, and the fair cause of it falls (as much from intoxication as from love) into the arms of the stronger man. The acclamations and songs start up again, everyone hollering at the top of his voice. Then, in a superb, unexpected movement, all these thieves, these cripples, these ragged creatures, these beggars join together in a final chorus and thunder out a song of magnificent boldness and inspiration. It is a challenge to society, a hymn of revolt, in which vibrate the hatred of wrongs suffered, the savage taste for a life without controls, the cry of the disinherited and the rebels. It grows in volume and soars up, taking on the pace and the loftiness of an ode. One would think that Liberty—that Liberty of the open road, adored by beggars and the unsubdued who sleep on the side of the ditches, under the golden sign of the moon—was hovering above this tremendous paean. The whole thing is rendered with a marvellous intensity of life, variety, vigour, boldness and movement. I do not know to what one should compare this strange and admirable production. It is not as copious as a scene by Jordaens, but it is more varied and has a greater range; it is more dramatic than one by Teniers, and is as picturesque as one by Callot, with more fire and colour. As for the faces of those rogues, Adrien Brauwer alone knew how to paint them with that gusto and character. In literature we are reminded of Villon's work, with more movement and eloquence; and of Régnier's, with a breath of lyricism.

Let us see if this appreciation is exaggerated. The piece is made up of songs intersected with recitatives which bind them together. It opens with the following passage in which it is needless to draw attention to the charming simile of the 'infant frosts' and the rapid, decided fashion of getting to the heart of the matter.

When lyart leaves bestrew the yird,
Or wavering like the bauckie-bird,
Bedim cauld Boreas’ blast;
When hailstanes drive wi’ bitter skyte,
The first of these beggars is an old soldier. Even in this bohemian life he has preserved that characteristic of the men who have led a military life, the habit of keeping his knapsack in order. The picture of this old campaigner with his strumpet, and of their caresses, is precisely one of the passages which resemble scenes from Brauwer. But we shall no longer interrupt this poem which must be read at one go and the impetuosity of which must be followed.

(Angellier then gives a translation of the whole cantata, explaining the allusions in footnotes.)

Such is this piece, astonishing in its colour and in its verve. It is sufficiently unusual for a number of Scottish critics to hesitate when faced with it. Mr. Shairp says that the material is so vile and the sentiment so coarse that in spite of its dramatic power they render the poem decidedly repugnant. Carlyle's judgment is more broad-minded but is not without a certain reticence. 'Perhaps we may venture to say that the most strictly poetical of all his poems is one which has been printed under the humble title of "The Jolly Beggars". The subject truly is among the lowest in Nature; but it only the more shows our Poet's gift in raising it into the domain of Art. To our minds, this piece seems thoroughly compacted; melted together, refined; and poured forth into one flood of true liquid harmony. It is light, airy, soft of movement; yet sharp and precise in its details; every face is a portrait ... Apart from the universal sympathy with man which this again bespeaks in Burns, a genuine inspiration and no inconsiderable technical talent are manifested here ... It would be strange doubtless to call this the best of Burns's writings; we mean to say only that it seems to us the most perfect of its kind, as a piece of poetical composition, strictly so called.' It seems to us that Carlyle is not sufficiently struck by the extraordinary vigour of this production. In our eyes it is
Burns's best effort and the most surprising proof of the aptitudes and energies which he had in him. There is nothing of this vitality, this movement—nothing as robust—in English literature since Shakespeare, nothing approaching this concentrated strength. A short time ago we were comparing 'Tam o' Shanter' to 'John Gilpin'; there are in English literature two works that remind us of this work: 'The Beggars' Bush' by Beaumont, Fletcher's collaborator, and Gay's 'Beggars' Opera'. But what a difference between the semi-pastoral poetry of the first, which savours of the masque and the court performance, or between the clever comic opera choruses of the second, and this condensed, exploding, smoking life. 'In the "Beggars' Opera", in the "Beggars' Bush"', says Carlyle, 'there is nothing which, in real poetic vigour, equals this cantata; nothing, as we think, which comes within many degrees of it.' We were speaking of the dramatic qualities of which this piece is the sign: we merely wish to indicate another which it seems to us to reveal as well. What happens in the case of the dramatic author is rather like what happens in the case of the scientist who has formed a hypothesis and following it is surprised at what it contains, and is led by it to the truth. When a theatrical creator has perceived at a glance, briefly, sometimes in a gesture, a living person, and when he takes him up, develops him, continues him, he is surprised at what he has discovered and gradually becomes acquainted with him. It seems that the character has in turn an existence of his own, which carries away the poet's mind. This impression is very strong here. When one reads this cantata one feels that life has passed from the author to his characters, and that it is they who have taken him by the hand and led him away. He has only had to follow them. In truth there is nothing beyond such a piece but the theatre.

Burns was drawn to it all his life. It would have been the natural outcome of his poetic career, if that had been complete. While still young he had begun a tragedy:

"In my early years nothing less would serve me than courting the tragic Muse.—I was, I think, about eighteen or nineteen when I sketched the outlines of a Tragedy forsooth; but the bursting of a cloud of family Misfortunes, which had for some time threatened us, prevented my farther progress.—In those days I never wrote down anything; so, except a speech or two, the whole has escaped my memory.—The following, which I most distinctly remember, was an exclamation from a great character—great in occasional instances of generosity, and daring at times in villainies.—He is
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supposed to meet with a child of misery, and exclaims to himself:

All devil as I am, a damned wretch,
A harden’d, stubborn, unrepenting villain,
Still my heart melts at human wretchedness;
And with sincere tho’ unavailing sighs
I view the helpless children of distress.
With tears indignant I behold the Oppressor,
Rejoicing in the honest man’s destruction,
Whose unsubmitting heart was all his crime.

Even you, ye hapless crew, I pity you:
Ye, whom the seeming good think sin to pity;
Ye poor, despis’d, abandon’d vagabonds,
Whom Vice, as usual, has turn’d o’er to Ruin.
O, but for kind, tho’ ill-requited friends,
I had been driven forth like you forlorn,
The most detested, worthless wretch among you!

O injur’d God! Thy goodness has endow’d me
With talents passing most of my compeers,
Which I in just proportion have abus’d;
As far surpassing other common villains
As Thou in natural parts hadst given me more—'

It was evidently a romantic conception, and it is strange to see
germinating in the head of this young peasant a type of Byronic
hero, who makes one think of Schiller’s ‘Robbers,’ by this mixture
of magnanimity and audacious vice. In the few lines that have been
preserved there is a breath of social revolt, of hatred against the
oppressors, of pity for the unfortunate, and at the same time an
indescribable, proud avowal of transgressions, which seems to link
this unknown hero to the cursed, indomitable race of the Manfreds
of this world. The fragment moreover is not lacking in grandeur.

After this attempt, fraught with imagination as we see, there had
come the contact with life, and with it the observation, that rich
production of Mossgiel, including ‘The Jolly Beggars’. When he
had left Edinburgh and wished to resume writing, Burns dreamed
anew of the theatre. We think we have sufficiently proved that he
had everything needed for this enterprise. All he lacked was practice
and the handling of scenes—the habit of theatrical composition.
It is probable that his powerful intellect would have mastered this
difficulty. It would have been helped to do this by his gift of movement, and the need in his mind for rapid enlightenment. He thought of studying the masters of the theatre, with whom he could learn what he still lacked. At the beginning of 1790 he was writing to Peter Hill, his Edinburgh bookseller, to ask him to send him all the dramatic authors he could lay his hand on, cheaply. We must not forget that for Burns's finances that was a heavy expense, justified only by a serious, pressing need to have these works. It is a strange list:

'...I want likewise for myself, as you pick them up, second-handed or in any way cheap copies of Otway's dramatic works, Ben Jonson's, Dryden's, Congreve's, Wycherly's, Vanburgh's, Cibber's, or any dramatic works of the more moderns, Macklin, Garrick, Foote, Colman, or Sheridan's. A good copy of Molière in French I much want. Any other good dramatic authors in their native language I want them; I mean Comic Authors chiefly, though I should wish Racine, Corneille, and Voltaire too.'

You see that it was an entire dramatic library that he was asking for, and at one fell swoop. At the same time his friends were encouraging him to undertake something for the theatre. They felt that there was an outlet in this direction for his creative power. Ramsay of Ochtertyre, well known as a great lover of the classics, had advised him to write a piece similar to *The Gentle Shepherd*, 'qualem decet esse sororem'. In one of Thomson's letters (Oct. 1794) we find an interesting passage, because it furnishes still more clearly the proof of the conviction that Burns's path lay in this direction.

'...Indeed, I am perfectly astonished and charmed with the endless variety of your fancy. Here let me ask you whether you never seriously turned your thoughts upon dramatic writing? That is a field worthy of your genius, in which it might shine forth in all its splendour. One or two successful pieces upon the London stage would make your fortune.... I believe that interest and manoeuvring are often necessary to have a drama brought on: so it may be with the namby-pamby tribe of flowery scribblers: but were you to address Mr Sheridan himself by letter, and send him a dramatic piece, I am persuaded he would for the honour of genius, give it a fair and candid trial.'

That was a good piece of advice and Thomson was right.

It is clear that Burns had the secret desire to create in Scotland a national theatre. With his lucid mind he felt that it was useless to
go far afield in search of subjects for drama or comedy, and that the history or the moeurs of a country furnish enough for either. Apart from Home's tragedy of *Douglas*, which was quite recent since it dated from 1756, and Allan Ramsay's pastoral, *The Gentle Shepherd,* which is not very suitable for the stage, Scotland had produced no dramatic works. Burns, however, saw that there was both in Scottish history, which was so full of events, and in the very picturesque, distinctive manners of his country, the elements of a theatre which would have lacked neither the grandeur of the vicissitudes nor the variety of the comic situations. With great wisdom he had discerned these two sources of inspiration. One of his poems has a very significant bearing on this subject. It is a prologue written for the benefit performance of an actor named Sutherland, manager of the Dumfries theatre, which Burns frequented assiduously. These lines belong to the beginning of 1790, about the same time as the letter to Peter Hill. They show that he had thought about the question, and they reveal his ambition to be the poet of whom they speak.

‘What needs this din about the town o’ Lon’on,
How this new play and that new sang is comin’?
Why is outlandish stuff sae meikle courted?
Does nonsense mend like whiskey when imported?
Is there nae poet, burning keen for fame,
Will try to gie us sangs and plays at hame?
For comedy abroad he need na toil,
A fool and knave are plants of every soil;
Nor need he hunt as far as Rome and Greece
To gather matter for a serious piece;
There’s themes enow in Caledonian story,
Would show the tragic Muse in a’ her glory.

Is there no daring bard will rise and tell
How glorious Wallace stood, how hapless fell?
Where are the muses fled that could produce
A drama worthy o’ the name o’ Bruce?
How here, even here, he first unsheath’d the sword,
’Gainst mighty England and her guilty lord;
And after mony a bloody, deathless doing,
Wrenched his dear country from the jaws of ruin?
O for a Shakespeare or an Otway scene
To draw the lovely, hapless, Scottish Queen!
Vain all the omnipotence of female charms
'Gainst headlong, ruthless, mad Rebellion's arms.
She fell, but fell with spirit truly Roman,
To glut the vengeance of a rival woman;
A woman— tho' the phrase may seem uncivil—
As able and as wicked as the Devil!
One Douglas lives in Home's immortal page,
But Douglases were heroes every age:
And tho' your fathers, prodigal of life,
A Douglas followed to the martial strife,
Perhaps if bowls row right, and Right succeeds,
Ye yet may follow where a Douglas leads!

As ye hae generous done, if a' the land
Would take the Muses' servants by the hand;
Not only hear, but patronise, befriend them,
And where ye justly can, commend them;
And aiblins when they winna stand the test,
Wink hard and say the folks hae done their best!
Would a' the land do this, then I'll be caition
Ye'll soon hae poets o' the Scottish nation,
Will gar Fame blaw until her trumpet crack,
And warsle Time, and lay him on his back!

Burns seems to have hesitated between these two directions, one
tragic, the other comic, which he indicates in this prologue. For some
time he was attracted towards the national, historical drama. He
had first of all chosen some of the finest subjects provided by
History. There is a heroic drama in the life of Sir William Wallace,
from the moment when his wife is put to death by the English for
having helped him to escape, from his first attempts at vengeance
and his first struggles, to his famous victory at Stirling Bridge; his
defeat: his mysterious disappearance; his return; his capture; his
journey to London through a vast concourse of people; his judgment,
and the horrible sentence condemning him to have his entrails
torn out and his head stuck up on London Bridge, while his limbs
were scattered to four towns. What historical drama is richer in
events and scenes of every kind than the life of Robert Bruce? Of
blood royal, kept at the court of Edward I who fears him, he one
day receives a purse of gold and a pair of spurs. He understands the
warning. He leaves the same evening, after shoeing his horses the wrong way round to put his enemies off the scent. When he arrives in Scotland he has an interview with his rival Comyn in a church, offers to join him in defending the liberty of the country, and on his refusal stabs him to death. He is crowned king of Scotland, but he is a king without a kingdom. Then begins a life of perils, flights, combats and ambushes, during which his prodigious strength and his coolness constantly save him. Disguised as a highlander, tracked by bloodhounds, wandering on the hills and lake sides, sleeping in the rocks, and living by fishing and hunting, he accomplishes exploits which have something legendary about them. Moreover, he is always good-tempered, full of jests in danger, and courteous to women, and in the wild caves, he entertains his companions with tales from chivalric romances. At last success yields to this indomitable energy, at Stirling then at Bannockburn, a name that still thrills Scottish hearts. The country is delivered, the war carried to the enemy. This is the life of a great king ending in glory. What a contrast with the fate of Wallace, of whom Bruce is nevertheless the continuator! And what episodes to group round this story! We have admirable acts of heroism performed by women: it was the office of clan Macduff to place the crown upon the head of the king; the chief could not come to Bruce’s coronation; his sister, who had married the Earl of Buchan, one of Edward’s partisans, sets out on horseback, crosses the country and arrives in time to perform this mystic rite. After taking her prisoner, Edward had a cage built and hung from one of the towers at Berwick, and ordered the valiant woman to be put into it, so that all the passers-by could see her. Later on, it is Bruce’s wife who follows him into his life as an outlaw, and shares all its perils. And what a grandiose figure is that of king Edward, the terrible old conqueror! He makes his son swear that if he dies his body will continue to accompany the army and will not be buried until Scotland has yielded. He dies, in fact, at the moment of entry. He had ordered the flesh to be detached from his bones and his skeleton to be carried in front of the army, as a standard. His people dared not execute this last wish, but this savage power of hatred is almost sublime. It is understandable that this subject interested Burns, and the proof exists that he had thought of it particularly. ‘We fell into conversation directly,’ wrote Ramsay of Ochtertyre to Dr Currie, ‘and soon after into the mare magnum of poetry. He told me that he had now gotten a story for a drama, which he was to call Rob Macquechan’s Elshon, from a popular story of Robert Bruce. Being defeated on the
water of Cairn, when the heel of his boot having loosened in his flight, he applied to Rob Macquechan to fix it, who to make sure ran his awl nine inches up the king's heel. Evidently an adventure taken from the harried life of Robert Bruce would have been the subject-matter of this drama. As for Mary Stuart, what more touching legend of beauty, vicissitudes, misfortunes and failings can one meet? She seems perfectly suited to evoke all the emotions, and after so many years she has not yet exhausted the interest either of the novel, the drama or history. Even in our own time two of the great English poets, Tennyson and Swinburne, have taken up the subject which tempted Burns. Perhaps one may connect his poem, ‘Lament of Mary Queen of Scots,’ with the play which he envisaged.

These were fine subjects and this was a fine ambition. At the same time it was an experiment which would probably have been beyond his strength. The fact is that there is no higher enterprise for human genius than a historical drama—we mean, a real historical drama. An author may put his own thoughts into the mouths of illustrious characters, and make them declaim them with eloquence. That is to produce a political or social drama, to do the work of an apostle or a reformer, like Alfieri or Schiller: the result is far from being a historical drama. Or else the author may come across a dramatic situation among the events of history, and may take possession of it, and using famous characters, manipulate human passions in it. That is to make a psychological drama, where the only historical feature is in the décor and the costumes. The historical drama is a different matter. It is more complex and more profound. In it the characters, apart from their private feelings, the conflict of which constitutes the drama, must really act as historical characters, and their actions must be bound up with much wider movements, without which one will merely have a fragment of history and not a historical whole. They must be swept along by political events or bring them about: some must be the playthings, others the instruments of these events, and one must see the connection between this mêlée of human passions, without which there is no play, and the much broader happenings. The human drama, which remains in the foreground, serves to express a second, more grandiose one which rumbles in the distance. The latter is like a powerful echo the sound of which diminishes the voice which has wakened it, and at the same time widens its scope. How that increases the proportions of the drama, which must thus be raised to the dignity of a historical fact! And how difficult it is to create real characters! If it is a question of
great people, one must understand beings whose circumstances render them inaccessible to ordinary observers—men and women formed by a special education and governed by interests for which there are no analogies. If he is dealing with statesmen, the author must reach minds which by their loftiness have dominated others, and with regard to whom he must have (in addition to sympathy with their passions) an intelligence capable of understanding and reconstituting theirs. In the case of heroes he must feel what chosen souls have experienced in sublime moments where they themselves have perhaps not spent more than a few seconds. Above the interest inspired by these characters the poet must place a general interest—the historical interest, as it were, and the part which it adds to the drama. According to the phrase by one of Shakespeare’s commentators, he must, behind the characters—great lords or kings—whose portraits he draws, show us in the background the people who await their happiness or their misery from the actions of those who govern them. The passions, the intrigues, the deeds of these historical figures, which are to constitute a drama by themselves, must be formed into an ensemble and as it were a chorus which expresses something greater still. The whole play which is usually an end in itself must become a symbol. The author must raise the drama a degree and must have arms strong enough to take it in one block and place it as it were on an altar, so that it may be a memorable example or offering or warning. There is no more gigantic undertaking. Of all the noble poets who have dared to do it, perhaps there are only two who have succeeded: Aeschylus and Shakespeare.

It is clear that Burns was not designed for these supreme creations. One can only wonder how far he would have gone towards them if life had allowed him to journey on. Perhaps that is a useless question. But where is the man who can read André Chénier’s plans without wondering what Hermes would have been, without telling himself that in order to be just to geniuses cut down so young one must take their dreams into account? Was Fate very cruel to Burns in hindering him from attempting a drama? Frankly speaking, it does not seem that he was born or prepared for such an enterprise. His mind which was very accurate and very faithful to reality in the mean had not that epic, grandiose something demanded by these mighty subjects. He had neither the wing-span nor the elevation necessary to reach these heights. He lacked experience of men and matters in this direction. The vicinity of the court and association with the great had provided Shakespeare with the ele-
ments of his characters. He lived in a period of great historic inspiration which had permitted him to understand history, and he had seen great misfortunes which had permitted him to judge it. Outside of his peasants Burns had known only a few professors and a few lawyers; he had lived in a prosaic, bourgeois time. The only historical event to which he was near enough to grasp its meaning and emotion was the romantic adventure of Charles Edward; but that was a subject that could not possibly be dealt with then. From another angle, he also lacked the reading of history, which can sometimes perhaps replace the sight of the events. History which began with Hume and Robertson was cold and abstract. The letters, the memoirs, the secrets of the men of former times were not published. It must not be forgotten that Walter Scott discovered the material of his fiction for himself, and that in his case the archaeologist had to pave the way for the novelist. The past was sound asleep. Finally, Burns was too much a captive of life, it dominated him too much: he could not isolate himself upon one of those summits from which one has a panoramic view of things and from which one can see the confused mixture of human affairs coming together and sorting themselves out. In order to seize these imposing spectacles and bring them under control and authority one must have the vision of the Nemesis which hovers over royal destinies, and one must know that all these grandeurs are but whirlwinds of dust that rise up in the air and cover only a short part of the way. This is how one must judge these imperial dignities, before which men are abashed, and how one must master these people and things that look so mighty, sufficiently to turn them into dramas and extract lessons from them. If the result is a feeling that human life is vain, or the thought that one is contemplating it from an inaccessible height, this detachment, which is not free of contempt, is necessary: it is it alone that makes one appreciate these grandeurs in a language which exceeds them. It is it that, hidden in the poet and bursting out in the orator, made Shakespeare and Bossuet speak of majesty and power with an authority worthy of these subjects.

Burns's true path lay elsewhere. It was on the side of the direct observation of the manners of his time and his environment, on the side of familiar, popular comedy. He had understood that and had thought of writing a rustic drama which would have suited his genius admirably and would have been a unique thing in literature. Towards the end of 1789 he was writing to Lady Elizabeth Cunningham: 'I have some thoughts of the Drama. Considering the favourite things of the day... does not your Ladyship think that a Scotish...
Audience would be better pleased with the Affectation, Whim & Folly of their own native growth, than with the manners which to by far the greatest of them can be only second hand?’ This letter proves his indecision, for the project of a play about Bruce lasted into 1790. He was thinking of profiting from the opportunities with which his Excise service provided him, to extend his observation and furnish him with characters. ‘If I were in the service,’ he wrote to Graham of Fintry on September 10, 1788, ‘it would likewise favour my poetical schemes. I am thinking of something in the rural way of the Drama-kind. Originality of character is, I think, the most striking beauty of that Species of Composition, and my wanderings in the way of business would be vastly favourable to my picking up original traits of Human nature.’

This time he was on his true ground and saw clearly what he wanted to do. He had to a high degree all the qualities for a creation of this kind. He had the sense of the picturesque rather than of the beautiful—of the trivial, grotesque picturesqueness possessed by the Dutch and Flemish painters. He had observed the manners and gestures at first hand, he had an extraordinary gift of movement—not ample and harmonious movement, but short, rapid, unexpected, brisk and free, as is suited to popular ways where there is less reserve and the impulse of the moment is more spontaneous. To add piquancy to all that, he had the humour which we have seen. He also had the necessary pathos and tenderness to describe accurately the sufferings of the humblest hearts. His gift of life would have had free scope and would have been further animated by the pleasure of the movement.

Around him a rich field of observation lay open to him. The Scots are very original: the race has a very harsh personality, very hard to penetrate. Circumstances had kept it intact. The loss of the Court, following James I’s departure for the throne of England preserved them from uniformity of fashion: they had no occasion to obey a single taste which starts at the top and spreads throughout the country. They had kept a sort of independence in their manner of thinking as well as of dressing. Even in Edinburgh, where convention reigned more than elsewhere as a result of the abundance of professors, lawyers, and churchmen, society was still astonishingly original at the end of the 18th century. The most bizarre eccentricities of costume or habits were to be met with everywhere. One must see the amusing picture of them in the pages of Lord Cockburn and Robert Chambers or in the series of Kay’s portraits.
Lord Cockburn stressed this oddity in the manners when he was speaking of the old Scottish ladies: they were 'indifferent about the modes and habits of the modern world; and adhering to their own ways, so as to stand out, like primitive rocks, above ordinary society'. And he adds: 'Their prominent qualities of sense, humour, affection, and spirit, were embodied in curious exteriors; for they all dressed, and spoke, and did, exactly as they chose; their language, like their habits, entirely Scotch, but without any other vulgarity than what perfect naturalness is sometimes mistaken for.' These old ladies had been the young Edinburgh women in Burns's time. Lord Cockburn saw disappearing in them the last representatives of Scottish originality. If the characters stood out like this in polite society and even in the drawing-rooms of Edinburgh, they were more accentuated in the middle classes and in the people. Right to the bottom of the nation the individuals in it were interesting. As a result of their up-bringing, their habit of reading and discussing, the Scottish peasants were in no wise those uncouth, stupid animals who cultivated the soil in other countries. They were more educated than the majority of the bourgeoisie were elsewhere. The smallest villages thus contained men who had grown up in all their native originality, and who were sufficiently cultured for it to show in their mind. There is perhaps no other literature in which the men and women of the people—peasants, shepherds, artisans—have furnished so many types to novels as Scottish literature has done, from Sir Walter Scott's beggars to the rugged interlocutors of John Wilson's *Noctes Ambrosianae* and *Mansie Wauch's* tailor. In Burns, how many of these characters do we not see who only ask to come forward, and to act and speak?—Rankine, the farmer, Davie the schoolmaster, old Lapraik, William Simpson, another schoolmaster, Goudie the merchant, James Smith, and so many others. At the same time, all the picturesqueness of the highroads was still extant: they were covered with beggars, bagpipers, hawkers, gypsies, ballad-singers—all these hordes of vagabonds. Scenes like those of the *Jolly Beggars* were still possible. It was a precious moment. It would not be long before this originality in the country lost its strength.

One imagines what Burns's genius could have done with such material. We should have had a series of rustic comedies, with scenes like *Hallowe'en* or the *Holy Fair*. Based on the motley, seething crowds—founded on fairs, markets, assemblies, funerals, marriages—described with all the precise, exact details—we should have had animated, lively, crowded scenes, full of high spirits and
laughter, with hardy, picturesque, facetious characters, drawn with the hand of a master. Lovers would not have been lacking. Songs would have added a lyrical element, as in the works of the dramatists of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and one may affirm that never since Shakespeare would popular poetry, satire or joy have been so well expressed: they would have been the light-hearted grace and the charm of these pieces. The result would have been a play about the common people, of astonishing sincerity and life, something like Téniers' village sequences, something unique not only in English literature but in the literature of any country.

It was to that that poor Burns's whole genius tended. This is clearly the opinion of those who have studied him closely. Walter Scott has very justly said: 'The writing of a series of songs for large musical collections degenerated into a slavish labour which no talent could support, led to negligence and, above all, diverted the poet from his grand plan of dramatic composition. To produce a work of this nature, neither perhaps a regular tragedy nor comedy, seems to have been long the cherished wish of Burns . . . No poet with the exception of Shakespeare ever possessed the power of exciting the most varied and discordant emotions with such rapid transitions . . . Deeply must we then regret those avocations which diverted a fancy so varied and so vigorous joined with language and expressions suited to all its changes, from leaving a more substantial monument to his own fame, and to the honour of his country.' (Quarterly Review, No. i, p. 33.)

And in his Life of Burns Lockhart writes with no less conviction: 'The cantata of the Jolly Beggars . . . cannot be considered as it deserves without strongly heightening our regret that Burns never lived to execute his meditated drama. That extraordinary sketch, coupled with his lyrics in a higher vein, is enough to show that in him we had a master capable of placing the musical drama on a level with the loftiest of our classical forms . . . Without profanity to the name of Shakespeare, it may be said that out of such materials even his genius could hardly have constructed a piece in which imagination could have been displayed more triumphantly under circumstances of the greatest difficulty.'

Such too was Shairp's opinion. The harshness of Fate and his own failings kept him from reaping all that had been sown for him. The rustic festival which the Scottish peasants celebrated when the last sheaf was brought into the barn and which they called the kirk, was not to take place for him. His genius was a field only half-harvested.
It was in losing those popular comedies that he lost the best part of his glory.

Scotland for her part perhaps lost the only chance she ever had of having a national theatre. That is a literary genre of which she is absolutely denuded. (Translator's note: Angellier is writing at the end of the 19th century.) It is not that Scottish genius lacked dramatic qualities: these assuredly exist in Scott, in Wilson and also in Carlyle. It was the political events that kept the drama from taking root. With the Reformation Scotland had fallen into the severe hands of puritanism. In 1563 when Elizabeth's reign was but five years old and was scarcely beginning its career of luxury, prodigalities, dazzling elegance and poetry, gloomy John Knox was master of Edinburgh and was condemning dancing. He reprimanded the Queen's maids of honour—the Queen's Maries, as they were called—telling them that the hideous worms would torment their lovely tender flesh. The country was already weighed down by the puritan melancholy. A quarter of a century was to pass before Shakespeare's first play was performed. It was a year before his birth, and ten years before Jonson's. If England had been stopped at the same moment, it would have remained at 'Gordobuc' in the way of drama, and 'Ralph Roister Doister' in the way of comedy. Passion and poetry could not be born in that morose atmosphere. In 1599, the year in which The Merry Wives of Windsor was probably written, an English company came to Edinburgh, where the Kirk Session of the city passed an act which threatened with censure all those who encouraged comedy, and ordered it to be read in all the churches. The pulpits rang with denunciations of the disorderly, immodest life of play-actors. As far as hatred of the things of the spirit went, the Scottish presbyterians were half a century in advance of the gloomy, stupid fanatics who killed the English theatre in 1642. The reaction of the Restoration did not reach Scotland. The dramas of Dryden, the comedies of Congreve, Vanburgh and Farquhar dared not be shown there. The author of a play published in Edinburgh in 1668 compared, in his preface, the drama in Scotland to 'a swaggerer entering a country church'.

The first (very apprehensive) appearance of a company of comedians dates from 1715. The presbytery of Edinburgh was upset: 'Being informed that some comedians have lately come to the bounds of this presbytery, and do act within the precincts of the Abbey, to the great offence of many, by trespassing upon morality and those rules of modesty, and chastity, which our holy religion obligeth all its professors to a strict observance of, therefore the presbytery
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recommends to all their members to use all proper and prudent methods to discourage the same.' (R. Chambers, *Domestic Annals of Scotland*.)

The first theatrical company to settle in Edinburgh came in 1725, under the direction of one Anthony Aston, for whom Allan Ramsay had the courage to write a prologue. This contains an amusing picture because it proves that as far as dramatic art was concerned, Scotland was an unknown, far-off land.

‘Experience bids me hope—tho’, south the Tweed,
The dastards said: “He never will succeed.
What! such a country, look for good in,
That does not relish plays, nor pork, nor pudding!”
Thus great Columbus, by an idiot crew,
Was ridiculed at first, for his just view.’

This actor compared his arrival in Scotland to a voyage of discovery. In Scotland even that was not made without difficulty. The town council of Edinburgh forbade the company to play. The presbytery sent a deputation congratulating the council on its firmness. The troupe had to plead to be allowed to proceed. In his *History of Edinburgh*, Arnot tells us that from that moment Edinburgh was visited every two or three years by companies of strolling players, who occasionally rented the Tailors’ Hall in the Cowgate, so-called because it belonged to the Corporation of Tailors.

Allan Ramsay continued to fight bravely for the establishment of a theatre in Edinburgh. In 1736 he even had one built at his own expense, but scarcely was it opened when an act was passed, which under pretext of explaining an act of the reign of Queen Anne, directed against malefactors and vagabonds, forbade every person to act for money without a licence by letters patent from the king or lord chamberlain. It was to kill the enterprise: the theatre was closed. Not only was Allan Ramsay almost ruined, but his very reputation was attacked by the fanatics. Pamphlets against him were published, including one entitled ‘The Flight of religious Piety from Scotland, on account of the licentious books of Allan Ramsay and the players from Hell, who corrupt all the faculties of the soul of the rising generation’. Small wonder that with these shackles the theatre was not developed in Scotland, and that *The Gentle Shepherd* remained for years the only dramatic work from a Scottish pen!

In 1756 John Home, a minister of the Established Church, gave his famous tragedy *Douglas* in Edinburgh. For the liberal-minded part of the population it was a wonder and a joy. The whole city
was in a tumult of enthusiasm that a Scotsman should have written a tragedy of the first order. But the clergy and the 'unco guid' considered that it was a sin for a clergyman to write a play, be it ever so moral in its tendency. One must see in the autobiography of Dr Carlyle, Home's intimate friend, what a scandal this event produced. The Edinburgh presbytery caused to be read in all the churches a solemn exhortation, complaining of the irreligion of the times and warning the faithful against the danger of attending theatres. John Home was obliged to resign and retire from the Church. A minister who had been present at one of the performances of Douglas was suspended from his duties for six weeks by the presbytery of Glasgow. Carlyle himself was summoned before the General Assembly. He was skilfully defended by Robertson, the historian, and acquitted; but next day the Assembly passed an act forbidding the clergy to encourage the theatre. That was the state of dramatic art in Scotland in 1756. It was the last effort of puritan severity. Morals were rapidly deteriorating. In 1769 a Theatre Royal was built in the new town. It looked like a barn with a classical portico. On the roof it bore a statue of Shakespeare between the Muse of Tragedy and the Muse of Comedy.

The depravation grew so quickly that in 1784, when Mrs Siddons appeared for the first time in Edinburgh, during the meeting of the General Assembly, all the important business had to be fixed for days when there was no performance, because the youngest members of the Assembly, both of the clergy and the laity, went and took their places in the theatre at three o'clock in the afternoon. The old guard, however, men like Robertson the historian and Blair the professor of rhetoric, dared not go to the theatre to admire Mrs Siddon's talent, the prejudice was so strong, although they visited her. But the battle was won after all.

The end of the 18th century was thus a favourable and perhaps a unique moment for endowing Scotland with a national theatre. Earlier, such an enterprise was impossible. Allan Ramsay had not even thought of it and all his efforts had only been directed at introducing dramatic performances. The taste for the stage was new and keen; Edinburgh was still an intellectual capital; old Scotland kept its manners and customs intact. A little later and shortly after the beginning of the 19th century these conditions changed. The uniformity which covered up so many local habits spread from London to the North and crossed the Tweed. Although the life of the Scottish people remained original enough to give a flavour to the novels depicting it, this originality was not intense enough for
the more concentrated scenes on the stage. Walter Scott himself picked up the echoes of practices which had just disappeared rather than observed them directly. Finally, we must take into account the position and the genius of Burns which equally destined him for this work. He was the unique man for a unique moment. Scotland may still produce a great dramatic poet. She will not have a Scottish theatre.
FOREIGN INTEREST IN BURNS IN 1973

The past year has seen an upsurge of interest in Burns's life and work among university students in several countries. It is true that these young researchers have usually an axe to grind, in that they hope that their completed treatise will gain them a higher degree, but this does not detract from the value of their efforts, or from the fact that Burns is being presented to the foreign reader at a scholarly level. Some of these workers have been in Scotland this summer, notably Professor Toshio Namba (surely the doyen of them all!) and Signor Pierluigi Simonini, who had just been granted his doctorate by Pisa University, for his thesis on 'The Jolly Beggars'. The professor's Scottish friends were delighted to see him again. Dr. Simonini is a newcomer to the Burnsian scene but is already engaged in further studies. It was a pity that neither visitor could stay for the Conference, where they would have been warmly welcomed.

If, as we are told, Burns said to his wife: 'Jean, they will think more of me in a hundred years from now,' even he could scarcely have foreseen that nearly two hundred years later he would be regarded by many at home and abroad as the prototype of the modern democrat, or that radical ideas scarcely embryonic in his own time would be freely attributed to him today. Professor Saintsbury once wrote: 'They do him a great wrong and make a great mistake, who dwell upon his politics, his philosophy, or anything but his poetry. Burns felt and saw too much to have much time for thinking, even if he had been educated that way. The time did not want thought: it wanted nature and song, and he gave it both.' The present-day approach is different. Accepting the definition of his fellow scholar and politician, Dr. Antonio Gramsci, that the 'national-popular' poet is one 'who is not linked to any high-class literary tradition, who does not stand apart in a world of his own, uprooted from the realities of life, but shows identity of feelings with the common people and tries to elaborate these feelings in order to achieve a political educational function among the lower classes,' Dr. Simonini proceeds to analyse the characters and songs of the cantata (which Burns declared that he had forgotten, except for two lines!), illustrating his arguments with apt quotations from leading critics, and reaches the conclusion that the bard in the poem 'is not only the poetical representation of Burns's personality, but also the codification, perhaps unconscious, of Burns's ideas about the function of the poet in society. This idea anticipates by more...
than a century the same ideas expressed on this subject by marxian
ethics."

We congratulate Dr. Simonini on the success of his thesis. Meanwhile we watch with interest the work of students in Toulouse, Dortmund and Florence. We wish them luck and look forward to reading their finished products.

JANE BURGOYNE
JAMES KENNEDY, SCHOOLMASTER AND FRIEND OF BURNS

By J. L. HEMPSTEAD

In the 1933 edition of the *Burns Chronicle*, the then Editor, Mr. James C. Ewing, published a list of holograph letters addressed to Burns and found among his papers after his death in 1796. These formed part of the 'sweepings of his desk' sent by the Trustees in 1797 to Dr. James Currie of Liverpool as the prospective biographer and editor of the poet. This list of over 300 letters, arranged in chronological order and prepared by Currie, or under his guidance, contains a précis of their contents. Unfortunately, as Ewing reported, 'the document is imperfect,' having been damaged so severely by damp that approximately half of each page of the précis has been destroyed. The list is in the Museum of the Burns Cottage at Alloway. Some of the letters are still extant but the majority has never been found. They have probably been destroyed by the ravages of time, if not by the neglect and indifference of the Currie family.

The publication of the list in 1933 was followed by a further article in the *Chronicle* of 1939, again by James C. Ewing, in which he attempted by brief notes to relate the letters addressed to Burns and those written by Burns. Included in the list are two letters, numbered 118 and 126 addressed to Burns on 24th September, 1789 and 19th October of the same year from James Kennedy, Glenlee Mill, near New Galloway. Against this correspondent’s name Ewing makes the comment, ‘James Kennedy appears to be unknown in Burnsiana’.

From the minutes of Dumbarton Town Council dated 14th November, 1785 one reads that an invitation was extended to Mr. James Kennedy, ‘presently teacher in Ayrshire,’ along with Mr. Robert Rainey ‘as fit persons to take charge of the Publick School of this place for the year ensuing and they do hereby elect these gentlemen as joint Teachers of said school for the year to Marts next’.

The school at that time was held in a room in ‘Walker’s Close,’ a building on the north side of the High Street. It continued there until 1789 when the scholars moved into a purpose-built school, a two-storey building near the south end of Church Street. English and Latin were taught in the lower floor and arithmetic, writing, mathematics and geography in the upper.

Kennedy served as Joint Master of Dumbarton Grammar School
until 28th May, 1789 when he deserted his charge. It was during the period of his appointment in Dumbarton that Burns visited the town on 29th June, 1787, when he was made an Honorary Burgess and Guild Brother. A close friendship seems to have existed between the poet and Kennedy while the latter was teaching in Ayrshire. This is borne out by a letter which Burns sent on 4th June, 1789 to John McAulay, Town Clerk of Dumbarton, thanking him for the hospitality which he had received during his visit to the town. In the course of the letter he writes, ‘It gives me the sincerest pleasure to hear from my old acquaintance Mr. Kennedy, that you are in immortal Allan’s Language, Hale and weel and living’. Burns’s introduction to the Dumbarton Magistrates and Town Officials was probably effected by Kennedy. His name appears on the list of subscribers to Burns’s 1787 Edinburgh edition of the poems.

To return to the two letters which Kennedy addressed to the poet from Glenlee Mill. The fragments of Currie’s précis that remain are as follows. Lacunae are indicated thus (---).

Letter No. 118 dated 24th September, 1789.

Had been almost sent ‘to the stygian ---
cure him the school of Dunscore—but ---
dyke, that he may raise money to prov ---
is safely delivered.

Letter No. 126 dated 19th October, 1789.

Makes further enquiries relative to Duns ---
building is of more service than learn ---
asks for his Greek Grammar---

From the dates it will be noted that the letters were written shortly after Kennedy left Dumbarton. Perhaps the reference that he ‘Had been almost sent ‘to the stygian ---’ is an explanation of his reason for deserting his charge in Dumbarton. What the remaining fragments of the précis do tell us is that Kennedy was earnestly trying to enlist Burns’s aid to secure him the school of Dunscore, the little village some eighteen miles from Dumfries. It lay within the parish of the same name as did Ellisland Farm, which Burns leased from 1788 until 1791, when he removed to a house in the Stinking Vennel (now Bank Street), Dumfries.

The second letter of 19th October, 1789, makes further enquiries regarding Dunscore and Kennedy seems to have a building in mind. The phrase ‘building is of more service than learn ---’ would appear to suggest that Kennedy had received a reply to his first letter.

Although it must be conjecture it is possible that the complete
sentence might have read 'building is of more service than learned gentleman realises'. The appointment of a schoolmaster at Dunscore would undoubtedly have required the blessing of the parish minister, the Reverend Joseph Kirkpatrick, who was also Burns's spiritual overlord. Kirkpatrick described Dunscore Parish for Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland. His report was not encouraging. On the subject of education it appears that the schools were badly taught—'the encouragement being so inconsiderable, the parish cannot be supposed to have well-qualified teachers'.

If our conjecture is correct and Kirkpatrick was 'the learned gentleman,' Burns must have found it difficult to advance Kennedy's cause. He did not rate Kirkpatrick very highly. In a letter to Alexander Cunningham, dated 11th March, 1791, he described him as 'one vast constellation of dullness,' an opinion which was shared by his friend Robert Riddell, who said that 'the ignorance and stupidity of the minister is such, and so great a Mule is he, that no good can be done with him'.

There is no record of Kennedy having attained the position; it seems very unlikely. If he had he would surely have come within the circle of Burns's friends at Ellisland and more would have been heard of him.

An interesting point emerges from the second letter. James Kennedy 'asks for his Greek Grammar' which he must have lent to the poet. This is perhaps the only indication on record that Burns displayed an interest in Greek.

James Kennedy is a somewhat shadowy figure. The facts, as established, are that he was a schoolmaster and an acquaintance of Burns from his Ayrshire days; he and the poet exchanged letters but beyond that very little is known about him. At Glenlee Mill his trail runs cold, until perhaps someone can uncover more evidence and so dispel some of the obscurity surrounding this figure.
OBITUARIES

DR. A. I. DUNLOP, O.B.E., LL.D., D.LITT., PH.D.,
Hon. President of the Burns Federation

Annie Isabella Cameron was born in Strathaven in May, 1897, and died in Fenwick in March, 1973. She was educated at Glasgow High School for Girls. In 1919 she graduated M.A. from Glasgow University with first class honours in history, following this up three years later with a Ph.D. from Edinburgh University, for a thesis on James Kennedy, Bishop of St. Andrews. 'My Bishop,' as she called him, was to be the great love of her life, and her devotion to him was to earn her years later the degree of Hon. LL.D. Her aim had been teaching, but a short spell in the class-room convinced her that her true vocation lay elsewhere. She turned her attention to research. A Carnegie scholarship took her to Rome, to the Vatican Archives, where in 1930 she became the first woman to be awarded the Diploma of Palaeography. Her special subject was medieval Scotland and its associations with the Vatican. Her first important find was the lineal tree of John Baliol, a discovery that attracted great attention. Her researches took her far afield, and she was known and respected in all the principal libraries and archives in Europe. In 1938 she married Mr. George Brown Dunlop, proprietor of The Kilmarnock Standard, and well-known as an art collector and keen chess player. From that time until shortly before her death she contributed a weekly column to that paper, at first under the title of Ayrshire Notes, then, as her travels extended, as Leaves from a Historian's Notebook. These pleasant, informal yet instructive articles were read and enjoyed by a wide public. When her husband died in 1950 she threw herself even more enthusiastically into her studies. St. Andrews University had already given her the degree of D.Litt. in 1934 for her work on the Apostolic Camera and Scottish Benefices (1415-1488). In 1950 the same university, celebrating the quincentenary of St. Salvator's College, conferred upon her the degree of Hon. LL.D. for her authoritative magnum opus, 'The Life and Times of James Kennedy, Bishop of St. Andrews,' founder of the college. She received the award at the hands of the Queen (now Queen Mother), who in turn was presented with a specially bound copy of the work. Among her other learned productions are The Warrender Papers: Scottish Supplications to Rome (3 vols.), and an edition of Acta Facultatis Artium Universitatis S. Andree. She also contributed articles to
various journals and was a member of the advisory council for Scottish Records and the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments (Scot.). Two attractive little booklets, *A Cry from Europe* (sold for war relief funds) and *A Garland of Flowers* reflect her experiences in Europe and America. Other journeys had taken her to Israel, India and Africa. Nearer home she was one of the founders and later the Hon. Vice-President of the Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, editing many of its publications.

Over the years she had become the ‘guide, philosopher and friend’ to many young Scots arriving in Rome to follow the trail she had blazed. They remember with gratitude her kindness and understanding and her generous sharing of her knowledge and experience.

At a time when the ecumenical movement was still in its infancy, Dr. Dunlop’s associations with the Vatican lent her a sort of mystique. Here was a staunch Presbyterian who was on speaking terms with three Popes: Pious XI once called her ‘l’annessa del Archivio Vaticano’; Pious XII granted her an audience and congratulated her on her scholarship; and in 1972 Paul VI bestowed upon her, at the instance of the Scottish bishops and by the hands of Cardinal Gray and Archbishop Scanlon, the papal medal, *Bene Merenti*, ‘to one who deserves well,’ an almost unique honour for a non-Catholic.

‘And still we gazed, and still the wonder grew,
That one small head could carry all she knew.’

‘Small’ was the operative word: she was indeed a small woman, giving the impression of fragility—but that was deceptive. She had a hidden strength that bore her along in her indefatigable pursuit of knowledge, until she was justifiably recognised as one of the foremost authorities of her day on Scottish medieval history. Her painstaking, accurate work gave a new look to Scottish history and set a new standard for those who followed her.

Never were honours more meekly borne. Few of her fellow delegates at the Burns Conferences, where she was a welcome visitor, had any idea of the erudition hidden behind that modest bearing. A blue-stockling? Yes, in her love of learning; no, where her warm personality was concerned. She will be remembered with admiration for her scholastic achievements, but even more with abiding affection for the happiness she gave her friends.

She is survived by her sister, Miss Mary Cameron, and her brother, the Rev. Ewan Cameron.
OBITUARIES

WILLIAM SCOTT
-HON. PRESIDENT OF THE BURNS FEDERATION

His many friends in the Burns Federation were deeply grieved to learn of the death of Mr. William Scott at his home at ‘Dunedin,’ 28 Knockinlaw Road, Kilmarnock, on 10th August, 1973. Two weeks earlier, Mr. Scott had suffered a heart attack and had been removed to hospital. He appeared to make good progress and returned home on 10th August, but a few hours later he had another attack and died soon afterwards.

The funeral service took place at Masonhill Crematorium on the forenoon of 14th August, and among those present were officials of the Burns Federation, members of the Executive Committee and representatives of Burns Clubs.

A native of Dunfermline, Mr. Scott left the West Lothian Courier in 1925 to join the staff of the Kilmarnock Standard. He was appointed editor in 1951 and held the post until he retired in 1960, as he had long planned to do, at the age of 60. He was a life member of the National Union of Journalists and an honorary president of the Ayrshire branch of which he was a founder member.

As editor of the Kilmarnock Standard, Mr. Scott first attended our annual conferences in 1951. Until his retirement, he was an important, yet unobtrusive figure at the reporters’ table, and his reports, which were always meticulously accurate, gave a complete coverage which has never been equalled since.

The Burns Federation gratefully recognised Mr. Scott’s services by electing him an honorary vice-president in 1961 and an honorary president in 1971, and he thus continued to attend the annual conferences throughout his retirement.

No one looked forward to those occasions more than Willie, as he was best known to everyone, for he enjoyed to the full the reunion with old friends. Even in his last illness, he wondered if he would be fit in time for the conference at Dumfries.

His interest in the Burns Federation extended, however, beyond the yearly get-together. In his retirement, he gave me tremendous and ungrudging help in reading and correcting proofs, an exacting task at which, with his long experience, he was an adept. Yet it was his friendship which I, like so many others, valued most. Long after they left the Kilmarnock Standard, two young journalists who had profited by his guidance did not forget him. Although now in top reporting jobs, they found time each year to travel north for a private reunion dinner with Willie and his wife. It is not given to every man
to inspire such abiding friendships.

One special tribute remains to be noted here. At a meeting of Kilmarnock Town Council in the month following Willie’s death, the Provost, Mrs. Annie Mackie, said: ‘Mr. Scott was a skilled journalist who loved Kilmarnock and served both his paper and his town well. There can be few members of the council or of any others who hold public office in Kilmarnock but knew him.’ The council agreed to record in their minutes their appreciation of the contribution which Mr. Scott had made to Kilmarnock.

In bringing our own tribute to an end, we tender to Mrs. Scott and Dorothy our sincere sympathy in their great loss.
In connection with the annual Schools Competition in Scottish Literature and Music, Mr. Fred. J. Belford, M.A., F.E.I.S., and Mr. Albert W. Finlayson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Joint Secretaries, believe that members of Burns Clubs would like more detailed knowledge about the written tests.

For Primary 7 in the Scottish Literature Competition in 1973, for example, the poems set for study were Burns's 'My Hoggie' and 'My Bonnie Mary'. The others were three from Scots Reader (Book 1) or New Scots Reader.

- 'Whistle, Whistle, Auld Wife,'
- 'The Sair Finger,'
- 'The Fox's Skin';

and one, 'The Corbie', from Bairnsangs.

Here is the complete test paper with the marks in brackets.

**PRIMARY 7**

*N.B.—Where a question gives you a choice, show clearly which words or sections you have chosen to answer.*

1. Write from memory not fewer than 8 and not more than 10 lines from any one of the poems set for study. (10)

2. (a) Give the meaning of any five of the following:—
   hoggie, drookit, lee-lang, houlet, sclim, unco, corbie. (5)
   (b) Give the Scots form or word for any five of the following:
   fox, curlew, must, know, little finger, fold, whole. (5)

3. Choose any five of the following quotations, and write the name of the piece in which each occurs:—
   (a) We heard nought but the roaring linn.
   (b) The ship rides by the Berwick-law.
   (c) Ye're suir tae faa!
   (d) An me my lane in the licht o' the moon.
   (e) Put on a wee bit saw.
   (f) Though ye wad gie me ten. (5)
4. Give the meaning of ALL the following expressions:—
   (a) Noo, dinna greet nae mair.
   (b) Ane o' them's keekin' ahint yon stane.
   (c) Ma mither says it's a daft-like ploy.
   (d) . . . Wad mak me langer wish to tarry.
   (e) Amang the braes sae scroggie.

5. Answer FIVE of the following, writing one or more GOOD SENTENCES about each of the questions you choose:—
   (a) What did the poet fear might happen to his Hoggie? What did he do about it? Was he alone?
   (b) In 'My Bonnie Mary,' what was the poet about to do? Was he looking forward to it? Why?
   (c) What offers were made to the 'Auld Wife' if she would whistle? Did she accept any of them?
   (d) What was wrong with the 'Sair Finger'? What treatment did it get?
   (e) In 'The Fox's Skin,' the poet speaks of the 'Pictish Men.' Who were they? What was the girl doing out at night? What did she think she saw?
   (f) What was the 'Corbie' doing? What did the boy want to do? What did his father say?

TOTAL MARKS—50
A MOUSE'S STORY

By GILLIAN ROBERTSON—Age 10½ years

I had been busy most of the summer-time, scurrying about gathering bits of coarse grass, stubble and stalks of corn from the field and built such a cosy, snug little nest where I knew I would be comfortable all winter. Sometimes my small jaws would be quite sore with all the nibbling I had to do, to gather all the bits and pieces I needed for my little home.

The field where I lived belonged to a kindly looking farmer and, after the busy harvest time was over, I used to peep out from my nest and watch as his great big farmer's boots went by. I knew he wouldn't mind if sometimes I would scamper up to the barn and nibble the grain because, as the days grew colder and longer, I was often quite hungry.

One cold November day, I had just returned from a visit to the barn for some food and I decided I would snuggle up in my little house and not go outside again. I had snoozed off but I woke up suddenly when I heard a strange bumping noise and, before I could run outside a big black blade crashed through my nest and crushed it. Luckily it didn't touch me and I scurried off as quickly as I could until I found a big stone and sheltered behind it.

The farmer had stopped ploughing and was standing looking very sad. I think he must have seen me running away and noticed my lovely little home quite broken up.

I didn't know what to do as there was nothing left in the fields now for me to make a new home and it was so cold. The lights were on in the farm kitchen so I scurried over the farmyard and squeezed under the door, hid in the corner behind a cupboard as I knew there would be tasty crumbs for me when the family had finished eating. How surprised I was to hear the farmer talking about what had happened to me and he made my story into a lovely poem which he said he was going to call 'To a Mouse'—that kind farmer was called Robert Burns.

Mr. Alex. Scouse, secretary of Uplawmuir Burns Club, No. 748, mentions in his report that the club donates prizes to Uplawmoor School for the annual Burns Competition. In 1973, the Eric McQueen Memorial Special Prize was awarded to Miss Gillian Robertson for this delightful essay. May her pen never run dry!
A FINGER GAME

Five wee birdies sittin on a dyke,
Ane gaed to Penicuik to buy a motor bike.
Fower wee birdies sitting in a raw.
Ane flew to Jeddart Toun to see the Hand-baa.
Three wee birdies sittin in a line.
Twa sat on and ane gaed to dine.
Twa wee birdies sittin on a stane.
Ane took the huff and then there was ane.
Ae wee birdie sittin aa his lane.
Gangs awa at bedtime and nou there are nane.

LOST

They took me owre to Rothesay aince
And I got lost ana!
I had to get a polisman
To take me hame to Maw.
They took our doos to Rothesay
And lowsed them on the pier.
They circled roun and fand their airt
Syne heidit straucht for here.
They didna speir at polismen,
At maps they never lookit,
But flaff’t their wings wi aa their micht
And landit at our dookit.
Does it no seem daft to you
That I got lost, but no a doo?

J. K. ANNAND

(Reprinted by permission of Mr. J. K. Annand from his new book of children's verse, Twice for Joy, which is reviewed by Miss Alice V. Stuart in this issue.)
On that Sunday, 10th September, 1797, when Syme reported his Liverpool trip to Cunningham, James Currie was burying his four-year-old daughter Sarah Ann beside the coffins of two of his other children who had predeceased her. Under such circumstances McCreery must have taken much of the initiative in preparing a proposal of the one-volume subscription edition for his press.

Wording of this proposal reveals what had been decided upon during the Liverpool discussions:

**Proposals**

**For Publishing by Subscription**

**For the Benefit of the Widow and Children of the Author**

In One Volume Quarto, Price One Guinea in Boards

With a Portrait

The Posthumous Works of

Robert Burns

Consisting of

Original Poems, Letters

And

Miscellaneous Reflections

With an Account of His Life and Character,

From original Documents in his own Hand Writing, and from authentic Information communicated by his brother, Mr. Gilbert Burns

And

A Critique Upon His Writings

The slender finances of the Family of Mr. Burns, and the great expense attending the publication, rendering it necessary to ascertain the number of the copies to be printed, it is hoped that the admirers of this original poet, and the patrons of his surviving Family, will take the opportunity of subscribing their names, and communicating their address, with as little delay as possible, to Alex. Cunningham, Esq. George-Street, Edinburgh, John Syme, Esq. Dumfries, J. McCreery, printer, Liverpool, or to the Booksellers in the towns where these proposals may ap-
It is earnestly requested that the subscribers' names and designations may be sent forward to the printer with the utmost dispatch.

Liverpool, Sept. 1797.¹

Printing and hot-pressing, McCreery ran off one-hundred copies on fine paper (£2) and two-hundred on a full sheet of letter paper (14s.).² These he delivered to Currie whose responsibility was to distribute that announcement in which he had chosen to protect his anonymity.

Currie wasted no time in placing the proposal in the hand of others. First thoughts were of Syme and Maria. On the twenty-eighth of September Syme acknowledged in a letter to Cunningham that he had just received a handful:

This day several of the Advertisements concerning the publication of the MSS. have been sent me. I must send you a parcel (which I shall do by the Fly), to be disposed of in the way you judge most eligible. Elphinston Balfour will take the load off you, but you will carry one or two in your pocket to be produced upon opportune occasions. The subscribers may put their names on the back of the paper . . .

[P.S.]—I have preferred send this per fly, and with 90 copies advertisement on middling paper, 10 do. on fine paper for particular people . . .³

Maria received a single proposal⁴ on the same day that Syme received his package of them, as she tells Currie in a letter filled with page after page of her thoughts of the past four months:

Bloxworth, 28th Sept., 1797.

I almost feared, my dear Dr, I should never hear from you again. You can not conceive what a blank your silence creates in my narrow circle—for it is become so now—of intellectual pleasures. I have just had a volume likewise from Syme. So you have had Gilbert Burns with you! Does he not bear quite an uncomfortable resemblance to our Bard, particularly in his manner of speaking? Did Smyth [William, 1765-1849, Professor of Modern History at Cambridge] shew you my last letter to him? or at least read you a paragraph that I requested him to

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¹The Besterman Papers [hereafter 'B.P.'], p. 6.
²B.P., p. 162.
³J.C.E., 'Correspondence of John Syme and Alexander Cunningham, 1789-1811 VI,' in B.C., XV (1940). 18.
⁴Currie's long letter to Maria, which enclosed the proposal and which dwelt upon the visit to Liverpool by Syme and Gilbert, is not known to be extant.
communicate to you relative to some very capital poetry of the Bard's inserted—not in any edition of his works—but in Johnson's *Scots Musical Miscellany*, as well as some in a Selection of Scottish Songs by Pleyel [George Thomson's work]? If you have had these pointed out to you it is very well; if not, return me a line by the next post and I will copy and transmit them all to you without loss of time, as Burns marked all his own in my Copies of those works himself, and there are several without his name prefixed to them at all. Now, be you in ever so indolent a mood, persuade yourself to let me know about this business, as by neglecting this acquisition you not only render your Collection of the Songs incomplete, but lose some that I think may be esteemed among his very best. I conclude you have had the portrait by Nasmyth brought up to Liverpool, which is an excellent resemblance, as it were doing the print injustice to take it from the former engraving [Beugo's]. I suppose your artist will be the same who executed the frontispiece of Lorenzo de Medici [Matthew Haughton, 1768-1821]. For this same subscription I am less a partie to be of use, even in the offering of advice, than if I happened to be in the Metropolis. I shall mention to Syme my ideas for the arrangement of the subscription in Scotland; it must be launched out from Edinburgh in many other channels. I should conceive in all the principal towns, as Glasgow, Aberdeen, &c., persons should be appointed to receive subscriptions. The same in England. In London, I should think Moore or any other literary person could point out a fashionable and perhaps an honest and liberal bookseller. Cadell or Edwards [James, 1757-1816, 77, Pall-Mall] or some of these people would receive them. I could have spoken to Edwards had I been in town, but Roscoe or Moore must know this part of the business better than myself. Do you propose confining the reception of subscriptions to London? I should think at Bath, Derby, York, Exeter, and these places, something not inconsiderable might be made. You may depend (at least if I know anything of myself) on my activity and of the full exertion of all my influence as far as it extends or can be extended. In this place—that is a solitary little ferme ornee of my youngest Sister's—I can do nothing, and from hence I go in a few days to Christchurch, in Hampshire, a retired sea-bathing quarter, with my Daughter and two of my Nieces, and there I banish myself for five weeks. In fine, I shall live almongst waves and woods till Xmas, after
THE HISTORY OF CURRIE'S FIRST EDITION

which I go to London, where I will positively lay all and every one of my Vassals under contribution, or in plain English and modester terms, will engage all my friends (who will suffer me to influence them) into setting down their names to this subscription. There is not a soul in London at present, or will be till near the Winter Birthday, so nothing could be effected that way even if I were in town. What then you have to do with regard to settling me in train is to let me know who is appointed to receive Subscriptions in London, and I can get a parcel of proposals to dispose of more readily from thence, or send me a few in separate covers by two or three different day’s posts, if you think it necessary. In the meantime I keep this one for myself. My friend the Duchess of Gordon [Jane Maxwell, who married George, fourth Duke of Gordon in 1767] will assist me powerfully, I know, in London, and perhaps we have still some interest even in the North. Do not therefore delay, my good friend, to acquaint me whether the proposals are handed about in Edinburgh yet, and where you arrange that the Subscribers shall set down their names, &c., both there and in London (it cannot be in a private house, of course), and the instant I am au fait in these necessary particulars I shall apply to my friends, which I can do by letter, and set down their names for you, even before I go myself to the great city. I have great hopes that I can be of use to the cause there, and will neglect nothing to benefit it, and partake with Burns’s generous benefactors in Liverpool the trouble and the honor of patronising his surviving family . . . As to my assisting you in the Biography, I have more zeal, I doubt, than capacity. You know the nature of ‘Clarinda’s’ letters; I do not know if she could not afford you some assistance. I will look over her letters to me again. I left them at Kingston Hall. Yet, after all, they are of so private a nature I am not clear you could make anything of them for your purpose. I did not mention the little sketch you got from me because I thought it probable you would suffer it to remain in Oblivion, but since you declare so ‘positively’ you will keep it, I must be suffered to interfere as to the use you may chuse to put it to. I gave it to you in a state of incorrectness for which I feel no toleration (on looking over the duplicate) to my own complaisance in letting you have it, but I shall in future mistrust my faculties of putting a negative on anything you desire. If you only propose making use of some passages and interweaving them in your own language, you shall have them all to
dissect and put together again your own way, but if you mean to put them in my terms, you must—mind I swear by all my Gods—apprize me of the plan and let me send them to you in a less imperfect form. I hope to be at least qualified to correct Scotticisms after a twelvemonth's residence south of the Tweed. Now, remember, I am inflexible on this point... I was happy to hear from Syme a good account of Mrs. C. and your little 'Olive branches'. I bid you farewell with regret.—Ever faithfully yours,

Maria R——.5

By asking for Maria's help with the biography, Currie hoped to gain what Syme undoubtedly informed him could not otherwise be gained: the co-operation of 'Clarinda' and the co-operation of Maria, particularly with respect to their correspondence with Burns and their knowledge of the poet during those years when they were so close to him. By asking for Maria's help with the subscriptions, Currie more completely awakened to the realisations that a competent bookseller would be needed rather more soon than late and that he himself would have no time to accept control of the required solicitation and book-keeping. With typical restraint Currie left unmentioned the very recent death of one of his 'little "Olive branches".' And with typical exuberance Maria directed the doctor's attention to her 'Candidior' article which he had retained. Here Maria volunteered to give the editor precisely that freedom for which he has been attacked by twentieth-century critics examining such an episode as the genesis of 'Scots wha hae'. Maria requested that he make use 'of some passages', that he interweave 'them in your own language,' that he 'dissect,' and that he 'put together again'. How many others could have made similar petitions to Currie? As stipulations before offering their material? And how many others could have felt, as Maria felt, that Scotticisms should be cut out of prose? That what was intended to be proper English might be made proper? For such matters as these, editors in the eighteenth century were named, whatever the case today.

It is hard to understand how Currie found increased time to devote to Burns during the month of November, for it was then that he had to follow his Medical Reports through publication. Extra, more sustained effort, however, is to be seen; and it was this exertion which led to the serious attack of consumption that winter. Additional materials were collected and examined, books were

5J.C.E., 'Maria Riddell's Letters to Dr James Currie, 1796-1805,' in B.C., XXIX (1920). 118-20.
ordered, letters were written, ideas for the biography were contemplated and entered in the notebook, friends were brought into the subscription, and acquaintances of the poet were received in Liverpool. It may well have been around November that Alexander Young stayed as a guest of the Curries. Young recalled this visit in his ‘Memoir regarding Robert Burns’:

The first Life of Burns was written by my friend and School-fellow Dr. Currie of Liverpool. When he began the Work, I was on a visit to him and staid some days [with him (deleted)] at Liverpool, when we had [frequent some (deleted)] conversations respecting the Poet; I told the doctor that tho’ I had a high admiration of his talents, [and regretted much that he had never been properly rewarded by the public, but yet at the same time (deleted)] I thought he had brought [much (deleted)] a great part of his misfortune upon himself by his own bad Conduct and propensity to Satire with very bad taste and little regard to truth, and [in particular, (deleted)] if he had [actually (deleted)] really possessed that [high proud (deleted)] proud spirit of freedom and independence to which he made loud claims, he never would have condescended to have become an exciseman. N L I found there were many points in the character of Burns which the Dr. did not admire, and I am possessed of letters from him which show that it was his purpose to gloss over his failings, and make the Book as profitable as he possibly could for the benefit of the Bard’s helpless family.6

Apparently Young never overcame his antipathies towards Burns to the point of taking out a subscription to the benefit edition.

Currie had better luck with his English friends, such as Mrs. Samuel Greg in Manchester to whom he wrote on the fourteenth of November:

I enclose you a subscription paper for the widow and children of Burns. I shall correct the proofs, and write the biography; which will be a great amusement, and will divert me from more serious things. I am ashamed to ask you to subscribe: yet I do ask you*; and I desire you to ask any other person that you think would subscribe willingly.7

That Currie should feel any shame in making such a request must have arisen because of the proximity of this request to his so

7W.W.C., II. 187. An asterisk, here and hereafter, indicates that the person appears amongst the names on the published ‘List of Subscribers’.
recent pleas for a gift in support of the general subscription to raise funds for Jean and her children.

By November difficulties had been discovered in the method of subscribing to the proposed edition. Subscribers were to enter their intent upon the back of the proposal, but no plans had been made for receiving monies in advance of publication or acknowledging such payments. When the need arose in December to supply more proposals, McCreery printed five hundred on half-sheet (£1.10.0) and, upon the instigation of Cadell & Davies, five-hundred receipts (15s.).

Currie’s correspondents soon found that he was not the least tenacious of men when it became a matter of acquiring information about Robert Burns. On the third of November the doctor followed up leads tendered by Maria. Although his letter is missing like every other piece of evidence in that young lady’s hands which associated her name with the poet’s, one can learn something of its contents from her reply of the fourteenth and twentieth:

Christ Church, Hants,
14th November, 1797.

... But to be serious. In answer to yours of the 3rd ult., I have no information to afford you relative to such writings of Our Bard’s as you have found in Pleyel’s selection; his name is prefixed at full length to his own songs there. I can not give you the information you desire as to Johnson’s Miscellany neither, just at present, because I am not worth a copy of that publication here; but my Sister has it at Bloxworth, and I will send you all I can afford from thence in the course of a week or ten days. The printed poems you, like a perfidious Doctor (of, I believe, a very perfidious science), still have in your custody, so I cannot refer conveniently, as you request me, to any of them. If I can borrow a copy on my return to Dorsetshire I will do so nevertheless. Have you got among Burns’s MS. Letters the copy of one he wrote to old Smellie, dated the 22nd January, 1792 [Works, II. 390]? Because it has been thought a very good one, the concluding sentiment, that is to say, is perhaps sufficiently striking to give sanction to the rest of the letter, which is certainly less interesting to the public because relative personally to your humble Servant only. It was an introductory letter he gave me when I first went to Edinburgh to that Naturalist, with whom I was anxious to become acquainted. I could procure you the original

B.P., p. 162.
letter, if you desired it. Perhaps it was false modesty to suppress it when I gave you his other MSS., but I thought it would appear like wishing to introduce myself to you under the auspices of a too particular narrator if I put it into your hands at that time exactly. Of my own letters you need not be surprised that you have not yet discovered any among the papers, because they were all returned to me at my particular request before I left Scotland. You might see from the tenour of Burns's billets and letters to me that there was no shining correspondence between us; we lived so near, and were so constantly together, that we seldom had recourse for the communication of our thoughts or sentiments to the medium—the cold imperfect medium—of paper. His language might bestow grace to the most trivial subjects, but I did not think my own worth preserving. I regret that the print should be executed by the hand of any artist except the one Roscoe employed for his Lorenzo. Have you seen any specimen of this volunteer engraver's performance [Beugo's]? Now, do not let us mar the volumes with an indifferent frontispiece. The price of the subscription is considerable, and the print of Burns's head seems an object. I observe, to many of those who are pledged to me as subscribers. You have taken an impression of the seal, too, have you not? It will make a small vignette for the title page. Will you let me know when and where the subscription is open in Edinburgh, and I shall immediately write to Erskine* [Henry, 1746-1817] and some of my friends there to patronize it. There are certain Lords of Justiciary there, too, whom I think I have yet some interest with; these will be of use. You need not be anxious for Bankes's name. I shall set that down without even asking his leave. Among the Peers and Commons I hope to do a great deal. Lewis* [Mathew Gregory, jun., 1775-1818, English novelist and M.P.] espouses it warmly, and so will her Grace of Gordon*. She wrote me a volume a few days ago, perfectly raving about Roscoe; his 'Vine cover'd hills and gay vallies of France' have deified him with her. She wished extremely to see him while he was in town, and I do not know if he told you how wickedly he gave her, and gave me indeed, the slip about that. However, I have pledged myself, as an encouragement to her activity in our cause, that she shall

9Henry Bankes, Kingston Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset. Bankes had married in 1784 Maria's younger sister Frances; their daughters were the nieces accompanying Maria to the Hampshire seaside.
positively have that gratification when he visits the Capital next. You may tell him this if you like it. I find by a letter I had lately from his son that Dr Moore and you have not corresponded on the arrangements in town yet. It should be set agoing in January, and early in that month. Have you settled how and by whom it is to be conducted there? Pray let me know if there will be any thing on certain topics, as politics, and so forth, that might render indelicate my requesting persons of any party or persuasion to subscribe. I think if we got the Prince of Wales’s name, for instance—I mean by way of ornament, for he will never pay the money . . .

Kingston Hall, 20th.

I now attend to you again, my dear Sir . . . Well! but of Clarinda’s correspondence! I declare I know not how to act in it, but will be guided willingly by you. You formerly begged me to entrust to you such letters of Clarinda’s to myself as related to Burns, as well as those I wrote in return giving her the information she required of the particulars of his death, &c. One or two of these you saw at Liverpool, I believe. Of my own letters, upon my honour, I do not think you can make much use, for half of them are very nonsensical; and Clarinda’s contain private anecdotes of his history, his marriage, and so forth, that I can conceive the public will have nothing to do with. Of Burns’s letters to her I can only procure a partial selection, as you may suppose, from the fair one herself; but I will write to her to-morrow for all she will give, and if you after this account still wish to have the reading of them, I have nothing to refuse you, and they shall be sent to you in any way you will appoint: none occur to me at present except a parcel by the mail, and the thing is whether you think them worth that method of conveyance. Let me know by a line, and your will shall be done immediately. I do not know which of the MSS. you selected, from my portefeuille, of Burns’s; but I am sure I gave you every elucidation relative to to them you asked me, when I was with you. If I neglected any thing material let me know. I pray you forgive me if I have said any thing I ought not to have said, or left unsaid what I ought to have said. I am not able to write six lines without interruption. Just send me your final commands relative to these letters; but if you are not at leisure do not think it necessary to write a letter (it is great virtue in me to admit of this). I will write again when
I get Johnson's *Miscellany*. Believe me, your sincere and obliged

**MARIA RIDDELL**,\(^\text{10}\)

So Maria had return of her letters to Burns and so she thought them not 'worth preserving'. They were not to be offered Currie. But in Liverpool Currie had seen some of the correspondence between Maria and 'Clarinda'; and if he wished to look over the rest of this correspondence as well as whatever 'Clarinda' might send of Burns's letters to her, he had only to make the request. Presumably, from what Currie had been able to learn from Syme about the transactions between the Burns executors and 'Clarinda' as represented by Robert Ainslie, the doctor had all but made up his mind that the 'Sylvander-Clarinda' affair would not be represented in his edition. On the other hand, one might be sure that testimony about Burns from 'Clarinda' and Maria, especially as it bore upon such important biographical aspects as Burns's last days, would be introduced indirectly in Currie's account of the life. Maria as well as Syme, therefore, is to be considered as a primary witness to what Currie writes about the Dumfriesshire years. The wife Jean apart, no two individuals were in a better position than Syme and Maria to know of what they spoke.

Letters other than those of Maria attest to the fact that the subscription gathered momentum in November. On the eighth Syme wrote Cunningham:

I have had several letters from you of late, and I do not know how many of these are unanswered. You will think me very remiss, for their contents were of importance as well as of interest to me . . .

I can say no more to you at present than that I was much gratified with your late favours, [and] that a young gentleman, the Bearer of this, who has a letter to you from Dr. Currie brought me the inclosed, which I have hastily read over and noted so far as I could at the time. Will you look into the inclosures, make your remarks, and return them to me by that gentleman? He is Mr. Duncan (James, I believe), brother to the husband of Dr. Currie's Sister. He is a young gentleman of considerable literary attainments, Instructs the children of Mrs. Hodgson of Ince, a handsome widow Lady of great fortune residing in Liverpool and a great friend of our Bard's.

I am only acquainted with him through Dr. Currie and having

\(^{10}\)J.C.E., 'Maria Riddell’s Letters to Dr James Currie, 1796-1805 Part II,' in *B.C.*, XXX (1921). 96-8.
seen him at Liverpool and here once or twice, and think him a fine young man. Dr. Maxwell is well, but I very seldom have seen him of late.

* * * * *

I will send your letters to Liverpool the first opportunity, viz., those relating to the Subscription concern... I am in hopes of being able to make a trip into Edinburgh in February. I will write you more fully hereafter...11

With James Duncan as his messenger, Currie was not only keeping those in Scotland advised of his progress, but also was reaching out for more information. Surmisedly, the 'inclosures' to Syme were requests that he, Cunningham, and others in Scotland responsible to the poet's family jot down answers to particulars of fact, offer judgements as to what might be publishable, check on what Currie was beginning to hold true of Burns, suggest how Maria's offer of her own materials and those of 'Clarinda' might be received, report on the subscription, and help decide what bookseller and publisher might be approached.

A significant portion of the notebook on Burns describes November activity. One task was to sort out Burns's contributions to the *Musical Museum* by means of such guides as the poet's letter to Mrs. Dunlop, 13 November 1788 (*Letters*, I. 372-3). Another was to study the various manuscript versions of any one song that he had in his possession and then to jot down tumbling thoughts as to how such a wealth of evidence might best be used: 'The songs of sterling merit may be exhibited in the diff. stages of their growth: e.g. Bruce to his Troops, conceived in the Wilds of Glenkens.'12 Currie's keen interest in the songs is reflected again in the importance he gave to the Burns-Thomson correspondence. One of these letters, moreover, gave rise to the meditation upon the character of Burns which engaged the doctor on the night of November fifth:

On politics he did not always express the same language—[nay (deleted)]. His dependence pressed him downwards though it did not lay him prostrate. 'He fell on evil tongues & evil times, and as we tread on certain subjects we must tread lightly over his grave that we may not disturb his yet warm ashes'.

It is deeply to be lamented that the poet whose intellectual glance could penetrate the inmost recesses of character, should

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12Currie *Notebook*, p. [10].
suffer it to be so often refracted by the medium of prejudice or passion—it appears [that (deleted)] in several instances, he lavished his invectives on the virtuous; & in some, his approbation and kindness, if not on the wicked, on the weak & worthless—

Letter to Thompson

To tread lightly on certain subjects became one of the first aims of Currie’s editing. Indeed, the image entered in the notebook appears in the concluding words to the prefatory remarks of his edition (I. 31): ‘... we will tread lightly over his yet warm ashes, and respect the laurels that shelter his untimely grave.’

In November, too, Currie read over his copy of Mason’s life of Gray, dwelling here upon the ascent to the Grande Chartreuse, nature as pregnant with religion and poetry, and the impact of rivers upon the poet’s spirit, and there upon Gray’s suggestion to West that daily horseback rides were efficacious with respect to health and ambition. Currie goes on to observe, ‘The influence of [rural scenery of the (deleted)] being early accustomed to rural scenery on the furniture of the imagination must be noticed—particularly interesting rural scenery.14 Rivers, daily rides upon horseback, rural Scottish scenery: these the doctor held in common with Burns.

Sometimes Currie’s notebook thoughts seem to be groping for an explanation not of the poet’s own conduct, but of the conduct of others towards him, such as the cooling-off of Edinburgh society in the winter of 1787:

Men are not always so insincere in their professions of friendship as their subsequent conduct might lead one to suppose. They speak [under (deleted)] from the influence of a temporary sentiment, but not under the government of a permanent disposition.

2 Nov. 97

At other times Currie fronts the paradox of ploughman-poet, of complete art from incomplete education. Here he is moved to defend Burns against the intellectual snobbery of the well educated, even as he is moved to account for the indelicacies of Burns’s writings:

In showing that Burns might be a great poet without understanding and language but his own—Shakespeare & Homer may be quoted—It may be questioned whether the faculties

13Ibid., pp. [10]-11.
14Ibid., p. 9.
15Ibid.
are so much improved by the [knowledge (deleted)] treasures locked up in the dead languages, as by the exercise of mind necessary to reach [it (deleted)] them there. The dead languages contain nothing of science or of morals that has not been transfused long ago into modern tongues—Even the works of taste & [fancy (deleted)] of imagination have been [for the greater part tr (deleted)] for the greater part translated, tho' it must be acknowledged with [im (deleted)] less perfect success from the nature of such works. A precept in morals is composed of solid materials which suffer little or nothing by a change of form. But [those delicate (deleted)] delicacies of taste are more difficult to be preserved in translation. They depend on refinements of expression [one word deleted] not easy to be precisely apprehended, and which when apprehended, it is often impossible to find an exactly corresponding term for in other languages; and on a happy colouring & arrangement which without the utmost attention are lost in the transfusion.—[The more vivid impressions on the passions & on the imagination are of these The more powerful expressions of sensibility or expressions of passion are (deleted)]. Those sentiments which address themselves more powerfully to the sensibility or to the imagination conveying a more distinct impression, are less difficult to be translated—But as the influence of such [impressions (deleted)] sentiments depend more perhaps on the new emotions they excite than on the [imagin (deleted)] primary impressions they convey, a translator of genius [is under a perpetual hazard of mingling with the (deleted)] under the inspiration of his master, is liable to mingle with the sentiments of the original, the pictures which they create in his own mind—16

For such ideas Currie had a willing commentator in William Roscoe, who at the time was translating from Tansillo and also deciding whether or not he should translate into English the Italian passages of his Lorenzo. It could have been Roscoe who provided Currie with the illustration he entered against his thoughts, '24 Nov. 97': 'The Catholic painters have sometimes painted the face of a Courtesan & placed it over an Altar-piece with the dress & “glory” of a saint or madonna. So the poet &ca.' It would appear that Currie was only a step or two from shaping an opinion of Burns as poet not unlike Fra Lippo’s view of the artist:

Or say there’s beauty with no soul at all—

16Ibid., pp. [12]-[14].
(I never saw it—put the case the same—)
If you get simple beauty and nought else,
You get about the best thing God invents.

On the same day that Currie was linking courtesan and madonna in his notebook, he found time to write Maria Riddell, as we know from her reply of 6 December:

Your letter of the 24th November must have passed one of mine, with what information I could afford you respecting Burns’s share in the *Scots Musical Miscellany*, on the road. I have a ready conveyance likely soon to occur for receiving all you have to send me from Liverpool, in the course of this month or very early in the next. One of my female attendants left me on account of bad health last year, is now with her brother at Liverpool, and being quite recovered returns to me as soon as I go to London. She will take great care of the books and papers, and deliver them safely to me. I will let you know before she comes away from Liverpool, or will desire her to call on you for them, if you are not afraid of trusting yourself with the sight of a very uncommonly bonny Lass. Hitherto I have been unsuccessful in the enquiry for a volume of the printed poems: when I get one, if I am lucky enough to do so before I go to London, I will certainly set about obeying your commands *de mon mieux*; if not, will do so as soon as I get my own copy. I do not comprehend how you came by that contraband copy of Burns’s letter to Smellie, unless he (Burns) had retained a copy of it for himself; *that* you may have procured, but the Original letter young Smellie gave me after his father’s death [1795] and I have it now in my *scutore*, unless you deal in magic. I have not the least acquaintance with Cunningham; pray recollect in your next to let me know his address, or rather where the Subscriptions are received—I do not even know Cunningham’s Christian name or what he is, I fancy a professional man—because it is impossible for me to desire my friends to subscribe till I can give them some designation where they are to address themselves, &c. The business would be much better in the booksellers’ hands: Peter Hill’s, or Smellie [Alexander] the printer’s (a son of the venerable philosopher, and a great protégé of mine; I know his worth, and would be responsible for his zeal). Creech, however, should be avoided like plague or pestilence; he is a great rogue as well as an intolerable pedant. As for Dr. Moore, you will never get any thing out of him till I
get to town and pull his wig a little; I know what a fastidious wretch he is, but I will make him do whatever you like when he is within my reach. I shall devour Roscoe’s Poem *The Nurse* with eagerness as soon as it comes out. I am delighted with your plan about the selection of the Bard’s writings. I will try by speaking to Wilberforce *William, 1759-1833* whenever I see him, if we cannot get Dundas’s name *The Right Hon. Henry, 1742-1811* , since you wish it; but after my contest with the whole clan of Dundas’s about Oneil’s affair, I dare not attempt an application directly from myself, I never scarcely see him. I will try, however, an oblique channel, and see what we can do. Colonel Fullarton* [William, 1754-1808, M.P. for Ayrshire] I do not know. You forgot, after all, one of the main purports of my letter—relative to Clarinda. I now inclose you a letter I received from her two days ago; you will read it and let me know in consequence whether you wish for any of these Extracts from Burns’s letters, and if any passages concerning Him, in mine to her, will be worth your looking over. Have you heard of these said Memoirs of Burns, by one Heron? Clarinda mentions them. I dare say they are no great things. If you approve a continuation of this selection from his letters to Clarinda, I conclude you would prefer those delineating his feelings, sentiments, and opinions on every subject, with as little of the love episodes as possible. The concluding passage in that extract of Clarinda’s does great honor to Burns’s religion; you will be pleased with, and I dare say will find use for, it. I have since this was begun, received more papers from Clarinda. If Syme has not been satisfactory to you on the subject of Burns’s *closing scene* I really will, on farther considera-

17Mr A. E. Truckell, Curator of the Dumfries Burgh Museum, informs me of the O’Neills in a letter of 29 Dec. 1964: ‘... the bulk of the material is unpublished. The O’Neills were a family of Irish tinkers living in a cottage of Stoop on the outskirts of Dumfries: the military surrounded the house (1793 or 95) to impress the young men into the Navy, shots were exchanged, a soldier killed, the whole family arrested, and O’Neill and his sons put under sentence of death. I have a letter from a Dumfries Burgh Officer who was escorting a party of prisoners from here that one of his party reported a plot by young O’Neill to break prison. I also have a rather pathetic letter to the Provost from old O’Neill, complaining that his grown-up daughter is imprisoned in the same small cell with himself and a stranger and asking that she be moved to the women’s part of the prison where her mother was ...

‘The local Catholic gentry persuaded Maria Riddell to use her charms on the law lords, and she did eventually get the sentences committed.’
tion, give my letters to Clarinda into your hands. Now, without sitting down to write me a regular epistle, just scrawl me a line or two by the earliest post, or make one of your young men do so, to let me know if I shall continue to send you any of these extracts, &c., Clarinda forwards to me. The seal I mentioned, and which you propose engraving in the title page, I fancy Gilbert Burns or the Widow will have got in their custody. I gave Burns the stone, and we arranged the devise between us, I do firmly believe in despite and violation of all rules of Heraldry: a holly bush with a shepherd’s pipe suspended, crest a woodlark, with the motto from Milton’s *Allegro*, ‘native woodnotes wild’—it is all appropriate enough, and you must not omit to give the Poet’s chosen blazon. I shall now busily set about preparing my copies, &c., of my own and Clarinda’s letters, with those of Burns’s she sends me, *en attendant* your orders for sending them, which I shall look for soon, if at all. If I have time I will digest some of those biographical sketches of mine, since you propose making some use of them, in better form, or at least prune some of the inaccuracies; they may all go together to Liverpool. I am very angry with you for saying I only ‘say obliging things to spirit you up to the completion of your task’. I must be very insensible to the part you have taken in all this business and to the excellence of those motives that urged you to it, if they certainly did not render you rather more an object of obliging sensations and obliging expressions... Pray lay apart the letters, &c., I send, or may send, you from Clarinda, to return me when done with, as I should not like wholly to resign them.—Addio! Yours very faithfully,

**MARIA RIDDELL**

**P.S.—** Heron of Heron in Galloway [Patrick ?1736-1803, *M.P. for the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright*] has interested himself much for the publication. Lewis tells me he will do all he can, and be a *ministering spirit* unto me; and I have been canvassing the *beaux* even here, not totally without success.18

Once again a letter from Maria points up how many of Currie’s materials have been destroyed or lost sight of and how important it is, therefore, to have established faith in the editor so as to be able to believe that he did not knowingly offer anything as true which, to the best of his knowledge, he did not consider true. We

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18J.C.E., ‘Maria Riddell’s Letters to Dr James Currie, 1796-1805 Part II,’ in *B.C., XXX* (1921). 98-100.
shall learn that Currie received the papers concerning Burns, 'Clarinda,' and Maria; but we shall most probably never know what they contained or where Currie used these sources. Nor is there much chance that we shall ever learn of the plan for selection of materials which Currie described to Maria because, in all probability, she destroyed his letter. From her own letter it becomes apparent that Currie worked not only with a copy of Maria's 'Candidior' article in addition to what she told him in Liverpool, but also with all of her sketches for that article, which may well have contained information more frank, more direct than that of the published piece. One difficulty is that we remain ignorant today of all the states in which Currie had any item. Thus Maria's amazement that he could refer to Burns's letter introducing her to Smellie at a time when she had the original locked away. Nor was this the extent of her amazement, for she was soon to discover that the doctor could produce a copy of a far more personal manuscript: the 'Letter from Hell'. So even Maria could not be sure that she had covered her traces completely or that she alone had absolute control of all evidence associating herself with Robert Burns. This insecurity in late 1797 could have signified a more determined effort to remain in the good graces of Currie and could have raised the question of whether the time had not become right for destroying what was in her possession. In judging, Maria could have recognized, however, two or three arguments for protecting the manuscripts further: her loyalty to Robert Burns through memories, her sincerity in supporting James Currie, and her vanity which had prompted her to use tokens of her ties with Burns as would Becky Sharp.

By early December Currie could devote more of his time to matters pertaining to the edition of Burns because the Medical Reports had been published. An immediate concern was the subscription, for on all sides evidence was mounting to show that facilities beyond those of first expedience were needed to direct solicitation. So far everybody concerned was receiving such responses to the proposal as the following which came to McCreery:

Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire
Decr. 1. 1797—

Sir,
I am happy to find by your Prospectus there are means for ye future support of ye Family of ye inimitable Burns. I wish it every imaginable success and beg you will add my Name and that of the Reading Society here to your List of Subscribers. Shod. I be fortunate enough to procure more I shall certainly
Once upon a time Currie may have imagined that he and McCreery upon the advice of Roscoe might be able to publish the edition of Burns as the *Lorenzo* and the *Medical Reports* had been published, that is without going abroad from Liverpool for outside help beyond what was necessary for the proper circulation of copies. But the scope and nature of the Burns enterprise, the various interests represented the anxious letters from those like Cunningham and Maria, and the piling up of details and decisions, apart from the cares of editing, convinced the doctor that a bookseller-publisher ought to be engaged.

Cadell & Davies was a natural choice. Together with William Creech (1745-1815) they owned shares in thirty or more publications including the poetry of Robert Burns. The elder Cadell had published with Creech and Strahan a London edition in 1787. The younger Cadell and Davies with Creech had published editions in 1793, 1794, and 1797; and they were considering still another for 1798. Cadell & Davies, otherwise, had bought the copyright for Roscoe's *Lorenzo*. So great had been the demand for this work that they had not been able to engage McCreery's press for the second edition despite their high regard for his craftsmanship and their respect for Roscoe's wishes. On the twelfth of May 1797 they had written Roscoe asking if he would do a new edition of Middleton's *Cicero* with McCreery as printer: 'We felt ourselves bound to give Mr. McCreery some Sort of Proof we had not forgot our Promise to him.' In November McCreery had printed Currie's *Reports*, and Cadell & Davies had been one of the booksellers to offer the book. In December, when a favourable sale indicated a second edition, Currie proposed to the publishers an arrangement similar to the one which they offered Roscoe for his *Lorenzo*.

The exact date upon which Currie entered negotiations with Cadell & Davies for his edition of Burns is not before us; but there is in the University of Edinburgh Library a list of items which includes the following citation:

19B.P., p. 17; holograph letter.
20The Roscoe Papers, No. 622.
1797

Dr Currie. Liverpool . . . letter to Cadell & Davies, informing them that he wishes to consult them on the posthumous Works of poor Burns.21

Seemingly, the letter referred to was the first word concerning Burns from Currie to the London publishing house; one is tempted to date it as 'early December 1797'. But this could not have been the first notice that Cadell & Davies had of what was intending in Liverpool. Either Roscoe or McCreery could have informed them previously and, in the last week of November, Patrick Laurie,* a rich London merchant and Galloway laird, instigated most probably by Maria, actually did speak to them about the subscription.22 Behaving with accustomed propriety, Cadell & Davies awaited word from Currie himself while getting on with another edition of William Wilberforce's popular Practical View of the prevailing religious System of Professed Christians.

Within a short time, around the first of December, Currie made his approach to Cadell & Davies:

Gentlemen

According to the intimation I gave you I beg leave now to consult you respecting the publication of the posthumous works of poor Burns.

Dumfriesshire in which this singular genius spent the last years of his life, is my native County & there my original connections chiefly reside. There I saw Burns in the year 1792, but my intercourse with him was transient. One of the friends he made there, Mr Syme of Rye-dale, Collector of the Stamp-duty for the Southern district of Scotland, was my early friend, and on the death of the bard wrote to interest me for his helpless family. It would be a tedious tale to explain to you how from offering my Assistance to Mr Syme as Editor of the posthumous works, I have been led, step by step, to become the Editor myself, and to engage in a task foreign to my habits & for which my talents may be disputed. Suffice it to say that I have engaged in the business with extreme reluctance, and not till I was assured that all attempts to procure a respectable Editor in Scotland had wholly failed—I shall have much trouble, & the consciousness of assisting the family of a man of Genius will be my sole recompense. I shall however have the counsel & assistance of my excellent friend Mr Roscoe whenever I

21E.U., La. II 210-11 [23].
22B.P., p. 27.
require it; and every co-operation from the zeal of our printer McCreery, himself a man of genius, an idolater of Burns & perfectly acquainted with the idiom in which he wrote.

The brother of the Poet, & Mr Syme, (trustee for the family), have arranged the MSS, and written notes of explanation where these are required. They have been here and in concert with Mr Roscoe & myself, framed the inclosed Hand-bill, which will explain the plan of the intended publication. Handbills of this kind have been partially circulated, in some parts of Scotland & in Liverpool, and upwards of 200 subscriptions are procured, or rather have been offered. The hand-bills were not printed till about ten weeks ago, and there is every appearance that if properly managed the subscription may be made very large. In the Metropolis nothing has been done, but after the Christmas Recess, some ladies of fashion & influence have promised to exert themselves in the haut ton—

It is necessary however that some Gentleman or Gentlemen in your situation should undertake the business of receiving subscriptions, and this I beg to propose to you. I thought also of requesting Mr Nicol [John Nichols, 1745-1826] & Mr Edwards to receive subscriptions also, unless it would be more agreeable to you to undertake the business alone. If you engage in it, you will consider it as in the usual line of trade, & for the expenses you may incur previous to the publication I will secure yr indemnification.

We wish you to consider the printed proposals, & to suggest any alteration that you may think wd. promote the object in view. Do you approve the publication being in 4to.? This has been objected to, But it was supposed that one edition in 4to might be sold by subscription, and afterwards the work formed into two Octavos corresponding to the Volumes of the printed Work. In this plan, we considered only how best to relieve the Widow & Orphans from penury & distress. Profit of course was our object. Will you have the goodness to consider it in this point of view? We are yet entirely open to your observations.

The following particulars will convey to you a more precise idea of the volume & its contents.
1. McCreery's printing you know. He has got new types, & new ink—for Burns's works, & he swears the typography shall rival that of the Shakespeare or Milton of Bensley or Bulmar.
2. The Head of Burns will, I am told, be in a superior stile of
excellence, and offers have been made of drawings for other engravings descriptive of scenery and manners, which however on account of the expense we hesitate at present to accept.

3. The first part of the volume will consist of the life of Burns, and more especially in which the earlier part of his history will be more particularly dwelt on. His brother has furnished very ample materials for this, & among the MSS there is a life written by himself wh. includes the whole of the period before his going to Edinburgh, & wh. will be found in a high degree interesting. For his conduct while in Edinr. materials are found in the letters of some of the first literary characters there, who have come forward very handsomely in giving their observations; and for the latter part of his life, where we must tread rapidly & lightly, abundant information is procured from Mr Syme & others. In the course of the biography it is proposed to introduce some details respecting the character & manners of the Scottish peasantry—with some observations on their music & national songs;—And this will naturally introduce a critique on the character of Burns as a poet. To this will probably be added some general observations on the poetical character, & the sins which more particularly beset it. I have no notion to what extent all this will go, but I think it will not be in narrower limits than the largest of Johnson's lives, that of Savage.

4. The next part will consist of his correspondence. Of this upwards of 200 original letters are collected of various merit, but some of them excellent—A selection of these in the order of their dates, will prove very interesting, & give the progress of his mind. A considerable portion of this correspondence is addressed to Ladies—to Ladies of character & taste. Here the delicacy of his correspondents restraining his exuberances, the letters are in general unexceptionable. He also corresponded with some of our first literary characters, where his letters are of course correct, and some of these (Dr Blair* [Hugh, 1718-1800], Dr Gregory [James, 1753-1821], Mr Frazer Tytler* [Alexander, 1747-1813] &ca) having permitted their own letters to the Bard to be inserted with his to them, this circumstance will add something to the intrinsic value & a great deal to the reputation & respectability of the volume. The letters of the correspondence of Burns just mentioned, contain chiefly criticisms on his printed poetry, and advice as to the future application of his talents.
5. But the most valuable part of the volume will be the correspondence between Burns & George Thomson* of the Trustee's Office Edinburgh—This last Gentleman, a man of taste & literature, has undertaken to publish the most valuable part of the Scottish Airs with accompaniments by Pleyel. As many of these Airs had very inadequate words, he applied to our Bard to furnish new ones, and he has furnished them accordingly. To the words which he sent, Mr Thomson often took the liberty of objecting, and Burns sometimes admitted, sometimes repelled his objections. This produced a correspondence of great length, & in my eye of the utmost interest, in which Burns unfolds his principles of taste, and enters on the nature of lyric poetry—This correspondence extends to ninety two numbers. It would itself form a moderate Octavo; & to render it complete, Mr Thomson has permitted his own letters to appear as far as they are necessary to explain those of the Bard; and the letters of Mr T. are themselves very good. His conduct in giving up this treasure to the family, is deserving of every praise. We purpose to publish this correspondence precisely as it stands at present—that is Burns' letters containing the songs as they were written, Thomson's replies & Burns' rejoinders—Over & above other attractions, they will afford some fine specimens of criticism.

The greater part of these songs have never seen the light. They are in general of extraordinary excellence. A few have forced their way into the public papers such as ‘Bruce’s address to his Troops &ca’ and the exquisite song in praise of Scotland beginning ‘Their groves of green myrtle’. In my judgment, no poet, since Anacreon has risen so high in lyric poetry, as these songs will place Burns.

6. There are a number of other poems, some serious some comic, many of them unfinished, which however have the impression of the Bards genius & may with propriety be published in whole or in part. There are various unfinished diaries, & some very deep & affecting meditations which will afford considerable materials, and there are sketches of living characters in Edinburgh drawn with a masterly hand, wh. without some management (favourable as they generally are) cannot well be published. There are also an immense collection of poems by others presented to the bard, some of them descriptive of Scottish manners & in his own stile, from wh. if necessary, addenda may be selected for the volume—But this will not be
necessary.

I have only to observe farther that Burns has left no political writings, tho’ his sentiments on politics are occasionally visible in his letters, but never so as to give offence; & that by the particular desire of his family every thing will be suppressed that can give offence to individuals, as well as those effusions which may put real modesty to the blush.

Thus, Gentlemen, you have a general view of the intended publication, and you will very particularly oblige me by your advice and assistance how to promote it—Greatly distressed as I am for leisure, I could get forwd. with the mere editorship, but I have no time nor talent for the correspondence requisite for promoting the subscription, & am ignorant of the best mode of managing it—

If you have no objection to receiving subscriptions &ca, you may show this letter to Mr Nicol & Mr Edwards to whom I will write on receiving yr. answer. It will enable you & them to give such farther information as to the intended publication as persons proposing to subscribe may require.

I commit this to the post in full confidence that you will charge the expence in my account.

Our Book sellers here have miscalculated the demand for the Reports & have for ten days been without any. I believe they mean to apply to you for some.

I am Gentlemen
Yr. faithful servant
Ja Currie

P.S. Roscoe joins me in all good wishes. I will hope for your answer as soon as convenient. Dr. Gregory and Dr. Blair &ca must not have their names brought before the public.23

Altogether this letter discovers more progress and less remissness than one has reason to expect of a man so deeply committed in his daily life as Currie was. Two-hundred subscriptions taken and two-hundred Burns letters collected, presumably in addition to the Burns-Thomson correspondence. Although Currie’s letter purposed the aid of Cadell & Davies and others in receiving new subscriptions and their advice as to how the soliciting might be better managed, it must have intended to raise in the minds of the bookmen the all-important question of who is to be the publisher. Hoping that Cadell & Davies would volunteer their full services, Currie gave

23B.P., pp. 18-25; holograph letter.
these publishers more than enough information for them to realize what to expect. The doctor still thought in terms of a single volume in quarto to be followed later, perhaps, by two volumes in octavo after the 1793 edition of the poems; but his admission that little space would be found for including addenda of materials composed by others and sent to Burns indicates that the contemplated quarto would be more than full. The object was profit. Thus in selecting which letters to publish such factors as ‘value’ and ‘reputation’ should be paramount, thus requests for anonymity must be honoured, thus some of the unpublished poetry must appear only in part, thus ‘some management’ must be taken if the Edinburgh sketches were to be included. At the particular desire of the family, Currie was to suppress everything ‘that can give offence to individuals,’ as well as ‘those effusions which may put real modesty to the blush’. The ‘real’ of this last phrase came to Currie as an afterthought, possibly by way of allowing himself latitude in rejecting importunities of the ‘unco guid’. To gain further ‘respectibility’ for the volume and, thereby, help to insure its success, to present Burns in the best possible light, the biographer would dwell more particularly on the earlier years and tread more lightly and more rapidly upon the later ones.

With Britain at war against France, other kinds of delicacy became desirable, especially when Burns’s biographer was ‘Jasper Wilson’ held in suspicion of seditious talk and writing. One reason for Currie’s withholding his name from the title-page of the Burns was his fear that public retaliation upon him through his edition of the Scots poet would defeat the primary purpose of that edition: funds for the family. Not all of that public would have shared Currie’s view that the letters of Burns contained little that could be objected to on political grounds. Many in that public would have held distasteful, for example, the poet’s lines to Mrs Dunlop about the beheading of the French royalty. It may be that Currie deliberately overstated the case in his anxiety to dispel rumours, for fear that Cadell & Davies might back away from the project because of political reasons.

Lastly, one finds in this letter to Cadell & Davies those sources of amusement which refreshed Currie as he contemplated Robert Burns. The Burns-Thomson correspondence presented insight into the principles of taste and the nature of lyric poetry as a drama alive with the conflict of opposing wills. The Scottish background offered the chance to speak of the characteristics of the peasantry above the Tweed and of the importance to these people of their
inheritance of song. And the biography was an opportunity for writing upon subjects which the doctor had long entertained, such as the poet as man of genius, the poetical character, and the particular weaknesses ('sins') to be attributed to the poetical temperament. Leads for discussion of these thoughts had been developed by means of the notebook; so, too, had been the advanced thought that Burns's reputation would rest as much on the songs as on the poems.

The reply of Cadell & Davies to Currie's notice of the subscription effort moves with restraint, tact, and adroitness to an oblique reference to copyright which identifies the firm with the interests of the widow and then to an expression of willingness to treat for that right:

Dear Sir

We are favoured with your letter descriptive of the intended Publication of the posthumous Works of poor Burns, and lose no Time in assuring you of our Reddiness to receive Subscriptions and to do every Thing else in our Power to promote its Success—

It appears to us that the Contents of the Volume will be much more miscellaneous and interesting than will be generally expected and we therefore submit to you whether it might not be advisable to add to the Proposals a Prospectus of the Work—We also earnestly recommend that no Subscriptions be depended on but those which come accompanied by the Money, and that after 'Price one Guinea in Boards' to be paid at the Time of subscribing be inserted in the Proposals—This, we well know, will save an Infinity of Trouble, and Persons disposed to subscribe will as readily give their Guineas as their Names in the first Instance—Printed Receipts must therefore be put into the Hands of each Party receiving Subscriptions—

We will take an early Opportunity of mentioning the Business to Messrs Nicol and Edwards, who, we doubt not, will be very willing to receive Subscriptions and otherwise serve the Work—Mr Creech's Name, too, we think should also appear, and we recommend that, before the Names of the Booksellers, Those of Mr Cunningham and Mr Syme* should be retained, together with the Addition of such other Gentlemen as interest themselves for the Family and would undertake to receive Subscriptions—It is not for us, dear Sir, to say that you ought, also, to come forward as Editor, but we must be permitted to observe, that,
in our Opinion, your doing so would essentially benefit the Subscription—

No further Alteration in the Proposals suggests itself to us at present, but if you will do us the Favour of transmitting us a Proof of it with such Alterations as you shall think proper to adopt, we shall by that Time have seen Messrs Nicol and Edwards, and also have turned the Matter further in our own Minds, when we may perhaps use the Freedom of recommending some new Alteration—

The next Step will be to advertise the Proposals in the London, Liverpool, and Edinburgh Papers—

A Mr Lawrie of this City, a Friend of Burns's Family, and who told us he had collected a good many Guineas, called us about three Weeks ago respecting this Business—It then appeared to us that Quarto was not the proper Size, but we have since thought differently, on the Ground that for no other Size could a Guinea with Propriety be demanded—

It may not be amiss to mention, even in this early Stage of the Business, as it may tend to relieve Mrs Burns from an Anxiety about the Expences of the Edition, that as her Friends will probably recommend it to her to dispose of the Copyright of these posthumous Works, and as we shall be very ready to treat for it, our taking upon ourselves the Discharge of Mr McCreery's Bill, &c. might perhaps form the best Basis of an Agreement—but of this hereafter—

With kindest Compliments to our truly respected Friend Mr Roscoe, we are, dear Sir,

Your faithful and very obedient Servants

London Cadell & Davies
Decr 13th, 1797—

The Edition of the 'Reports', we have little Hesitation in saying, will soon be totally disposed of—²⁴

What to say about William Creech surely gave Currie cause for deliberation before answering Cadell & Davies on 30 December:

I should not have been so late in answering your obliging letter of the 13th had I not entertained the hope of settling the different particulars to which it refers in a personal interview.

²⁴B.P., photostat of the mailed letter in Cowie Collection. This letter is to be found also (B.P., pp. 26-8) as an office-copy from the files of C & D which differs from the former principally in terms of more emphatically anticipating both the relief of the widow's anxiety and the probability that others would mention the subject of negotiating for the copyright.
For the last fortnight I have been watching an opportunity of withdrawing from Liverpool that I might spend a week in the Metropolis, a pleasure that the engagements of my profession have compelled me to postpone from day to day, and at length, tho' with great reluctance, to abandon for the present.

I agree with you in the propriety of adding a prospectus to the proposals, and your recommendation that the subscriptions be paid for in advance is decisive—Your wish that Mr Creech's name should be added to yours and those of the respectable Gentlemen in London we before mentioned, is my wish also—It is true, there was some difference between our high-souled poet & Mr Creech, and some of Burns' friends have a notion that Mr Creech did not use him liberally. For my own part I have found the Correspondence among Burns' papers, and I see no proof of any ill-usage—Tho' the bard indulged occasionally in sarcasms agt. men of character, yet I can discover that his deliberate opinions were the result of a judgment profound & nearly unbiased, and differing much from the effusions of his sensibility. Among the Edinr. characters drawn by him, I think I can discover that of our friend Creech [Chambers-Wallace, II. 87], (for the names are not at length in his diary) and if I do not deceive myself it is a capital likeness, and on the whole very favourable. I would have shown you this had I made good my purpose of visiting London, but I cannot send it—Be so good as to mention the matter to Creech—believe him to be a gentleman in the best sense of the word, and I am confident he will be ready to assist the widow & Children of Burns whom he patronized when he was himself friendless; & that if he have been ruffled by his sarcasms (which I do not know to have been the fact) that he will offer up his resentment on the tomb of the extraordinary genius that excited it. Be pleased to fix this point with him—Is Mr Elphinstone Balfour your Correspondent? He has been very obliging on the occasion. Might not his name be joined to that of Mr Creech? But I leave this to you—It is a part of the business that I am anxious to be wholly relieved of.

In regard to the Prospectus, I apprehend one might be drawn from my last letter, of which I have no copy—I apprehend, however, that I did not express myself with sufficient caution, and that the colouring was too vivid. We must not excite unreasonable expectations—I will, before I close this, endeavour to draw up something that may be printed which I will enclose—
***[Here Currie offers C & D his Reports]***

Since writing the above I have made out a rough draught of the proposed prospectus which I enclose [missing]—Will you have the goodness to criticise it fully? & to return it with your observations. McCreery wishes to print these proposals by way of giving a specimen of what he can do—They shall be returned with all speed (when executed) by the Coach. I confess to you that I am very impatient of all this part of the business, which I expected would have been wholly undertaken by others & you will much oblige me by taking it as much as possible off my hands.

If I had been in London, I could easily have arranged the matter of setting some respectable Gentn to allow their names to appear as receiving subscriptions, but I cannot do it by letter. I hope it is not too much to request you to manage this matter.

I presume on your zeal to serve the family of poor Burns—25

That Currie did not speak to Cadell & Davies' offer to treat for the copyright of the Works implies that he had not as yet received permission from the Trustees in Scotland to proceed with such negotiation. Perhaps it was this assent to go ahead for which he had delayed during the closing days of December.

Currie paid for the strenuous exertions of late 1797. In dead winter he took cold and suffered renewal of consumption. As he wrote Syme:

I am so weak with loss of blood, that I cannot write without extreme languor. I have had, and still have, a most severe cold, and have been obliged to submit to venesection again and again. Who knows but I may pay a visit to Burns instead of writing his live, and thus furnish an incident and a subject of reflection for some other, with which to eke out his biography.26

State University of New York, College at New Paltz.

25B.P., pp. 29-32; holograph letter. In editing this letter for the B.C. (VIII [1899]. 8-9), Duncan McNaught omits whole passages without mention and indulges in other strange practices, e.g. where Currie writes 'It is true, there was some difference between our high-souled poet & Mr Creech,' McNaught has Currie write 'It is said there is some difference'.

26W.W.C., I. 244; a letter dated 18 Jan. 1798.
MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT"

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XVII. Yorkshire—James Parnham, North Lane Gardens, Roundhay, Leeds, LS8 2QT
XVIII. North and East Midlands—G. W. Burnett, 40 Brecks Lane, Rotherham, Yorkshire.
LEW W. Reid, ‘Lea Rig’, 152 Lea Road, Gainsborough, Lincs. DN21 IAN.
Mrs. J. A. Irvine, ‘Ulvescroft’, 67 Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham, Yorkshire.
XIX. West Midlands of England—
XX. South Western England—
XXI. Wales—
XXII. Ireland—
XXIII. Africa—
XXIV. Australia—Ex-Bailie John Gray, 135 Whitletts Road, Ayr KA8 0JG.
XXV. New Zealand—Mrs. M. Rennie, 3 Kintore Tower, Cambuslang, Glasgow.
XXVI. Canada—Provost E. Robertson, Rosemount Street, Dumfries.
XXVII. India—
XXVIII. U.S.A.—Marvin D. McQueen, D’Arcy-MacManus Intermarco, Prudential Plaza, Chicago, Illinois, 60601, U.S.A.
XXIX. Europe—Mrs. M. Coulson, 10 Queensberry Court, Dumfries.

Sub-Committees.
Memorials: Mr. G. Vallance (Convener), Mrs. M. Rennie, Messrs. J. Gray, H. Cunningham, G. W. Burnett, A. Y. Crawford, E. Robertson, R. A. B. McLaren, D. J. McIldowie, J. E. Inglis, Sam Gaw and Chas. C. Easton.
Schools: Mr. Fred J. Belford and A. W. Finlayson (Joint Conveners), Mrs. M. Coulson, Messrs. A. MacMillan, G. W. Burnett, Anderson Wilson, J. Gray, R. A. B. McLaren, J. Glass, James Parnham, Alexander Young and Mrs. S. Knight.
Auditors.
Henry Brown & Co., 2 Market Lane, Kilmarnock.
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

(As at 1st November, 1968)

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Attwood, 16 Orchard Road, Melbourn, Royston, Herts.
Gordon M. Mackley, 92b Renwick Street, Marrickville, Sydney, Australia.
Mrs. M. Shearer, 211 Lochside Road, Lochside, Dumfries.
Miss M. I. Dickson, 11 South Terrace, Darlington, Durham DL1 5IA.
Mrs. J. Henderson, 9 Balmoral Avenue, Dumfries.
Miss Marie Lax, 101 Grosvenor Road, Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2.
Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Miskell, 43 Norfolk Crescent, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Irvine, "Ulvescroft," 67 Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham, Yorks.

F. Cameron, 93 Lochlea Road, Cumbernauld, Glasgow.
William McIntosh, 134 Kylepark Drive, Uddingston.
G. Walker, 7 Geneva Crescent, Darlington, Co. Durham.
Dr. D. M. O'Flaherty, 9 Cherry Orchards, Tetbury, Gloucester.
Miss M. McGeorge, 39 Wallace Street, Dumfries.
Mrs. Rogerson, 16 Caul View, Dumfries.
Dr. Donald M. McKay, c/o Phillips, 87 High Street, Pitsford, Northampton NN6 9AD.

Frank J. Parr, 29 Elmsway, Bramhall, Cheshire.
Wm. Ferguson, 91 Dunlop Road, Dumfries.
R. S. Binnie, Glenbervie, 27 Lockton Avenue, Heanor, Derbyshire.
John Skillin, Lochengelly, Gartmore, Stirling.
John C. Weir, 75 Wilson Road, Allanton, Shotts, Lanarkshire.
Duncan Smith, 18 Newton Drive, Newmains, Lanarkshire.
Miss C. Rodway, Park View Boys' Home, Palmer Road, Darlington.
R. Peel, 25 Raby Road, Newtonhill Estate, Framwellgate Moor, Durham City.

W. McCallum, 2 Redwood Crescent, Bishopston, Renfrewshire.
S. Alexander, 8 Ash Drive, Wear Valley View Estate, Willington, Co. Durham.

James Snodgrass, 'Elrig', Gartmore, Stirling FK8 3RW.
Lt.-Col. J. Fraser, Southbank, Grange Loan, Edinburgh, 9.
Mrs. N. Kristiansen, Vestre Holbergsalmenning 16, Bergen, 5000, Norway.
Toshio Namba, 29-19, 1-Chome, Shinizu, Suginami-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.
James Mitchell, 62a Rosetta Road, Peebles.
Wm. Merrilees, O.B.E., 41 Park Road, Edinburgh, 6.
Bruce H. Garrett, 'Casa Moenita', Church Street, Farndon, Newark-on-Trent, Notts.

G. A. McNicoll, P.O. Box 20, Gibsons, B.C., Canada.
Professor Kenneth W. Gordon, 412 Captain Cook Apts., 1025 Sutlej Street, Victoria B.C., Canada.
James Moffat, 14 Beechwood Crescent, Lesmahagow.
William Fisher, 2910 West 3rd Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
Edward Lowe, 57 Brownley Court, Hollyhedge Road, Benchill, Manchester, 22.

James Simpson, 3 Bonnyton Place, Dunfermline.
John Begg, 16 Dobroyd Parade, Haberfield 2045, Sydney, Australia.
John Allan, 60 Hazeldean Crescent, Wishaw, Lanarkshire.
Mrs. M. Watson, "Glen Elgin", 67 Henhurst Hill, Burton-on-Trent.
Mrs. Senga Millican,
Robert George, Erskine Bank, Overtown, by Wishaw.
THE BURNS FEDERATION

Hector A. Brown, 717-745 Wolseley Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Robert Alexander Williamson, 97 Mellons Bay Road, Howick, Auckland, New Zealand.

F. Magyar, Budapest House, 232 Oxford Road, Calne, Wilts.

Mrs. Isabel Anderson, 263 Millhouses Lane, Sheffield 11.

Mrs. M. D. Morley, 29 Renshaw Road, Elderslie, Renfrewshire.

Mrs. Margaret McKellar, 50 Douglas Street, Viewpark, Uddingston, Lanarkshire.

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Murdo McDougall, 6 Fairfield Avenue, Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire.

Robert Burns,

Mrs. D. Biggar, 18 Brook Street, Dumfries.

Mrs. McWilliams, 6 Briarbank, Dumfries.

J. D. Lamb, Dunyre, Tighnabruaich, Argyll.

William Muirhead, 236 Haugh Street, Bainsford, Falkirk.


Mrs. Chloe Sue Woods, 1751 N. Woodlawn Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. 63124, U.S.A.

Thos. Newall, 92 Robson Road, Keiraville, Via Wollongong, N.S.W., Australia.

Archibald N. C. Paton, 63 St. John’s Avenue, Mangerton, Via Wollongong, N.S.W., Australia.

Dr. A. Bruce Wallace, Hunterston, Leckhampton Hill, Cheltenham.

William A. Allan, 67 Bonet Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham.

Mrs. Austin, Oakvale, 142 Annan Road, Dumfries.

Frederick Allwood, M.Inst.R.A., 73 Church Street, Leigh, Lancs.

R. L. Brown, 25 Ladywell Road, Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed, North.

G. K. Murray, 25 West Chapelton Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Ellis, 9 Balmoral Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

Miss N. J. Symons, “Edina”, 15 Cross Lane, Bebington, Cheshire.

Barrie Tienan, P.O. Box 795, Darwin NT 5794, Australia.

Mrs. Mary Andrews, Knocknareaagh, Ballynafem, Knocknareagh, Ballynafem, Annaclone, Banbridge, Co. Down.

Mrs. Jean Jeavons, 36 Brunswick Road, Rotherham.

Iain C. Paul, 608a Burkwood Ct., Urbana, Illinois, 61801, U.S.A.

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John R. Pollock, ‘Shian’, 9 Sunnyside Avenue, Bughtknowes Estate, Bathgate, West Lothian EH48 4DR.

Bryan Booth, 27 Sandy Lane, Irlam, Manchester.

Mrs. Jean Wilson, 23 Ellisland Drive, Summerhill, Dumfries.

Mrs. Davina Wilson, 25 Church Street, Dumfries.

Mrs. Angela Appleton, 4 Porlock Close, Platt Bridge, Ince-In-Makerfield, Wigan, Lancs.

Mrs. Minto, 59 Edinburgh Road, Peebles.

Lawrence Maxton, 3 Grasmere Court, Grasmere Road, Long Eaton.

Mrs. May Murray, 45 Beconsfield Street, Currock, Carlisle.

Mrs. Shona M. Fuller, ‘Glen Elgin’, 67 Henhurst Hill, Burton on Trent, Staffs.

Anthony Thorniley, 160 Bath Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

Mrs. M. S. Dalgleish, 11a Climie Place, Kilmarnock.

J. W. Taylor, 14 St. David's Road North, St. Annes, Lancs.
Mrs. M. Shaw, 39 Holmhead, Kilbarnie.
Mrs. W. G. Diggle, 18 Gorses Mount, D'Arcy Lever, Bolton, BL2 1PQ, Lancs.
James R. McEwan, 52 Hayocks Road, Stevenston, Ayrshire.
Mrs. C. T. Massey, 10 Ordsall Park Drive, Retford.
Miss J. C. Massey, 52 Crookesmoore Road, Sheffield.
David J. Allan, 41 South Terrace, Great Broughton, Cockermouth, Cumberland.
Mrs. S. Ketton, 28 Herringthorpe Grove, Rotherham S65 3AE.
J. F. T. Thomson, Dick Institute, Kilmarnock.
Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom, 74A Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen.
Miss M. E. Thomson, 74A Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen.
Alex. Baird, 56 High Main Street, Dalmellington.
Thomas Cooney, 43 Sandringham Drive, Leigh, Lancs.
George Marshall, 38 Darlington Road, Hartburn, Stockton on Tees.
Mrs. Mary J. Hurst, Legatesden, Pitcaple, Aberdeenshire.
Miss Margaret Harkins, George Hotel, Crewkerne, Somerset.
Mr. and Mrs. P. Crammond, Tilliburnie, 1 Teesdale Road, Startforth, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham.
Wallace Vinnell, 30A Stratford Street, Christchurch, New Zealand.
A. Brindley Roberts, 74 Brioni Avenue, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 8QA.
R. A. B. McLaren, 11 South Lander Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2NB.
Mrs. E. Haining, 74 Laghall Court, Kingholm Quay, Dumfries.
Miss H. Rodger, 13 Laghall Court, Kingholm Quay, Dumfries.
Mrs. B. Schlag, 68 Margaret Walk, Lincluden, Dumfries.
Mrs. Mary Smith, 8 Newington Avenue, Annan DG12 5AX.
Mrs. Margaret A. Henderson, 6 Rosebank Terrace, Annan, Dumfriesshire.
Mrs. Margaret I. Nilsson, Todd Nursing Home, Meeting House Lane, Southampton, L.I., N.Y., U.S.A.
Mrs. Jean Mackie, 3 Holmwood Crescent, Langholm, Dumfriesshire.
Norman M. Leslie, Esq., 38 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3NA.
David G. Blyth, 20 Great Stuart Street, Edinburgh EH3 7TN.
Mrs. Mary Grierson, 47 Holm Avenue, Troqueer, Dumfries.
Mr. and Mrs. John Fraser, 4 Ramsay Crescent, Garthdee, Aberdeen AB1 7BN.
Mrs. Elizabeth Murray, 13 Ruthrie Terrace, Aberdeen.
Robert Dinnie, Mains of Glasgoforest, Kinellar, Aberdeenshire.
Crawford E. Douglas, 27 Hillside Road, Peterculter, Aberdeenshire.
Miss Margaret A. Bridgeford, 39 Duthie Terrace, Aberdeen.
Woodson Kidder Woods III, Pokaha Ranch, Pavilo, Hawaii.
George H. Gordon, 15 St. Mary’s Street, Dumfries DG1 1HA.
Mr. and Mrs. James Brooks, 890 Bury Road, Bolton, Lancs.
William E. Laing, Old Maid's Lane, St. George, Bermuda.
Harry Hutchison, 50 Archers Court Road, Whitfield, Dover, Kent CT16 3HS.
P. A. Daybell, 87 Gledhow Lane, Leeds LS8 1NE.
William Sproul, Eastlands Farm, Rothesay, Isle of Bute.
Mrs. Rose Edgar, Dalmalinn, Station Road, Terregles, Dumfries DG2 9RL.
Mrs. Lambert, Woodend, Terregles, Dumfries.
Mrs. Moira B. Martin, 154 Macalpine Road, Dundee DD3 9HR.
Miss Heather Martin, 154 Macalpine Road, Dundee DD3 9HR.
THE BURNS FEDERATION

LIST OF PAST PRESIDENTS

1885-1899 : Provost Peter Sturrock, Kilmarnock.
1899-1906 : Provost David Mackay, Kilmarnock.
1906-1907 : David Murray, M.A., B.Sc., Kilmarnock.
1909-1910 : Captain David Sneddon, V.D., Kilmarnock.
List of places at which the Annual Conference of the Council has been held.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1885-93</td>
<td>Kilmarnock</td>
<td>1933</td>
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<td>Dundee</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Ayr and Kilmarnock</td>
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<td>1932</td>
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The Council did not meet in 1914 and in 1939.
Name.
1. The Association shall be called "The Burns Federation," with headquarters at Kilmarnock.

Objects.
2. The objects of the Federation shall be—
   (a) To encourage Societies and Movements who honour Robert Burns.
   (b) To strengthen the bond of fellowship among members of Burns Clubs and kindred Societies all over the world.
   (c) To keep alive the old Scottish Tongue.
   (d) To encourage and arrange School Children's Competitions in order to stimulate the teaching and study of Scottish history, literature, art and music.
   (e) To stimulate the development of Scottish literature, art and music.
   (f) To mark with suitable inscriptions, repair, or renew memorials of Robert Burns and his contemporaries.

Membership.
3. (a) The Federation shall consist of—
   (1) Federated Clubs and kindred Societies.
   (2) Associate members.

Burns Clubs and kindred Societies may be admitted to the Federation by the Executive Committee on application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing a copy of their Constitution and Rules and List of Office-bearers. Such applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

(b) Burns Clubs and Societies shall be grouped into Districts as shown in the subjoined Schedule, but those on the borders of Districts may elect to which District they wish to belong, subject to the agreement of the Executive Committee.

(c) Ladies or gentlemen, whether or not they are members of a federated Club or Society, may become Associate Members of the Federation on application in writing to the Hon. Secretary. Such applications shall be considered by the Executive Committee at its next meeting. They shall not be represented on the Executive Committee, but shall have the right to attend at Conferences of the Council, without voting powers.
(d) Ladies or gentlemen who have rendered conspicuous service to the Burns movement may be elected by the Council to the position of Honorary President on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Council.

4. The Council shall consist of the Hon. Presidents; Executive Committee; Associate Members; and members of each Club and kindred Society of whom three will be elected to vote on any business conducted.

Conference of the Council.

5. (a) The Annual Conference of the Council shall be held, at such place as may be arranged, on the second Saturday of September, when the Annual Reports shall be submitted and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.—Only in exceptional circumstances may this date be varied.

(b) Clubs and Societies outwith the United Kingdom may be represented by proxy at the Conference.

(c) Nominations for Offices shall be made by the Executive Committee or by Clubs and Societies. The Executive Committee shall have power to make interim appointments.

(d) Nominations of Office-bearers, Intimation of Election of District Representatives and Notices of Motion shall be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary not later than the first Saturday in June.

(e) The Agenda of the Conference and the Annual Reports shall be issued to the Clubs and Societies by the Hon. Secretary not less than one month before the Conference.

6. (a) The Executive Committee shall consist of—

(1) The President, Vice-Presidents, Past Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Editor of the Burns Chronicle, Hon. Convener of Schools Competitions, and Hon. Assistant Secretary.

(2) The offices of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer may be combined.

(b) All office-bearers shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election.
(c) District Representative members who shall be elected annually by Districts on the basis of one member for the first five Clubs, and one member for every additional ten Clubs in each District; but for Overseas Districts, one Club in each shall qualify for admission as a District. If a District fails to elect a representative member, the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy at its October meeting.

Meetings of the Executive Committee.

7. (a) The Executive Committee shall conduct the business of the Federation. It shall meet on the third Saturday of October, December, March and June. Only in exceptional circumstances may these dates be varied. The place of each meeting shall be fixed at the previous meeting.

(b) The Hon. Secretary shall give at least one week’s notice of meetings, along with the Agenda.

(c) Notices of motion and other business to appear on the Agenda should reach the Hon. Secretary at least a fortnight before the meeting.

(d) Special meetings may be held on a written request to the Hon. Secretary signed by not fewer than ten members of the Committee and stating the business to be considered.

(e) Ten shall form a quorum at meetings.

Standing Sub-Committees.

8. (a) Standing Sub-Committees may be appointed by the Executive Committee. They shall be appointed annually and shall consist of such members as may be considered necessary. They shall have power to co-opt additional members.

(b) The President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be ex officiis members of all Standing Sub-Committees.

(c) Five shall form a quorum at meetings.

(d) The Sub-Committee on Finance shall meet prior to all Executive Quarterly Meetings. All other Sub-Committees shall meet as may be arranged.

Subscriptions.

9. (a) Each Club, or Society, on admission to the Federation, shall pay a registration fee of Five Pounds.

(b) The Annual Subscription shall be Three Pounds or such other sum as the Executive Committee shall decide.

(c) Clubs in arrear with their subscriptions shall not be entitled to be represented at the Annual Conference of the Council.
(d) Clubs failing to pay their subscriptions for two consecutive years shall cease to be members of the Federation, but may be re-affiliated, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

(e) The annual subscription for the Associate Members shall be One Pound or such other sum as the Executive Committee may decide; this shall include the cost of a copy of the Burns Chronicle.

**Finance.**

10. (a) The Bank Account shall be kept in the name of the Federation and shall be operated by the Hon. Treasurer for the time being, and one member of the Sub-Committee on Finance. Deposit Receipts shall be taken out in the name of the Federation, to be drawn on the endorsement of the President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer, or any two of them. All other securities, investments and properties shall be held in the names of the President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and their successors in office, as Trustees for the Federation.

(b) No accounts shall be paid without the authority of the Sub-Committee on Finance, which shall submit a report to the Quarterly Meetings of the Executive Committee.

**Honorary Secretary.**

11. The Hon. Secretary shall keep the Minute Book of the Federation, in which shall be recorded the proceedings of all Council, Executive and Sub-Committee Meetings. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Federation, convene all meetings and issue Diplomas of Membership. He shall submit to the Executive Committee the Annual Report on the year's transactions for submission to the Conference of the Council.

**Honorary Treasurer.**

12. The Hon. Treasurer shall have charge of all monies paid to the Federation, and shall pay all accounts authorised by the Sub-Committee on Finance. He shall prepare a statement of his accounts for the year to 30th April, which shall be audited by duly appointed Auditors, who shall not be members of the Executive Committee.

**Publications.**

13. (a) The Scottish Literature Committee shall advise the Executive Committee on policy in connection with any publications issued by the Federation.

(b) The Burns Chronicle shall be the official publication of the
Federation and shall be published annually, not later than 1st January, at such price as the Executive Committee may decide. It shall contain a Directory of the Clubs and Societies on the roll of the Federation, reports of the transactions of the Federation and of affiliated Clubs and Societies during the previous year, and such literary matter and illustrations as may be decided by the Hon. Editor.

(c) The Hon. Editor shall be responsible for the publication of the Burns Chronicle, and shall submit annually a report on the latest issue.

(d) Estimates for the printing of all publications shall be approved by the Sub-Committee on Finance.

Schools Competitions

14. The Hon. Convenor of Schools Competitions shall give assistance to affiliated Clubs and Societies in the organisation of their competitions, and shall endeavour to co-ordinate the efforts of the various Clubs. He shall submit annually a report on the Competitions organised by the Clubs and by the Federation.

Benefits

15. (a) Each Club and Society on affiliation, shall be supplied gratis with the Charter of Membership of the Federation.

(b) On application to the Hon. Secretary, members of affiliated Clubs shall be entitled to receive a Pocket Diploma on payment of the requisite price.

(c) On application to the Hon. Secretary, Associate Members and members of affiliated Clubs and Societies shall be entitled to receive a Burns Federation Badge, on payment of the requisite price.

(d) Affiliated Clubs and Societies shall be entitled to be supplied gratis with one copy of the Burns Chronicle.

(e) Members of affiliated Clubs and Societies and Associate Members shall be entitled to be supplied with copies of all works published by the Federation, at such discount as may be fixed by the Executive Committee.

16. No alteration shall be made to the “Constitution and Rules” except at the Conference of the Council, and then only by a two-thirds majority of those entitled to vote.
LIST OF DISTRICTS

(See Article No. 6c of "Constitution")

I. Ayrshire.
II. Edinburgh.
III. Glasgow.
IV. Dumbarton, Argyll, and Bute Shires.
V. Fife.
VI. Lanarkshire.
VII. Lothians (Mid and East) and Borders.
VIII. Lothian (West).
IX. Renfrewshire.
X. Stirling, Clackmannan, and West Perth Shires.
XI. East Perthshire, Angus and Kinross.
XII. Northern Scottish Counties.
XIII. Southern Scottish Counties.
XIV. London and South-Eastern England.
   Essex, Hertford, Middlesex, Berks., Buckingham,
XV. North-Eastern England.
   Northumberland, Durham.
XVI. North-Western England.
   Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, Cheshire.
XVII. Yorkshire.
XVIII. North and East Midlands of England.
XIX. West Midlands of England.
XX. South-Western England.
   Hereford, Gloucester, Wilts., Somerset, Dorset, Devon,
   Cornwall, Monmouth.
XXI. Wales.
XXII. Ireland.
XXIII. Africa.
XXIV. Australia.
XXV. New Zealand.
XXVI. Canada.
XXVII. India.
XXVIII. United States of America.
XXIX. Europe.
LIST OF DISTRICTS

I. Ayrshire—35 Clubs: 3 Members

0 Kilmarnock
35 Dalry
45 Cumnock
56 Muirkirk Lapraik
173 Irvine
179 Dailly Jolly Beggars
192 Ayrshire B.C. Assoc.
252 Alloway
274 Troon
275 Ayr
310 Mauchline
349 "Howff," Kilmarnock
365 Catrine
370 Dunonald
377 Kilbirnie Rosebery
500 New Cumnock
568 Darvel
592 Benwatt
593 Barrmill Jolly Beggars

Secretary: George Valance, 5 Park Terrace, Lugar, Cumnock, KA18 3LD

II. Edinburgh—14 Clubs: 1 Member

22 Edinburgh
124 Ninety
212 Portobello
198 Gorebridge
293 Newcraighall
307 Edinburgh Ayrshire Association
314 Edinburgh Scottish

Secretary: G. Henderson Laing, 50 Marionville Drive, Edinburgh EH7 6BW

III. Glasgow—15 Clubs: 2 Members

7 Thistle
9 Royalty
33 Haggis
36 Rosebery
49 Bridgeton
68 Sandyford
72 Partick
74 National Burns Memorial Cottage Homes

Secretary: Andrew Stenhouse, M.A., LL.B., 82 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2QL
### IV. Dunbarton, Argyll and Bute Shires—6 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria</td>
<td>2 Alexandria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>10 Dumbarton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glencoe and District</td>
<td>766 Glencoe and District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumbrae</td>
<td>580 Cumbrae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilmaronock (Dumbarton-shire)</td>
<td>695 Kilmaronock (Dumbarton-shire)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lochgoilhead</td>
<td>831 Lochgoilhead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:**

### V. Fife—6 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cupar</td>
<td>62 Cupar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunfermline</td>
<td>85 Dunfermline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Markinch</td>
<td>350 Markinch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poosie Nansie Ladies, Kirkcaldy</td>
<td>688 Poosie Nansie Ladies, Kirkcaldy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auchterderran Jolly Beggars</td>
<td>768 Auchterderran Jolly Beggars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowhill People's Club</td>
<td>803 Bowhill People's Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:**

### VI. Lanarkshire—23 Clubs: 2 Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airdrie</td>
<td>20 Airdrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newarthill</td>
<td>133 Newarthill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>152 Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uddingston Masonic Campbell</td>
<td>237 Uddingston Masonic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newton Bonnie Jean</td>
<td>348 Newton Bonnie Jean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnbank Masonic</td>
<td>356 Burnbank Masonic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambuslang Mary Campbells</td>
<td>387 Cambuslang Mary Campbells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle (Shotts) Ladies</td>
<td>388 Kyle (Shotts) Ladies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whifflet</td>
<td>392 Whifflet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motherwell United Services</td>
<td>494 Motherwell United Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uddingston Lochlie Ladies</td>
<td>520 Uddingston Lochlie Ladies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newart Hill White Heather</td>
<td>542 Newart Hill White Heather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalserf and Clydesdale</td>
<td>577 Dalserf and Clydesdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lanarkshire B.C.A.</td>
<td>578 Lanarkshire B.C.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellshill Caledonian Burns Club</td>
<td>614 Bellshill Caledonian Burns Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larkhall Applebank</td>
<td>637 Larkhall Applebank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkton Bonnie Jean, Carluke</td>
<td>761 Kirkton Bonnie Jean, Carluke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allanton Jolly Beggars</td>
<td>809 Allanton Jolly Beggars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirty-Seven Burns Club</td>
<td>810 Thirty-Seven Burns Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motherwell and Wishaw</td>
<td>885 Motherwell and Wishaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathclyde Motherwell</td>
<td>889 Strathclyde Motherwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonehouse Burns Club</td>
<td>907 Stonehouse Burns Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankend Jolly Beggars</td>
<td>910 Bankend Jolly Beggars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:** Thomas N. Paterson, 32 Etive Street, Pather, Wishaw, Lanarkshire

### VII. Mid and East Lothian and Borders—9 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Member</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ercildoune</td>
<td>5 Ercildoune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jedburgh</td>
<td>96 Jedburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galashiels Burns Club</td>
<td>187 Galashiels Burns Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newbattle and District</td>
<td>199 Newbattle and District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawick</td>
<td>239 Hawick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorntree Mystic</td>
<td>740 Thorntree Mystic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelso</td>
<td>784 Kelso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tranent “25”</td>
<td>813 Tranent “25”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coldstream</td>
<td>839 Coldstream</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:**
LIST OF DISTRICTS

VIII. West Lothian—

Secretary:

IX. Renfrewshire—9 Clubs: 1 Member

21 Greenock
48 Paisley
59 Gourock Jolly Beggars
190 Port-Glasgow
209 Greenock St. John's

Secretary: Robert Miller, F.S.A.Scot., 11 Murdieston Street, Greenock, PA15 4DT.

X. Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perthshire—28 Clubs: 3 Members

4 Callander
37 Dollar
50 Stirling
116 Greenloaning
126 Falkirk
426 Sauchie
469 Denny Cross
503 Dunblane
510 I.C.I., Grangemouth
543 Abbey Craig
630 Coalsnaughton
646 Clear Winding Devon, Alva
648 Carron Bridge, Kilsyth
657 Fallin Burns Club
665 Gartmorn Ladies
679 Tullibody and Cambus

Secretary: Mrs. W. G. Stewart, 17 Park Terrace, Tullibody, Alloa FK10 2QA.

XI. East Perthshire, Angus and Kinross—8 Clubs: 1 Member

14 Dundee
42 Strathearn
76 Brechin
82 Arbroath

Secretary: Ian Martin, 15 McAlpine Road, Dundee.
### LIST OF DISTRICTS

#### XII. Northern Scottish Counties—11 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elgin</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterhead</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraserburgh</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonehaven</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Giles (Elgin)</td>
<td>470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inverness</td>
<td>691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turriff</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathpeffer</td>
<td>723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenbervie</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Scottish Counties Association</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:** Miss Ethel Hall, 3 St. Mary's Place, Aberdeen, AB1 2HL.

#### XIII. Southern Scottish Counties—19 Clubs: 2 Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dumfries Howff</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eskdale</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumfries</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkcudbright</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annan Ladies</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brig-En’ (Waverley)</td>
<td>401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumfries Ladies</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen of the South Ladies</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Scottish Counties</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.C.A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whithorn</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Douglas</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moffat and District</td>
<td>626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanquhar</td>
<td>629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Langholm Ladies</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masonic, Kirkcudbright</td>
<td>693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigtown</td>
<td>730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalbeatie and District</td>
<td>818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terregles Burns Club</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hole ’I’ the Wa’ Burns Club</td>
<td>916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:** Mrs. M. Shearer, 211 Lochside Road, Dumfries, DG20EH

#### XIV. London and South-Eastern England—9 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burns Club of London</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Clans Assoc. of London</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading and District Cal. Assoc.</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bournemouth and District Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelmsford and District Scottish Society</td>
<td>719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romford Scottish Assoc.</td>
<td>743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlow and Dist. Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swindon and Dist. Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>791</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:** A. F. Robertson, 30 Dorset Court, 211-213 Kingsway, Hove, Sussex BN3 4FD.

#### XV. North-Eastern England—12 Clubs: 1 Member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Members</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunderland</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlington</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedlington and District</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitley Bay</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choppington</td>
<td>699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham and District Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cramlington Burns Club</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunderland and District Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartlepool Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateshead and District St. Andrew’s Society</td>
<td>796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterlee and District Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cramlington Burns Club</td>
<td>901</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secretary:** L. A. Nicol, 49 Hipsburn Drive, Sunderland.
LIST OF DISTRICTS

XVI. North-Western England—14 Clubs: 1 Member

71 Carlisle
95 Bolton
236 Whitehaven
363 Barrow St. Andrew's Soc.
366 Liverpool
417 Burnley and District
436 Walney Jolly Beggars Ladies
572 Chester Cal. Assoc.
618 Altrincham and Sale Cal. Soc.

674 Manchester and Salford Cal. Assoc.
753 Westmorland St. Andrew Society
754 Thornton Cleveleys and Dist. Scottish Society
780 Isle of Man Cal. Soc.
834 St. Andrews Soc. (Altrincham, Sale & Dist)

Secretary: Mrs. W. G. Diggle, 18 Gorses Mount, D'Arcy Lever, Bolton, Lancs.

XVII. Yorkshire—13 Clubs: 1 Member

548 Leeds Cal. Soc.
551 Scarborough Cal. Soc.
555 Harrogate St. Andrew's Soc.
718 St. Andrew Society of York
722 Bridlington Cal. Society
763 Wakefield Cal. Soc.
808 Pontefract and Dist. Cal. Soc.
812 The St. Andrew’s Society of Bradford
836 Hornsea and District
880 Otley and District
894 Beverley and District
905 Keighley and District
909 Richmond (Yorks) Cal. Soc.

Secretary: A. Anderson Reid, 'Failte', 75 Fairview, Carleton, Pontefract, Yorks.

XVIII. North and East Midlands of England—25 Clubs: 2 Members

11 Chesterfield Cal. Soc.
17 Nottingham
55 Derby
329 Newark and District
405 Sheffield Cal. Soc.
439 Barnsley Scottish Soc.
454 Rotherham
461 Leicester Cal. Soc.
556 Doncaster Cal. Soc.
563 Norfolk Cal. Soc.
606 Corby
706 North Lindsey Scots Society
720 Retford Cal. Soc.
746 Grimsby and District Cal. Soc.
822 Mansfield Dist. Cal. Soc.
823 MansfieldEast Midlands Club
824 Mansfield Scottish Society
825 Mansfield Scottish Society
826 Mansfield Scottish Society
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995 Mansfield Scottish Society
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997 Mansfield Scottish Society
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999 Mansfield Scottish Society
1000 Mansfield Scottish Society

Secretary: J. E. Inglis, ‘Glentress,’ Halloughton Road, Southwell, Notts.
LIST OF DISTRICTS

XIX. West Midlands of England—11 Clubs: 1 Member

167 Birmingham
296 Walsall
553 Wolverhampton
559 Coventry Cal. Soc.
661 Leamington and Warwick Cal. Soc.
683 Stratford upon Avon and District Cal. Soc.
707 Malvern Scots Club
751 Worcester Scots Society
777 Nuneaton Scottish Society
845 Tam o’ Shanter, Coventry Burns Club
881 Rugeley and District

Secretary: A. M. McDowall, 15 Greensleeves Close, Coventry.

XX. South-Western England—7 Clubs: 1 Member

120 Bristol
446 Herefordshire
462 Cheltenham Scottish Soc.
535 Plymouth and District Cal. Soc.
721 Plymouth Burns Club
899 Portsmouth
918 Dover and E. Kent

Secretary: Mrs. Dora Dodd, 11 Westmorland House, Durdham Park, Bristol, BS6 6XH.

XXI. Wales—1 Club: 1 Member

444 Swansea and West Wales

XXII. Ireland—2 Clubs: 1 Member

15 Belfast
904 Star of Burns, Larne

Secretary:

XXIII. Africa—2 Clubs: 1 Member

873 Ndola Tam o’ Shanter
896 Sierra Leone

XXIV. Australia—13 Clubs: 1 Member

511 Perth
523 Highland Society of N.S.W. of Australia
566 Scottish Soc. and Burns Club of Australia
711 Victorian Scottish Union
716 Royal Caledonian Society of Melbourne
726 Melbourne
864 Burnei Burns Club, Tasmania
869 Port Adelaide Men’s Club
874 Melbourne Masonic
890 Wollongong Burns Society
914 Ipswich & West Moreton
919 Orange and District
LIST OF DISTRICTS

XXV. New Zealand—4 Clubs: 1 Member

69 Dunedin
851 Auckland Burns Assoc.
860 Southland Burns Club
915 Canterbury Burns Club

XXVI. Canada—14 Clubs: 1 Member

197 Winnipeg
303 Victoria (B.C.) St. Andrew's Soc.
443 Burns Club of Victoria (B.C.)
476 Border Cities (Ont.)
501 Galt
561 London (Ontario)
571 Edmonton Burns Club
575 Windsor (Ont.) Jean Armour
710 The Burns Society of Toronto
841 Robert Burns Association of Montreal
842 Ye Bonny Doon, Hamilton, Ontario
888 Vancouver Burns Club
893 North Bay B.C., Ontario

XXVII. India—1 Club: 1 Member

355 Calcutta

XXVIII. U.S.A.—11 Clubs: 1 Member

220 St. Louis
238 Atlanta
284 Philadelphia
320 Troy
413 San Francisco St. Andrew's Soc.
557 Atlanta Ladies
597 The Burns Society of the City of New York
701 Detroit
826 North Carolina
870 Massachusetts

Secretary: Howard D. Whinnery, 560 Fourth Avenue, North Troy, New York, U.S.A.

XXIX. Europe—2 Clubs: 1 Member

727 The St. Andrew Society of Denmark
912 DIU Club, Jevicko
As the original venue, the Theatre Royal, was too small for the number of delegates, the Annual Conference of the Burns Federation was held here today at 9.30 a.m.

The President, Mr. Charles C. Easton, F.s.A., occupied the chair, and was accompanied by Mr. Thomas Anderson, Kilmarnock, and Provost E. Robertson, O.B.E., J.P., Dumfries.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES REPRESENTED

The figures in brackets denote the number of delegates who handed in their cards.

In his opening remarks, the President paid tribute to those who had died during the past year: Dr. Annie Dunlop, O.B.E., L.L.D., D.LITT., PH.D., Kilmarnock, an Honorary President of the Burns Federation; Mrs. Donaldson, wife
of Mr. Robert Donaldson, Glasgow, who is a Past President of the Federation; Mr. James Deas, Glasgow, a former member of the Executive Committee; and Mr. William Scott, Kilmarnock, an Honorary President of the Federation. The Council paid silent tribute to their memory.

In welcoming the delegates, the President made special mention of the following overseas visitors: Mrs. Margaret Ryles, Victoria (B.C.) Burns Club, Canada; Mr. John Burns Begg, N.S.W., Australia; Mrs. Grinlinton, Mrs. Wylie and Mrs. Briggs, Scottish Society and Burns Club of Australia; Mr. Hugh Gilmour, Perth Burns Club, West Australia; and Mrs. Nash and Mr. G. A. Findlay, Atlanta Burns Club, U.S.A.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Dr. J. I. Taylor, Past President, Mr. and Mrs. McLauchlan, Mr. Alex. Johnstone, N.S.W., Professor Toshio Namba, Tokyo, Japan, Orange and District Association, Rugeley and District Burns Club, and Greenock Burns Club.

Greetings were received from the Scottish Society and Burns Club of Australia, Torrance Masonic and Social Burns Club, Clarinda Edinburgh Ladies Burns Club, and Mr. Alex. Johnstone, N.S.W., Australia.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting, as printed in the 1973 Burns Chronicle, were approved on a motion by Mr. George Walker, Darlington 458, seconded by Bailie Edward Duncan, Peterhead 336, and agreed unanimously.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

The Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. F. T. Thomson, M.A., F.L.A., presented the annual report.

The past year was saddened by the death of our most senior honorary president, Dr. Annie I. Dunlop, O.B.E., LL.D., D.Litt., Ph.D. The widow of the late George Dunlop, proprietor of the Kilmarnock Standard, we were indebted to Dr. Dunlop for her continuation of the long relationship between the Standard and the Federation. Recognised the world over for her mediaeval Scottish studies, Dr. Dunlop amply illustrated the mark of the gifted by the high degree of humility and modesty with which she conducted herself. Her towering intellectual achievements were balanced by a simplicity of address that made her so approachable by those of us less well endowed. The world will be the poorer with her passing but let us be grateful that the Burns Federation can attract such persons of such international stature and that this most democratic of associations can blend so well such a variety of gifts and personalities for the furtherance of our national literature and language.

Mention must also be made at the passing of Mrs. Robert Donaldson. The Southport Conference seems only days away and we remember with pride and warmth the part that Mrs. Donaldson played in supporting her husband during his presidential year. We offer our sympathies to Bob and are confident that he will relish the more the comradeship he has gained from within the Burns movement.

Another old campaigner was the late James N. Deas who in his day held the office of the Rosebery Club of Glasgow, and served on the Glasgow and District Committee. We mark their passing and acknowledge the companionship we richly enjoyed whilst they were in our midst.

During recent years I am constantly being amazed at the lack of recognition concerning the Burns Federation and must now ask the question if we are really what is now termed a ‘non-event’? Regularly, when ‘discovered’ by enquirers—usually from the mass media—a total ignorance of our existence is admitted and the initial reaction of consternation has been replaced by a measure of self-criticism. If we are not as widely known as we would wish to be, the fault may well lie in our own lack of imagination, in our accepting mediocre attainments,
and in what might be considered an insularity of thinking. Nothing is more damaging to Scotland and the Scots than those who drink the toast—'Here's tae us, wha's like us'... and solemnly believe in such a toast. We are a backward-looking nation, glorifying in our past attainments and contributions to society but we must admit that the characteristics and qualities which made the Scot of bygone years have been dissipated into the facelessness which constitutes modern man. Tradition has been rent asunder and everywhere is the expression of grey anonymity—our historic and individualistic architecture has been bulldozed to rubble and replaced by cubes of glass and concrete, the romantic turret and the 'craw-stepped' gable existing mainly in photographic form. The old saw about the kilted Scot and his trousered wife only emphasises the uni-sex of today where it is indeed difficult to distinguish between the young of either sex.

Surely the Burns Federation was not founded to accept such negative qualities nor to sink unknown into such a sea of mediocrity. Rather should we reiterate our belief in the objectives contained in our constitution and apply the techniques of modern publicity to further the knowledge of these ideals. Already we have at headquarters made modest beginnings in declaring our existence by arranging the first-ever entry in the telephone directory; by contacting information bureaux (as the City of Glasgow; Prestwick Airport; the Scottish Tourist Board) and by forwarding material to individual tour operators, especially those working in the American and Canadian areas. Whilst encouraging contact with tourists, the real intention behind this venture is the foundation of Burns Clubs and the increasing of membership within the Federation. Many other avenues, however, remain untapped—we never issue any press releases of our activities at Executive level, we do not encourage feature-writing, we do not—either by your officials or district representatives—make much of an effort to publicise our work in areas massively inhabited by Scots. I can think of the city of Kearney, New York, with an overwhelmingly Scottish populace. The fact that there is no Burns Club in Kearney is due, I'm sure, not so much to the citizens not being interested as to their not knowing of the existence of the Burns Federation and the services it offers to clubs and individuals. This particular omission will soon be remedied.

We might well console ourselves by reflecting that we shall enjoy massive publicity in 1985 and 1986 when we shall celebrate the centenary of the birth of the Federation and the bi-centenary of the Kilmarnock edition respectively. Whilst these dates and functions are more than a decade away, the years will soon slip by. We ought then to be taking stock now and making the maximum effort to increase our standing and membership so that there is the greatest measure of participation in these historic events.

I am indebted to those individuals and clubs who regularly succeed in enjoying press publicity for their activities at local level but I would urge thinking on a wider front. Let us not be smug, apathetic or inward-looking. Mackay, Sneddon, McNaught, Ewing and the other pioneers and stalwarts have made magnificent contribution but we must give stimulus to their creative work and try to keep our thinking in line with the times. It may well be that I am personally too conservative and long in the tooth to learn new tricks but, for the sake of the Federation, I am more than willing to try. Let us then be more outward-looking and examine modern techniques of publicity and presentation and, if they can be used, let us apply their success to the furtherance of our national literature and language.

Membership

We especially welcome the rise in individual membership where Burns enthusiasts increase their contact by bolstering their club members membership by taking out associate membership of the Federation. In this way, they help pay their way financially and in turn enjoy a much closer relationship with our activities.

Number of Clubs on roll as at October 1972 322
Lapsed or disbanded 7

315
Affiliated:
Terregles Burns Club
Ipswich and West Moreton Caledonian Society and Burns Club
Canterbury Burns Club (Inc)
Hole i' the Wa' Burns Club
Scottish Presidents' Association
Dover and East Kent Scottish Society
Orange and District Scottish Association
Northern Scottish Counties Association of Burns Clubs
The Thirty Seven Burns Club, Shotts
The Clumber Burns Club
Old Manor Burns Club

Re-affiliated:
Trysting Thorn Burns Club

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clubs in Arrears</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years in arrears</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Brechin</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>198</td>
<td>Gorebridge</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>236</td>
<td>Whitehaven</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>444</td>
<td>Swansea and West Wales</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>494</td>
<td>Motherwell United Services</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>523</td>
<td>Highland Society of N.S.W.</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>563</td>
<td>Norfolk Caledonian Society</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>568</td>
<td>Darvel (club not active)</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>571</td>
<td>Edmonton Burns Club</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>575</td>
<td>Windsor (Ontario) Jean Armour</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>576</td>
<td>Fort Matilda</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>577</td>
<td>Dalserf</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>592</td>
<td>Benwhat (£1)</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>614</td>
<td>Bellshill Caledonian</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>648</td>
<td>Carronbridge Cronies, Kilsyth</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>671</td>
<td>St. Andrews Cronies, Irvine (£2)</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>693</td>
<td>Kirkcudbright Masonic</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>710</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>*716</td>
<td>Royal Caledonian, Melbourne</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*751</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>766</td>
<td>Glencoe</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>769</td>
<td>Robert Bruce</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>788</td>
<td>Harlow and District</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>812</td>
<td>Bradford St. Andrew</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>813</td>
<td>Tranent '25</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>836</td>
<td>Hornsea and District</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>841</td>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>859</td>
<td>Eglinton</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>864</td>
<td>Burnie, Tasmania</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>873</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>899</td>
<td>Portsmouth</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>904</td>
<td>Larne</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*We have lost touch with these clubs. Can anyone help?
Scottish National Dictionary

The following contributions have been made during the past year.

Balance brought forward from last Report ... ... ... £3,644.16
Donations sent to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Burns Federation:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Denny Cross Burns Club</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumbrae Burns Club</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plymouth Burns Club</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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Donations sent direct to the Scottish National Dictionary:

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Burns Club</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh and District Burns Club Association</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns Society of the City of New York</td>
<td>8.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraserburgh Burns Club</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenock Burns Club</td>
<td>43.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey Craig Burns Club</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alloway Burns Club and Alloway Primary School</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Burns Club</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheffield Caledonian Society</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paisley Burns Club</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

£3,805.80

Quarterly Meetings

During the year the following Quarterly Meetings were held: October, 1972; December, 1972; March, 1973—Kilmarnock; June, 1973—Glasgow.

Jean Armour Burns Houses

No higher form of memorial exists to Robert Burns than these houses, an added delight is their being named after the wife who so loved and understood him. There are few men in this world like Neil Campbell and Andrew Stenhouse, who jointly have contributed over 80 (eighty!) years' service to the Glasgow and District Association of Burns Clubs and we are indebted to them and to their mentor, Mr. R. Dickson Johnston, the House Convener, for their loving and dedicated service. It is always a pleasure to visit these houses, so beautifully situated and maintained, and an equal pleasure to seek your continued financial support of this most worth-while cause. All contributions, please, to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Neil Campbell, F.C.I.S., 141 Craiglea Drive, Edinburgh EH10 5PP.

Conclusion

My sincere thanks to the presidential office-bearers and Executive Committee members for their sufferance and support in the last year. My thanks are also due to Club secretaries and officials for their continued interest and sympathy and I make no excuse for singling out two grand old men of the Federation to whom I am especially indebted—to Fred Belford for his constant cheerfulness and confidence these many and fleeting years and to John Gray for his eternal vigilance and jealous defence of everything connected with the Burns Federation. Criticism is a wonderful spur and I, for one, thrive on it.

BRIDGE REPORTS

Auld Brig

The section of wall between Turner's Bridge and the Auld Brig is in poor condition and is bulging badly. It will be replaced by a new wall as part of the River Ayr Walk contract.
Auld Brig o' Doon

Further repairs to stonework required.

New Bridge and Alloway Bridge

Both structures are in reasonably sound condition although some minor remedial works are necessary.

In presenting his report, Mr. Thomson wondered if Federation members were getting into a complacent rut. He advocated a change in their attitude to bring the Federation into line with life in the seventies.

The report was unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Thomson then submitted the following report.
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1st MAY, 1972 TO 30th APRIL, 1973
ORDINARY FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971/72 Balances as at 1st May, 1972</td>
<td>£1,525·89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£282·60 Deposit Account</td>
<td>£1,644·11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35·53 Current Account</td>
<td>£1,525·89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14·14 Cash on Hand</td>
<td>£1,644·11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Subscriptions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>765·39 Current</td>
<td>£1,224·48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21·00 Arrears</td>
<td>3·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0·76 Advance</td>
<td>5·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72·67 Associate Members</td>
<td>93·89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10·50 Affiliation Fees</td>
<td>7·50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19·90 Diplomas</td>
<td>12·60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35·40 Badges</td>
<td>51·50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1·75 Burns Stamped Envelopes</td>
<td>0·45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2·21 Burns and Edinburgh</td>
<td>2·82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16·98 Posts</td>
<td>4·08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3·45 Burns Federation Song Book</td>
<td>2·10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1·51 Burns Check</td>
<td>34·70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120·00 Hans Hecht</td>
<td>9·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2·00 Bairnsangs</td>
<td>1·40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1·11 J. K. Annand</td>
<td>1·11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12·75 Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3·20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>3·57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100·00 Administration (Literature and Central Funds)</td>
<td>100·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6·24 Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td>1·00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971/72 Printing</td>
<td>£108·61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45·41 Stationery</td>
<td>53·72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162·07 Posts</td>
<td>144·09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10·79 Wreaths and Flowers</td>
<td>12·77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35·72 Secretary's Expenses</td>
<td>20·67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25·00 Audit Fee</td>
<td>25·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2·35 Bank Charges</td>
<td>2·10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Burns Check</td>
<td>34·99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>759·70 Salary, S.E.T., etc.</td>
<td>860·07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10·33 Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3·11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21·04 Expenses of Meetings</td>
<td>26·28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11·65 Past President's Badge</td>
<td>10·85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125·66 Transferred to Literature Fund for Sales</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Why, Where and Why</td>
<td>1·50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12·25 Insurance</td>
<td>1·25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23·60 Corporation Tax</td>
<td>15·60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10·00 Advertising</td>
<td>12·50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100·00 President's and Vice-Presidents' Allowances</td>
<td>100·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3·00 Bairnsangs</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3·00 Donation to Royal Caledonian Schools</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Balance as at 30th April, 1973:</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48·84 Deposit Account</td>
<td>114·65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2·68 Current Account</td>
<td>28·32</td>
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<tr>
<td>4·19 Cash on Hand</td>
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### 'BURNS CHRONICLE' ACCOUNT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1972/73</th>
<th>1971/72</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Balance as at lst May, 1972:</td>
<td>1972/73</td>
<td>1971/72</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>£0·79</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deposit Account</td>
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<td><strong>£300·00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>600·62</strong></td>
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<td>Sales to Clubs</td>
<td><strong>438·30</strong></td>
<td><strong>10·50</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>111·65</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sales to Trade and Individuals</td>
<td><strong>35·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>55·50</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>60·92</strong></td>
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<td>Sales of Back Numbers</td>
<td><strong>3·04</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>314·70</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Advertisements</td>
<td><strong>1,353·64</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>20·11</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5·23</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td><strong>3·42</strong></td>
<td><strong>1·84</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>590·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transferred from Literature Fund</td>
<td><strong>830·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>£1,704·02</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,762·43</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,704·02</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>1971/72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£0·79</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Editor's Allowance</td>
<td><strong>£300·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>£—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>438·30</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Editor's Expenses</td>
<td><strong>10·50</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>143·21</strong></td>
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<td>Contributors' Allowances</td>
<td><strong>35·00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>345·66</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of Back Numbers</td>
<td><strong>3·04</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1,353·64</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Printing, etc.</td>
<td><strong>830·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Balance as at 30th April, 1973:</td>
<td><strong>£1,762·43</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,704·02</strong></td>
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### SCOTTISH LITERATURE FUND

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<tr>
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<th>1971/72</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Balance as at lst May, 1972:</td>
<td>1972/73</td>
<td>1971/72</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>£18,127·00</strong></td>
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<td>5% Treasury Stock</td>
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<td><strong>243·09</strong></td>
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<td>Deposit Account</td>
<td><strong>3·35</strong></td>
<td><strong>26·87</strong></td>
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<td><strong>41·74</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Royalties on Burns Federation Song Book</td>
<td><strong>110·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>201·01</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7·50</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Half Affiliation Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Declaration of Arbroath</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>590·00</strong></td>
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<td>From Current Account—Sales</td>
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<td><strong>7·44</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Interest on Stock</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>500·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transferred from Deposit Account</td>
<td><strong>500·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,684·32</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,803·03</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,684·32</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,803·03</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1972/73</td>
<td>1971/72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£100·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allowances to Schools Officials</td>
<td><strong>£100·00</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26·87</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Expenses of Officials</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>48·09</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>201·01</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Expenses of Schools Competitions</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>191·83</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>110·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>New Scots Reader—Contributors' Fees</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>30·25</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>150·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of Hans Hecht</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>56·09</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Competition Prizes</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Donation to A. Beaton Fund</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>37·62</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Printing A. MacMillan Leaflet</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>830·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Burns Chronicle—subsidy and accounts due</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>50·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>360·00</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scots Reader</td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
<td><strong>—</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,803·03</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,684·32</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,803·03</strong></td>
<td><strong>£19,684·32</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Balance as at 30th April, 1973:
### CENTRAL FUND

#### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1971/72</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1st May, 1972:</td>
<td>£13,625-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£12,404-00 5% Treasury Stock</td>
<td>£12,404-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>444-91 Deposit Account</td>
<td>1-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Donation</td>
<td>10-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>760-00 Interest on Stock</td>
<td>760-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-42 Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td>8-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£13,625-33</strong></td>
<td><strong>£13,184-10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1971/72</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of Memorials</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-00 Glenbervie</td>
<td>50-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-00 National Memorial Homes</td>
<td>100-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-00 Jean Armour Burns Houses</td>
<td>110-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-00 Heritage Trail</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43-00 Burns House Museum</td>
<td>50-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-00 Ellisland</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkoswald</td>
<td>100-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-00 Scots Reader</td>
<td>250-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-00 Administration</td>
<td>50-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 30th April, 1973:</td>
<td>12,404-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-95 Deposit Account</td>
<td>70-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£13,184-10</strong></td>
<td><strong>£13,184-10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RESERVE FUND

#### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1971/72</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1st May, 1972:</td>
<td>£1,870-61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£814-86 Deposit Account</td>
<td>£1,776-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Including Reserved for</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-00 Edgar Young Memorial £50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-00 Heritage Trail £100 and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>870-00 Scots Reader £870 = £1,020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-00 1972 Conference Committee</td>
<td>129-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972 Conference Surplus</td>
<td>716-68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained for Kirkoswald</td>
<td>100-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained for Scots Reader (Literature £360)</td>
<td>735-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central £250, Sales £125-82</td>
<td>51-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£1,870-61</strong></td>
<td><strong>£3,509-95</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1971/72</th>
<th>1972/73</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971 Conference Secretary's Gratuity</td>
<td>25-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-92 1972 Conference Expenses</td>
<td>129-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Lapel Badges (Future Conferences)</td>
<td>111-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Transferred to Literature Fund</td>
<td>500-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,776-69 Balance as at 30th April, 1973 (Including</td>
<td>2,744-04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>retained for Edgar Young Memorial £50;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Trail £100; Kirkoswald £100;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scots Reader £1,605-82 = £1,855-82)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## JOSEPH LAING WAUGH MEMORIAL FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1st May, 1972</td>
<td>£207-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£207-00</td>
<td>£7·72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5·90 Deposit Account</td>
<td>5·90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7·36 Interest on Stock</td>
<td>7·36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0·36 Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td>0·29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£220·55</strong></td>
<td><strong>£220·55</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## GENERAL APPEALS FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1st May, 1972</td>
<td>£2-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2·57 Deposit Account</td>
<td>2·76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations received for:</td>
<td>96·18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25·20 <em>Scottish National Dictionary</em></td>
<td>27·10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96·18 Jean Armour Burns Houses</td>
<td>75·25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Conference Collection</td>
<td>77·60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0·19 Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td>0·16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£124·14</strong></td>
<td><strong>£182·87</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## VISITS FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance as at 1st May, 1972</td>
<td>£100·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£100·00 Deposit Account</td>
<td>127·09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conference Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25·00 Donation</td>
<td>5·00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2·09 Interest on Deposit Account</td>
<td>5·08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>£127·09</strong></td>
<td><strong>£209·17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

KILMARNOCK, 1st June, 1973—We have examined the Books and Accounts of the Burns Federation for the year ended 30th April, 1973, and have obtained all the information and explanations required. We certify that the foregoing Financial Statement is in accordance with the Books, and we have verified that the Funds and Securities at 30th April, 1973, as shown in the Statement are correct.

HENRY BROWN & CO., Chartered Accountants.
TREASURER'S REPORT

When a treasurer is short of money, it can mean either of two things—that he is bereft of capital or has spent whatever cash is available. The recent past has seen me victim of both these situations but the increase in subscription fees has led to a more healthy situation within the income of the Ordinary Fund, whilst the cost of publication of the New Scots Reader has on the other hand necessitated our gathering together every available penny to meet these demands. There is no sin in accumulating money but it is much more encouraging to spend it on the causes which are so dear to all Burnsians.

Speaking in a most general way, it is no easy task to administer either the financial affairs or the general organisation of the Burns Federation. On the latter side, we prefer a friendly guiding hand watching over an enthusiastic but cheerfully neglectful band of colleagues; this friendly relationship is reflected in the payment of dues to the Federation where dead lines, or date lines, do not seem to worry club officials. This attitude does lead to making difficult the preparation of up-to-date figures since we have on the one hand clubs who pay well in advance and others who pay well into the following financial year. In the 'Chronicle' account, for example, the payment from some overseas clubs make it impossible to account with absolute accuracy the statement for the financial year concerned and a carry-over is normal practice. However, such a practice carried over a period shows a pattern which allows pretty close comparisons from year to year. The most important matter, however, is that cheerfulness is matched by honesty and conscience and, due to the arithmetical abilities of Mrs. Turner, my duties have been simplified and made further acceptable by the most capable manner in which Mr. McKerrow speaks in supporting the report. The blend is beautiful—policy being formulated by the Finance Committee and checked by the Executive Committee, supervision being provided by the Finance Convener, detailed examination coming from the external auditor—all combining to leave me with the task of pleasant housekeeping.

Mr. George McKerrow, Convener of the Finance Committee, explained the accounts in detail. Referring to the deficit in the Burns Chronicle account, he asked delegates to take back the message to the clubs to try to sell more Chronicles. The Finance Committee could not allow this subsidy to go on indefinitely. The report was unanimously approved.

J. F. T. THOMSON, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

THE 'BURNS CHRONICLE'

Mr. James Veitch, Editor of the Burns Chronicle, submitted the following report:

In the 1973 Burns Chronicle, you will find the List of Burns Clubs and Scottish Societies on the Roll of the Burns Federation, corrected to 31st October, 1972. In this List, you will also find that the Tam o' Shanter, Coventry, had at that time a membership of 1,600; Bridgeton Burns Club, 1,325; Hawick Burns Club, 914; Canberra Highland Society, 780; Irvine Burns Club, 590; Sandyford (Glasgow) Burns Club 530; Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society, 500; Derby Scottish Association and Burns Club, 473; Harrow and District Caledonian Society, 455; Caledonian Society of Sheffield, 450; Scottish Clans Association of London, Ltd., 400; Nottingham Scottish Association, 400; and Dunedin Burns Club, inc., 391.

If you look at Clubs which purchased 20 or more copies of the Burns Chronicle, you will also find that of the above Clubs, the Tam o' Shanter, Coventry, took 30 copies, and Irvine Burns Club, 24. Yet Outplaymuir Burns Club, with only 32 members, purchased 24 copies!

If delegates at the Conference in September can explain why the big clubs
can not give us a lead, we shall be pleased to hear the reasons. For there is one undeniable fact. If each of the 322 Clubs and Societies on the Roll were to purchase 20 copies, the total would be over 6000. Considering the quite unrealistic price at which the Burns Federation persists in selling the *Burns Chronicle*, this should not be an impossible target nowadays.

JAMES VEITCH, Editor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clubs which purchased 20 or more copies:</th>
<th>Copies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>597 New York</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>226 Dumfries, B.C.</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220 St. Louis</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 London</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 Paisley</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173 Irvine</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>275 Ayr</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Greenock</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 Kilmarnock</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Dalry</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>845 Coventry</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Dumbarton</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Dundee</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>469 Denny Cross</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>701 Detroit</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>748 Ouplaymuir</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>263 Glasgow Masonic</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>307 Edinburgh Ayrshire</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Glasgow Haggis</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112 Dumfries Howff</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>349 Kilmarnock Howff</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370 Dundonald</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>476 Border Cities</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>559 Coventry</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811 Logangate</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>907 Stonehouse</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In submitting his report, Mr. Veitch said that in Burns Clubs, generally speaking, only about five per cent of members were really interested in Robert Burns and so they did not buy the *Chronicle*. He felt that to engage a publicity agent, as had been suggested in the Executive Committee, would be a waste of time and money.

Mr. MacIntyre Hood, Edinburgh, 314, agreed it was difficult to get response, but felt the people who could solve the problem were those present at the meeting. He asked them to go back to their clubs and do something about it. After discussion, the report was unanimously approved.
Mr. Fred J. Belford submitted the following report:

It is with much pleasure that we report the continued progress of the Schools Competitions in Scottish Literature and Music. This is reflected not only in the letters of appreciation we receive from Head Teachers, but also in the number of competitors. It will be seen from the following figures that while the schools competing have decreased with a consequent drop in the certificates issued, the number of pupils competing has increased substantially.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Schools</th>
<th>No. of Competitors</th>
<th>No. of Certificates issued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>137,391</td>
<td>6,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>141,393</td>
<td>6,236</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is also noteworthy that many Burns Clubs up and down the country hold competitions in Verse and Song for primary children. In many cases their parents and friends are invited to attend.

Until the New Scots Reader is firmly established in the schools, the poems selected for study will be those which appear in both the New Scots Reader and in Books I-III of the Scots Readers which are now out of print and which have been used in the schools for nearly forty years.

The Painting Competitions have attracted over 100 young artists from 15 schools, and the quality of the exhibits shows work of a very high standard.

We wish to thank Mr. A. W. Bannerman for the excellent questions he has set in the Literature Section of the Competition for the past three or four years, and which have been greatly appreciated by all concerned.

On behalf of the Burns Federation we thank all those who have in any way supported these competitions.

Mr. Belford said the number of children entering the competition had increased by 4000 in spite of the fact that the number of schools had decreased. The Primary 7 poems and questions for the 1973 competition would be published in the next Burns Chronicle.

Mr. Finlayson then reported that the schedules for the 1974 competitions were now on their way to every school in Scotland. He also reported that there had been 232 entries for the painting competition from 24 schools. Junior—1st Alloway; 2nd Dumfermline; 3rd Langholm. Senior—All 3 prizes went to Langholm Academy.

Mr. Bruce McGuff, Gorebridge 198, said many Burns Clubs ran competitions. Gorebridge schoolchildren ran a Burns Supper, the entire programme being done by the children themselves.

It was agreed that all clubs who ran competitions and gave prizes were doing a worthwhile job.

The report was unanimously approved.

F. J. BELFORD, A. W. FINLAYSON, Joint Secretaries

SCOTTISH LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT, 1973

The Chronicle, more and more in demand as the authentic record of all that is being researched in Burns and Scottish Literature, still requires a large subsidy from the Federation's funds. How much more we could prepare for if that money were set free. This can only be done by a change of heart in many Clubs, whose buying of the Chronicle remains a disgrace to the movement.

'Facts are chiels that winna ding,
And manna be disputit.'
The Fergusson Bi-Centenary 1774-1974, will be recognised by the Federation with a competition for students on Fergusson's place in Scottish Literature.

A new Burns song-book is in process of preparation by the firm of Holmes Macdougall Ltd. Further information is awaited.

*The New Scots Reader* now available in both limp covers and paperback, has had a good reception. Although it is primarily for schools, it has great interest for anyone who wishes to see the auld rauce tongue kept alive. Copies are available from the Secretary of the Federation.

*The Scottish National Dictionary* now nearing completion, has on hand two hundred copies still to sell. These will require to be warehoused and generally looked after till all are sold, so our help is still needed. Quite apart from the Dictionary being a lasting memorial to a way of life of which every Scot should be proud, it is a great asset which is bound to increase in value. There are many schools which would be proud to have the *Scottish National Dictionary*. Clubs could help by sponsoring a school over a few years, paying for it by instalments.

The attention of all Burnsians should be drawn to the 'Lallans Society', a new society for the preservation of Scots, and giving it its rightful status in literature. Anyone interested will be able to get information from me at the Dumfries Conference. Note—this is nae cranky outfit.

We would congratulate Irvine Burns Club on acquiring an original Kilmarnock Edition. It is in fine condition, being a bound library copy.

The trustees of the Burns Museum and Cottage, Alloway, through their secretary, Mr. William Dunlop, have bought a fragment (eight verses) of a comparatively unknown poem, Burns's Epistle to Doctor MacKenzie. There's aye money aboot.

My best thanks to my committee for its regular attendance and its continuing enthusiasm.

In submitting the report, Mr. Alex. MacMillan said the Scottish National Dictionary should be completed within the next year and then thought would be given by the Dictionary Association to the preparation of a shorter Scots Dictionary.

He also referred to the Lallans Society and said if anyone was interested they should contact Dr. George Philp who was present at the meeting. Mr. Alex. Cook, Coalsnaughton 630, felt the Federation should not have affiliated to the Lallans Society. Previously, such ventures had come to nothing. Mr. A. B. McIver, Dollar 37, said he would back anything which kept the Scottish language alive.

The report was unanimously approved.

ALEX. MACMILLAN, Convener.

**MEMORIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Meetings of our committee have been well attended and we have met before each Quarterly Meeting.

The following points have been reviewed by the Memorials Committee: The Kirk Lane Burial Ground, Pollockshaws, Tam Samson's House, Kilmarnock, Memorials at Grants Braes and Bolton Churchyard, Leglen Wood Cairn and Ayr Auld Kirk, have all received our attention, repairs at the Auld Kirk being carried out by Ayr Burns Club. We are presently trying to improve the signs in Kirkoswald Church Yard. We are not entirely happy with some of the above, but we will keep trying to get everything in good order.

The Burns Heritage Trail Committee has engaged your Convener and the Federation Secretary over the past year in a series of meetings and I can assure the Federation members that the voice of the Federation has been heard at these meetings, not with the results we had hoped for.

As part of the celebrations for 50 years as a Club, the Members of New
Cumnoock Burns Club have erected on Laigh Farm, Afton Glen, a Cairn built from local stone, set in a pleasance constructed by members, and this will be a reminder to those who go up Afton that our National Bard had passed that way.

I thank Mr. Thomson and Mrs. Turner and the members of the Memorials Committee for their assistance so freely given during the past year.

Mr. Vallance said his Committee depended on club members to inspect their local memorials. He asked delegates to push their clubs into keeping these memorials in good order and, if any clubs were unable to do the necessary work, to bring such matters to the attention of his Committee.

The report was unanimously approved.

Mr. C. W. Botcherby, Dunonald 370, reported his club had a film, ‘Scotland of Auld Lang Syne’. They had decided to ask the Burns Federation to give some guidance as to the authenticity of the contents of some museums in Ayrshire.

It was agreed to remit this to the Memorials Committee for consideration.

GEORGE VALLANCE, Convener.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

As has been agreed at the previous conference, the President said, he would remain in the chair until the end of the meeting. With great pleasure, however, he proposed Mr. Thomas Anderson, Kilmarnock, as President of the Burns Federation. Mr. Anderson, who was unanimously elected, suitably replied.

Provost Ernest Robertson, O.B.E., Dumfries, was appointed Senior Vice-President.

Mr. James E. Inglis, Southwell, and Mr. R. A. B. McLaren, Edinburgh, had both been nominated for the Junior Vice-Presidency. Mr. McLaren asked that his nomination be withdrawn on personal and medical grounds. He had the agreement of his proposers in this request. This was accepted and Mr. McLaren was wished an improvement in health to continue his good work in the Edinburgh District.

Mr. James E. Inglis was elected Junior Vice-President.

Other office-bearers were then elected: Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. F. T. Thomson, M.A., F.L.A., Kilmarnock; Hon. Editor of the Burns Chronicle, Mr. James Veitch, Tweedsmuir; Schools Competitions, Joint Secretaries, Mr. Fred J. Belford, M.A., F.E.I., Edinburgh, and Mr. Albert W. Finlayson, M.A., F.E.I., Dumfries; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. Andrew Stenhouse, M.A., L.L.B., Glasgow; Auditors Messrs Henry Brown & Co., Kilmarnock.

Mr. Hugh Cunningham, President of the Southern Scottish Counties Burns Association, nominated Mr. David Miller as an Hon. President of the Burns Federation in recognition of his many years of work in the Burns World. Mr. Easton invested Mr. Miller with an Hon. President’s Badge, and Mr. Miller suitably replied.

MOTION FROM AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BURNS CLUBS

‘That the Burns Federation formulate a policy to show the lines along which the Burns Heritage Trail should be conducted.’

Mr. Gaw spoke to the motion and said he felt the Tourist Board should not get away with doing what they liked. They had made some obvious mistakes in their first brochures. Mr. McCall, Ayrshire, seconded the motion. It was agreed to formulate a policy of co-operation with the Tourist Board in Burnsiana and to remit this back to the Executive Committee.
PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE

Mr. McIlwraith, Edinburgh and District Burns Clubs Association 378, extended an invitation for the Conference to go to Edinburgh in 1974. It was agreed that the dates be changed to 20th, 21st and 22nd September to avoid clashing with the Edinburgh Festival.

An invitation was extended by East Perthshire, Angus and Kinross Association to hold the 1975 Conference in Dundee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bruce asked if Associate Members had to be a member of a Burns Club as he felt they were being undercharged as they got their names printed in the Burns Chronicle. Mr. Bruce was told that anyone with a true interest in Burns could become an Associate Member.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

On Friday night a civic reception was given by the Town Council of Dumfries in the Loreburn Hall. Provost Ernest Robertson, O.B.E., welcomed the delegates and friends and Mr. Charles C. Easton, President of the Burns Federation, replied.

The conference luncheon was held in the Loreburn Hall after the business meeting on Saturday. Mr. Easton said he had a pleasant duty to perform and, before doing so, he wished to call on Mr. John Burns Begg. Mr. Begg said he had been instructed by his club, the Scottish Society and Burns Club of Australia, to make Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Anderson Honorary Members of the Club.

Mr. Easton then invested Mr. Anderson with the Burns Federation chain of office and Mr. Anderson, in his reply, said it was an honour shared by his own club, Symington, and the Ayrshire Association. He also thanked Mr. John Burns Begg and all his friends from Sydney for the honour they had given him. The new President then presented Mr. Easton with a Past President's badge and wished him health and happiness to continue his good work.

Mr. Hector Monroe, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, proposed the toast to the Burns Federation and Mr. Thomas Anderson replied. The toast to the Royal Burgh of Dumfries was proposed by Mr. Walter Duncan and Provost Robertson replied.

A collection taken for the Jean Armour Burns Houses raised £110.

Earlier that morning, ladies who were not attending the business meeting were invited to a coffee morning in the County Hotel.

On Saturday evening a dinner was held in Loreburn Hall at the invitation of the Southern Scottish Counties Burns Association.

On Sunday morning, members and friends attended a service in St. Michael's Church, conducted by the Rev. J. Bates, which was followed by a short wreath-laying ceremony when the President, Mr. Anderson, laid a wreath on the tomb of the poet.

In the afternoon there was a short coach tour to Annan, via Glencaple, Brow Well and Ruthwell.

The final item on the programme was high tea at Annan where the hosts were the Annan Ladies' Burns Club. An enjoyable ending to a very pleasant weekend.
0: KILMARNOCK BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Sheriff J. Irvine Smith.
Other events: On 3rd November, 1972, an evening of Scottish poetry and song was held in the Keep of Dean Castle, Kilmarnock.
At our St. Andrew’s Night Dinner on 30th November, 1972, the principal speaker was the Most Hon. The Marquess of Bute.
A most successful Coffee Morning was held on 24th March, 1973.
A. Reid Hamilton,
Secretary.

1: BURNS CLUB OF LONDON
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Ian Alastair Nimmo.
Other events: During the winter a meeting of the Vernacular Circle was held each month with guest speakers.
A wreath was laid at the Burns Statue on the Embankment before the commemorative service at Crown Court Church.
Past President David Fulton, a member of the Club for over fifty years, was elected Honorary President.
A. C. Brown,
Secretary.

2: ALEXANDRIA BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by David Brownlie, Esq.
John Barton,
Secretary.

5: ERCILDOUNE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Oliver Wilson of Hawick.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Night Dinner was held on 24th November, 1972, and a social evening and members’ night on 21st April, 1973.
John Rae,
Secretary.
7: THISTLE BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Graeme Wilson.
A collection for Burns Benevolence amounted to a record sum of £108.00.
Other event: Prizes were awarded to the pupils of Adelphi Secondary School for Burns Competition.

JAMES T. McAULAY,
Secretary.

9: ROYALTY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 18th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Sheriff J. Irvine Smith.
The annual appeals for charities realised £429.00.
Other events: St. Andrew's Night Dinner on 30th November, 1972.
Annual bus run to Prestwick and Ayr took place on 31st May, 1973.
A wreath was laid at the Burns Statue in George Square, Glasgow, on 20th January, 1973.
Prizes were awarded to pupils of Williamwood High School and Eastwood High School for interest in Burns's Works.

HENRY W. G. KERR,
Secretary.

10: DUMBARTON BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Dr. James Goldie, President of the Club.
The annual appeal for charities realised a total of £105.00 which was distributed between Jean Armour Burns Houses, National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, and Erskine Hospital Burns Supper Fund.
Other events: St. Andrew's Night Dinner on 24th November, 1972.
As in previous years prizes were again awarded for singing and verse speaking to the winners of competitions organised in four local schools.
Committee members paid a visit to the Burns country in May and visited many places of interest.

THOMAS WILSON,
Secretary.
14: DUNDEE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the President, Mr. A. Glen.
Other events: Annual Club Dinner was held on 30th June, 1973. A wreath was laid at the Burns Statue in Albert Square.
The Club supplied speakers at various Burns Suppers. Social dances were held and these proved a tremendous success. Various other social evenings were held including a talk with slides about tartans and their history by Club member, Mr. J. Cargill, and Mr. J. Dalgetty.

F. CURRAN,
Secretary.

20: AIRDRIE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Rev. Angus M. Nicolson, T.D., M.A.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Day Dinner on 27th November, 1972. The toast of ‘Scotland’ was proposed by the Very Rev. Andrew Herron, M.A., B.D., LL.B.
MATHEW P. KIDD,
Secretary.

21: GREENOCK BURNS CLUB (THE MOTHER CLUB)
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Lord Birsey, who was made an Honorary President of the Club.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Night Dinner was held on 8th December, 1972, when the Earl and Countess of Elgin were the principal guests and proposed the toasts of ‘Scots Abroad’ and ‘St. Andrew and Scotland’ respectively.
Spring outing to the Trossachs.
Usual monthly meetings held during winter session.
R. SMITH MACFARLAN,
Secretary.

22: EDINBURGH BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rev. Tom Logan, L.Th.
Other events: Monthly meetings were held during the winter session.
A wreath was laid at the Edinburgh Burns Monument on 21st January, 1973.
HELEN M. MUIR,
Secretary/Treasurer.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

33: GLASGOW HAGGIS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Professor William Barclay, D.D.

DAVID WATSON,
Secretary.

35: DALRY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. William Hudson.

Other events: Dalry High School Burns Competition on song and verse.

CHARLES COOK,
Secretary.

36: ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 1st February, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. James Buist, Lanark.

Other events: A St. Andrew's Night function and the Chairman's Night were also well attended.

The wreath-laying ceremony took place at the Burns Statue in George Square in January, 1973.

A schools competition was held at Kelvindale Bowling Club on 8th March, 1973.

A. R. PEACOCK,
Secretary.

37: DOLLAR BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by David Walker, Benview.

Other events: As we have missed out in the Burns Chronicle since 1971, we would like to record the names of the following Presidents of the Club: 1971, Oscar Goodall; 1972, Peter Mitchell; 1973, John Moodie.

For the wives and sweethearts of our members a second Burns Supper was held on 10th February, 1973.

Miss Mary Aytoun, M.B.E., Edinburgh, proposed the 'Immortal Memory'

£25·00 was raised towards the proposed cairn at Harvestoun.

ALEX. B. MCIVER,
Secretary.
40: ABERDEEN BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. James A. Couper, M.A.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Night function.
On 22nd and 23rd April, 1973, members enjoyed a bus tour to the Scott Country. They visited Abbotsford and also places in Edinburgh associated with Robert Burns.

THOS. C. COLTHART,
Secretary.

42: STRATHEARN BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Rev. A. H. Minto.

(MRS.) GEORGINA B. LOWE,
Secretary.

45: CUMNOCK BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 22nd January, 1973, the Principal Toast was proposed by the Club President, Mr. George Kerr.

K. H. McCall,
Secretary.

48: PAISLEY BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: As always—since 1805—the President for the time being gave the ‘Immortal Memory’ and as the celebration fell within the term of Dr. T. Y. Bennie, M.O.H. for Renfrewshire, he chose to refer to Burns’s connections with members of the medical profession.

Other events: Our summer outing took us on 21st June, 1973, to St. Andrews, via Kinross, where we then found a link with Robert Burns opposite our luncheon hotel, where stands a house, ‘The Bield,’ formerly the home of a member of the Burns Begg family.
We were conducted round St. Andrews by the town’s leading historian, Mr. R. G. Cant, and finally returned via West Lothian.

The memorial stone to Alexander Wilson, poet and ornithologist, sponsored by the Club, has now been erected in Old Swede’s Church, Philadelphia, thanks to the co-operation of the Scottish Historical and Research Society of the Delaware Valley.

CLARK HUNTER,
Secretary.
50: STIRLING BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Harry Ewing, M.P.

HENRY ROBB,
Secretary.

55: DERBY SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION AND BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: The toast to the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Past President Derek McLeod, who has accepted Honorary Life Membership of the Association.

D. McLEOD,
Secretary.

59: GOUROCK JOLLY BEGGARS BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. John Walker, Gourock.

Other events: A Burns competition was held at Gourock Primary school. Over 60 pupils attended and 12 book prizes were presented to successful pupils.

Meetings are held once a month from October to March in Gamble Halls, Gourock.

ROBERT SMITH,
Secretary.

62: CUPAR BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. L. T. Wilson.

ROBERT W. MACLEOD,
Secretary.

69: DUNEDIN BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Holyoake, ex Prime Minister.

Other events: On 28th January, 1973, the Mayor of Dunedin, Mr. J. G. Barnes, placed a wreath on the Burns Statue in the Octagon, Dunedin, after which some 50 members attended Evening Service in First Church, Dunedin, the first Minister of which was Rev. Dr. Thomas Burns, a nephew of the poet.

On Monday, 29th January, approximately 650 persons attended the Burns Anniversary Concert in the Concert Chamber of the
Dunedin Town Hall.

Monthly concerts have been held throughout the year on the third Wednesday with an average attendance of 150 persons and during the winter months additional subsidiary meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

We maintain a close liaison with the Southland Burns Club in Invercargill, 65 of our members having joined with Southland Burnsians on 23rd September, 1972, for a concert and supper.

We are hopeful of arranging a visit to the recently formed Canterbury Burns Club in Christchurch in the near future.

On 17th March, 1973, we were favoured with a visit from members of the Southland Club.

Kenneth McKellar, who is an Honorary Member of the Dunedin Burns Club, visited Dunedin during November, 1972, and prior to his departure was entertained at morning tea.

Entertainment for the inmates of old people’s homes, rest homes and hospitals was provided during the year by members of the Dunedin Burns Club Entertainment Group.

J. D. McDonald,
Secretary.

71: CARLISLE BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. I. A. Husband.

S. Sinclair,
Secretary.

74: THE NATIONAL BURNS MEMORIAL AND COTTAGE HOMES, MAUCHLINE

The Committee continue their work of insuring the wellbeing of the Cottagers and the maintenance of the Cottages.

Funds are still required and the continued support of the Federation and Clubs affiliated thereto is much appreciated.

John Findlay,
Secretary/Treasurer.

85: DUNFERMLINE UNITED BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 24th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Sheriff J. Irvine Smith.

J. Torrie,
Secretary.
89 SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Dr. J. S. Montgomerie, a Past President of the Club and a Past President of the Burns Federation.

Other events: A feature of the usual full programme of talks, parties and musical evenings held fortnightly throughout the winter, September to May, was that on only two occasions were visiting speakers brought in.

Our Club is fortunate in having so many of its own members capable of presenting papers and entertainment of a high standard.

W. K. DONNAN,
Secretary.

95: BOLTON BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. J. Williamson, President of the Bury Caledonian Society.

Other events: A coach tour took place to Holker Hall in the Lake District.

Monthly literary nights included a talk on 'Mary Queen of Scots' and another on 'The Burns Federation', with slides taken at a few of the Conferences.

Seven evening dances were held during the season and our entertainments section with a dancing team entertained many evenings in the winter at Old People's Homes, hospitals and churches for charity.

A ceilidh, coffee evening and other small events were held in aid of our 21st anniversary fund which is on 16th June, 1974.

W. G. DIGGLE,
Secretary.

112: BURNS HOWFF CLUB, DUMFRIES

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Robert Austin, M.A., Headmaster, Dalbeattie High School, who in May, 1972, had acted as adjudicator during the preliminary heats of the 'Tam o' Shanter' reciting competition, promoted by the Club.

Other events: On 25th January, 1973, after the Annual Memorial Service in St. Michael's Kirk, Mr. Austin laid a wreath on behalf
of the Club on the Poet's grave in the Mausoleum, this ceremony was attended by the provost, magistrates and councillors of Dumfries, and also members of the various Burns clubs in the town.

The usual Hallowe'en and St. Andrew's Night Suppers were well attended and guest speakers maintained the Club's high standard.

As is customary, the President, Councillor M. G. Laing, addressed the company at the Ladies' Night function.

The Club participated in various fund-raising activities in aid of the Burns Federation Conference in Dumfries.

D. SMITH,
Secretary.

116: GREENLOANING BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 2nd February, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. David Malcolm, M.A., LL.B.

Other events: It was with regret that the President of the Club, Mr. D. J. McIldowie, J.P., intimated his retirement after 15 years' valuable service to the Club. In presenting the chain of office to the new President, Mr. Peter Ian McIntosh, Mr. McIldowie made reference to the fact that it was time for him to give way to the younger man.

The chain of office was purchased by members of Greenloaning Burns Club and first presented to Mr. McIldowie at a ladies' night function held shortly after Mr McIldowie's sojourn to Australia in 1970 as president of the Burns Federation.

NORMAN URE,
Secretary.

120: BRISTOL CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Reverend J. M. Tosh.

Other events: Usual functions, including St. Andrew's Day Dinner/Dance and a St. Andrew's Festival Church Service.

An innovation this year was a successful 'Juniors' Ceilidh.

D. W. WOOLER,
Secretary.
124: THE NINETY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: The toast to the 'Immortal Memory' was given by the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, D.L., J.P., M.A.

Other events: Two other meetings were held and the speakers were Mr. David Stephen, Director of the County Park at Palacerigg, Cumbernauld, and Dr. George Reith, C.B.E., former Director of Education for the City of Edinburgh. J. C. McVittie, Secretary.

149: ELGIN BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Norman A. Halkett, formerly of Thurso, now of Huntly and Hon. President of Peterhead Burns Club. W. D. G. CHALMERS, Secretary.

152: THE HAMILTON BURNS CLUB


Other events: The Club once again awarded prizes during the summer of 1973 to the seven senior schools in Hamilton in connection with the Scottish Literature Competition. About 1,000 pupils took part in the competition, which is arranged by the staff at each school. Lisle Pattison, Secretary.

153: SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 23rd January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Robert Burns, President, Glasgow Haggis Club.

A generous collection for the Jean Armour Burns Houses was forwarded to the Glasgow and District Burns Association.

Other events: On 20th January, 1973, our Club was represented by our President, Mr. John C. McNicol, at the Burns Statue Wreath-laying Ceremony in George Square, Glasgow.

On 7th August, 1973, the Club was represented by 9 fours at the Annual Competition for the McLennan Cup, organised by the Scottish Burns Bowling Association.

The following back numbers of the Burns Chronicle are available, which we are prepared to sell to any club which requires them:— 1940, 2 copies (bound), 1 copy (paper); 1968, 2 copies (bound),
3 copies (paper); also one Index 1892-1925 and two covering 1926-1945.

Usual monthly meetings were held from October to March.
We deeply regret the passing of several of our members, including Hon. Vice-President, Bailie Alexander Burns Mackay.

K. E. FISHER, 
Secretary.

158: DARLINGTON BURNS ASSOCIATION
Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Dr. T. Baird of Coventry.
Other events: St. Andrew's function took a different form this year. At Europa Lodge, we partook of an old Scottish menu which included brose and Scotch mutton.
All other events, including Hallowe'en, Scottish country dancing classes, etc., were well supported.

T. W. CHATER, 
Secretary.

167: BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND SCOTTISH SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. H. Bowie.
Other events: Other functions included a St. Andrew's Dance; St. Andrew's Day Church Service; Old Year's Dance and a Caledonian Ball.

W. F. PRINGLE, 
Secretary.

173: IRVINE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by President, ex-Provost W. Wilson Muir, at the 147th Annual Celebration of the Club.
Other events: Wreath-Jaying Ceremony at the Statue on Irvine Moor.
Successful fund-raising barn dance at Corsehill Farm in May.
Scottish concert and children's festival during Marymass Week.
St. Andrew's Night, with Mr. Maurice Lindsay as guest of honour.
The world-famous picture, 'Burns in Edinburgh,' has been added to our collection, and a cordial invitation is extended to all Federated Members to visit Irvine and see our priceless treasures.

ANDREW HOOD, 
Secretary.
187: GALASHIELS BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Rev. Harry J. Dodd, M.A., B.D.

D. WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary.

190: PORT GLASGOW BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: Failure to obtain premises, which at first we were confident of booking, forced us to abandon attempts to hold our traditional Anniversary Dinner at Port Glasgow. Members held social evening in a local restaurant instead.

Club members later joined Gourock 'Jolly Beggars' at their Anniversary Dinner.

Other events: At our St. Andrew's Night celebration the speaker was our Vice-President, E. Stewart.

The annual bus outing took place to Girvan in June, 1973.
Various social evenings were held throughout the winter.

COLIN MCKENZIE,
Secretary.

192: AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BURNS CLUBS
The Association has had a very successful year. Meetings were held at the following Clubs: Symington, Kilmarnock Cronies, Irvine and Alloway Burns Club.

In conjunction with the Mauchline Club's 50th Anniversary, the Annual Church Service was held in Mauchline Parish Church where the Sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Glennie.

Primary pupils from adjacent school presented at Saltcoats an excellent concert of poetry, music and song. The Association sponsored this concert.

Mrs. Jean Anderson was present and laid wreaths at the Burns Statue, Ayr, in January and July. The Leglen Wood service was well supported by the members.

Prizes were provided to the Ayrshire Musical Festival, Kilmarnock Academy and St. Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock.

GEORGE VALLANCE,
Secretary.
197: WINNIPEG BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Dr. Glen Lowther.

Other events: Eight executive meetings; eight luncheon meetings at the St. Regis Hotel; one annual picnic at Siniwik Bay; and one church parade.

One trophy presented by our President, Mr. Alex. Cross, to the winner of the various pipe bands coming from far and near.

Two Life Time Certificates were given to two of our members for over 30 years' service in our Club: Mrs. Charlotte Ann Cameron, who has also been our President, and Mrs. Elizabeth Reid McGowan, who has passed away within the last month.

(MRS.) HELEN DRAYSON,
Secretary.

198: GOREBRIDGE BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the guest speaker was Mr. R. B. Reid, M.A.

A school Burns Supper was held in Gorebridge Primary School on 26th January, 1973. Two hundred children, officials and teachers were present.

A Burns Supper for men only was held in our Club premises on 24th March, 1973.

Other events: The Club organised an outing to Dumfries on 22nd May, 1973, for 140 children.

St. Andrew's Night function was held in our Club premises on 30th November, 1972.

RICHARD YOUNG,
Secretary.

209: GREENOCK ST. JOHN'S BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 18th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. James Griffin.

Other event: The Club gave its customary support to the Wylie Bowling Trophy Competition.

ROBERT MILLER,
Secretary.
217: ESKDALE BURNS CLUB


Mrs. Jean Dickson, who recently retired from the post of President after ten years, was presented with a suitably inscribed scroll and made a life member of the Club.

The President, Mr. Arthur Elliot, paid tribute to the late Mrs. Jane Pool, a Past President of the Club.

Other events: Monthly informal and informative discussions took place in February and March and were restarted in September, with guest speakers at each meeting.

(Mrs.) Sheena T. Elliot,
Secretary.

220: THE BURNS CLUB OF ST. LOUIS

Anniversary Dinner Reports: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Professor Robert T. Fitzhugh, a life-long Burns scholar and author of the recently published book, Robert Burns, the Man and the Poet.

In addition to our traditional ceremonies, toasts, and the music of our long-time piper, James Caffray, we were led in group singing of Burns's songs by Jay Willoughby, accompanied by Bill Aitken on the piano. Singing of Burns's songs has always been a highlight of our annual celebration.

Robert E. Burns,
Secretary.

226: DUMFRIES BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Rev. Harry Simmons.

Other events: On the morning of 25th January, 1973, the Club President, Mr. A. Campbell, laid a wreath at Burns Statue.

In the afternoon a short commemorative service was held at St. Michael's Church, attended by Provost Ernest Robertson, O.B.E., other civic dignitaries and members of the various Burns Clubs of Dumfries.

After the service the Club President presided at a short wreath-laying ceremony at the Mausoleum in the churchyard.

W. J. McJannet,
Secretary.
238: BURNS CLUB OF ATLANTA
Anniversary Dinner Report: At first, it appeared that our Dinner would have to be without haggis, as our usual source in Brooklyn, N.Y., had gone out of business. However, our Vice-President, Ben Cooper, a gourmet who cooks as a hobby, came to the rescue. He took a Hotel Edinburgh recipe and adapted it to available ingredients, with results that satisfied even the discriminating palates of our Scottish members.

We had the traditional toasts, with replies from prominent out-of-town members.

Burt A. Richardson,
Secretary.

239: HAWICK BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. David Steel, M.P.

Other events: Prizes were awarded to school Burns competition winners. Usual donations were made. At our local Common Riding festivities, the principals visited our Club and after an excellent evening, ‘The Cornet’ and ‘His Lass’ were each presented with Works of Burns plus a personal gift, to commemorate this event.

John Herbert,
Secretary.

252: ALLOWAY BURNS CLUB

Other events: October, 1972. A talk was given by W. H. Dunlop, C.A., Secretary, Burns Monument Trustees, on the work of the Trustees. This function was held in the Tea Room of Burns’s Cottage, by courtesy of Mr. W. H. Dunlop.

November, 1972. St. Andrew’s Night function, a talk was given by Mr. W. Bolton, Curator of Burns Cottage, Alloway.

February, 1973. The annual concert, given by pupils of Alloway Primary School, enabled the Club to donate the sum of £18·00 to the Scottish National Dictionary Association.

March, 1973. A film and slide show was given by our Senior Vice-President, Dr. B. N. P. Bannatyne.

The usual prizes were donated to the winners of the Burns competition in Alloway School.

June, 1973. A summer outing to Edinburgh, where we had the
pleasure of Mrs. Jane Burgoyne as our guide, to the many places associated with Robert Burns.

GEORGE A. BRYAN,
Secretary.

263: GLASGOW MASONIC BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Bro. David Burnett, P.M. 817.
Other events: The St. Andrew's Night address was given by Mr. Oliver Brown, M.A.
The Rev. John Johnston gave a talk on his work as a Prison Padre.
The Club wish to thank Bros. Geo. Anderson, P.P., and Archie McArthur, P.P., for all their work during the session.
The annual bus run took place to Edinburgh.
A Children's Verse Speaking Competition was also held during the season.

LESLIE S. McGREGOR, P.P.,
Hon. Secretary.

275: AYR BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. James K. Scobbie, O.B.E., M.A.
Other events: Our winter session opened with a talk on Allan Ramsay by Doctor Alex. Law of Edinburgh.
Members visited Dumfries in June for their summer outing.
Our St. Andrew's Night function was held in November, 1972, our President, Mr. Wm. Graham, M.A., giving the address.
ROBT. CUTHBERTSON,
Secretary.

284: PHILADELPHIA NORTH-EASTERN BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 22nd January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Vice-President Rev. John H. Leitch.
Other events: The N.E.B.C. now meets on the third Thursday of each month except July and August.

ALEX. MACDONALD,
Secretary.
293: NEW CRAIGHALL WELFARE POOSIE NANSIE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Pat Moonie, the local colliery manager.
Other events: Our Club donated seven prizes of the *Works of Robert Burns* to seven schools in the district.
Our Club suffered a grievous loss by the passing of Robert Porteous, our immediate Past President, who had been a member for many, many years.
Our annual bowling match with Niddrie Burns Club and Jewel Burns Club was held at the Jewel Bowling Green. Result: Jewel 4 pts., Burns 2 pts, Niddrie 0. Jewel Club acted as hosts.
Councillor David Brown, whom we elected as Hon. President, has now been honoured as the youngest bailie in the city of Edinburgh.

GEORGE FLOCKHART,
Secretary.

307: EDINBURGH AYRSHIRE ASSOCIATION
Other events: Various functions were held during the season.
An illustrated talk on 'Edinburgh' was given by Mr. G. Henderson Laing.
The summer outing took place to Glenisla.

G. HENDERSON LAING,
Secretary.

310: MAUCHLINE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mrs. Jane Burgoyne, who graciously accepted the position of Honorary President.
An appeal on behalf of Burns House Museum raised £30-52.
This function was our 50th annual celebration.
Other events: Monthly formal meetings have still attracted a good attendance, whilst numbers at informal meetings have substantially increased.

D. I. LYELL,
Secretary.
314: SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB (EDINBURGH)
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the President of the Club, Mr. M. McIntyre Hood.
Other events: On 9th June, 1973, 70 members and friends attended the annual outing to St. Mary’s Loch.
Monthly meetings are held from October to April.
We also held a Burns Quiz, when the opposing panel consisted of members of Edinburgh Ayrshire Association.
(Mrs.) JESSIE A. BRUCE,
Secretary.

323: KIRKCUDBRIGHT BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1972, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by John Watson, Esq., Ayr.
ADAM GRAY,
Secretary.

336: PETERHEAD BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Sir John R. Ritchie.
J. M. M. SMITH,
Secretary.

346: OAKBANK MOSSGIEL BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, our guest speaker was Mr. William Renwick, East Calder.
(Mrs.) E. G. WALKER,
Secretary.

349: HOWFF BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 22nd January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. James Milroy of Troon.
Other events: On 21st January, 1973, several members attended the annual Burns Church Service in Mauchline Old Church.
On 25th January, 1973, a wreath was laid on behalf of the Club by the Secretary at Burns Statue, Ayr.
On 4th July, 1973, the Howff was represented at the 150th anniversary of the Monument at Alloway.
On 22nd July, 1973, several members attended the wreath-laying at Ayr; a wreath was laid by our President. We also attended the service at Leglen Wood.

A copy of the *New Scots Reader* was awarded to the winner of the School Burns Competition in James Hamilton Academy.

(Mrs.) Enez Logan,
Secretary.

350: MARKINCH BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Robert Muirhead, a Past President of our own Club and our present Secretary.

Mr. John Reid, who has completed 50 years as a member of the Club, was also present. He has twice been President and also carried out the duties as Secretary for over 20 years. He is now Honorary President.

Other events: The School Burns Recitation Competition was again held and several prizes donated by the Markinch Burns Club. This has been an annual feature for many years and before the 1939/45 war took the form of Burns essays. The office-bearers of our Club go to the three local schools to adjudicate.

Archd. Mitchell,
Treasurer.

360: LOCHEE BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Rev. J. Gillan.

Other events: Members of the Club took part in 30 Burns Suppers and concerts at other clubs, and a group of members who are retired have formed a concert party and are in great demand all the year at all types of functions.

Members attended Burns Services at St. Andrews and St. Columba's Churches.

We have now acquired our own premises, the Lochee Passenger Station, which is listed as being of architectural importance. The building was designed by Sir James Gowans, one of Scotland's most famous architects, and we intend to preserve this beautiful building.

J. G. Watt,
Hon. Secretary.
366: LIVERPOOL BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, we were delighted to welcome Mr. C. C. Easton, President of the Burns Federation, as our guest speaker to propose the ‘Immortal Memory’.

Other events: The usual lectures and social evenings were held during the winter months, and rambles during the summer.

(Miss) MARGARET J. BROWNIE, Secretary.

370: DUNDONALD BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by our President, Clif. Botcherby.

Other events: The Archie Beaton Memorial Night raised the sum of £500. This is believed to be a record amount for an event held on one evening for Annual Mod Funds.

St. Andrew’s Night Dinner and our regular monthly meetings have once again been well supported.

A school competition was also held.

ROBERT KIRK, Secretary.

377: KILBIRNIE ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the President of the Club, W. J. Smith.

Other events: The usual functions, outings and talks were held during the season.

Club meetings take place on the first Wednesday of each month in Milton Hotel, Largs Road, Kilbirnie.

W. J. SMITH, Secretary.

378: EDINBURGH AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUBS ASSOCIATION

The annual verse and song competition, and a social evening and prize draw were held during the season.

G. HENDERSON LAING, Secretary.
393: ANNAN LADIES’ BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mrs. Irene Grant who was President of the Annan Ladies’ Burns Club in 1958.

Pipe-Major Walter Cowan piped in the haggis as he has done for 20 years.

Other events: A domino drive and also raffles were held in aid of the Dumfries Conference.

The summer drive took place to Kipford.

Seven social evenings were held and were well attended.

Mr. Oswald Gibbs was the speaker at our St. Andrew's Night function.

(Mrs.) MARY BLACK, 
Secretary.

401: BRIG-EN’ (WAVERLEY) BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Noel Lennox.

R. AGNEW, 
Secretary.

403: FRASERBURGH BURNS CLUB


Other events: The Club decided to present their copy of the *Scottish National Dictionary* to Glenrothes High School. All the high schools in the district already had a Dictionary and it was felt that we should make the gift to a high school in one of the ‘new towns’ so that full use may be made of this excellent production.

Mr. J. McBride, M.A., Rector of Glenrothes High School, acknowledged this ‘unexpected kindness’ and expressed his thanks to all members of the Club.

JAS. B. KAY, 
Secretary.

417: BURNLEY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mrs. Greta Greig, Dr. G. Gemmill and Dr. R. Calvert.

Other events: The usual functions took place.

(Mrs.) GRETA GREIG, 
Secretary.
426: SAUCHE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. David Walker, Fisherross.
Other events: Our Annual Supper was held on 20th October, 1972, and the Annual Dance on 11th November, 1972.
Interest in the Club's functions is being well maintained.

DAVID ROBERTSON,
Secretary.

436: WALNEY JOLLY BEGGARS' LADIES' BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mrs. Irene Broadbent.
Other events: A function was held to celebrate St. Andrew's Day.
In March a telephone and trolley was presented on behalf of the Club to the Risedale Maternity Hospital for use in the new day room.
A visit was paid to Edinburgh to see one of the old ladies whom we have befriended and who at present is staying in a Burns Home.
Our Anniversary Tea was held on 22nd February, 1973, and other social events took place.

(Mrs.) L. NICHOLSON,
Secretary.

437: DUMFRIES LADIES' BURNS CLUB NO. 1
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. C. E. Douglas, a Past President of Aberdeen Burns Club.
Other events: Monthly meetings and social evenings have been well attended.
We donated our usual prize to the Musical Festival.
We have also donated more Xmas gifts to our senior members.

(Mrs.) E. KIRKLAND,
Secretary.

439: BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY
Other events: A summer dance, ceilidh, St. Andrew's Dinner and Dance, New Year's day ceilidh and an end of season ceilidh all took place during the 1972/73 season.

CHARLES L. SUTHERLAND,
Secretary.
lotte Street, Stane, Shotts; Treasurer, Archd. Williams, Manse Road, Stane, Shotts. Special features of Club—Hold meetings of Club every month to discuss Poet's life and works, celebrate the Anniversary and Hallowe'en festivals, and to have a public lecture annually.

No. 183—LONDONDERRY Burns Club Caledonian Society. Federated 10th June, 1909. Place of meeting, Gowdie's Temperance Hotel. President, D. C. Hogg, Victoria Park; Vice-president, John Howatt, Great James Street; Secretary, Jas. C. Scrimgeour, 3 Sennyside Terrace. Committee—Thos. D. Graham and Alex. Wightman. Special feature of Club—A subscription and entry fee is made, whereby Scotchmen in poor and necessitous circumstances may be relieved.


No. 186—KILMARNOCK Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1909. Federated 1909. Place and date of meeting, Bridge Inn, Robertson Place, Kilmarnock, second Friday of each month. President, James Gilmour, 22 Arbuckle Street; Vice-president, David Burus, 9 Arbuckle Street; Secretary, Austen M. Turnbull, Sillerbitha, Wellington Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, John Smith. Committee—Arch. McGregor, Harry Fingland, Neil Craig, Wm. Strain, John McGregor. Special features of Club—Reading papers on Burns at the monthly meetings; celebrating the Poet's birth in January; and to do whatever lies in our power to uphold the name and works of Robert Burns.

organisations in the town.

We had our usual monthly meeting, followed by our St. Andrew’s Night function in November.

We visited the Borestone Club and had visits and inter-visits with Carron Bridge Cronies, Westerton Arms Burns Club and Boreston Burns Club.

The Club gave Burns books to the local school for reciting and singing.

The school ran a Burns Supper, the entire programme being done by the pupils.

A. Hunter,
Secretary.

470: Elgin St. Giles Burns Club

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the Club was honoured in having Mr. Chas. Easton, F.S.A., President of the Burns Federation, as principal guest, accompanied by Mrs. Easton.

After proposing the ‘Immortal Memory’, the President of the Club, Mr. J. D. Thompson, conferred Hon. Membership on Mr. Easton.

Louis G. Gowans,
Secretary.

472: Renfrewshire Association of Burns Clubs

The Annual Burns Essay Competition in schools produced 1,864 entries, an increase of 669 over the previous year.

The Wylie Bowling Trophy Competition was won by Fort Matilda Burns Club, which also won the prize for the highest-up rink.

Robert Miller,
Secretary.

476: Border Cities Burns Club

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the speaker was Mr. Ron Steel, reporter from the Windsor Star in Windsor.

Other events: Ladies’ night, also several mixed harmony dances.

P.P. John G. Saunders,
Secretary and Treasurer.
492: HARROW AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Rev. Jas. Currie, J.P., B.D.

Other events: A full syllabus included a Hallowe’en Family Party, a New Year Ball, St. Andrew’s Supper Dance and Annual Dinner.

The Harrow Festival of Scottish Dancing was inaugurated on 31st March, 1973. We are happy to be associated with this, hopefully, annual event.

G. F. MACFARLANE,
Secretary.

500: NEW CUMNOCK BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: At the Jubilee Supper on 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. C. McLatchie, immediate Past President.

A special toast in verse, sponsored by Mr. W. Connell, highlighted the activities of the Club over the years 1923-1973.

Three founder members, Mr. Jas. Hyslop (97 years), Mr. Wm. Black and Dr. Wm. Edgar, the first Club Secretary, were able to attend, and other invited guests included Mr. W. Paterson, County Convener of Ayr, and Mr. G. Vallance, Secretary of the Ayrshire Federation.

A Souvenir Jubilee Programme was printed and proved a most acceptable memento for members and a Jubilee Club tie, with a suitably designed motif, was specially struck for the occasion.

Other events: A dedication service, conducted by the Rev. D. C. MacPherson, was held on Sunday, 24th June, 1973, to mark the unveiling of the memorial cairn and plaque at the cairn site near the Laight Farm, Glen Afton.

The St. Andrew’s Night Dinner was held on 1st December, 1972. The annual smoker was held on 30th March, 1973.

W. C. G. PEARSON,
Secretary.

501: GALT BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rev. Findlay Stewart of Kitchener.

Other events: Ladies’ night, St. Andrew’s Night, Club’s annual picnic, a golden wedding anniversary celebration party for Mr. and Mrs. R. Ballingall, and entertaining visitors from the U.K.

H. O. MORRIS,
Secretary.
503: DUNBLANE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Charles Easton, President of the Federation.
Other events: St. Andrew's Night function.

T. W. Turnbull,
Secretary.

511: PERTH ROBERT BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Jim Lindsay. Members of various clubs attended, including Mr. Alan Stewart, Chief of the Scottish Union.
Other events: Visits to various Scots Clubs, a picnic to Kings Park, and 'Reunion' Social on 7th August, 1973.

(Mrs.) J. Russell,
Secretary.

516: AIRTS BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. David S. Allan, the Rector of Preston Lodge High School.
Other events: Monthly dances throughout the year.
A Burns Concert during the Prestonpans Civic Week.
A bus drive also took place to East Lothian and Berwickshire.

Walter M. Muir,
Secretary.

530: SOUTHERN SCOTTISH COUNTIES BURNS ASSOCIATION
The Commemorative Service was held in St. Michael's Church on 25th January, 1973. Provost E. Robertson, J.P., O.B.E., and representatives from Burns Clubs were in attendance.
The wreath-laying ceremony at the Mausoleum followed thereafter.
Twenty-one schools and 2,082 pupils took part in the Scottish Literature Competition and 49 prizes were donated.
Quarterly meetings were held in March at Sanquhar, and Langholm in May.
Representatives attended the celebration ceremonies at Alloway in connection with the 150th anniversary of the Burns Monument.

(Mrs.) Mary Shearer,
Secretary.
553: WOLVERHAMPTON AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY  
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. W. J. Wood from Worcester.
Other events: A barn dance, Hallowe'en party, St. Andrew's Dance, Hogmanay dance and other functions.
£50 was donated to local charities.
A. S. Neilson, 
Secretary.

556: CALEDONIAN SOCIETY OF DONCASTER  
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. John Kirk, a Past President, and Past President of the Mansefield Society.
Other events: The Society meets monthly with meetings of a social nature.
A team from the Society won the inter-Society Quiz Competition organised by the Yorkshire District of the Burns Federation.
G. D. Pratt,  
Secretary.

559: COVENTRY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY  
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Society's Secretary, Mr. A. M. McDowall.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Dinner Dance was held on 1st December, 1972. A raffle realised £42 for the Royal Caledonian Schools.
In addition to the monthly functions an Autumn Bazaar was held and raised £139 for Society Funds.
A. M. McDowall,  
Secretary.

566: THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY AND BURNS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA  
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, our guest of honour was the Lieut./Governor of New South Wales, Sir Leslie Heron, K.B.E., C.M.G., who replied to the toast, 'The Land of our Adoption'.
Rev. Neil Macleod of St. Giles' Presbyterian Church, Hurstville, now Moderator of the Church in Australia, gave the Oration.
A selection of songs by Burns were sung by leading Australian artistes.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

Our President, Mr. Charles Murray, was Chairman, and Mr. Archie Ferguson acted as compere.

Other events: Monthly evenings are very greatly patronised by our members and their friends. All programmes are of a highly Scottish ‘flavour’.

(Miss) GRACE C. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

572: CHESTER CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 3rd February, 1973, the principal toast was proposed by Mr. Bert Simpson, M.R.C.V.S., B.V.S.M., Chieftain of Wrekin Caledonian Society, and sometime of Carlisle.

The Dinner was attended by Alderman Norman Ribbech, Mayor of Chester, who is the first member of Chester Caledonian Association, and indeed the first Scot to hold this office.

Other events: A ceilidh, at which most of the entertainment was provided by our own members, was held.

The Association, with other local Scots Societies, joined in a special St. Andrew’s Day Service at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian (United Reformed) Church and a Dinner and Ball in honour of St. Andrew’s Day was also held.

T. S. LEA, Secretary.

578: LANARKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BURNS CLUBS
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 10th February, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Dr. J. White, Wishaw.

T. N. PATERSON, Secretary.

580: CUMBRAE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by John Young, Esq., Burgh Chamberlain of Largs.

An appeal for the Jean Armour Houses and the *Scottish National Dictionary* resulted in a collection of £28.50.

Other events: Annual St. Andrew’s and Ladies’ Night Dance was held on 24th November, 1972.

James C. ALLAN, Secretary.
585: QUEEN’S PARK ‘CLARINDA’ BURNS CIRCLE

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Archie Macpherson of BBC Scotland.

Other events: Other well-attended functions were held during the year and a sum in excess of £100·00 was donated to the Jean Armour Houses at Mauchline.

Club members were successful in winning the McLennan Cup Competition, run each year by the Burns Bowling Association.

G. O. MARTIN, Secretary.

593: BARMILL JOLLY BEGGARS BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. George Dickie, Past President of Kilbiminie Rosebery Burns Club.

Other events: Our St. Andrew’s Night function was held on 24th November, 1972.

In addition the Club held four open nights, the speakers coming from various sources, including the Medical and the Police Associations.

The usual monthly committee meetings were also held.

B. C. BEARE, Secretary.

612: TORRANCE MASONIC SOCIAL AND BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by our Honorary President, the Rev. John M. Stewart, P.G.L. Chaplain.

On behalf of the Jean Armour Homes Building Fund Appeal the sum of £31 was realised and duly forwarded to Glasgow and District Burns Association.

Other events: On 27th November, 1972, at a St. Andrew’s Night function, the toast, ‘St. Andrew and Scotland,’ was ably proposed by Wm Graham, M.A., President of Ayr Burns Club.

Armistice Remembrance Day service was attended in Torrance Church by representatives of the Club.

Joint Divine Service with Glasgow Masonic Burns Club was held in Colston-Milton Church on 4th February, 1973.

During the past session two of our members have passed on in the persons of John Reid and Andrew Nisbet.

John Reid was a loyal member for many years and represented the Club on the Glasgow and District Burns Association Executive Committee.

FRED. C. JORDAN, P.P., Hon. Secretary.
626: MOFFAT AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 23rd January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. R. Shankland, Lochmaben.

Other events: Usual monthly meetings were held from October to April.

CHARLES J. YOUNG,
Secretary.

627: KINROSS JOLLY BEGGARS BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by M. Barclay Miller, M.A., Perth.

A generous collection was uplifted towards Federation expenses for the Dundee Conference.

We have to record with deep regret the passing of the following loyal members: Sheriff R. R. Kydd, Messrs. Wm. Nelson, P.P., A. T. Paterson, C. McDonald, G. Hart and G. Ness.

JOHN KIDD,
Secretary.

630: COALSNAUGHTON BURNS CLUB


A collection uplifted on behalf of the Jean Armour Burns Houses amounted to £20.

At a members’ wives Dinner on 6th February, 1973, Mrs. Jane Burgoyne, M.A., Past President and Hon. President of the Burns Federation, proposed the Toast to the ‘Immortal Memory’.

Other events: The children enjoyed their Hallowe’en party on 28th October, 1972, and also their annual outing this year to Kinross on 9th June, 1973.

On 22nd July, 1973, members and wives attended the wreath-laying at Ayr and also the service at Leglen Wood.

On the journey to Ayr a stop was made at Dunlop, where our party attended the forenoon service in Dunlop Parish Church.

During the year visitations between a number of Clubs took place.

Book prizes were awarded to winners of School Burns Competition. Books were also gifted to infant class.
After the Robert Burns Memorial Cairn at East Lodge, Harvies­toun, had been unveiled and dedicated on 26th August, 1973, the Club had the honour and pleasure of being host to some 50 guests to tea and refreshments within the Club-room.

ALEX. C. COOK, Secretary.

632: SYMINGTON BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Reports: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rev. I. U. Macdonald, Tarbolton.
A collection taken on behalf of the Burns Houses and Burns Memorial Homes amounted to £13·20.
Other events: Annual outing to St. Andrews.
St. Andrew’s Night function when Mrs. Jane Burgoyne was guest speaker.
We entertained senior citizens at our December meeting.
The Club was represented at the Burns Church Service at Mauch­line in January and in July at the wreath-laying ceremony at Ayr, a wreath being laid by the President. The Club was also represented at the Leglen Wood Service in July and at the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the Burns Monument at Alloway.
Prizes awarded to winners of School Burns Competition, whilst donations amounting to £31·00 were given to charities.
Mr. Tom Anderson, who resigned from being President after 19 years, was made an Hon. President of the Club in recognition of his services.
We record with deep regret the passing of two loyal members, Mr. Robert Wallace, who was so well known for his character studies at Burns functions, and Mr. J. E. Patterson, head teacher of the local school and member of the Club Committee, whose untimely and tragic death in a car accident was a great loss to the Club.

(MRS.) JEAN ANDERSON, Secretary.

646: CLEAR WINDING DEVON BURNS CLUB, ALVA

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. James Wilson of Tillicoultry.
Other events: Prizes were again donated to the local school.
Mr. J. Murray, Rector of Alva Academy, was the guest speaker at the St. Andrew’s Night function, and five other social evenings
were arranged at monthly intervals during the winter season.

An active interest was taken in the activities of the local Area Federation. A summer outing was held to Ayr from which point Mr. John Gray acted as courier in a conducted tour.

The Club was represented by over 30 members at the unveiling of the Burns Cairn at Harviestoun, near Dollar, on Sunday, 26th August, 1973.

The Club suffered a great loss in May by the tragic passing of Mrs. Doreen Gillis in her 53rd year. A native of Workington, Doreen served the Club faithfully in the office of Secretary from 1967-71. During the 1967-68 season her husband Bob served as President so that not only did the Club have a husband and wife team for the first time but an English one at that.

Doreen was buried in Alva and a most impressive gathering of mourners led by Provost McCash met to pay their last respects.

(Mrs.) ANNA LAW,
Secretary.

648 CARRON BRIDGE CRONIES CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rev. Jack Robertson of Paisley.

Other events: In October, 1973, the Carron Bridge Cronies Burns Club invited the members of the Denny Cross Burns Club to an evening function. Twelve members of the Denny Club attended.

In November, 1973, the Carron Bridge Cronies Burns Club were invited to an evening with the Denny Cross Burns Club.

One of the company of the Cross Club that evening, who accompanied the singers, Mr. Tom Bryson, has since passed away. His passing will be regretted by all Burns lovers in the district.

On Sunday, 26th August, 1973, the President and members attended the dedication of the Cairn at East Lodge, Harviestoun Castle.

LAURENCE F. SHERRY,
Hon. Secretary.

657: FALLIN GOTHENBURG BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. J. Burt.

An addition to our programme was the rendering of ‘Holy Willie’s Prayer’ by Mr. J. Hogan.

Other events: Members of Coalsnaughton Burns Club paid us a visit on 30th March, 1973.
A social evening for members and friends was held on 1st June, 1973.
A ladies’ night function took place on 16th May, 1973.

J. Milroy,
Secretary.

659: DUNDEE BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 22nd January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Rev. Tom Milroy, Monifieth.
Other events: The Annual Burns Church Service took place in St. Andrew’s Church and was conducted by Rev. Thos. R. S. Campbell, B.D.
The annual outing took place to Dunfermline.

Jas. N. Robb,
Secretary.

660: LANGHOLM LADIES’ BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Andrew Duncanson, Gretna.
Other events: On 26th October, 1972 the Club celebrated its Silver Jubilee Dinner. The toast of the Club was proposed by Mr. W. George McKerrow, J.P.
The company was entertained with songs and a humorous sketch performed by members of the Club. A vote of thanks was proposed by Provost J. Grieve.
At the St. Andrew’s Night meeting the speaker was Mr. J. Roger Blamire, B.Sc., A.R.I.C., Rector of Langholm Academy.
On 3rd May, 1973, a coffee evening and sale was held in aid of Federation Conference Funds.
The function was opened by Provost J. Grieve, J.P., and also present were Mr. H. Cunningham, President of the Southern Scottish Counties’ Burns Association; Mr. D. S. Brockbank, Treasurer of the Conference Fund; Mr. A. W. Finlayson, Assistant Schools Convener; Mrs. M. Shearer, Secretary of the Conference Committee, and 40 members of the Dumfries Ladies’ Burns Club.
On Saturday, 26th May, 1973, the Annual General Meeting of the Southern Scottish Counties’ Burns Association was held in Langholm on the invitation of the Club.

(Mrs.) Margaret A. Brown,
Secretary.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

681: CRONIEs BURNS CLUB, KILMARNOCK
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Andrew Charters. £17 was collected for the National Memorial Homes, Mauchline.

Other events: St. Andrew’s Night supper was addressed by Mr. J. Douglas Cairns, M.A., F.E.I.S.
Outings were held to Kirkcudbright, Brow Well and Ruthwell Church, the Burns Ride, 150th Anniversary of the opening of the Burns Monument, Alloway, Leglen Woods, and the Commemorative Service in Mauchline, and were all well attended by Club members.

ANNE MELROSE,
Secretary.

683: STRATFORD-UPON-AVON CALEDONIAN SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Professor Robb of Birmingham University.

Other events: The President’s Evening was held in September, 1972, and various other traditional functions took place during the year.

(Mrs.) A. K. SINTON,
Secretary.

695: KILMARNOCK BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Jim Archiebald of Alexandria.

Other events: St. Andrew’s Night Dinner was held on 24th November, 1972, and a members’ night on 30th March, 1973.

(Miss) MAY CALDWELL,
Secretary.

696: WHITLEY BAY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW

Other events: At St. Andrew’s Ball the guest speaker was the Rev. James Currie, J.P., M.A., B.D., of Dunlop, Ayrshire.

(Miss) J. H. COLVILLE,
Secretary.
699: CHOPPINGTON BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by our Club Chairman, Mr. Jack Marshall.
Other events: Traditional functions were held throughout the season, and a ladies' night dinner dance took place on 3rd March, 1973.

J. E. GODDEN,
Secretary.

701: THE DETROIT BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by President Hugh Ringland.
Other events: In the past year, two of our members have gone to the 'Land of the Leal': Past President Thomas Hogg and member Alexander Stronach.
On 25th January, 1973, the Club placed a wreath at the Burns Statue in Detroit, and after the brief ceremony, those present went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith of Dearborn, Mich., for lunch and refreshments.
On 4th May, 1973, the Detroit Burns Club was host to the Border Cities Club of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

SAMUEL R. DICKEY,
Secretary.

718: THE ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF YORK
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Rev. Edward T. Hewett, M.A., Clerk to the Presbytery of Kilmarnock.

J. ROBERTSON,
Secretary.

720: RETFORD DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 24th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. G. Irvine, B.Sc.
Other events: President's Reception was held in September.
Hallowe'en Children's party.
A haggis supper was held on St. Andrew's Night.
Monthly social evenings and a joint evening with the Welsh Society took place during the session.

D. I. WALKER,
Secretary.
721: PLYMOUTH BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: At our 25th Anniversary Dinner, Interim President, R. Glenne Mitchell, proposed the ‘Immortal Memory’.
Cheques were donated to local charities.
Other events: Plymouth Burns Club was well represented at the Conference in Aberdeen.
A Lassies’ Night was held as usual.
A few of our members have passed away this year and are greatly missed.
Regrettably Mrs. C. R. Baxter decided to resign after many years of loyal service to the Club.
M. JOHNSTON,
Secretary.

723: STRATHPEFFER BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rector of Dingwall Academy, Alex. Ferguson, M.A.
WM. S. FAIRHOLM, M.B.E.,
Secretary.

725: BEN CLEUGH BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by the Rev. H. O. Wallace.
Other events: Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perthshire Federated Burns Clubs have had a Burns Memorial Cairn erected at Harviestoun Castle, by Dollar.
On 26th August, 1973, this cairn was dedicated by the Rev. James Currie, of Dunlop, Ayrshire.
G. LEATHARD,
Secretary.

726: MELBOURNE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Dan Stevenson, and the haggis addressed by Mr. Gordon Low.
The visitors included Mr. A. McKinna, President of the Victorian Scottish Union, and Mrs. McKinna, and Mr. and Mrs. J. McAulay, formerly of Paisley, Scotland.
Other events: A service was held in January, 1973, at the Burns Statue, where wreaths were laid by the President and Secretary.
A picnic was held at National Park during the season.
(Mrs.) STELLA M. BROWN,
Secretary.
728: TARBOLTON BACHELORS’ CLUB COMMITTEE
Anniversary Dinner Report: In the Bachelors’ Club on 25th January, 1973, 32 specially invited guests took part. The Chairman was Major John Weir, D.S.O., J.P., M.A., F.E.I.S., President of the Committee. Among the principal speakers were Mr. J. C. Stormonth-Darling, C.B.E., M.C., W.S., Director of the National Trust; Sir James Fergusson, Bt., Lord Lieutenant of the County; and Mr. Lester Berley, Director of the Scottish Tourist Board.
Mr. Sam Hay, Curator of the Bachelors’ Club, proposed the ‘Immortal Memory’.

CHARLES H. GARVEN,
Secretary.

743: THE ROMFORD SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 24th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Ronald Paterson, then President Elect of the London Burns Club.
Other events: President’s Reception, Auld Year Dance and ceilidhs.

GEORGE BURNETT,
Secretary.

744: DURHAM AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. William Graham, M.A., President of Ayr Burns Club.
Other events: St. Andrew’s Dinner Dance, and a Scottish Country Dance.
Ceilidh evening with Sunderland Clubs.
Social meeting with Welsh Society in Durham.

J. STEWART TAIT,
Secretary.

745: NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM CALEDONIAN SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Pat Watters, Chief Officer, Newcastle and Gateshead Fire Service.
Other events: President’s Reception, St. Andrew’s Dinner and Ball, Hogmanay, Dance, Spring Ball and monthly social evenings.
Bus outing to York and golf outing to Embleton.

A. M. FROOD,
Secretary.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

748: OUPLAYMOIR BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 2nd February, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Very Rev. Andrew Herron, B.D., LL.B.

Other events: The Club also donated prizes to the Uplawmoor School for the annual Burns Competition.

The Eric McQueen Memorial Special Prize was won by Miss Gillian Robertson, 10½ years.

A. A. Geddes,
Secretary.

754: THORNTON CLEVELEYS AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Tom Campbell, a native of Ayr and President of the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of Scottish Societies.

Mr. Campbell stepped into the breach at a few hours' notice, our speaker being prevented from travelling owing to wintry conditions.

Other events: A joint ceilidh, organised by the Scottish Societies on the Fylde Coast, was held on 16th March, 1973, to raise funds for the Highland Games in Blackpool in June.

A. A. Geddes,
Secretary.

766: GLENCOE AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Malcolm MacGregor, Oban.

Peter MacLeod,
President.

768: AUCHTERDERRAN JOLLY BEGGARS BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. John Burke, a member of the Club.

Other events: Hallowe'en supper held 28th October, 1972.

We donated book prizes and Federation certificates to the pupils of Auchterderran Secondary School.

Jas. Penman,
Secretary.
784: KELSO BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: At our Centenary Supper on 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. John P. Mackintosh, M.P. for Berwickshire and East Lothian.

Other events: At a short business meeting held on 26th January, 1973, prior to the Supper, the company observed a silent tribute in memory of Mr. John Pennie, member and office-bearer for over 50 years.

John M. Stenhouse,
Secretary.

796: GATESHEAD AND DISTRICT ST. ANDREW’S SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: Our Anniversary Dinner this year was less formal than usual. There was a very short speech to the ‘Immortal Memory’. The whole company then enjoyed dancing themselves to the music supplied by two Highland pipers, as well as watching displays of Scottish Dancing by a local dance school, and listening to Scottish songs sung by Miss Jane Welsh, a local school teacher.

This experiment attracted a much greater number of people than the Dinners which we have previously arranged, and we have decided to repeat this new form in 1974.

Other events: A coffee evening was held in June, 1973.

C. Hawke,
Secretary.

803: BOWHILL PEOPLE’S BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. James Arthur, M.A., B.Sc., Headmaster, Woodmill High School, Dunfermline.

Other events: Annual opening social, annual dance and draw, and closing social.

Also children’s competitions at the four schools in the village, Auchterderran Junior High, Cardenden Primary, Denend Primary and St. Ninian’s R.C. schools. There were 123 competitors and Burns Books prizes were given.

The Club party had its busiest year when they put on four concerts at Station Hotel, Kirkcaldy, Bowhill Miners’ Institute, Lochgelly Women’s Circle and St. John’s Church, Kirkcaldy.

The Club also put on the whole show at the following Burns
Suppers: Lumphinnans Social Club, Sinclairtown Railway Club, Kirkcaldy Links Old Folks, Kirkcaldy Travel Club, Dysart O.A.P., Markinch Masonic. Speakers were also sent to various organisations.

JAMES EWAN, 
Secretary.

809: ALLANTON JOLLY BEGGARS
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Alexander Torrance, who has since become a member of our Club.

Other events: We entertained members of a sister club, Stonehouse 'A The Airts' on 21st October, 1972.

On 28th March, 1973, our Club held its annual Schools Burns Competition for singing and elocution. Pupils from three local primary schools competed. The Neilson Trophy was won by Newmains Primary School.

(Mrs.) ELIZ. TRAIN, 
Secretary.

810: THE THIRTY-SEVEN BURNS CLUB, SHOTTTS
Anniversary Dinner Reports: On 27th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. James Davidson-Hamilton, a great grandson of Souter Johnnie.

Other events: On 13th April, 1973, a dinner-dance to honour the President, when tributes were made to the President, Mr. James Archibald Henderson, for the eminent service rendered over eleven years. A gold watch, suitably inscribed, and a wallet of notes were presented by William Russell on behalf of the Club and friends. Also a portrait in oils by Arthur Nicol.

TOM D. CAMPBELL, 
Secretary and Treasurer.

811: LOGANGATE BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. John Rowan, Catrine Burns Club.

Other events: St. Andrew's Dinner on 1st December, 1972.

Monthly meetings were held from September, 1972, to May, 1973.

The annual outing to the Scott Country was held in June.

WALTER HALL, 
Secretary.
821: AYR MASONIC BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Brother Alec. Blackwood, a Past Master of Lodge Coyla, St. Andrew’s, No. 1334.

Crony R. Graves was presented with a gift in appreciation of his service to the Club as President for the past two years, and for providing the wreaths for the wreath-laying ceremonies at the Statue.

Other events: The Club joined with other clubs at the Burns Statue on 25th January, 1973, when our President, Cr. W. Smith, Junior, placed a wreath.

The ladies’ night was held on 20th April, 1973, with a visit to the theatre followed by dinner and a social evening.

On 22nd July, 1973, we took part in the wreath-laying ceremony at the Burns Statue, Ayr, and the annual service at Leglen Wood.

We were also represented at the 150th Anniversary of the official opening of Burns Monument, Alloway, on Wednesday, 4th July, 1973.

Chas. P. Stroyan,
Secretary.

822: MANSFIELD DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by D. Boyd, Esq., B.D.S.

Other events: St. Andrew’s Dinner-Dance, and traditional functions.

J. Edgar,
Secretary.

825: ‘CLARINDA’ EDINBURGH LADIES’ BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 27th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Dr. A. H. Duncan, Medical Superintendent, Bangour Hospital.

Greetings were received from Her Majesty The Queen Mother, and Professor Feldman, The Moscow Burns Club.

Other events: Our annual outing on 27th May, 1973, went to Killicrankie.

We also had a mystery drive on 18th July, 1973, which ended at Lauderdale Arms Hotel, Lauder.

(Mrs.) B. Hutton,
Secretary.
839: COLDSTREAM BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Chief Superintendent Andrew Charters, Q.P.M., Ayrshire Police (Retired), Past President of Ayr Burns Club.

Other events: A 'Nicht Wi' Burns Wi' the Women Folk' was held on 16th February, 1973.

The address on Burns was delivered by the Right Worshipful The Mayor of Durham City, Charles J. B. Mitchell.

If any Club or members of the Federation have the following numbers of the Burns Chronicle, I would be pleased to buy them on behalf of our Club:—

No. 1, 1952; No. 2, 1953; No. 3, 1954; No. 4, 1955; No. 5, 1956 (paper backs only).

WM. JACKSON,  
Secretary.

845: TAM O' SHANTER BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 23rd January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. E. Martin from Valleyfield, Fife.

On 1st February, 1973, the 'Jolly Beggars Section' held their Anniversary Dinner in the Club.

Mr. George Leitch proposed the toast to the 'Immortal Memory'. Mr. Alex. C. Cook from Coalsnaughton Burns Club was the principal guest.

Other events: Two parties from the Club travelled to North America during the annual holidays. One party went to America and the other to Canada.

Various other functions were held during the year.

JAMES McCAW,  
Secretary.

862: MARKET RASEN SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. J. Borthwick of Cherry Willingham, Lincoln.

Other events: A donation of £30 was made to the Jean Armour Burns Houses and one of £28 to the Cheshire Homes.

JOHN A. BELL,  
Secretary.
866: HEANOR AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. James Inglis, a member of the Executive Committee of the Burns Federation.

Other events: The President’s Reception, a children’s Hallowe’en party, St. Andrew’s Dinner/Dance, and a ‘Lassies’ Night’ marked a successful season.

M. SAVAGE, Secretary.

874: THE MASONIC CLUB BURNS CLUB, MELBOURNE
Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. Pat Duff, Deputy Chieftain.

The toast to the Lassies was proposed by Mr. James McAuley, O.B.E., late of Scotland, and a former Police Chief of Paisley.

The response was given by Mrs. L. McLetchie of Prestwick, Ayrshire.

Other events: A St. Andrew’s Dinner was also held, attended by close on 200.

A very interesting address to the Haggis was given by the Chieftain, Dan Stevenson, who gave some enlightening information about the length of time the haggis has been a popular dish in Scotland.

The compere for the St. Andrew’s and Burns Dinners was the Past Chieftain, Mr. Fred Lang.  

GEORGE E. DOIG, Hon. Secretary.

881: RUOELEY AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUB
Anniversary Dinner Report: The ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. J. Baillie.

The attendance of members and guests was a record for the Club.

Other events: Outing to Coventry on 14th April, 1972; children’s Xmas party, 9th December, 1972; and buffet and social evening, 28th April, 1973.

A presentation was made to the Hon. President of an Hon. President’s Badge and a book of Burns’s poems, purchased in Edinburgh on an Easter visit.


P. ARKELL, Secretary.
882: CANBERRA HIGHLAND SOCIETY AND BURNS CLUB


At the Dinner held afterwards the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by R. D. Ogilvie.

Other events: Functions were held on St. Andrew's Night, Hallowe'en night, and Hogmanay.

Many ceilidhs took place during the year.

The membership of the Club has increased by over 200 during the year.

A mini pipe band competition and Highland gathering held in March, 1973, proved a great success and we look forward to a full championship and gathering at Easter, 1975.

Many of our members have had the pleasure of returning to the Old Country during the year.

We all extend greetings to the Burns Federation.

K. F. SMITH,
Secretary.

887: GAINSBOROUGH AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY


The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Rev. Robin Napier.

Other events: The President's Reception was held as usual and to celebrate St. Andrew's Day a Haggis Supper and film show were held.

A St. Andrew's Day Service was organised in the United Reform Church.

The annual ceilidh was an outstanding success.

LEW W. REID,
Secretary.

889: STRATHCLYDE BONNIE JEAN BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mrs. Jane Burgoyne, M.A.

Other events: At the St. Andrew's Night celebration the Club President proposed the toast.

The summer outing took place to Kirkoswald.

Another outing was arranged in October to Abbotsford House in the Borders.

R. B. CLELLAND,
Secretary.
890: WOLLONGONG BURNS SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: 'On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. John Begg, a descendant of the Burns family.

Other events: Social evenings were held in May, July, September and November.

LACHLAN M. CHIRNSIDE,
Secretary.

892: AYRSHIRE METAL PRODUCTS BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 19th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Jack M. Ramsay, Past President of Irvine Burns Club.

Other events: St. Andrew's Night, 1972. The toast to 'Scotia' was proposed by Mr. J. S. Greig.

Along with the Burns Clubs of Irvine we attended wreath-laying ceremony at the Burns Statue on Irvine Moor.

We have to record with deep regret the passing of our first Honorary Member, Mr. Robert Wallace.

ROBERT CAMPBELL,
Secretary.

893: NORTH BAY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: The 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Ron Coyne, a native of Glasgow.

The traditional toasts and addresses were all given by native Scots.

Other events: The Club meets every month, except July and August, and attendances are very good.

A children's trip to Links Beach took place in July.

Traditional functions are held throughout the year.

Our Past Secretary, Mr. Wm. Casson, a native of Catrine, honours the Club with monthly readings of various poems by Burns.

THELMA RUTH STIRLING,
Secretary.

894: BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by the Reverend James Bruce-Hannah, a Past President of the Society.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

Other events: Our annual ‘Caledonian Ball’ was held on 17th November, 1972, and a buffet dance for members and friends on 23rd March, 1973.

St. Andrew’s Day was remembered by a service conducted by our Honorary Chaplain, the Reverend J. Bruce-Hannah, on 3rd December, 1972.

JOHN LIVINGSTON,
Secretary.

895: WESTERTON ARMS BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 22nd January, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. W. M. Boag.

Other events: At St. Andrew’s Night Dinner/Dance, a presentation was made to the retiring Secretary, J. Neill.
Social evening with Denny Cross Burns Club.
A social evening with Borestone Burns Club.
Club outing to Inversnaid, Loch Lomond.

W. JARDINE,
Secretary.

897: GLENBERVIE BURNS MEMORIALS ASSOCIATION

Anniversary Dinner Report: At our first Anniversary function, our President, Mr. C. C. Easton, who is also the Burns Federation President, proposed the ‘Immortal Memory’.

Other events: The Association continues to keep a watchful eye on Burns Memorials in the area, including the cairn at Clochnahill; plaque in Laurencekirk; and the family tombstones in Glenbervie Churchyard.

ROBERT H. WATSON,
Secretary.

900: IRVINE VALLEY BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 2nd February, 1973, the ‘Immortal Memory’ was proposed by Mr. John Pollock, B.Sc., F.E.I.S., Rector of Mainholm Academy, Ayr.

Other events: Monthly meetings were held from September to April, and a supper dance on 4th November, 1972.
3rd June, 1973. Annual outing to Edinburgh, where we were joined by Mrs. Jane Burgoyne, M.A., and Mr. R. A. B. McLaren, who kindly arranged and conducted visits to places with a Burnsian connection.

4th July, 1973. Several members represented the Club at the 150th Anniversary celebration of the opening of the Burns Monument at Alloway.

(Mrs.) HELEN P. R. McMILLAN,
Secretary.
902: NEWMARKET BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 16th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. A. M. Gowans of Dundee.

At the start of the evening the company observed one minute's silence in memory of Jackie Stewart, a member of the Club, who had died during the year and was well known for his rendering of 'Holy Willie's Prayer'.

Other events: The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on 29th November, 1972. The retiring officials were all unanimously re-elected.

JAMES KEMP,
Secretary.

906: AYRSHIRE CONSTABULARY RECREATION CLUB

Annual Dinner Report: At Symington, on 17th January, 1973 for the first time in many years, we had a police officer, Mr. Andrew Charters, proposing the toast to the 'Immortal Memory'.

The demand for tickets for this function is now such that the next venue will be Western House, Ayr.

Supt. DONALD IRVING,
Secretary.

908: 'BRITHERS BE' BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 30th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Felix Todd.

Other events: Our annual July outing was to Leglen Wood. Mr. Tom Lindsay laid the wreath at the Memorial at Ayr, and we thereafter toured the Burns Country.

ROY ROBB,
Secretary.

911: BORESTONE BOWLING BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 25th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. W. Barker, Tillicoultry.

An appeal on behalf of the Jean Armour Burns Houses, Mauchline, realised the sum of £8.55.

Other events: Appreciation is due to Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton Burns Club, Westerton Arms, Fallin 'Gothenburg' Club, and our 'twin' Club, Denny Cross Burns Club, for their fellowship throughout the year.

ROBERT HOGGAN,
Secretary.
BURNS CLUB NOTES

914: IPSWICH AND WEST MORETON CALEDONIAN SOCIETY AND BURNS CLUB

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 20th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. J. Johnstone.

Other events: A Bannockburn Dinner/Dance was held on 16th June, 1973.

A mini pipe band contest and fete was held on 2nd June, 1973, in conjunction with Ipswich Thistle Pipe Band and Ipswich and West Moreton Scottish Country Dancers.

This event added greatly to the funds of each Society.

(Mrs.) MARGARET COWE, Secretary.

919: ORANGE AND DISTRICT SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

Anniversary Dinner Report: On 26th January, 1973, the 'Immortal Memory' was proposed by Mr. Alex. Johnston of Sydney, who illustrated his talk by a series of colour slides of the 'Burns' Country'.

The haggis was piped in by Pipe Major Bill Durham, of Bathurst, formerly of Bowhill Colliery Pipe Band.


We meet on the fourth Friday in each month.

On 11th and 12th February, 1974, the Cities of Orange and Bathurst will stage a Highland Games Gathering at Blaney (midway between the two cities).

The total prize money allocated is 5,000-00 dollars, the first prize in the 'A' Grade Pipe Band Contest being 500-00 dollars.

The Gathering will take place over two days and on the second day we expect an attendance of more than 10,000 people.

In the three grades of bands, we expect to have 50 pipe bands competing.

R. J. DAVIDSON, Secretary

921: NORTHERN SCOTTISH COUNTIES ASSOCIATION OF BURNS CLUBS

We were formerly the 1972 Burns Federation Conference Reception Committee and have now formed the above Association. We were affiliated in June, 1973, and our business meeting will be held in May each year.

A social get-together of all clubs in the area took place on 24th October, 1973, in Aberdeen.

(Miss) ETHEL HALL, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.
LIST OF THE 322 BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES ON THE ROLL OF
(Corrected to 31st October, 1973)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Inst.</th>
<th>Fed.</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Kilmarnock Burns Club</td>
<td>1808</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Rev. Melville Schofield</td>
<td>A. Reid Hamilton, 84 John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock KA1 1BX</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>The Burns Club of London</td>
<td>1868</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>R. Paterson</td>
<td>A. C. Brown, 45 Cecil Park, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 5HJ</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Alexandria Burns Club</td>
<td>1884</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
<td>John Barton, Cedar Cottage, 126 Middleton Street, Alexandria, Dunbartonshire G83 0DQ</td>
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<td>Callander Burns Club</td>
<td>1877</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>A. R. Thompson</td>
<td>Archd. Whitehead, Woodvale, Lanrannoch, Callander</td>
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<td>Ercildoune Burns Club</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Alex V. Smail</td>
<td>John Rae, East Morriston, Earlston, Berwickshire TD4 6BA</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Thistle Burns Club</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Thomas Graham</td>
<td>James McAulay, 32 Busby Road, Carmunnock, Glasgow G76 9BN</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Royalty Burns Club</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Robert Thomson Greer</td>
<td>Henry W. G. Kerr, 57 Crookston Road, Glasgow G52 3QF</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dumbarton Burns Club</td>
<td>1859</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>James Huime</td>
<td>Thomas Wilson, 111 Brucehill Road, Dumbarton G82 4ER</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Chesterfield and District Caledonian Association</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>Miss I. Carmichael</td>
<td>Trevor Chappell, 26 Ashgate Avenue, Chesterfield</td>
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<td>Dundee Burns Club</td>
<td>1860</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>A. Glen</td>
<td>G. Curran, c/o Dundee Burns Club, 37 Union Street, Dundee</td>
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<td>Belfast Burns Association</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>Mrs. Tom Allan</td>
<td>Miss May White, 20a Cyprus Park, Belfast BF5 6EA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Inst.</td>
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<td>Members</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Airdrie Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1883</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Dan C. Russell, M.A., LL.B.</td>
<td>Matthew P. Kidd, 'Coorie Doon', Queen Victoria Street, Airdrie</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>1801</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>John S. Thomson</td>
<td>R. Smith McFarlan, 'Rostherne', Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire PA13 4DY</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Edinburgh Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1848</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>H. J. Hayhoe</td>
<td>Miss Helen M. Muir, 10 Blinkbonny Road, Edinburgh EH4 3HX</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Glasgow Haggis Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1872</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Robert Burns</td>
<td>David Watson, C.A., 147 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4SN</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Dalry (Ayrshire) Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Cameron Fullerton</td>
<td>Charles M. Cook, 47 Peden Avenue, Dalry Ayrshire KA24 4BD</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Rosebery Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Daniel Kilpatrick</td>
<td>Angus R. Peacock, J.P., 12 Endfield Avenue, Glasgow G12</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Dollar Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1887</td>
<td>1887</td>
<td>John Moodie</td>
<td>Alex. B. McIver, East Lodge, Harviestoun, Dollar FK14 7PY</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>1872</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td>John Fraser</td>
<td>Thomas C. Colthart, 39 Thorngrove Avenue, Aberdeen AB1 7XT</td>
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<td>Strathearn Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>John Duncan</td>
<td>Mrs. G. B. Lowe, 10 Millar Street, Crieff, Perthshire</td>
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<td>Cumnock Burns Club</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1887</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>David Tucker</td>
<td>K. H. McCall, 51 Richmond Terrace, Cumnock KA18 1DN</td>
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<td>1805</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Henry Herron</td>
<td>Clark Hunter, 'Holmdale', 27 Thornley Park Avenue, Paisley PA2 7SD</td>
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<td>Bridgeton Burns Club</td>
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<td>1870</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>William Aitkenhead</td>
<td>Peter Donaldson, 42 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6NU</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>1886</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Archibald Y. Paterson</td>
<td>Henry Robb, LL.B., 3 Pitt Terrace, Stirling</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name (and Burns Club)</td>
<td>Inst.</td>
<td>Fed.</td>
<td>Members</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>Derby Scottish Association and Burns Club</td>
<td>1890 1893</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>John D. MacFarlane</td>
<td>Robert Bryce, 14 Clifton Road, Allstree, Derby DE3 2PH</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Muirkirk Lapraik Burns Club</td>
<td>1893 1971</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>William Livingstone</td>
<td>R. Ramsay, 10 Shawknowe Avenue, Muirkirk KA18 3QB</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>Gourock Jolly Beggars Burns Club</td>
<td>1893 1893</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Robert Smith</td>
<td>Robert Smith, 105 Kirn Drive, Gourock PA19 1EG</td>
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<td>Cupar Burns Club</td>
<td>1884 1893</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Provost Andrew M. Scott</td>
<td>Robert W. McLeod, ‘Dunvegan’ Ashlar Park, Cupar, Fife</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>Sandyford (Glasgow) Burns Club</td>
<td>1893 1894</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>George F. Graham</td>
<td>W. J. W. Graham, 42 Renfield Street, Glasgow G2 1NE</td>
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<td>Dunedin Burns Club, inc.</td>
<td>1861 1894</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>J. K. McGrouther</td>
<td>J. D. McDonald, 8 McGeorge Avenue, Dunedin, New Zealand</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>Carlisle Burns Club</td>
<td>1889 1895</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Dr. J. Stewart Moffat</td>
<td>S. Sinclair, 3 Holme Close, Scotby, Carlisle CA4 8BN</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline</td>
<td>1888 1895</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Sir Claud Hagart Alexander of Ballochmyle, Bart.</td>
<td>John Findlay, 299 West George Street, Glasgow G2</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Brechin Burns Club</td>
<td>1894 1896</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Alex. L. Eggo</td>
<td>David Young, “Glenavon,” 19 Eastbank, Brechin</td>
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<td>Arbroath Burns Club</td>
<td>1888 1896</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>David Chapel, M.B.E.</td>
<td>R. Robertson, 10 Gallowden Rd., Arbroath, Angus</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Inst.</td>
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<td>Members</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>89</td>
<td>Sunderland Burns Club</td>
<td>1897</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>Malcolm McNair</td>
<td>W. K. Donnan, 5 Buxton Gardens, Sunderland, SR3 1LZ</td>
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<td>1881</td>
<td>1897</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>Mrs. H. Breen</td>
<td>Mrs. W. G. Diggle, 18 Gorses Mount, Daray Lever, Bolton, Lanes</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Jedburgh</td>
<td>1897</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>Richard Douglas</td>
<td>John Ker Paton, 2 Meadow Street, Jedburgh, Rox. TD8 6LR</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>Dumfries Burns Howff Club</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>William M. Farrell</td>
<td>D. Smith, 22 Cargenbridge, Troqueer, Dumfries DG2 8LW</td>
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<td>Greenloaning Burns Club</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Peter I. McIntosh</td>
<td>Norman Ure, 31 Roman Way, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 9DJ</td>
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<td>1820</td>
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<td>280</td>
<td>T. Johnstone</td>
<td>Lieut. Comdr. D. W. Wooller, R.N., 'Parkwood,' Hazelwood Road, Bristol, BS9 1PX</td>
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<td>124</td>
<td>The Ninety Burns Club</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Dr. J. R. Muir</td>
<td>J. C. McVittie, W.S., 4 North Charlotte St., Edinburgh, EH2 4HT</td>
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<td>126</td>
<td>Falkirk Burns Club</td>
<td>1866</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>John Liddell, F.C.I.S.</td>
<td>Alex. Bennie, c/o Festus Moffat &amp; Co., 138 High Street, Falkirk</td>
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<td>133</td>
<td>Newarthill Burns Club</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<td>R. Paton</td>
<td>Thomas Boslem, 82 Mosshall Street, Newarthill, Motherwell</td>
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<td>153</td>
<td>Scottish Burns Club</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>John C. McNicol</td>
<td>K. E. Fishe, 160 Hope St., Glasgow G2 2TJ</td>
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<td>Darlington Burns Association</td>
<td>1906</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>George Walker</td>
<td>T. W. Chater, 26 Langdale Road, Darlington, Co. Durham</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Inst.</td>
<td>Fed.</td>
<td>Members</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Birmingham and Midland Scottish Society</td>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>S. C. Mackay</td>
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<td>1907</td>
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<td>15 Clubs</td>
<td>James M. Deas</td>
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<td>172</td>
<td>Irvine Burns Club</td>
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<td>1826</td>
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<td>W. Wilson Muir</td>
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<td>Dailly Jolly Beggars Club</td>
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<td>1909</td>
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<td>Dr. R. McInroy</td>
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<td>Joseph Hill</td>
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<td>192</td>
<td>Ayrshire Association of Burns Clubs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1908</td>
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<td>27 Clubs</td>
<td>Samuel K. Gaw</td>
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<td>197</td>
<td>Winnipeg Burns Club</td>
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<td>1907</td>
<td>1911</td>
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<td>Alex. Cross</td>
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<td>Gorebridge Burns Club</td>
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<td>1906</td>
<td>1911</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>Archibald Lochrie</td>
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<td>199</td>
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<td>1892</td>
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<td>J. Stanley Cavaye</td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>1886</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Arthur N. Elliot</td>
<td>Mrs. Sheena Elliot, 5 Academy Place, Langholm, Dumfriesshire DG13 0BA</td>
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<td>220</td>
<td>Burns Club of St. Louis</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Stephen T. Kohlbry</td>
<td>Robert E. Burns, 619 West Polo Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63105, USA.</td>
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<td>Dumfries Burns Club</td>
<td>1820</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>A. Campbell</td>
<td>William I, McJannet, M.A., B.Com., 4 Albany Place, Nunholm Road, Dumfries DG1 1JN</td>
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<td>236</td>
<td>Whitehaven Burns Club</td>
<td>1914</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>Dr. A. S. Smith</td>
<td>G. Young, 9 Whalley Drive, Miagey, Whitehaven</td>
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<td>237</td>
<td>Uddingston Masonic Burns Club</td>
<td>1914</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Joseph Polson</td>
<td>Robert Paton, 91 Viewfield Road, Bellshill, Lanarkshire</td>
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<td>Burns Club of Atlanta</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Ian MacFarlane</td>
<td>Bruce A. Richardson, 203 Eric Ave., Decatur, Georgia 30030, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>Hawick Burns Club</td>
<td>1878</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>Martin Deal</td>
<td>John Herbert, Albert Bridge, Hawick TD9 88D</td>
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<td>Montrose Burns Club</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>R. M. Livingston</td>
<td>James F. Smeaton, 5 Whinfield Way, Montrose, Angus</td>
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<td>Alloway Burns Club</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>James Glass, M.A.</td>
<td>George A. Bryan, A.M.I.T.E., 20 Hawkhill Avenue, Ayr KA8 9JP</td>
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<td>1919</td>
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<td>140</td>
<td>John R. Munro</td>
<td>Leslie S. McGregor, 120 Moss Heights Avenue, Glasgow G52 2TZ</td>
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<td>Troon Burns Club</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>H. R. M. McCulloch</td>
<td>Robert C. Innes, 33 Donald Crescent, Troon, Ayrshire KA10 6PJ</td>
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<td>275</td>
<td>Ayr Burns Club</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>William Graham, M.A.</td>
<td>Robert Cuthbertson, 15 Carrick Avenue, Ayr KA7 2SN</td>
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<td>282</td>
<td>The Burns Bowling Assoc.</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>17 Clubs</td>
<td>John C. McNicol</td>
<td>John Melville, 24 Woodlands Road, Glasgow G3 6UR</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Inst.</td>
<td>Fed.</td>
<td>Members</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Alex. Macdonald</td>
<td>4203 E. Barnett Street, Philadelphia, P.A.,</td>
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<td>Newcraighall Welfare Poosie Burns Club</td>
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<td>Robert Hendry</td>
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<td>George Flockhart</td>
<td>173 Portobello High Street, Edinburgh EH15 1EU</td>
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<td>G. H. Henderson</td>
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<td>W. A. Reid</td>
<td>16 Harpur Road, Walsall, Staffs.</td>
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<td>Victoria St. Andrew’s and Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>1872</td>
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<td>344</td>
<td>W. James Kirk</td>
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<td>Miss M. MacPherson, Holyrood House, Victoria, B.C., Canada</td>
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<td>Mrs. J. Merson</td>
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<td>G. Henderson Laing, 50 Marrionville Dr., Edinburgh EH7 6BW</td>
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<td>H. S. Wallace</td>
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<td>D. I. Lyell, M.A., 9 East Park Avenue, Mauchline KA5 5BS</td>
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<td>Scottish Burns Club, Edinburgh</td>
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<td>1920</td>
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<td>M. McIntyre Hood</td>
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<td>Mrs. Jesse A. Bruce, 9 Victor Park Terr., Corstorphine, Edinburgh EH12 8BA</td>
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<td>James A. MacAdam, 31 Cardinal Avenue, Albany, N.Y., 12208, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Catherine Kennedy, ‘Kendale’, Shelley Close, Balderton, Newark, Notts.</td>
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<td>J. M. M. Smith, 13 Broad Street, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire AB4 6JA</td>
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<td>Mrs. E. Walker, 33 Calderhall Avenue, East Calder, Midlothian EH53 0DL</td>
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<td>Mrs. M. Rennie</td>
<td>Mrs. M. Easton, 65 Trossachs Road, Cathkin, Rutherglen</td>
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<td>Mrs. H. Shaw, 4 Hunter Street, Dykehead, Shotts, Lanarkshire ML7 4EE</td>
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<td>Mrs. M. McPhail</td>
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<td>Mrs. Mary Black, 18 Newington Road, Annan, Dumfriesshire</td>
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<td>J. J. D. Wallace, 51 Hailes Gardens, Colinton, Edinburgh EH13 0JH</td>
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<td>1876</td>
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<td>Dr. W. D. Balfour</td>
<td>R. Agnew, 5 Greystone Ave., Dumfries</td>
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<td>Charles M. Doig, 33 Kearny Street, San Francisco, California 94109, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>James Clegg and Miss K. M. Clegg, 541 Colme Road, Rudley, Burnley</td>
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<td>David S. Robertson, 31 Craigbank, Sauchie,</td>
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<td>James Moore</td>
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<td>Mrs. L. Nicholson</td>
<td>Mrs. R. Stutchbury, 1 Himalaya Avenue, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.</td>
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<td>Mrs. J. Henderson</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Kirkland, 17 Kirkowens Street, Dumfries DG1 3DR</td>
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<td>Dr. J. G. Robertson,</td>
<td>C. L. Sutherland, 'Woodleigh', Alverthorpe, Wakefield, Yorks WF2 0AD</td>
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<td>Mrs. Agnes McKay</td>
<td>Mrs. M. Ryles, 859 Cormorant Street, Victoria, B.C., Canada</td>
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<td>Very Rev. W. P. Shannon</td>
<td>W. A. Muir, 3 Orchard Close, Holmer, Hereford</td>
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<td>Lawrence K. Barker</td>
<td>W. Ingram, 10 Mortain Road, Moorgate, Rotherham S60 3BX</td>
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<td>W. R. Murray</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Thomson, 56c High Street, Stonehaven, Kincardinshire AB3 2JQ</td>
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<td>Russel Taylor</td>
<td>Mrs. J. M. Cutting, Glenmoray, 56 Dean Road West, Hinchley, Leics. LE10 1QB</td>
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<td>John Scott</td>
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<td>John V. Devlin</td>
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<td>Mrs. E. Black</td>
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<td>George A. Workman</td>
<td>George F. Macfarlane, 524 Rayners Lane, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 5DJ</td>
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<td>F. Paterson</td>
<td>John Addie, 1 Forridon Avenue, Newarthill, Motherwell</td>
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<td>Mrs. Elsie Gilmour</td>
<td>Mrs. Olive Napier, 47 Douglas Street, Viewpark, Uddingston, Glasgow</td>
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<td>J. Millar</td>
<td>A. R. McKenzie, Post Office Box C 172, Clarence Street Post Office, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia</td>
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<td>Hugh Cunningham</td>
<td>Mrs. Mary Shearer, 211 Lochside Road, Lochside, Dumfries DG2 0EH</td>
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<td>Dr. John Brown</td>
<td>R. B. Hamilton, 1 Acorn Avenue, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 5SN</td>
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<td>A. C. Christie</td>
<td>John G. Clark, 2 Litchfield Crescent, Woodford, Plympton, Plymouth PL7 4RE</td>
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<td>Rev. Angus W. Morrison, B.D.</td>
<td>William Rae, B.L., 58 George Street, Whithorn, Newton Stewart</td>
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<td>Mrs. A. V. Chamberlain</td>
<td>T. Ferguson, M.R.C.V.S., 203 Scalby Road, Scarborough YO12 6TE</td>
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<td>G. D. Pratt, 17 St. Christophers Crescent, Scawsby, Doncaster DN5 8NY</td>
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<td>566</td>
<td>Scottish Society and Burns Club of Australia</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>Charles Murray</td>
<td>Miss Grace C. Campbell, J.P., 'Colingra', 238 King Street, Mascot, 2020, N.S.W., Australia</td>
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<td>568</td>
<td>Darvel Burns Club</td>
<td>1938</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>J. Gilliland</td>
<td>James Hamilton, 18 Paterson Terrace, Darvel, Ayrshire</td>
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<td>571</td>
<td>The Edmonton Burns Club</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Jim Lefevre</td>
<td>R. D. Laurenson, 8944 116 Street, Edmonton Alberta, Canada</td>
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<td>575</td>
<td>Windsor (Ont.) Jean Armour Burns Club</td>
<td>1937</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Mrs. Marie Auld</td>
<td>Mrs. Bella Tough, 2437 Arthur Road, Sand, Windsor, 19, Ontario, Canada</td>
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<td>576</td>
<td>Fort Matilda Burns Club</td>
<td>1934</td>
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<td>Leslie Bacon</td>
<td>A. B. Hawkins, 9 Denholm Street, Greenock</td>
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<td>577</td>
<td>Dalserf and Clydesdale Burns Club</td>
<td>1939</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>William Tannahill</td>
<td>William Crawford, 69 Tinto Crescent, Wishaw</td>
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<td>578</td>
<td>Lanarkshire Assoc. of Burns Clubs</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>23 Clubs</td>
<td>J. Cowan</td>
<td>Thos. N. Paterson, 32 Etive Street, Pather Wishaw, Lanarkshire ML2 0NS</td>
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<td>580</td>
<td>Cumbrae Burns Club</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>James Crawford</td>
<td>Jas. C. Allan, Craigengour, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae</td>
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<td>581</td>
<td>Cumbernauld and Dist. Burns Club</td>
<td>1943</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>John Boyle</td>
<td>Thos. Stewart, 1 Carrick Road, Cumbernauld</td>
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<td>Members</td>
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<td>585</td>
<td>Queen's Park Bowling Club Clarinda Burns Circle</td>
<td>1930</td>
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<td>175</td>
<td>Robert B. Dunwoodie John G. Adams, 68 Curling Crescent, Glasgow G44 4QH</td>
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<td>Beawhat Burns Club</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>James Hill</td>
<td>John Gray, Merrick Avenue, Dalmellington</td>
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<td>593</td>
<td>Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>N. M. Henderson</td>
<td>B. C. Beare, 31 Crummock Street, Beith, Ayrshire KA15 2BD</td>
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<td>597</td>
<td>The Burns Society of the City of New York</td>
<td>1871</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>Leslie D. Taggart</td>
<td>Robert W. Morrison, 1869 Cider Mill Road, Union, N.J. 07083, U.S.A.</td>
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<td>606</td>
<td>Corby Stewarts &amp; Lloyds' Burns Club</td>
<td>1944</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>W. Montgomery, J.P. M. Sullivan, 4 Blackmoor Avenue, Corby, Northamptonshire</td>
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<td>612</td>
<td>Torrance Masonic Social and Burns Club</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Frank McAdam</td>
<td>Fred C. Jordan, West Balgochan, Torrance, Nr. Glasgow</td>
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<td>614</td>
<td>Bellshill Caledonian Burns Club</td>
<td>1969</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>William Mitchell</td>
<td>D. McKnight, 44 Belvidere Crescent, Bellshill, Lanarkshire</td>
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<td>617</td>
<td>Reading and Dist. Caledonian Association</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>R. C. Stuart Sturrock Mrs. Robina M. Hagnell, 58 Wokingham Road, Reading, Berks.</td>
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<td>Altrincham and Sale Caledonian Society</td>
<td>1945</td>
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<td>D. H. Watson</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Hewson, 330 Northenden Road, Sale, Cheshire</td>
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<td>626</td>
<td>Moffat and District Burns Club</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>T. Sweetman</td>
<td>Charles J. Young, 4 Eastgate, Moffat, Dumfriesshire DG10 9AA</td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>Kinross Jolly Beggars Burns Club</td>
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<td>Donald Campbell</td>
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<td>John Kidd, Little Aldie, Fossoway, Kinross KY13 7QT</td>
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<td>Sanquhar Black Joan Club</td>
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<td>T. A. Johnstone, High Street, Sanquhar, Dumfriesshire</td>
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<td>Alex. C. Cook, 4 School Terrace, Coalsnaughton, Tillicoultry FK13 6JX</td>
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<td>Rev. Alex. S. Sutherland</td>
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<td>Mrs. Jean Anderson, 36 Linfern Avenue East, Kilmarnock KA1 3LL</td>
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<td>Millheugh Burns Club</td>
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<td>John Perrie, 28 Westerton Ave., Strutherhill, Larkhall, Lanarkshire</td>
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<td>Robert Law</td>
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<td>Mrs. Anna Law, 65 Queen Street, Alva, Clackmannanshire FK12 5EJ</td>
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<td>Carron Bridge Cronies Burns Club</td>
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<td>1941</td>
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<td>Henry Graham Duncan</td>
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<td>Lawrence F. Sherry, 28 Grahamhill Ter., Fankerton by Denny, Stirlingshire</td>
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<td>John Young</td>
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<td>John Milroy, 28 Lamont Crescent, Fallin, Stirlingshire FK7 7EJ</td>
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<td>Mrs. Jessie W. Myles</td>
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<td>James N. Robb, 14 Burns Street, Downfield, Dundee DD3 0LA</td>
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<td>Langholm Ladies' Burns Club</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Mrs. T. M. S. Clark</td>
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<td>Mrs. Margaret A. Brown, 32 Thomas Telford Road, Langholm, Dumfriesshire DG13 0AP</td>
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<td>Leamington and Warwick Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>Dr. A. Urie</td>
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<td>Miss S. Henderson, 62 Clarendon Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire</td>
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<td>Jack Campbell</td>
<td>A. F. Shapley, 33 Lonsdale Road, Bournemouth</td>
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<td>Gartmorn Ladies’ Burns Club</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Mrs. C. Fudge</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Baxter, 94 Main Street, Sauchie, by Alloa, Clackmannanshire</td>
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<td>671</td>
<td>St. Andrew’s Cronies Burns Club</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>William Matews</td>
<td>John Hutchison, 48 Clark Drive, Irvine</td>
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<td>674</td>
<td>Manchester and Salford Caledonian Assoc.</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>A. Lawson</td>
<td>Mrs. F. S. Wenborn, 8 Firs Avenue, Firswood, Manchester M16 0EP</td>
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<td>679</td>
<td>Tullibody and Cambus Burns Club</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>S. Cherrie</td>
<td>Mrs. W. G. Stewart, 17 Park Terrace, Tullibody, Clackmannanshire FK102QA</td>
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<td>681</td>
<td>The Cronies Burns Club, Kilmarnock</td>
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<td>T. A. McMillan</td>
<td>Mrs. J. Melrose, 53 North Hamilton Street, Kilmarnock KA1 2QL</td>
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<td>688</td>
<td>Kirkcaldy Poosie Nansie Ladies’ Burns Club</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Mrs. A. Smith</td>
<td>Mrs. Isa Davidson, 6 Invertree Terrace, Kirkcaldy, Fife</td>
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<td>691</td>
<td>Inverness Burns Club</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>N. R. Y. Agnew, B.L.</td>
<td>D. F. MacDougall, “Belle Vue,” Stratherick Road, Inverness</td>
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<td>Masonic Burns Club, Kirkcudbright</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>Thos. A. Sproat</td>
<td>Andrew S. Ross, 4A Atkinson Place, Kirkcudbright</td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>Kilmaronock Burns Club (Dunbartonshire)</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>85</td>
<td>Dr. John Galloway</td>
<td>Miss May Caldwell, Mid Gartocham Farm, By Alexandria, Dunbartonshire S83 8NG</td>
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<td>696</td>
<td>Whitley Bay and Dist. Society of St. Andrew</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>J. E. B. Gordon</td>
<td>Miss Jessie H. Colville, 60 Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland, NE26 1DX</td>
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<td>698</td>
<td>Turriff Burns Club</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>G. Morrison</td>
<td>L. G. A. Ruxton, Dundrennan, St. Andrew's Drive, Turriff AB2 7DR</td>
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<td>Choppington Burns Club</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Campbell Keenlyside</td>
<td>John E. Godden, 91 East Green, Choppington, Northumberland</td>
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<td>701</td>
<td>The Detroit Burns Club</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Hugh Ringland</td>
<td>Sam R. Dickey, 4700 Curtis Ave., Dearborn, Michigan, U.S.A. 48126</td>
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<td>707</td>
<td>Malvern Scots Club</td>
<td>1945</td>
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<td>J. B. Arthur</td>
<td>Miss Penny Holland, 17 Mason Close, Malvern, Worcs.</td>
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<td>Burns Society of Toronto</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>Robert W. McVey</td>
<td>Jock Anderson, 17 Lamont Avenue, Weston, Ontario, Canada</td>
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<td>711</td>
<td>The Victorian Scottish Union</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td></td>
<td>A. J. Erskine</td>
<td>F. R. Stewart, 46 Donald Street, Footscray, Victoria, Australia</td>
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<td>716</td>
<td>Royal Caledonian Society of Melbourne</td>
<td>1856</td>
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<td>E. McPhee</td>
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<td>718</td>
<td>The St. Andrew Society of York</td>
<td>1894</td>
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<td>259</td>
<td>A. C. Hounam</td>
<td>J. Robertson, 4 Hunters Close, Dunnington, York YO1</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Fed.</td>
<td>Members</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Chelmsford and Dist. Scottish Society - -</td>
<td>1934</td>
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<td>I. M. Gillespie</td>
<td>D. A. Hodge, The Sheiling, White Hart Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford, CM1 5TD</td>
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<td>722</td>
<td>Bridlington and District Caledonian Society - -</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>George Main</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Penrose, 201 Sewerby Road, Bridlington, East Yorkshire Y016 5DD</td>
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<td>Ben Cleuch Burns Club - -</td>
<td>1936</td>
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<td>D. Y. Liddle</td>
<td>George Leathard, 19 St. Serf’s Road, Tillicoultry FK13 6QH</td>
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<td>Melbourne Burns Club - -</td>
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<td>Steve Rouse</td>
<td>Mrs. Stella M. Brown, 10 Elgar Road, Burwood, Victoria, 3125, Australia</td>
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<td>The St. Andrew Society of Denmark - -</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>283</td>
<td>Alex Miller</td>
<td>Mr. Per Bergenholz, 16 Radhuspladsen, 1550 Copenhagen V, Denmark</td>
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<td>Fed.</td>
<td>Members</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Thorntree Mystic Burns Club</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Wm. Cockburn</td>
<td>W. Muir, 101 High Street, Prestonpans, East Lothian</td>
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<td>Plean Burns Club</td>
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<td>1952</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>J. Keirs</td>
<td>D. Ferguson, 22 Wallace Crescent, Plean, Stirling</td>
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<td>The Romford Scottish Assoc.</td>
<td>1931</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>S. G. Carter</td>
<td>George Burnett, 2b Vaughan Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex</td>
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<td>744</td>
<td>Durham and Dist. Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>Dr. M. W. Clark</td>
<td>J. Stewart Tait, 66 Grange Road, Belmont, Durham DH1 1AL</td>
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<td>745</td>
<td>Northumberland and Durham Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>1924</td>
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<td>A. MacGillivray</td>
<td>A. M. Frood, 16 Berkeley Square, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne NE3 2JB</td>
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<td>Grimsby and Dist. Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>1906</td>
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<td>Mrs. Dyte</td>
<td>Miss M. J. Sutherland, Back 50 Patick Street, Grimsby</td>
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<td>Ouplaymuir Burns Club</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>William Frew</td>
<td>A. Scouse, 10 Pollock Avenue, Uplawmoor, Glasgow G78</td>
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<td>751</td>
<td>Worcester Scots Society</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>D. C. Skinner</td>
<td>Mrs. Davena W. Tanner, 15 Silverdale Avenue, Worcester WR5 1PY</td>
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<td>Westmorland St. Andrew Soc.</td>
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<td>1938</td>
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<td>V. W. N. Forrest</td>
<td>W. W. Blunt, 82 Greenside, Kendal, Westmorland</td>
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<td>Thornton Cleveleys and Dist. Scottish Society</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>J. Wilson</td>
<td>A. A. Geddes, 50 Westmorland Avenue, Cleveleys, Blackpool, FY5 2LX</td>
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<td>759</td>
<td>Sunderland and District Caledonian Society</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>H. J. Lyons</td>
<td>Mrs. L. A. Nicol, 49 Hipsburn Drive, Sunderland, Co. Durham SR3 1TY</td>
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<td>Inst.</td>
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<td>Kirkton Bonnie Jean Burns Club, Carluke</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Andrew Young, M.A.</td>
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<td>Wakefield Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>H. Cummine</td>
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<td>Glencoe and Dist. Burns Club</td>
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<td>Peter McLeod, J.P.</td>
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<td>1912</td>
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<td>Cumnock Cronies Burns Club</td>
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<td>Harlow and Dist. Cal. Soc.</td>
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<td>Bowhill People's Burns Club</td>
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<td>1940</td>
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<td>James G. Gillies</td>
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<td>James A. Henderson</td>
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<td>St. Andrew's Soc. of Bradford</td>
<td>1886</td>
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<td>A. J. Adams, B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.</td>
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<td>1892</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Alexander McNeil</td>
<td>George Murdoch, 64 Briarburn Road, MacMerry, East Lothian EH33 1PT</td>
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<td>818</td>
<td>Dalbeattie &amp; Dist. Burns Club</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<td>James Campbell</td>
<td>Ewan C. Mair, Briardale, Haugh Road, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire</td>
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<td>Ayr Masonic Burns Club</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>William Smith, Jnr.</td>
<td>Chas. P. Stroyan, 50 Bentfield Dr., Prestwick KA9 1TT</td>
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<td>Stirling, Clackmannan and West Perthshire Assoc. of Fed. Clubs</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>John O. Stewart</td>
<td>Mrs. W. G. Stewart, 17 Park Terrace, Tullibody FK10 2QA</td>
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<td>825</td>
<td>The &quot;Clarinda&quot; Ladies Burns Club, Edinburgh</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>Mrs. D. P. Baird</td>
<td>Mrs. B. Hutton, 13 Vandeleur Avenue, Edinburgh EH7 6UH</td>
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<td>Lochgoilhead Burns Club</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>Robert Armstrong</td>
<td>J. Gray, 6 Viewfield, Lochgoilhead, Argyll</td>
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<td>St. Andrew's Soc. (Altrincham, Sale and District)</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>140</td>
<td>W. Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>T. C. Lohead, 44 Kenmore Road, Sale, Cheshire</td>
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<td>1960</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Mrs. L. Jacobsen</td>
<td>Mrs. L. Jacobsen, Seaforth, The Esplanade, Hornsea, E. Yorks</td>
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<td>Coldstream</td>
<td>1888</td>
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<td>118</td>
<td>James S. Davidson, B.Sc.</td>
<td>William Jackson, Homestead, Hirsel, Coldstream, Berwickshire</td>
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<td>841</td>
<td>Robert Burns Association of Montreal, Canada</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>James Murray</td>
<td>W. J. McCullough, 555 80th Ave., Lasalle, Rue, Canada</td>
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<td>845</td>
<td>Tam o' Shanter, Coventry</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Peter Grimes</td>
<td>James McCaw, Tam O’ Shanter Club, Hertford Place, Coventry, Warwickshire CV1 3JZ</td>
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<td>Auckland Burns Association</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>George Peddison</td>
<td>J. Shearer, 2 Maranui Avenue, Point Chevalier, Auckland 2, New Zealand</td>
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<td>852</td>
<td>Fisheross Jolly Beggars</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<td>George McCaig</td>
<td>James B. McCaig, 41 Pitfain Road, Fishcross, by Alloa, Clackmannanshire</td>
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<td>Eglinton Burns Club, Irvine</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>R. Whyte</td>
<td>J. J. Caldwell, Eglinton Arms Hotel, Irvine</td>
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<td>861</td>
<td>Cal. Soc. of Lincoln</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>Muir Scully</td>
<td>Miss D. V. Chambers, 2 Saxilby Road, Skellingthorpe, Lincoln LN6 0TZ</td>
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<td>862</td>
<td>Market Rasen Scottish Association</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>E. A. Gass</td>
<td>J. A. Bell, ‘Attadale’, Orford Road, Binbrook, Lincoln LN3 6DU</td>
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<td>864</td>
<td>Burnie Burns Club, Tasmania</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>J. Cameron</td>
<td>Mrs. E. N. Tunbridge, 143 David Street, East Devonport, Tasmania, 7310</td>
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<td>1960</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>L. Pope</td>
<td>Robert Kemp, 43 Northend, Cambusbarron Stirling</td>
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<td>Heanor and Dist. Caledonian Society</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<td>William Clarke</td>
<td>Mrs. M. Savage, 19/21 High Street, Codner, Derbyshire</td>
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<td>East Midland Scottish Socs.</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>9 Socs.</td>
<td>Dr. Wm. Marshall, O.B.E.</td>
<td>Ian MacLachlan, 24 Collinwood Avenue, Corby, Northants</td>
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<td>873</td>
<td>Tam o’ Shanter Club, Ndola, Zambia</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>A. G. Beveridge</td>
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<td>874</td>
<td>The Masonic Club Burns Club, Melbourne</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Chieftain Dan Stevenson</td>
<td>George Doig, 9 Courtis Street, Williamstown, Melbourne, Australia 3016</td>
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<td>876</td>
<td>Tullibody Working Men’s Burns Club</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>D. Steel</td>
<td>G. Penman, 42 Stirling Rd., Tullibody</td>
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<td>881</td>
<td>Rugeley &amp; Dist. Burns Club</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>R. Cochrane</td>
<td>P. Arkell, 9 Springfield Avenue, Rugeley, Staffs WS15 1DB</td>
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<td>882</td>
<td>Canberra Highland Society &amp; Burns Club</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>H. Miller</td>
<td>K. F. Smith, P.O. Box 69, Kingston, Canberra A.C.T., 2604, Australia</td>
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<td>885</td>
<td>Motherwell &amp; Wishaw Miners Welfare Burns Club</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>John Milligan</td>
<td>D. Watson, Arran Road, Motherwell</td>
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<td>Gainsborough &amp; District Caledonian Society</td>
<td>1952</td>
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<td>Angus McLarty</td>
<td>Lew W. Reid, Lea Rig, 152 Lea Road, Gainsborough, Lincs. DN21 1AN</td>
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<td>Vancouver Burns Club</td>
<td>1967</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Iain McLellan</td>
<td>Mrs. Doris Lawrie, 3284 W. 14th Avenue, Vancouver, 8, B.C.</td>
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<td>889</td>
<td>Strathclyde, ‘Bonnie Jean’ Burns Club</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Ian Hutchison</td>
<td>R. B. Cleland, 16 McClurg Court, Airbles Street, Motherwell ML1 1XH</td>
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<td>The Wollongong Burns Soc.</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Thomas Newall, B.Sc.</td>
<td>L. M. Chirnside, 5/1 Myuna Way, Mangerton Wollongong, N.S.W., Australia 2500</td>
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<td>892</td>
<td>Ayrshire Metal Products Burns Club</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>William Faichney</td>
<td>Robert Campbell, 3 Gulliland Place, Irvine, Ayrshire KA12 0EW</td>
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<td>893</td>
<td>North Bay Burns Club, Ont.</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Ronnie Coyne</td>
<td>Mrs. Thelma Stirling, 264 Wesley Avenue, North Bay, Ontario, Canada P1A 2L1</td>
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<td>Beverley &amp; Dist. Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>1967</td>
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<td>H. P. Watt</td>
<td>John Livingston, 'Lynton', 57 All Hallows Road, Walkington, Beverley, Yorkshire HU17 8SH</td>
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<td>Westerton Arms Burns Club</td>
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<td>W. Davidson</td>
<td>W. Jardine, 8 George Street, Dunblane, Perthshire</td>
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<td>896</td>
<td>Sierra Leone Caledonian Soc.</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<td>F. C. Marks</td>
<td>B. W. McCombe, c/o S.L.S.T. Ltd., P.O. Box 11, Spiritus House, Howe Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone, W.A.</td>
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<td>899</td>
<td>Portsmouth and District Caledonian Society</td>
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<td>Mrs. I. Joly</td>
<td>A. Hind, &quot;Bonnie Banks,&quot; 39 Carmarthen Avenue, E. Cosham, Portsmouth</td>
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<td>Irvine Valley Burns Club</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<td>James McC. McMillan</td>
<td>Mrs. Helen P. R. McMillan, 5 Mill Crescent, Newmilns, Ayrshire KA16 9BB</td>
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<td>Cramlington Burns Club</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Colin J. Bradshaw</td>
<td>H. Stewart, 26 Lindean Place, Cramlington, Northumberland</td>
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<td>Newmarket Burns Club</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>William Muirhead</td>
<td>James Kemp, 49 Kincardine Road, Carronshore, by Falkirk</td>
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<td>1970</td>
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<td>Hugh D. Parker</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Logie, 4 Abbots Crescent, Newhall, Burton-on-Trent</td>
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<td>905</td>
<td>Keighley &amp; Dist. Cal. Soc.</td>
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<td>1971</td>
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<td>Mrs. D. Fletcher, Ashley House, Park Road, Crosshills, Keighley, Yorks.</td>
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<td>907</td>
<td>Stonehouse Burns Club</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>George McInnes</td>
<td>Richard Gibb, 157 Strathaven Road, Stonehouse, Lanarkshire</td>
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<td>908</td>
<td>'Brothers Be' Burns Club</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Harry McFarlane</td>
<td>Roy Robb, 48H Macdonald Drive, Kilmarock KA3 7HH</td>
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<td>909</td>
<td>Richmond (Yorks) Cal. Soc.</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Dr. H. Morrison</td>
<td>S. P. Halsey, 28 Stanley Grove, Richmond, Yorks.</td>
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<td>910</td>
<td>Bankend 'Jolly Beggars' Burns Club</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>Robert Strang</td>
<td>Wm. J. McIntyre, 1 Coalburn Road, Coalburn, Lanarkshire</td>
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<td>911</td>
<td>Borestone Bowling Club</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Alex. Irvine</td>
<td>W. S. Skakel, 36 Mayfield Street, St. Ninians, Stirling</td>
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<td>DIU—Club, Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Jan Chovanec</td>
<td>Oldrich Bubenik, profesor, Jevicko 178, Czechoslovakia</td>
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<td>L. Thomson</td>
<td>Wm. Houston, Brooms Road, Dumfries</td>
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<td>Ipswich &amp; West Moreton Caledonian Soc. &amp; Burns Club</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Robert Cowe</td>
<td>Mrs. Margaret Cowe, 9 Gwendoline St., Raceview, Ipswich, Qld. 4305, Australia</td>
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<td>Canterbury Burns Club (Inc)</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>Wallace Vinnell</td>
<td>George Poste, 39 Stoke Street, Sumner, Christchurch, New Zealand</td>
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ALPHABETICAL LIST OF CLUBS

No. | Club Name
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543 | Abbey Craig
40 | Aberdeen
889 | A.E.I. (Motherwell) “Bonnie Jean”
20 | Airdrie
516 | Airts Burns Club
2 | Alexandria
809 | Allanton Jolly Beggars
252 | Alloway
618 | Altrincham Caledonian Soc.
393 | Annan Ladies
82 | Arbroath
238 | Atlanta
537 | —— Ladies
768 | Auchterderran Jolly Beggars
851 | Auckland Burns Assoc.
906 | Ayrshire Constabulary
566 | Australia, Scot. Soc. of
275 | Ayr
821 | Ayr Masonic
192 | Ayrshire Assoc.
892 | Ayrshire Metal Products
728 | Bachelor’s Club (Tarbolton)
340 | Balerno
910 | Bankend Jolly Beggars, Coalburn
439 | Barnsley
593 | Barrmill Jolly Beggars
363 | Barrow
534 | Bedlington and District
15 | Belfast
614 | Bellshill Caledonian
725 | Ben Cleuch
592 | Ben what
894 | Beverley & District Caledonian Society
167 | Birmingham
815 | B.M.K. (Netherton)
95 | Bolton
476 | Border Cities (Ont.)
911 | Boresstone Bowling Club
663 | Bournemouth
803 | Bowhill People’s Club
76 | Brechin
49 | Bridgeton
722 | Bridlington
401 | Brig-en’ (Waverley)
120 | Bristol
908 | Brithers Be, Kilmarnock
356 | Burnbank
864 | Burnie Burns Club, Tasmania
417 | Burnley
282 | Burns Bowling Association
112 | Burns Howff
597 | Burns Society of the City of New York

No. | Club Name
--- | ---
355 | Calcutta
4 | Callander
387 | Cambuslang Mary Campbell
882 | Canberra Highland Society
915 | Canterbury Burns Club (Inc.)
71 | Carlisle
761 | Carluke
648 | Carron Bridge Cronies
562 | Castle Douglas
365 | Catrine
719 | Chelmsford
462 | Cheltenham
572 | Chester Caled. Assoc.
11 | Chesterfield
699 | Chippington
646 | Clear Winding Devon Alva
922 | Clumber Burns Club
630 | Coalsnaughton
839 | Coldstream
398 | Colinton
606 | Corby
559 | Coventry
845 | Coventry Tam o’ Shanter
901 | Camlington
581 | Cumbernauld
580 | Cumbrae
45 | Cumnock
773 | —— Cronies
62 | Cupar
818 | Dalbeattie and District
179 | Dailly Jolly Beggars
35 | Dalry
577 | Dalsfer and Clydesdale
158 | Darlington
568 | Derfield
469 | Denny Cross
55 | Derby
701 | Detroit
37 | Dollar
556 | Doncaster
918 | Dover and E. Kent
10 | Dumbarton
226 | Dumfries
437 | —— Ladies No. 1
503 | Dunblane
14 | Dundee
659 | —— Burns Society
370 | Dundonald Burns Club
69 | Dunedin N.Z.
85 | Dunfermline
744 | Durham Caled. Soc.
872 | East Midlands Scottich Soc.
22 | Edinburgh
307 | —— Ayrshire Assoc.
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