

The



Tartan

Clan MacDougall Society of the United States and Canada

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MCDOWELL, A SEPT OF CLAN MACDOUGALL

By Donald A. MacDougall

Author's Note: *Septs have been defined in numerous ways. The best definition is clans and family groups who were related by blood or who sought and obtained protection of a larger clan.*

While fighting seemed to be a way of life in the Highlands, it can be rationalized by the fact that as a country without movable and divisible capital, land was the asset so often beset by rival clans, so clans and their septs knew what they were fighting for.

As septs in early Scottish history were welcomed additions in obtaining clan objectives, now they are equally welcomed in the preservation of our Scottish heritage. I hope to treat with other of our septs in future issues.

The relationship between the McDowells of Galloway and the MacDougalls of Lorne can logically be traced through early blood connections with Nordic ancestors. In the Gaelic language both names have identical spelling which translates as "Dane's son." Ancient Scottish history, sketchy at best, shows that the Norse did settle in Galloway at the time Somerled was exploring the western coast of Scotland and the Inner Hebrides Islands.

Galloway is lowland country situated at the southwestern tip of Scotland, a considerable distance from Lorne in the Highlands. Inhabitants of Galloway in the early days did not seem to have been called upon to take sides in Highland altercations when taking sides was dangerous to longevity, a reason perhaps why McDowells are much more in evidence than MacDougalls. The proximity of Galloway to Ireland and England can account for the McDowell's migration to Ireland in Cromwell's time, almost a century before the "45's" and the Clearances. In their further migration to America they were known as Scotch-Irish.

The contribution of McDowells to the development of this country has been varied and interesting. Activities of McDowells in Canada are not covered in this article. In early fighting against the Indians and British, we find such names as Samuel, veteran of the French and Indian War and a colonel in the Revolution; Joseph with a similar record against the Indians and also a colonel in the Revolution; and Joseph (P.G.), a major with the Revolutionary army. The most important McDowell, however, was Charles who, at the outbreak of the Revolution, was named a captain and in April 1776 lieutenant-colonel of a Carolina militia regiment. In the backwater region of the South continually subject to attacks from hostile Indians and zealous loyalists, he rendered valuable aid to the patriot cause. In 1780 the 71st Highlanders invaded the Carolinas with a large army of loyalists. This force being too large for direct attack, McDowell began guerilla warfare destroying small groups coming to join the 71st Highlanders. Although Charles McDowell was absent from the battle of King's Mountain, it was his initiative that brought the forces together and made possible the first Continental victory in the South. This victory prevented lukewarm patriots from becoming loyalists and helped to stem the flow of recruits to the British armies. He was later

commissioned brigadier-general by the North Carolina legislature. It is also interesting to note that the names of forty-five McDowell patriots have been used for entrance into the D.A.R.

In the war between the states the leading McDowell was Irvin, a graduate of West Point in 1838. In 1861 he was placed in command of the Army of the Potomac. The political and

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Captain Lester L. McDowell, USNR

On November 17th of 1975 Lester McDowell lost a gallant fight against the illness which prevented him from rounding out a distinguished career by heading a Civil War Library and Museum in Philadelphia. On that day, too, Clan MacDougall Society lost an able and experienced Director.

Captain McDowell's life and interest centered around the Naval Reserve following the end of World War II which found him the executive officer of the Receiving Station at the Naval Operating Base in Trinidad. Among the offices he subsequently held were Deputy Treasurer-General of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and First Vice Commander of the New York MOFW, as well as Secretary of the Society of the Cincinnati in the state of New Jersey. His mobilization assignment remained: Chief of Staff, Naval Base, Boston.

His wife Janet (or Jan, of "Les and Jan" as they were fondly known by so many of our members) is presently living in their home in Chatham, N.J., and daughters Sheila and Heather were standing by during Lester McDowell's last long months.

INVITATION TO COMRIE

How would you like to spend your vacation *with lodgings and breakfast provided free* in the ancient wee village of Comrie, Perthshire, on the River Earn, in the heart of Scotland?

Dr. Micheil MacDonald invites you, seriously — if you will donate your skill of plumbing, bricklaying, electrical wiring, plastering, carpenting, stenography, typing or research work to the 12 year old SCOTTISH TARTANS SOCIETY which has at last secured a headquarters of its own in Comrie. Now it must scramble to pay for the acquisition and remodelling of its new very old fine stone building.

Appealing and witty Dr. MacDonald is official Curator and Secretary of this non-profit Society, also scribe of its lively Newsletter and, we suspect, “humper and thumper” as he puts it in all capacities. His uncommon invitation shows the Society’s urgent need. A formal printed Appeal is going out as well to us some 50 million people of Scottish descent scattered about.

So here is another of the umpteen worthy causes we are asked to support. As Scots-several-times-removed, or as MacDougalls, what is our stake in the survival and on-going work of The Scottish Tartans Society of Scotland?



Old Parish Church stands watch over the village of Comrie, known in early Roman times as the “lonliest, loveliest” outpost of Empire, later a busy center of weavers, and now home of The Scottish Tartans Society.

First, none of us is identifiable by the way we look. It takes a piece of cloth to do it. And the sett (pattern) of that cloth is important to the Manufacturing Weavers, the Wholesale trade, the Retail trade, the National Museum of Antiquities, the Lyon Court of Scotland and to us, wherever we are, who wear it to show our name, our genes, our blood group and our history. That piece of cloth, actually, is our one self-existent Scottish heritage!

The tartan’s story is as full of mysteries as a whodunit. From casual beginnings it got itself outlawed as a dangerous weapon, then at its popular rebirth became entangled in a probable hoax. The matter of tartans wants straightening out, a task in which The Scottish Tartans Society has already assembled precise records of over 1200 tartan setts. It wants preservation of valuable collections, of which S.T.S. is custodian. It wants adequate repository for the library of books, letters, specimens, pictures, prints and manuscripts.

It owes much to a clanswoman of ours, Margaret MacDougall. She was deputy librarian and curator for the Burgh of Inverness until her death in the late 1950’s. During the quarter of a century from the beginning of the war, she became

TIP OF OUR TAMS

To MRS. NORMA McCALLUM MOBERG of Fargo, North Dakota, on being our first new member in 1976.

To ROBERT McDUGAL LEONARD, formerly of Hendersonville, N.C., on his marriage January 4th to Marguerite Green. The ceremony was a small, private one at Carmel-By-The-Sea, and the couple is now living in California at San Leandro.

To WALTER A. MacDOUGALL of Milo, Maine, on the forthcoming publication of a book he has written. One ambition high on his list of priorities, he says, is someday to tramp MacDougall country with camera, sketchbook and notebook from the supposed grave of Somerled at Saddell to the old stones of Dunollie and Ardchattan and to write a little book about the “unabashed pilgrimage of no special interest to anyone but a MacDougall of clan and heart.” Meanwhile, he has just made a dirk for himself. The green jasper from the beach below old Dunollie looks very well in the brass settings, he says, and the rough aspects have fooled a number of people into thinking it is very old. I owe my wife a new butcher knife for the one I confiscated, he adds.

To HUGH C. MacDOUGALL of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, and the Department of State, Washington, D.C., for winning yet another of the Department’s awards for his assistance in obtaining the release of the four students — three American and one Dutch — kidnapped last summer by a band of guerillas from the Chimpanzee research station on Lake Tanganyika. Eleanore and Hugh have a pleasant house in Dar Es Salaam with the blue Indian Ocean at their front door, with flower and vegetable gardens, and with their well-travelled cat. Mallory, who accompanied them from Mozambique to Washington and out to Tanzania. Their stay in Dar is to be at least until next December.

To Society director GEORGE E. McDUGALL of Greenville, S.C., on being elected President of the St. Andrew’s Society of Upper South Carolina, a new St. Andrew’s Society which he helped form.

THE world authority on all matters anent tartans and Highland dress. A Scottish Tartans Society in her own right!

It was not until the summer of 1963 that the late Lord Lyon, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, opened The Scottish Tartans Information Center in Tolbooth at Stirling. The information Center became The Scottish Tartans Society two years later, with heavier accent on Research and Collection in order to get at truly authoritative Information. A painstaking scientific undertaking, underfunded, understaffed, underhoused and, in the beginning at least, underappreciated.

Ten years later there is a chance things will be looking up for the learned and weary, and very friendly, people of S.T.S.

The Society’s founder, Captain Stuart Davidson, for whom it is hoped the new headquarters building will be named, writes most personable letters (the occasion being when THE TARTAN editors underpaid on a Life membership to the Society which they intended to be taking out for themselves). Though overworked in several volunteer jobs, Captain Davidson of his own volition personally researched and sent us the report on the MacDougall tartan. It will appear in a future issue and has more “facets” than you could imagine. Wait until you see.

What say you then, MacDougalls, shall we rally to a rescue operation — protecting priceless knowledge for our children and children’s children? To be a card carrying member of The Scottish Tartans Society costs \$5 a year, and among the benefits you will receive those engaging Newsletters we mentioned. To be a Life member costs \$50 and probably entitles you to a hearty note from Captain Davidson himself. Or donate as much as you can. Even a dollar would be welcome. Or make it one of the new two dollar bills. Send to us (Mary & Wylie McDougall, 816 Governor Nicholls, New Orleans, La. 70116), making checks payable to The Scottish Tartans Society of course, and we will transmit in your name.

Your reward will be a heightened interest in the scrap of cloth that sets us apart from other peoples of the globe, and a warm reception at Comrie or at Hopetoun House, near Edinburgh, where some of the Collection is to be on display during the International Clan Gathering next May.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The latter part of March I received a letter from the president of Old Dominion College of Norfolk, Virginia, and with it a descriptive folder. The letter and the folder told of a five day conference to be held at the College to study the affairs of Scottish organizations in this country and how they might be helped with their aims and objectives. There was an invitation to the Clan MacDougall Society to have a representative present and we hope to have a member there.

This is only a part of a wave of Scottish enthusiasm that has been rolling over our country in recent years. The Highlander Magazine lists an index of fifty-seven Clan Societies and seventy-eight Scottish Societies in the United States. I would venture a guess that the average age of the Clan Societies is less than five years.

The Grandfather Highland Games is still the greatest of all, with over 30,000 in attendance. However new Games are being organized each year. The Clan MacDougall Society has been invited to participate in Games in Alexandria, Va., Atlanta, Ga., Alma, Mich., Charleston, S.C., Fort Worth, Tex., and Dunedin, Fla. We have had representatives at some of them.

Now Scotland has scheduled an International Gathering of the Clans, to be held in Edinburgh starting May 1, 1977. For the last two months, from a half dozen sources, I have been receiving bulletins and information about it. As an important Clan Society I think we should give some thought to this event and just how we might participate.

The first week's events will take place in Edinburgh, with a Grand March of the Clans, a Highland Ball, A Clan Report Center, dancing, piping and Highland Games. There is also mention of whiskey tasting and Burn's Suppers at various hotels.

The second week of the Gathering will see the dispersal of visiting clansmen to their traditional territories throughout Scotland.

There is no doubt that the Clan Gathering is Tourist Board oriented, but the great clans of Scotland are participating with the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine as chairman of the event. Our Chief is serving on one of the committees.

Clan MacDougall and Clan Chisholm will share a tent at the Clan Report Center where Madam MacDougall hopes to greet many clansmen.

Madam MacDougall will be at home at Dunollie in Oban for the second week of the Gathering and has said if she knew when and how many were coming she would arrange something where her clansmen and their ladies would be her honored guests.

Now we get to the point of what does The Clan MacDougall Society of the United States and Canada want to do about the Gathering in Scotland next May? I need your help and advice.

There is some question as to whether the Grand March of the Clans on Princess Street will be approved by the city fathers of Edinburgh but, if it is, I will be disappointed if our Clan MacDougall banner is not flying in the parade. Perhaps some of our younger members might arrange a group to go over. Let me have your ideas. Write me if you will not be at the annual meeting in July when we will take up the subject.

The date of the annual meeting, as you know, is Friday, July 9th, and it will be at the Tennis Building of the Grandfather Golf and Country Club. I hope we will have twice as many members in attendance as ever before.

If Bunch Griffin's article in the last TARTAN didn't tempt you to make early plans, a look into what is in store for you this year may do the trick.

The prestigious Tartan Ball, held Saturday night, July 10th, to which all MacDougalls may receive invitations, will be under the chairmanship of G. Simms McDowell, Jr., a member of our Board of Directors since 1967. After serving ten years as Ball Chairman, I am delighted to pass the torch into Simms' proficiently suave hands.

On our own MacDougall Cocktail & Dinner Party we have run into luck. This year we will have a private dining room at

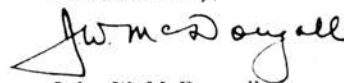
the Tennis Building. Not accidentally, our private dining room adjoins the big ballroom where, when our own party is over, the exciting new Grandfather Mountain Scottish Country Dance will be held. Stan Hamilton's band "The Flying Scotsmen" will be flown from Toronto for the dance. Country dancing is fun to watch, and to join if you know the steps, and this should be a great windup to our MacDougall events for those who want to attend the Country Dance.

Last but not most important. Last year for the first time we tried having our annual meeting just before our cocktail and dinner party rather than on Saturday morning. It was not an unqualified success. We failed to let everyone know that they were to come to the meeting in their cocktail party clothes. Some did come ready for the party but many missed the meeting because there just was not time enough to return to their rooms to get ready for the party.

This year please climb into your party finery in broad daylight and come to the meeting on time. It will start promptly at 4:30 P.M. Directors need to be decked out a couple of hours earlier for our 3:00 o'clock board meeting.

I will be seeing you there, all of you who are at the Gathering, and wishing that every single member could be with us to sign the roster.

Yours sincerely,



John W. McDougall
High Commissioner



G. Simms McDowell has been appointed Chairman of The Tartan Ball, taking over from John W. McDougall who has been its anchorman for ten years.

VOICE OF THE TREASURER

The voice of the treasurer customarily gets shrill a month or so after membership dues are payable. Our due date is *August 1st* each year. This is to remind you and ask you to meet or, better, beat the deadline.

As one of my counterparts in a clan society warned his lagging members, "You yourself might be Treasurer some day!"

Or, to lift a phrase from an anguished treasurer in Scotland, "The Society will go bankrupt slower" if you send your dues on time.

With your cooperation, I can manage to keep my voice well modulated, gratefully, throughout the year.

John A. McDougall, Secty.-Treas.

STONE FOR A CAIRN

Humans have held a sentimental attachment for rocks since time began. To the caveman a rock was home sweet home, the Rock of Ages was cleft for Christians, the advertising media loved it as in I-own-a-piece-of-the-Rock, and a modern rock-headed generation has taken pet rocks to its bosom — complete with boarding kennels when their owners have to be away.

The saga of the love affair between people and rocks bases itself largely on man's awareness of his own mortality while a rock to him seems everlasting.

Clan MacDougall Society now has a rock. It is a piece of stone from Dunollie Castle, sent by our Chief to be donated for the building of a Cairn on MacRae Meadows, site of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. The fragment of

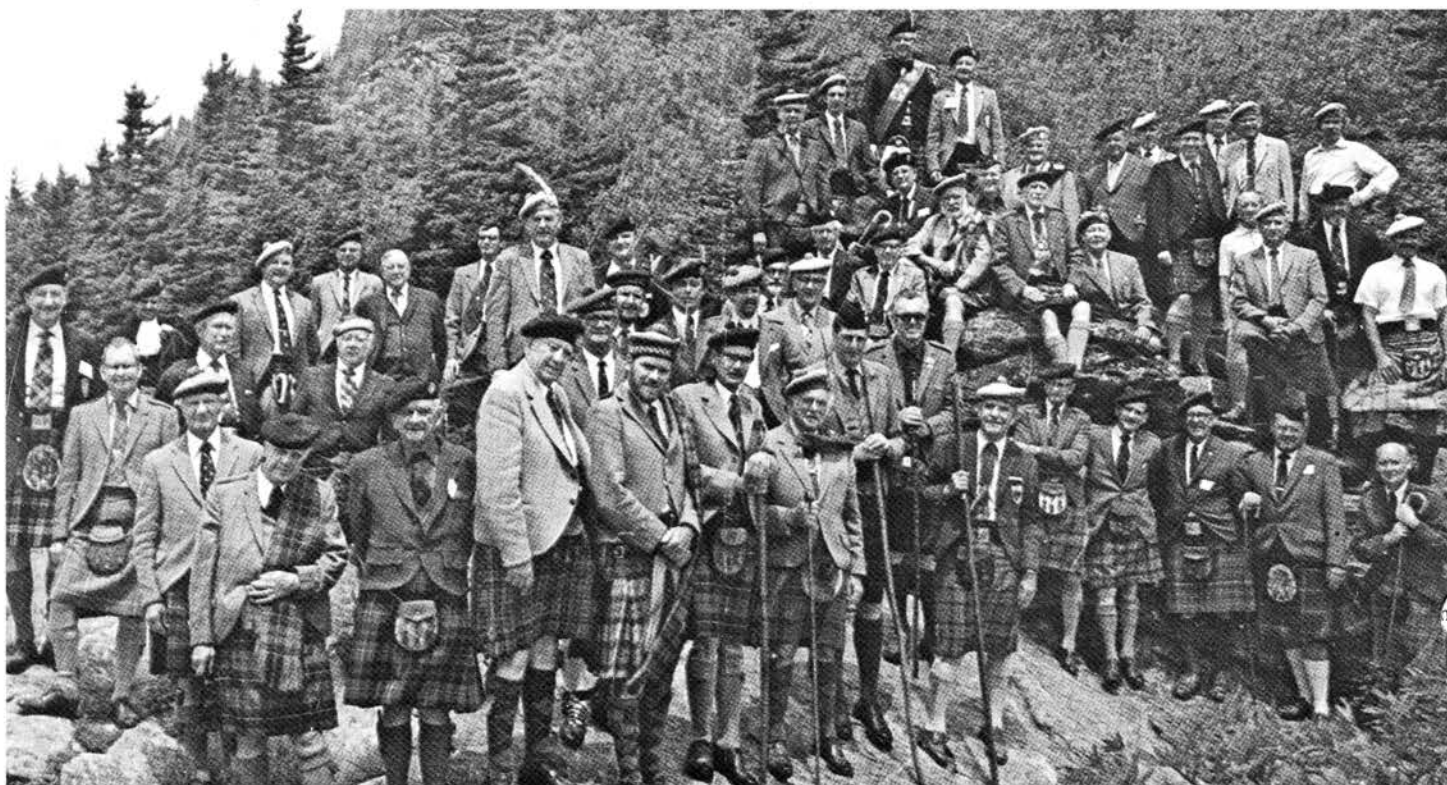
Dunollie along with historic stones of other clans will be heaped into the classic memorial shape, with the source of each stone carefully identified on a metal plaque.

The creating of this Cairn is the brainchild of The Rev. James A. M. Hanna, Convener of Clan Hanna Society. While the idea of a cairn was enthusiastically received, the physical acquisition of the stones from overseas presented certain minor problems. An appropriate size rock was pretty heavy for a touring clansman to carry home in his suitcase, and it was expensive to send. However, many clans have already surmounted the difficulty and there are more stones on the way.

What stories these old rocks could tell! How fitting that the appreciation of our Scottish roots be recorded on a mountain meadow in a pile of timeless stones! How bright our hopes that distant future generations who come upon the Cairn will still care.



Phenomenal multiplication of Clan Societies during the past few years and growth of the annual Gathering itself are both mirrored in photos taken at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Upper left picture was snapped in front of the MacDougall tent in 1967 when kilted clansmen were something of a novelty. Upper right was taken from approximately the same position at the same time of day, seven years later, when kilted stalwarts now abounded, and the lone MacDougall tent had become one of a long line of tents. By 1975 the group pictured below, comprised only of an official representative of each Clan or Society, along with two Clan Chiefs from Scotland, was numerous enough to cover a peak on the mountainside.



RESEARCH INTO OLD PAPERS AT DUNOLLIE

The advent of the telephone has done much to kill the art of letter writing and easier travel and the car have enabled relatives and friends to meet frequently and discuss the family news. Many old houses have a rich store of old letters and Dunollie is no exception. The letters of generations have been carefully preserved and succeeding generations have sorted them, tied them in bundles and in later years typed copies of some of them.

The very early documents dating from 1450 are in Latin and many on parchment. These are chiefly legal documents, grants of land, etc., and are only of interest for someone making a study of the subject. The bulk of the letters date from 1700 though there are some earlier ones.

Our present task, says Madam MacDougall of MacDougall of the monumental project the family has undertaken, is to examine and read every one of the thousands of letters, bills, etc., and copy and file any of interest. Many have been dated with a note written on the outside "from John" or "from Mr. Young" but give no clue as to the subject of the letter or who Mr. Young was. Each one is read, copied if of sufficient interest, and replaced in its original bundle with notes on the subjects of the letters.

The chief requirements in this work are long periods of uninterrupted leisure in which to work, which seem impossible to obtain, and infinite patience. On first thoughts reading and copying letters should be a simple and fairly quick job, but it has not turned out to be so.

Each member of each generation has his or her section of a file and gradually a picture of their personalities, career and life history builds up, from their letters to others and from references and chance remarks in other letters of the time. They all emerge clear and individual characters, some of them outstandingly so. The picture builds up very gradually and is a slow process; inevitably over the years many of the letters of different generations have got mixed, or the bundles stored in different places, and a chance reference to an incident may not be completed till two years later when another letter turns up to fill in the missing details.

One of the greatest problems is reading some of the writing, which can be almost unreadable. This can be due to the writer just naturally writing badly or to special circumstances. Many of the letters are beautifully written especially some of the children's. Some of the interesting ones written from the Far East during the China Wars and Indian Mutiny are on tissue thin paper and then written across the writing (to save postage). One series of almost illegible letters were written by a young naval officer whose writing was usually comparatively easy to read. They are headed "At Sea" so one assumes his sailing ship was rolling badly when they were being written; these letters take a long time to read and can only be done by going over them time and again, adding a few words each time until a sentence is completed. Such a letter may take a week to read, and then may not be worth the time and trouble.

Names are always a problem with difficult writing. Having got the sense of a sentence one can often guess at the missing word, but not a name. A careful search through an Atlas often helps. There are also in the older letters old Scots words no longer in use and which have to be looked up in special dictionaries. The Naval letters, of which there are many, require a knowledge of terms used in the sailing ships of the time.

The letters cover an infinite range of subjects. Domestic, Farming, Travel, Romance, Medicine, Naval & Military, History, Education, and in fact a picture of the life and customs of each generation. There is a comprehensive collection of correspondence, estimates, bills, etc., covering the building of the 1836 part of the house, which was complicated by the Chief being absent on Naval Duty and any problem referred to him had to follow his ship around. His letters generally took a long time to catch up with him, and his reply depended on his meeting a ship homeward bound.

It is a fascinating and rewarding work as names in a Pedigree come to life and take on personalities of their own, and "John - Son of Alexander" of the Pedigree becomes almost a living person whom you know.



Lillian Gilman Prevost takes a bow to fellow Society members from her mother's knee while No. 1 son Christie McDougall Prevost hams it up for camera man and Dianne McDougall Prevost beams. Proud father Earl did not get in the picture, nor did proud grandparents Barbara and George E. McDougall or proud great-grandparents McDougall and Gilman.

SCOTTISH BOOKSHELF

By Margaret MacDougall Allen

If you have children at the read-me-a-story age, I've found a delightful book for them. It has fascinating illustrations, too. "THE MAGIC FINGER" is written by Bruce MacCrimmon and published by E. M. Hale & Co. of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. It is about eleven year old Bruce who meets a girl ghost in a haunted castle in Scotland. She endows him with magic fingers to play the bagpipes. One of my friends who is an elementary school librarian says her 2nd and 3rd graders ask for it to be read to them over and over again.

As you have probably guessed, I love historical fiction. So, after reading "CHECKMATE" by Dorothy Dunnett, I was thrilled to discover that it was one of a group of books she had been writing over a period of years and I immediately began hunting for the others. All of them are about a Scotsman who is the hero and leading character.

The first one "THE GAME OF KINGS" is laid in Scotland just after the death of James V and deals with the intrigues in the struggle for power, ending when our hero aids the Queen Mother in getting little Mary (Queen of Scots) sent safely to France. Another "THE DISORDERLY KNIGHTS" is of the Knights of Malta and their entanglement with the Far Eastern rulers. In another book our hero hires his group as mercenaries to the Russian Czar and trade between the English and Russians begins. "THE GAME OF KINGS," "QUEENS PLAY," "THE DISORDERLY KNIGHTS," "PAWN IN FRANKINCENSE," "THE RINGED CASTLE" and "CHECKMATE" make up the series, but it is not necessary to read them in order.

Dorothy Dunnett is the wife of one of the editors of "The Scotsman" and regarded very highly for the research she does. Some of her books are published in paperback, Eagle Books.

Light and amusing are author Alan Hunter's "GENTLY WITH THE INNOCENTS," "GENTLY WITH THE LADIES" and "GENTLY IN THE HIGHLANDS," particularly the last when Inspector Gently, a British sleuth, has his problems getting along with the Highlanders.

Then "THE TROUT FISHERMAN'S BEDSIDE BOOK" mentioned in the last issue, and among the works of member Arthur R. MacDougal, Jr., has been enthusiastically reviewed for me by some of our officers and families. They report that while the author is unquestionably a fisherman's fisherman, his writing has somewhat the effect of James Herriot's, combining exquisite description, funny incidents, sly sarcasm and overall gentleness. A superior bedside book.

OF GREETING CARDS

Our Chief, MADAM MACDOUGALL OF MACDOUGALL, wants to express her thanks for the many Christmas messages she received. She hopes by the next holiday season to send her own personal greetings to every Clan Society member, which it has been impossible for her to do the past two years.

In Canada a protracted postal strike almost brought Christmas card exchanges to a standstill. One of the few that got through was from JACK MILNE of Dunsford, Ontario, saying that he is keeping up his interest in curling but can no longer participate because of shortness of breath. He was happy to have been on hand to renew acquaintance with Madam MacDougall and the Hadfields in Toronto, having seen them last at Dunollie in 1970 when the MacDougall group were their guests.

And from Skaneateles, N.Y., EDNA AND GILBERT MCDUGALL penned on their Christmas card the generous offer of a gift of Scotch whiskey to any MacDougall who can tame and ride the Loch Ness sea serpent. The purest of Scottish open-handedness, we call it.

1976 GATHERING

Linville, North Carolina

July 9, 10, & 11

Friday

3:00 PM Board of Directors of Clan MacDougall Society meets at the TENNIS BUILDING of Grandfather Golf & Country Club.

4:30 PM General Meeting of Clan MacDougall Society at TENNIS BUILDING of GGCC.

6:00 PM MacDougall Scotch Treat Cocktail and Dinner Party at TENNIS BUILDING.

Following our dinner party members may attend the new Grandfather Scottish Country Dance in main ballroom of TENNIS BUILDING or the ever popular CEILIDH at Hayes Auditorium, Lees-McRae College.

Saturday

10:00 AM Informal get-together at MacDougall tent on MacRae Meadow where viewing the Highland Games has been mightily improved by placement of clan tents immediately adjacent to the track, with public thoroughfare in back of the tents.

9:00 PM The Tartan Ball (formal dress), seated at MacDougall tables in ballroom of the TENNIS BUILDING.

Sunday

10:00 AM Worship Service on MacRae Meadow conducted by member The Rev. Dougald Lachlan Maclean, Chaplain of The Games. Kirking of the Tartans.

11:00 AM Men join The Parade of the Tartans and massed bands, marching behind MacDougall banner.

McDOWELL, A SEPT OF CLAN MacDOUGALL *continued*

military situation demanded early action which resulted in the disastrous battle of Bull Run and the loss of command for Irvin.

In Congress there have been eight McDowells and one of those also a governor of Virginia. Covering a wide period of our nation's history these include Joseph (P.G.) 1793-95 from North Carolina, Joseph 1797-99 from North Carolina, James 1846-51 from Virginia and a governor of Virginia 1842-46, James F. 1863-65 from Indiana, Alexander 1893-95 from Pennsylvania, John A. 1897-1901 from Ohio, John R. 1939-41 and 1947-49 from Pennsylvania, and Harris B. Jr. 1955-57 and 1959-67 from Delaware.

In American music the name of Edward Alexander McDowell stands out. Edward was born in 1861 in New York. His father was a business man with an aptitude for painting, a trait which Edward inherited. When he began his piano studies, Edward showed the usual reluctance to practice. On one occasion the family was astonished at the noises he was making and discovered at the piano not Edward but Walter his older brother whom Edward had hired to do his practicing for him at two cents an hour while he read a book. Edward's education became exactly what it should have been for his art. In 1876 his mother took him to Paris for further study. His three years in Paris influenced him deeply but his temperament was not at ease with French music. He moved to Germany, at first devoting his time to being a concert pianist with composing a sideline. After 1883 and for the next three years he devoted himself seriously to composition in orchestral forms. Best known of these are "Barcarolle," "Humoresque," and "Forest Idylls." He returned to Boston and continued composing. One of his lighter works, "To A Wild Rose" is perhaps best remembered. He died in 1908.

In the field of medicine Ephraim McDowell made valuable contributions to the knowledge of abdominal surgery. He was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia in 1771. After his premedical studies in this country he attended lectures at the Medical School of the University of Edinburgh in 1793 and 1794. Returning to America in 1795 he settled in Danville, Kentucky and established a reputation as the best surgeon west of Philadelphia. McDowell did not keep notes on his cases, a great loss to his profession as he was pioneering in abdominal surgery. His knowledge and skill were mainly passed on to young men studying in his office and in a few letters written to other surgeons. One of his patients was James K. Polk, afterwards president of the United States. In June 1830 McDowell was seized with an acute attack diagnosed as inflammatory fever but it is interesting speculation and not improbable that the founder of abdominal surgery died of appendicitis.

For current McDowells, there are nineteen listed in the thirty-seventh edition, 1972-3 of *Who's Who in America* and their achievements cover many fields. C. Blake McDowell, one of the nineteen, is the father of a member of our Clan MacDougall Society.

Sources: "The Highland Clans," Moncreiffe and Hicks; Scotland's Magazine October 1870; "The Surnames of Scotland," George F. Black; Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1971; Dictionary of American Biography Vol. VI. edited by Dumas Malone; D.A.R. Patriot Index 1966; *Who's Who in America* 1972-3.

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