



The Clan Stewart Society in America at Estes Park



This picture was taken a few years ago on the very first day I had a good camera! I've always loved the elegance of this couple and have looked ever since the day it was taken for an opportunity to use it....so, I hope you enjoy. Your ed.

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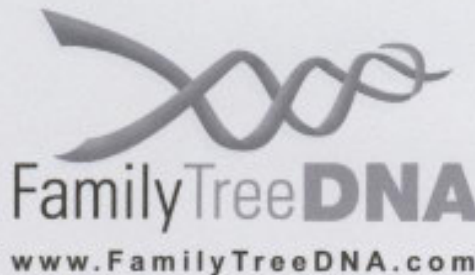
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Queries! Queries! Queries!

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I married into the **CHILDRESS** family but, strangely enough, my step grandmother was **LIZZIE ELLEN CHILDERS** who married my grandfather **PERRY MAIN** as her third husband. Would like to piece together grandmother's ancestors. We do know that her father was **VALENTINE CHILDERS** b-ca 1848 in Ohio. We believe there was a father or grandfather to Valentine with the initials J.M. Childers. Any help will be appreciated. Thanks.
Nancy Childress, 3709 W.Gardenia, Phoenix, AZ 8505 1. Email **nancygen@aol.com**

"Seek marriage, siblings, children, immigration, any data on **MARY CLARK/E**, b:10 Oct 1872, Grantham, Lincoln Co. Ontario, Canada.; d/o: **MARY BOYD**, b: 28 Oct 1850 Scot. & **ALEXANDER CLARK/E.**, b: ca 1844 Scot. **MARY CLARK/E** may have married: **EVERETT LABONTE**, abt 1892 Boston, Suffolk Co. MA. USA. **MARY CLARK/E** may have been called: "**LIZZIE LABONTE**" (on the 1920 MA Census IN Boston, Suffolk Co. MA.) and had her Father living with them. (Her Father: "**ALEXANDER CLARK/E**", B: ca 1844 Scot.) "**ALEXANDER CLARK/E**" does not appear to be on the 1930 MA. Census. (Does anyone know of his Death record between 1920 and 1930 MA.? (Who were the children of **EVERETT LABONTE** and **MARY CLARK**?)(When did **MARY BOYD** pass away? She was not mentioned on the 1910 Attleboro, Bristol Co. MA. Census with husband: **ALEXANDER CLARK/E.**); nor were their children. **ALEXANDER** was listed as a boarder w/ **FRED HARRISON**. Any info appreciated.

Barbara L. Clark, #1180, 200 St. Andrews Blvd. #3704, Winter Park, FL 32792. Email: **lorieclark@earthlink.net**

Free! Free! Free! Free!

Searching for my **BOYD** family who came to US from Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, N. Ireland. What year I do not know. We have three **JOHN BOYDS** in the Family: 1. **JOHN BOYD** born ca 1787 married **MARY ?** and died in Enniskillen 5 June 1872. 2. **JOHN BOYD** born in N. Ireland married 2 Dec 1853 **MARGARET MILLER** (dau. of **ROBERT MILLER**) born 9 Feb 1827 Enniskillen and died 19 May 1906 in Philadelphia, PA. 3. Children of **JOHN** (2) are **WILLIAM BOYD** born 1854, **LIZZIE BOYD** born 1856, **EDWARD BOYD** born 1858, **JANE BOYD** born 1859, **ANNIE BOYD** born 27 May 1861, **JOHN BOYD** (3) born 1863 and **Mary BOYD** born 1866. **JOHN BOYD** (3) married **MARY RAFFERTY** and had a son **JOHN JAMES BOYD** and stayed in N. Ireland. **ANNIE BOYD** born in 27 May 1861 in Enniskillen and died 10 Nov 1932 in Philadelphia married **JULIUS JOHNSON** 15 June 1886. **JULIUS** was born 29 Dec 1859 in Copenhagen, Denmark and died 11 Nov 1931 in Philadelphia. Their daughter, **ANNA FRANCES JOHNSON** born 10 July 1892 in Philadelphia and died 23 Feb 1869. She

married **FRANK FENTON ENT** 8 Sept 1920. He was born 12 Nov 1892 and died 19 July 1939. Please contact **Evelyn Ent Row, 300 Willow Valley Lakes Drive Apt D007, Willow Street, PA 17584-9442.**

Flowers of the Forest

A wonderful friend of mine, and friend of many in our worldwide but small Scottish community, **Chev. James E. Trumble, Jr., KTJ**, from Texas, died this past July after a long and heroic battle with cancer. James was invested into the Grand Bailiwick of the Scots at Balgonie Castle in 1997 and served as Protocol Officer within the Priory of Bannockburn for a number of years.

If you visit the Clan Turnbull tent at Highland Games and see a model of the original Turnbull castle/keep - that miniature detailed model was made by the hands of James.

Herbert M. Turnbull, Jr., died recently. He lived in Woodstock, Connecticut and was a decorated veteran of World War II.

William Ledgerwood passed away. He was retired from the United States military and was a well known wildlife artist. He leaves his wife, Wilma in Jefferson City, Tennessee.

Chev. Donald Lachlan Macleay, KTJ died this past fall about six weeks after being diagnosed with cancer.

Duffy MacBeth of Clan Chattan has died this fall in Walnut Creek, California. She studied literature and psychology at UC in Santa Barbara, California. She spent fifteen years as a caterer and owned her own business, Catering by Duffy. If you wish, you may make a contribution to the Clan Chattan Youth Fund in her name. Send to William G.A. Shaw of Easter Lair, 260 Mount Pilchuck Ave., SW, Issaquah, WA 98027.

Mary Lou Moore Donaldson, Ph.D., wife of Hale Craig Donaldson of Murfreesboro, TN died this past September 11 after a short illness.

She received her Masters and Doctorate degrees from Vanderbilt University and retired in 1992 after 42 years as a professor at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

She was a member of Clan Donald USA.

Your editor's longtime friend and most wonderfully talented artist, **Art McKellips** has died this past summer. During his carving career, he carved pieces for The King of Norway, Neil Armstrong, Johnny Cash, Rosey Grier, Red Skelton, Carol Burnett, Ed Asner and many others

who were fascinated by his ability to bring life to a bit of wood.

One of Mr. McKellips most famous carvings was entitled "Brotherhood of Excellence," which showed Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron together.

You may see carvings from his wondrous hands on the Isle of Skye in Scotland and the Native American Youth Center in Portland, Oregon. He had a long-running exhibit at a genealogy library in South Georgia.

He was a kind and generous friend with his artistry. He was simply a kind and generous friend as well.

Mr. McKellips work has been featured in an earlier incarnation of this publication many, many times.





PM Stephen MacKinnon...from the 1942 edition of "*The Etude*"

submitted by **Gerald McKinnon** and published in *The Shankbone*,
the publication of The Clan MacKinnon Society North America. For full information on this group,
contact Rob Webberson, High Commissioner, PO Box 832, Wilton, CA 95693.

Email: <membership@cmksna.org>

If a hundred pipers an' a' an' a' could "dumfooner" an enemy in Jacobite times, what might a few thousand have accomplished? Their numbers seem to grow with successive wars. Something like two hundred pipe bands played their part in the last war, but not in blitzkrieg fashion as the old song might suggest. At its worst perhaps, the bagpipe can be more weapon than musical instrument. At its best it provides the finest martial music imaginable. And what is more important nowadays, it is the outward and visible, as well as audible symbol of Scots regimental tradition. When war comes, the sound of "the pipes" becomes an invocation. Pride of race and regiment are summoned forth as by the touch of a magic wand.

The piper had a reputation for magic and spells before Scotland took him over. In pagan times, his note echoed among eastern hills from China to the Mediterranean. Aromatic trade winds

wafted the sound across the Aegean. Then, the Greeks gave it wings in the mythical lore of Pan and his pipes. The Pied Piper sounded the same note, and it may still be heard in Irish and Scots glens when the fairies are abroad. Burns' picture of "Auld Nick" piping at the witches dance in "Tam O'Shanter" is authentic Scots superstition and good mythology too. The mythical woodwinds all seem to have belonged to the pagan nether regions, a sort of sylvan purgatory peopled by nymphs, shepherds and other pastoral folk.

Although the days of the hereditary pipers are past, the piping strain still runs in Scots' blood. Environment, however, has probably played as big a part as heredity, in producing Scotland's modern piping fraternity.

Pipe Major Stephen MacKinnon is a product of both factors. His ancestors came from the MacCrimmon country and he got his piping tech-

Continued on page 8

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THE GATHERING 2009

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Pipe Major Stephen MacKinnon,

continued from page 5

nique in Glasgow, Galldom's bagpipe capitol. As a boy of nine, he joined one of Glasgow's numerous juvenile pipe bands and at seventeen was already a veteran of many contests. Pipers are rated largely by the standing as contestants.

Pipe Major MacKinnon later served in Scotland's premier pipe band under MacDougal Gillies, noted piper and teacher of the traditional MacCrimmon school. Coming to Canada in 1911, Stephen MacKinnon has been active as teacher, adjudicator and pipe major. During the last war, (Would that have been World War I?) he served overseas as a piper with the Canadian Black Watch and has since been pipe major of The Canadian National Railways Pipe Band.

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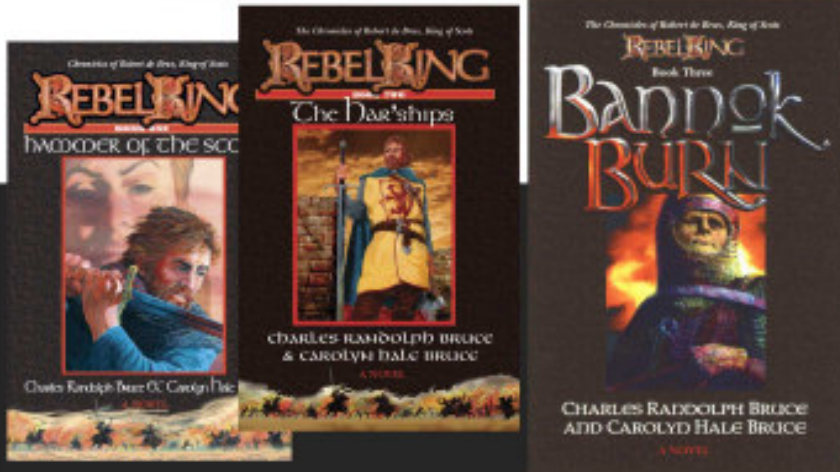


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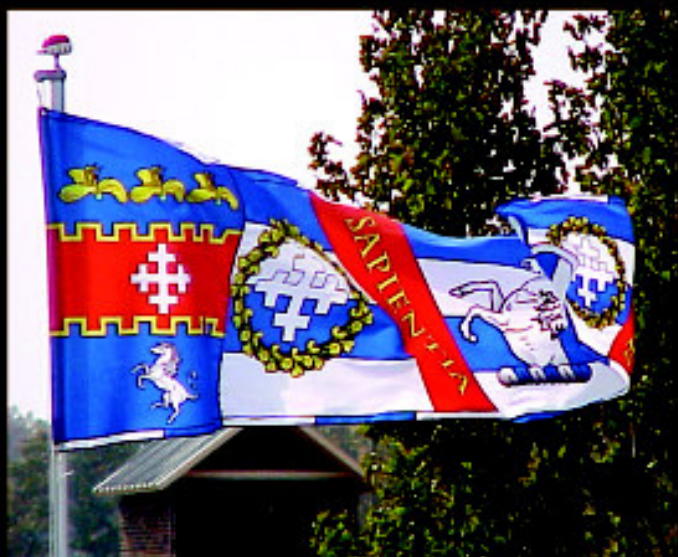
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A Chat with Andrew Lownie Author of *The Edinburgh Literary Companion*

Frank Shaw, Atlanta, Georgia jurascot@earthlink.net

Q: This is a wonderful book. How long did it take from your initial research until publication? What other books have you written, if any? If you do not mind sharing with our readers, what do you have planned for the future regarding your next book?

A: I suppose I've been researching it for over thirty years! I was at boarding school in Edinburgh in the 1970s from the age of 10 to 18 as my parents lived in Bermuda and I had family in Edinburgh. I grew to love the city and to spend much of my free time, whilst my contemporaries were at rugby matches or shopping, exploring the city. It is a magical city because quite rough country such as Arthur's Seat is literally at the foot of the High St and you never know what wonderful vista you will find as you turn a corner.

I still haven't walked every narrow alley in the Old Town. Much of this exploring was done on foot, but during my last year I secretly kept a bicycle which allowed me to explore further a field. A few houses had plaques showing a famous person had lived there, but otherwise I would stumble across an association in the course of reading history books or novels and felt that association should be better known.

When I returned to Edinburgh after Cambridge as a post-graduate to study American Espionage (but that's another story) I decided I would write a different kind of travel book about the city of my youth. One that was about the people who

lived there, how the city had affected them and how the city had been described in fiction and non-fiction. After several rejections by publishers who felt there was no market for the book, *The Edinburgh Literary Guide* was published in 1992 by a small Edinburgh publisher called Canongate, received some good reviews, sold its modest print run and went out of print. I forgot about it as I pursued a career as a journalist, set up as a literary agent and published other books on American spies and the writer John Buchan.

In the late 1990s, I noticed a publisher had a series of literary companions to cities, such as Dublin, and asked if they would be interested in adding a book on Edinburgh to their series.

They were and I quickly updated the book. Much had changed in literary Edinburgh in the intervening eight years, not least Ian Rankin and Edinburgh becoming the fictional crime capital of the world.

The book was published in 2000 as *The Literary Companion to Edinburgh* and I was invited to talk about it at the Edinburgh Book Festival. This time, I saw it might have a longer term future as an alternative guide to Edinburgh and something residents, visitors and expatriates might equally enjoy.

I sold the book on a limited licence and was therefore free to again update the book following the city's successful bid to become the first

Continued on page 16



Author, agent Andrew Lownie

Frank Shaw, *continued from page 15*
UNESCO City of Literature in 2004.

For the third edition, published in July 2005 and now called *The Edinburgh Literary Companion*, some three hundred novels set in the city were added to the existing list of two hundred and fifty, the Richard Demarco line drawings dropped in favour of moody photographs and maps redrawn.

Six months after publication, I've already built up a large file of new material to be added so it shouldn't be long before there is yet another edition if I can think of the right title.

I'm now writing a life of the British spy Guy Burgess, another subject on which I've been collecting material for a very long time.

Q: You mentioned in an email to me that your father has written a book on Edinburgh. Please give

us a brief comparison of the two books as to emphasis and divergence? A: My father's book *Auld Reekie: An Edinburgh Anthology*, his first at the age of eighty and with an introduction by Alexander McCall Smith, was published just before Christmas 2004 and has had extremely good reviews and sold well.

Whereas my book is arranged as a series of walks and concentrates on Edinburgh's literary associations, his book has a much wider appeal.

It is a portrait of Edinburgh seen through the eyes of residents, visitors and well-known exiles such as RL Stevenson and Muriel Spark. Some extracts are a few lines, others several pages and he wittily juxtaposes his quotes to show how even

Continued on page 17



the same experiences or events in Edinburgh can elicit very different reactions. The book moves from 'First Impressions' to quotes on well-known 'Places', 'People', 'Visitors' and, to my mind, the most original and memorable section 'Everyday Life'. His quotes give a picture of Edinburgh enjoying itself and in adversity and also looks at the various institutions which determine Edinburgh's make-up - Parliament, the Church and various professions such as the Law and Medicine. He is now writing a book, though nearly blind, on the Scottish feudal barony.

Q: What does working as a literary agent entail? I think our readers would enjoy hearing your answer.

A: Every day as a literary agent is different. I represent over a hundred authors ranging from academics such as the new Professor of History at Edinburgh, Tom Devine, who has written the acclaimed *The Scottish Nation* and *The Scottish Empire*, to historians, such as Michael Fry who has just published a revisionist book on the Highlands and delivered a book on the Union of 1707, to young journalists such as David Stenhouse whose book describing the Scottish takeover of England over the last three centuries has generated a lot of debate.

And that's just the Scottish authors.

Add the memoirs of actors such as Sir John Mills, Patrick MacNee and David Hasselhoff, the *Cambridge Guide to Literature in English* and *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, Mind, Body & Spirit books and literary fiction and you have some idea of the variety. You can read about a 'typical' week on my website www.andrewlownie.co.uk.

Q: Your book is chocked full of bits and pieces of information about those who have walked the streets of Edinburgh in days of yore. What process did you use to cultivate all this information on so many people?

A: Reading, walking and checking. The information comes from a variety of sources - novels, histories, memoirs, newspaper accounts, interviews on websites - but it then has to be double-checked and then I walk the route repeatedly for

every edition to make sure everything I describe is as it was. The Internet, Google Alert, Abebooks and emails from readers all play a crucial part.

Q: One particular person you quote a good bit is Sir Walter Scott, a true Edinburgh resident. I have noticed distinguished authors like you, Magnus Magnusson and Arthur Herman have quoted Scott quite extensively in recent books. Have you noticed a "comeback" for Sir Walter in recent years as to his popularity?

A: I don't think Walter Scott, like my hero John Buchan, ever went out of fashion but it is true their books are now more widely available, readers are attracted by their sharply drawn characters, intricate plot lines and strong narrative pace, television and film have discovered the filmic qualities of their books and their important role championing and popularising Scottish history is increasingly being recognized.

Q: Some of us in America are not as familiar with one of your "own particular loves," namely Robert Garioch. Can you tell us more about him to whet our appetites enough to check him out on the Internet or in bookstores?

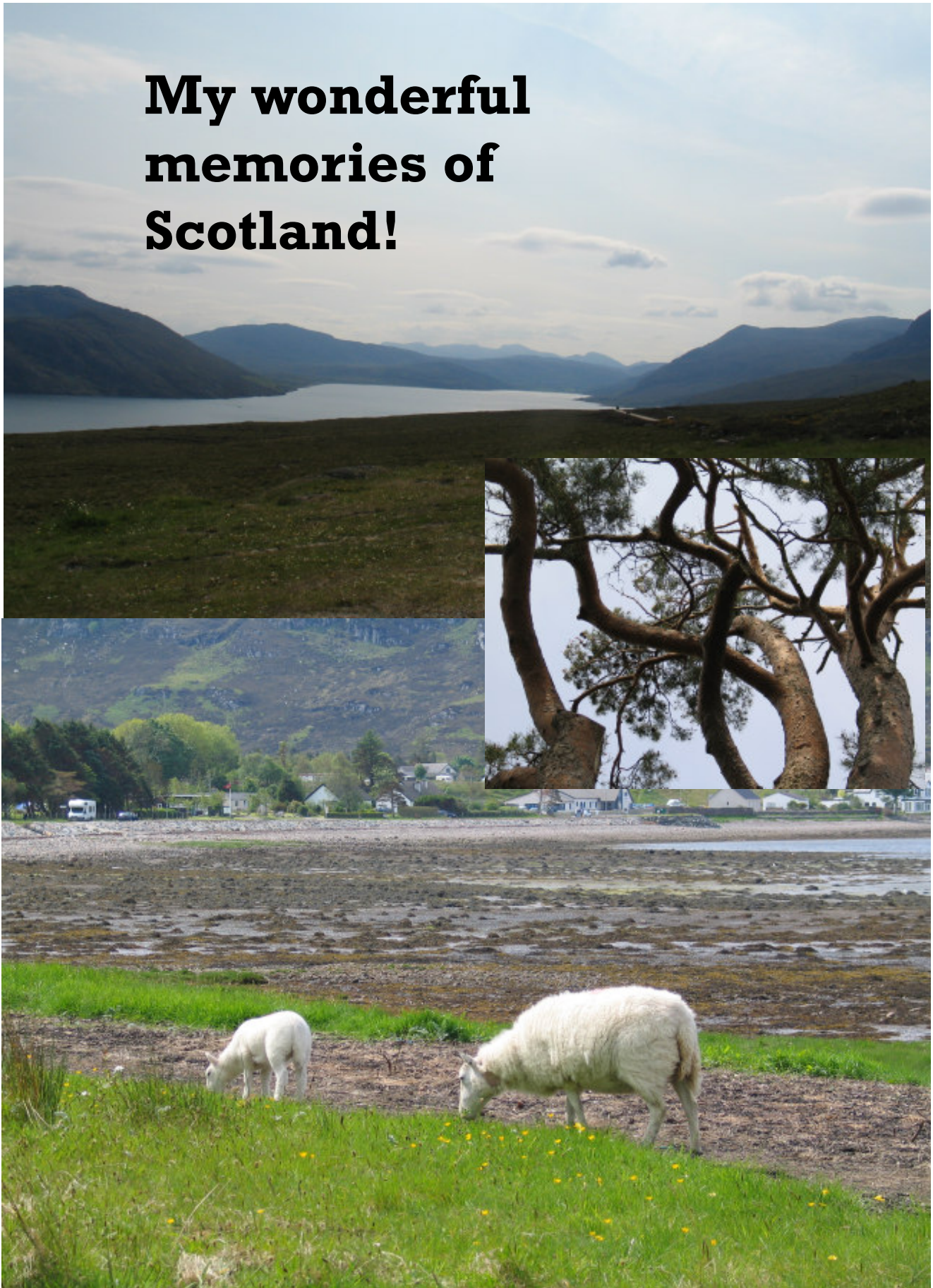
A: I probably quote more Robert Garioch (1909-81) in the book than any other poet, simply because he writes so evocatively and powerfully about Edinburgh life and his poetry is so accessible, witty and memorable. He saw himself in the tradition of his predecessors Robert Fergusson, Robert Burns and Robert Louis Stevenson (is that why I called my son Robert?) and deserves to be as well known. His poetry is now widely available and I'd encourage you to read him and Norman MacCaig, Stewart Conn...

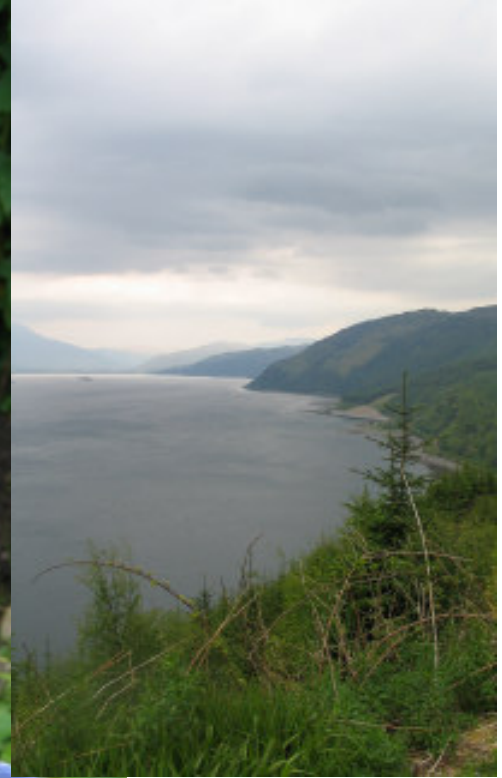
Q: How difficult was your self-imposed goal of trying to appeal to local residents of Edinburgh and first time tourists? Do you feel you achieved your goal?

A: I will leave the residents and tourists to judge but clearly the level of knowledge and interest does vary and one can't please everyone. I've tried to include lots of quirky and less well-known information, have lots of anecdotes, keep the nar-

Continued on page 24

My wonderful memories of Scotland!





**My
wonderful
memories
of
Scotland!**





My wonderful memories of Scotland!



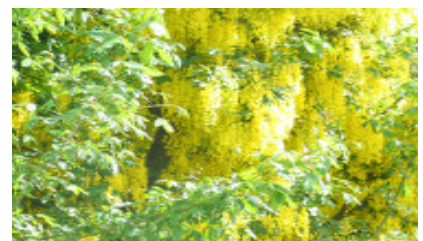
My wonderful memories of Scotland!







**My
wonderful
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rative moving along and let the quality of other people's prose carry the book but to also offer through the footnotes the chance to find out more detailed information on particular subjects of interest.

Q: You mention in the preface of your Edinburgh book that "...over 500 novels have taken the city as their backdrop - a hundred of them published in the last fifteen years..." Why, in your opinion, have there been so many people writing so many books about that city? Does the same hold true of Scotland's other major city, Glasgow, or "the capital of the Highlands", Inverness?

A: I think Edinburgh is unique because it was both the capital and with its university a great European city; it was always seen, as now, as part of any tour of Great Britain and it was a place of literary pilgrimage, not least for European writers such as Hans Christian Andersen who came to pay homage to Walter Scott. It is a divided city with extremes of wealth and poverty, a paradoxical and subtle city which appeals to writers and a breathtakingly beautiful one. It is also a small and intimate city so more easily known than larger metropolises and its fortunes throughout history have of course been inextricably linked to the fate of Scotland.

Q: My wife, Susan, and I were in London this past September (2005) and were guests of the London Burns Club for a rather remarkable luncheon at the Caledonian Club. Since you live in London with your family, are there other clubs or attractions for those of us who visit London where we may enjoy meeting with Scottish people?

A: I think the best way to meet Scottish people in London is through the two Scottish churches - St Columba's, which I attend, and Crown Court. Both are very friendly and a wonderful mix of regulars and visitors, young and old. Perhaps also clubs such as the Caledonian but you have to be a reciprocal member of another club or at a rugby match for London Scottish. David Stenhouse in his book on Scots in London, *On the Make*, shows how easily the Scots assimilate and that there are few Scottish ghettos but does list a few places where Scots

may be sighted en masse.

Q: I notice that Robert Louis Stevenson is another of your favorites. On my trips to Scotland, I have not seen a statue, cairn or plaque in his memory. I know from the eighty or so books I have on Stevenson that he greatly impacted Scotland with his writings. On page 74 on your book, you mention "the (Princes Street) Gardens have several literary memorials including one to Stevenson - a grove of birch trees designed by Ian Hamilton Finlay..." which I plan to seek out on my next trip. Why do you suppose there are so many memorials to Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott (more so on Burns) but not to Stevenson?

A: Stevenson had a rather ambivalent view of Edinburgh, though one of the best books on Edinburgh is his *Picturesque Notes*, and Edinburgh repaid the compliment. He perhaps was seen as too critical of the city of his birth and someone who left it as a young man rarely to return but that is all changing. North Berwick are holding a literary festival in his honour this summer and I suspect he is now more widely read and remembered in the city than Burns or Scot.

Q: Not many people are aware of the two trips Benjamin Franklin made to Scotland. It is said that Franklin received the Freedom of the City Award from George Drummond, Provost of Edinburgh, and was recognized as a Guild Brother. I notice you mention Franklin in your book and wonder if, in your research, you came across much information on Franklin's trips to Scotland?

A: Here's a good example of someone else knowing much more than I do and I will investigate further for the next edition. I'm also planning to add more on the visits of Jules Verne, Hans Christian Andersen and Washington Irving about which I wrote very little.

Q: You write that "the three most important writers connected with Edinburgh" are probably "Robert Burns, Walter Scott, and Robert Louis Stevenson." I am surprised and pleased that you include Burns since he was only there twice as a visitor while Scott and Stevenson lived there. Does

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D-642. Ancient Scottish Weapons and Highland Targets. By James Drummond. Without question, Drummond's *Ancient Scottish Weapons* is one of the most important guides to Highland armour, arms and equipment, shields, swords, dirks, powder horns, pistols, muskets, axes, brooches, and other items of dress and Highland dress. Many are pictured in detail, and thus are essential for the military historian, the artisan, or the costumer. His later, shorter work specifically on targets and shields was published in an edition of only 50 copies. The style of illustration is similar to that of his more famous *Weapons*. Book on CD-ROM. \$14.95

Adam's *Clans, Septs, and Regiments* is a classic reference work for all who have an interest in Scotland. When it appeared in print, it was the first real attempt to present a complete study of the Highlands. Adam included large sections on the Highland clan system, the clans themselves, Highland surnames, Highland garb, tartan, Highland music, the Celtic languages in Britain, the destruction of the clan system, Highland regiments, Lowland regiments, the Highland clans after Culloden, and armorial bearings of the great Highland families. There are as well illustrations of the various stages and sorts of Highland dress, maps showing Scotland's development through the centuries, and color illustrations of 114 tartans. \$14.95



D-734. European Hand Firearms of the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries. By Herbert J. Jackson, and with *A Treatise on Scottish Hand Firearms*, By Charles E. Whitelaw. Book on CD-ROM. Originally published 1923. 197 pages. This is a history, with excellent black and white illustrations, of European hand firearms. It begins with a chapter on wheel-locks and match-locks of the 16th and 17th centuries, with 31 plates; snaphaunce and transition weapons and locks, with 14 plates; the flintlock in the 17th century; 17th century gunsmiths, with plates showing names and marks; types of 17th-century flintlock weapons with 18 illustrations; the flintlock of the first half of the 18th century; examples of early 18th-century firearms with 28 illustrations; firearms in the latter part of the 18th century with 12 illustrations; the period of transition from the flint to the percussion system with 3 illustrations; and a chapter on how to clean and care for firearms. In conclusion, there is an extended essay entitled *A Treatise on Scottish Firearms*, by C. E. Whitelaw, with 30 illustrations and a list of Scottish makers. \$14.95

DSP-252. The Firearm in Scotland in the 17th and 18th Centuries. By Lin Robinson. Book on CD-ROM. 135 pages. Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, the civil war which tore Scotland apart, the Jacobite rebellions, and the conquest of empire all produced a demand for firearms unique to the Scottish experience. The Scots needed a different type of firearm, and they decorated their weapons in a style unique to North Britain. Certainly the Scottish firearm — with its elaborate and unique engraving and its different construction — has been of interest to recreationists for many years. All too often, these weapons were altered, destroyed, or simply lost. While James Drummond was able to record a selection of pistols, muskets and rifles in his monumental *Ancient Scottish Weapons*, there has never been a more comprehensive study of the weapons which have either survived or been recreated from historical patterns. Lin Robinson here has pulled together exciting full-color illustrations from museums and collectors on both sides of the Atlantic. Of particular importance to North



American readers is Robinson's thorough study of the Ferguson rifle. While the illustrations are incorporated into the text, they also are viewable in high resolution at the click of a mouse. There will be no better study of Scottish firearms than this comprehensive work. \$18.95



DSP-249. Weapons and Tactics of the 18th-Century Highlanders. By Lin Robinson. 36 pages. Book on CD-ROM. One of the most famous quotes from a participant in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 is attributed to Lieutenant General Henry Hawley of the British Army. Hawley, describing the Jacobite troops, wrote, "They Commonly form their Front rank of what they call their best men, or True Highlanders, the number of which being always but few, when they form in Battallions they commonly form four deep, & these Highlanders form

the front of the four, the rest being lowlanders and arrant scum." The purpose of this article is to describe for you the weapons and tactics of the front rank Highland troops of "The '45" and to also explode some of the myths that have grown up around them. There are sections on the troops, the musket, the pistol, the dirk, the targe, the sword, accoutrements, battle tactics, and the myth of the sword. Of particular interest are the extensive full-color photographs of the weapons themselves, as well as of the elements of the Highland charge. \$14.95

The Edinburgh Literary Companion

By Andrew Lownie

Reviewed by Frank R. Shaw, FSA Scot, Atlanta, GA 30327 email: jurascot@earthlink.net

I have been to Edinburgh fifteen or sixteen times. I have walked the city by the hour with my wife Susan, who is an indefatigable companion on trips. I've caught the taxis out of Waverly Station or from the airport to my hotel.

More often than not, I have driven into "Auld Reekie" from Manchester or Inverness.

It is the first Scottish city I ever rented a car and, thus, had my first encounter with something that I later was informed was a "round-about" on Leith Walk. It was and is a very busy round-about, and I could not get back to The Royal Terrace Hotel quick enough to put these old flat feet on solid ground!

I know both Old Town and New Town. I think I know the majority of bookstores first hand, as well as my share of restaurants and pubs.

I've spent my share of pounds sterling in that

city. I've lugged my share of books back to Atlanta, even to the point of being called by Delta employees into the back luggage room at the airport in Manchester and asked to unpack "this heavy suitcase so we can verify its contents." And that was before 9/11!

I know where to find the best cup of coffee, the best cappuccino, and the best Italian food. I know where the wait staff is good and where it is not. I've had more than my share of good food and good wine in that city.

People I met years ago who live there are now considered friends.

Simply put, Edinburgh is one of the best cities in the world that I've visited during my lifetime of travels. For an outsider, an American whose ancestors come from the Isle of Jura, I thought I knew a lot about Edinburgh until...

Continued on page 27

Frank Shaw, *continued from page 24*

Burns impact the literary history of Edinburgh so much that in 2005 he is listed by you before Scott or Stevenson?

A: The Writers' Museum in Edinburgh is devoted to Burns, Scott and Stevenson so I'm not alone in my assessment.

All three wrote some of their best work there, were inspired by their time in the city, have written vividly about it and are recognized as writers of international note.

Burns' visits to Edinburgh were instrumental in bringing his poetry to wider notice and one might say the same of a writer who deserves to be as well-known – James Hogg author of that haunting classic on Calvinism *Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner*.

My book lists almost a hundred 'Edinburgh Literary Figures' and that's not all of them - I was

criticized for not including JK Rowling. There are now plans for a new and expanded literary museum and perhaps the emphasis of the three will fade.

Q: Your book is a good read. I would have loved spending an afternoon on the second floor of the Princes Street Starbucks viewing "the castle" across the street, with a cup of cappuccino and your book. It couldn't get much better than that! So, thank you for your courtesies to me. Is there anything you would like to say to our readers as a parting word?

A: Thank you for the opportunity to tell you a little bit about my book and my beloved Edinburgh. I hope you enjoy both and I'm always interested to hear from others about the city's literary associations.

(FRS: 1-31-2006)

The Edinburgh Literary Companion, continued from page 26

I read Andrew Lownie's *The Edinburgh Literary Companion*. And I must say, the author is a multi-talented man and was kind enough to introduce himself to me via email after having read a previous review of mine in this space.

I discovered what his publisher already knows - he is a gifted writer. Reading his book about Edinburgh is the best thing I have ever done in connection with this great city. It is a wee book consisting of 150 pages of narrative. It is worthy of the famous "Two Thumbs Up" review, but if I had four, so would this review!

I would have known a lot more about this delightful city a lot sooner had this book been written earlier. This is one of those "do yourself a favor" tips - get a copy if you are going to Edinburgh for the first time or the fifteenth time.

There is something special about Edinburgh - its magic has pulled on the hearts and minds of over five hundred authors who have used the city as the background for their novels.

Lownie points out "a hundred of them have been published in the last fifteen years."

There is not much I can add to the various publications that have already reviewed the book. The list reads like a "Who's Who" publication: *The Herald*, *Sunday Telegraph*, *Scotland on Sunday*, *Glasgow Evening Times*, *Daily Mail*, *The Economist*, *Mail on Sunday*, *Scots Magazine*, *Catholic Herald*, *Spectator*, *Choice Magazine*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The Edinburgh Literary Companion*, and *The Scotsman*.

Yes, the book is that good to command such

an audience of reviewers.

So why would I review a book that has been reviewed "to death"?

For two simple reasons - the author's story needs to be told here in the States and abroad, and it needs to be told to a larger audience of Scots and others with interest in Edinburgh.

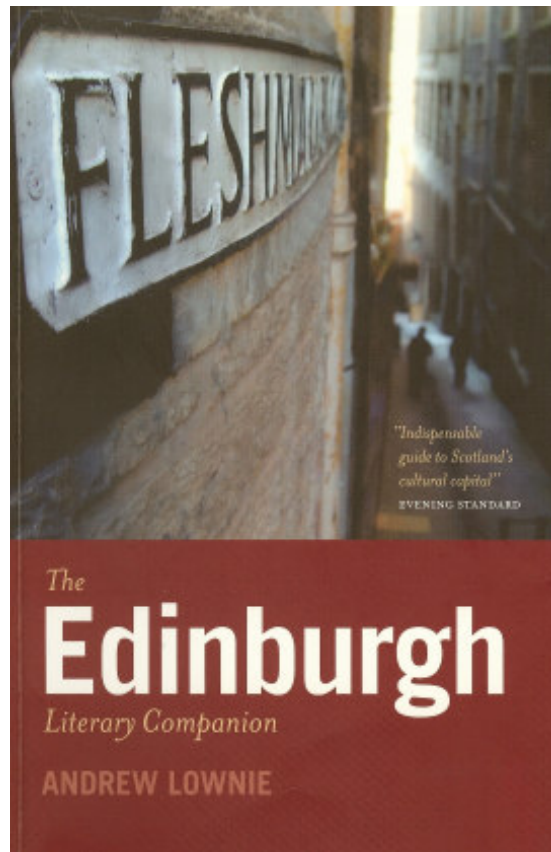
Did you know that www.electricscotland.com has 1.2 million hits a month? Of that number, 60% comes from the USA, 20% from Canada, 10% from Australia and New Zealand, and the other 10% from the United Kingdom.

I have maintained for sometime that Sir Walter Scott is on a comeback among our readers. For too long Sir Walter has been considered out of date.

A few years ago in the home of a friend of mine in Edinburgh, he told me in no uncertain terms over a very Scottish dinner of smoked salmon and lamb chops that Scott was outdated and no longer read. However, Scott remains my favorite Scottish writer, and God knows how much I love Robert Burns.

The increasing number of today's authors who are quoting Scott encourages me.

My library of nearly 400 books on Scott alone testifies to my love for him. It does indeed seem to be fashionable to quote Scott once again as evidenced in Magnus Magnusson's *SCOTLAND, The Story of a Nation* and Arthur Herman's *How The Scots Invented the Modern World*, to name two. Andrew Lownie is no exception. He relies on the writings of Scott and quotes him throughout the book. It helps to remember that Edinburgh was Scott's town, and he could be called the first celebrity



Continued on page 30

John Shaw Vaughan killed in combat in Iraq

Army 2nd Lt. John Shaw Vaughan, 23, of Edwards, Colorado, was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on October 12. He was killed on June 7th, 2006 in Mosul, Iraq, by small arms fire in combat.

Vaughan was born in Vail, Colorado and graduated from Battle Mountain High School in 2001. He attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida, where he was in the ROTC before graduating in 2005 and receiving his commission.

Vaughan was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, based at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. He was one month into a six-month tour when he was killed.

With appreciation to *An Biodag*, Quarterly Newsletter of the Clan Shaw Society.



The Honor Guard at Charleston, SC last October.

International Queries. Can you help?

Royan Shaw, 34 Cunningham Rd., Rosyth, Dumfermline, Fife, KY11 2AL, Scotland, United Kingdom, is looking for information on relatives, **GEORGE BOWMAN SHAW**, born 1887; **FRANCIS SHAW**, born 1890, and **ROBERT SHAW**, born 1899. They are believed to have migrated to either Canada or the United States. He would like information and especially contact with the families of these **SHAWS**. Contact: **RoyanShaw@binternet.com** Mr. Shaw will exchange family information from Scotland.

Julie Margaret Shaw of Melbourne, Australia, wants information and will share what she has pertaining to **JOSEPH SHAW**, born in Bewdley, Yorkshire, England, who migrated to Australia. He had a son, also **JOSEPH**, born 1849, who was the father of her grandfather, **GEORGE**, who, in turn, sired her father, **THOMAS**. Email her at **Julieshaw@hotmail.com**

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The Edinburgh Literary Companion, *continued from page 26*

writer the world ever knew! Scott writes of the emotions he endured when he finally had to sell his Edinburgh residence to help fight off impending bankruptcy ruin.

More importantly for our subject, Andrew Lownie will make both the first time tourist and the frequent traveler to Edinburgh feel as if the town now belongs to them. What is unique about this book is that over a hundred literary figures are covered by Lownie with a lot of emphasis on the likes of Scott, Stevenson, and Garioch, the latter two singled out by the Lownie as “indulging my own particular loves.”

You’ll love what he writes about Barrie, Boswell, Burns, and Byron regarding Edinburgh, and that is just a few of the one hundred plus writers who will join you for your daily walks around Edinburgh if you are smart enough to purchase a copy and take it with you on your next visit.

The book has a bibliography consisting of 211 books, and it lists the 500 books that have been written

on Edinburgh.

“Andrew Lownie was born in Nairobi. He was educated at Fettes and at the universities of Cambridge and Edinburgh. He lives in London where he works as a literary agent.”

You will find this book fascinating. It has a certain elegance not found in the normal run of “guide” books, and it is difficult for me to classify it as such because it is indeed a jewel of a book. Case in point, the unusual use of maps on the inside covers of the book are most helpful - you certainly can’t lose them!

The Edinburgh Literary Companion is published by Polygon, an imprint of Birlinn Ltd., ISBN 10: 1 904598 61 7. The paperback carries a price tag of £9.99. Any Barnes & Nobles or Borders, or your favorite local bookstore should be able to get it for you.

Thanks, Andrew Lownie, for making my next trip to Edinburgh more enlightening on one of the world’s most beautiful cities! (FRS – 1/21/06)