

The Last Clan Battle Capture The Capital: Battle of Paoli and Germantown

~ Submitted by Isaac Baird ~

In the American War of Independence, in 1777, a stalemate grew. The British made significant gains in New York and in Brandywine, Pennsylvania. The Americans had success, albeit smaller but more significant in morale. One historian, Stanley Weintraub, stated that the British faced not only the American colonial forces but two other even greater adversaries. General Demography, or the sheer number of Americans, and General Atlantic, or the distance from London to North America for resupply and fresh troops, insurmountably faced the British Army. For the British, victory meant not only defeating the Americans but also limiting casualties to be able to continue the war.

Great Britain supplied Scottish Highland units such as the 42nd Black Watch and the 71st Fraser Highlanders to engage the enemy. The 71st specifically was raised by the Clan Chief of the Frasers and its commanding officers were the sons of Clan Chiefs that fought at Culloden. Those men in turn had recruited from their clans. But lowlanders were found among them. One of them, Sir James Baird of Auchmedden, gained the loyalty of his men by assimilating into their culture and becoming their chief. From the is perspective, the American War of Independence becomes a Clan battle

where a Baird Chief led his clansmen once more into war dressed in the kilt. This is the last battle of the Clan Baird.

After the British defeated the Americans at Brandywine, the Americans retreated and panic set in the American

troops in a place known as Paoli thinking it safe. Wayne, born and raised nearby only 32 years earlier, must have felt at home in his own backyard. He knew the terrain and the people.

The British had other plans. The British General Charles Grey decided on a surprise night attack on the American forces. The assault required absolute discipline to catch the Americans off guard. He ordered that his troops remove their flint and unload their giving him the nick name "No-Flint" Grey. This assault would be of sword and steel not bullets. In the lead, the 42nd Black Watch and an Amalgamation of



The Paoli Massacre by Xavier Della Gatta, 1782 (ExplorePAHistory.com)

capital of Philadelphia. The continental congress abandoned the city. The next week the British and American Forces attempted to outmaneuver each other. Finally, Washington crossed the Schuylkill River to protect the capital leaving Brigadier General "Mad Dog" Anthony Wayne. Wayne camped his

Light Infantry silently they made their way to the Americans. The British surprised Wayne's force and enveloped them. It was described by an officer of

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Ceud Mìle Fàilte!

(100,000 Welcomes)

*We welcome to our
Clan the following:*

Anna Margaret Baird White
Winter Park, FL

Diana G. Radley
Chula Vista, CA

Diane Baird Frisby
Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Bethany Scott
Rockaway Beach, NY

Jamie Baird Shombert
Highland Park, NJ



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the British Light Infantry as “a dreadful scene of Havock The Shrieks Groans Shouting, imprecations deprecation The Clashing of Swords and Bayonets &c &c &c... was more expressive of Horror than all the Thunder of the Artillery &c on the Day of Action.[sic]”

The battle was depicted later by Della Gatta in the painting The Paoli Massacre which was commissioned in London years later by an officer at the scene. It is noted for its accuracy in terrain. Although Della Gatta was not there, the painting demonstrates the surprise, horror, and defeat felt by the Americans. Propagandists quickly used this battle to show the atrocities had been committed by no quarter being given. In truth, only 53 men out of 2100 were killed, and over 200 were captured or wounded. But the scene of Scottish Highlanders, including Sir James Baird and his Light Infantry, created a memory that could not be forgotten.

In history books, the 71st is not listed at being present. However, this is not accurate. Sir James Baird and his 71st light infantry were at this battle as evidenced by Lieutenant Roderick Mackenzie who, after the war, wrote “ those of the seventy-first regiment were distinguished under Sir James Baird at the surprise [sic] of General Wayne in Pennsylvania....” The 71st, represented by the Light Infantry under Sir James Baird, was present and distinguished themselves in the surprise. The reason for the lack of recognition is that Grey amalgamated several light infantry units into one group. With limited troops, and no hope of new recruits, the British appear to have creatively combined light infantry units before dissolving them back into their original commands after the need passed. At Paoli, Sir James Baird and the 71st 1st Battalion Light Infantry fought as apart of the 2nd Light Infantry.

The Americans would use this incite their men with the cry of “Remember Paoli.” This propaganda continued to escalate atrocities on both sides as the Americans would show no quarter in later battles as a response. Additionally, this battle was linked to several British military traditions until 2006. When the Americans cried for revenge, it was claimed that the 2nd Light Infantry dyed their feathers so that the Americans might know who they were. The 42nd Black Watch acclaimed that General How ordered the 42nd to get Red feathers as well, which in 1795 became regulation. The actual source of the red feathers, or Red Hackle, is controversial as other units active in this battle such as the Royal Berkshires had a red backing to their cap badges as the ‘Brandywine flash’ in honor of that Battle. All of the units however intimated that it was due to distinguishment in American War of Independence.

The real reason for the confusion and origin may lie at Sir James Baird’s unit. When the first documentation of red feather came in 1821, it was in the discussion of Colonel John Maitland who led the 2nd Light Brigade and later led the 71st at Tappan. Sir James Baird fought as a part of the 2nd Light Infantry and then returned to the 71st 1st Battalion Light Infantry after the Pennsylvania campaign. Sir James Baird’s unit under Maitland “attracted the attention of General Washington.” Maitland sent an “intimation to the American commander , that in future his men would be distinguished by a red feather I the bonnets, so the he could not mistake them nor avoid doing justice in their exploits....”

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Message from the President

Greetings from Clan Baird President

Greetings to all Baird Clan Society members and all Baird family septs everywhere. 2015 has been a very good year for the group. Our membership renewals and new members are up and many have paid for multiple years. Your support of the work of the Society is much appreciated. Several of our members will be visiting Scotland this summer on individual family trips, and we look forward to stories of their travels, as well as many pictures of Baird sites. If you are interested in a group trip during summer 2016, please email me; we are considering putting a trip together that tours Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and the historic Estate of Auchmedden area.

Our Annual Meeting will be at the Stone Mountain, Georgia Highland Games October 16-18.

The website is smhg.org The Hilton Atlanta Northeast is the official hotel, and there are several others close by. There is a Hampton Inn just outside the event area. Campgrounds are also available at Stone Mountain Park, if anyone wishes to stay there. The Society especially appreciates the help of Cheryl and Henry Baird of Bremen, Georgia, who are in charge of the Baird Tent and coordinating with the Board on all weekend events. Cheryl has also been very gracious in accepting the appointment as Southeast Regional Clan Baird Coordinator. She will be working with the other regional coordinators in advising the Board as to important activities and concerns of each region. The Regional Coordinator Committee is a new structure that it is hoped will help the Board and officers have a closer relationship with the Society members and their families.

Thanks to 2nd Vice President, Isaac Baird, for redrawing our regions into groups of states and countries, rather

than individual states. We are in the process of calling those who have been involved before and appointing Regional Coordinators. If you have not been called and are interested in any particular area, please email or call me. If you have concerns or suggestions for making the Society better, please get in touch with me. I and the Board are always interested in the group being closer and serving one another better. I have included a picture of Cheryl and Henry Baird's family at the Stone Mountain Games last year. Their son represented Clan Baird in the sporting events and will do so again in 2015.

During the festival, we will be holding a reception for our athletes at the Baird Tent and presenting Baird Clan plaques with a gift from the Society for their efforts in the sporting events. If you plan to participate in the contests, please send me your name and events, so that we can prepare for your award presentation at the reception, and send your special invitation to attend. I hope to see each



Cheryl and Henry Baird, Nathan Brooks, their son and our entry in the 2014 and 2015 games, with daughter Tiffany and son-in-law A.J. Stevenson.

of you at Stone Mountain. I am working on my Gaelic, and hope to be able to speak with you in it by October. Please pray for me; I am old to be learning more in another language.

Sith gun robh maille riut!
"Peace be with you"

Your Servant, Debra

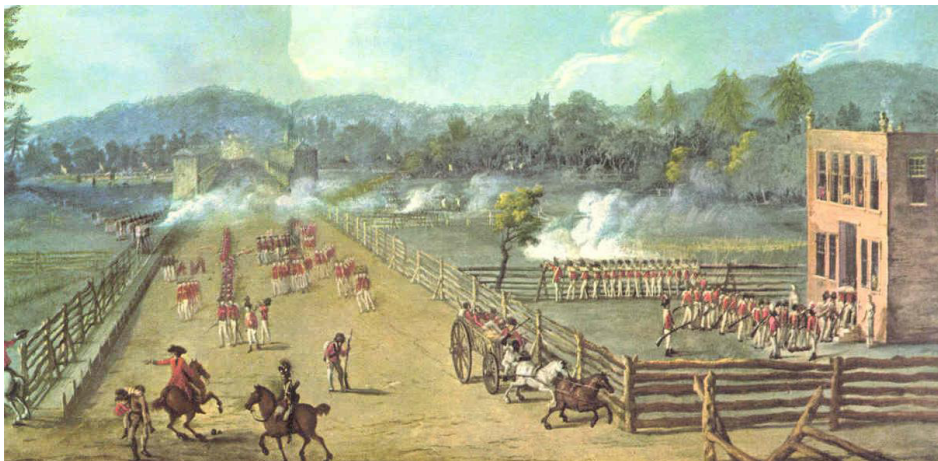


Last Clan Battle Continued

The confusion existed in that the historians originally thought Maitland could not possibly have been the source of the red feathers since he had two separate units, the 2nd Light Brigade and the 71st, while tradition stated that the red feather was worn by the 71st after Tappan but the 42nd and other units claimed use prior due to The 2nd Light infantry or actions in Brandywine. The answer is that 2nd light infantry consisted of Sir James Baird and his men in the Battle of Paoli and at Tappan, when Maitland took over the 71st, they had reverted back to the 71st. Maitland led Highlanders in both conflicts, specifically, Sir James Baird's Light Infantry.

They defended themselves in a stone house until General Grey brought reinforcements. Upon being relieved, the 2nd Light infantry advanced and "the enemy's left gave way, and was pursued through a strong country between four and five miles."

We know that Sir James Baird also participated in this battle as he is listed as one of the wounded from the 71st that participated in the Battle of Germantown. He most likely returned to the 71st to New York where he recovered and where fresh troops arrived. Upon recovering though, he would personally repay the Americans in such a way that he would become famous.



The Battle of Germantown, 1777

The Battle of Germantown

On the 19th, at Saratoga, New York, the British would defeat the Americans in a very costly. With these victories, General Howe marched into Philadelphia and claimed the capital. The American side did not capitulate and on October 4th General Washington launched an assault on German Town outside of Pennsylvania.

At day break the Americans began their attack upon the 2d light infantry, which they sustained for a considerable time...." The 2nd Light infantry "being overpowered by increasing numbers, the light infantry and a part of the 40th retired into the village..."

'Iron Tears,' a British View of American Revolution. NPR Interview with Stanley Weintraub July 3 2005 <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4727956>

McGuire, Thomas. Battle of Paoli. Stackpole Books, 2006 Pg. 110

Moncure, Lt. Colonel John. The Cowpens Staff Ride and Battlefield Tour, includes a transcription of statements by Tarleton, Cornwallis, Howard, and Mackenzie's August 9, 1782, letter in the London Morning Chronicle. Pg 191.

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Schofield, Victoria, The Highland Furies 1739-1899 Quercus 2012

Stewart, General David Sketches of the character, manners and present state of the Highlanders of Scotland with details of The Military Service of The Highland Regiments (Edinburgh 1825) Archibald Constable pg 66. Feb 14 2013 Stewart, Pg 66

Battle of Brandywine The Craftsman; or, London Intelligencer. Issue No. 101. W. Parker. Saturday, Dec 6, 1777 The Craftsman; or London Intelligencer The Craftsman; or London Intelligencer



Highland Game Events

Clan Baird Annual AGM Meeting is set for the 2015 Stone Mountain Games

October 16-18, 2015

The website is www.smhg.org for more information.

150th Scottish Highland Gathering & Games

September 5 - 6, 2015

Alameda County Fairgrounds Pleasanton, CA

Labor Day weekend

www.thescottishgames.com

Colorado Scottish Festival

July 31 - August 2, 2015 Town Park, Snowmass Village, CO

1st weekend in August

www.scottishgames.org

166th Annual Highland Games

August 1, 2015

Greenmead Historical Park Livonia, MI

www.highlandgames.com



Interesting Bairds to Present ← from Past →



R. Baird

Robert Baird, born October 6, 1798 – March 15, 1863) was an American clergyman and author. He was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, and graduated at Jefferson College in 1818 and at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1822. He taught at an academy at Princeton, New Jersey for five years while tutoring at the College of New Jersey and preaching occasionally. In 1827 Baird became a New Jersey agent for the American Bible Society, distributing Bibles among the poor and laboring among destitute Presbyterian churches. His survey of educational deficiencies eventually led to the introduction of a system of public education in New Jersey.

In 1829 he became an agent for the American Sunday School Union and traveled extensively for the society. In 1835 he went to Europe, where he remained

eight years, devoting himself to the promotion of Protestant Christianity in southern Europe and subsequently to the advocacy of temperance reform in northern Europe. On the formation of the Foreign Evangelical Society, since merged in the American and Foreign Christian Union, he became its agent and corresponding secretary.

In 1842 while in Geneva, Robert wrote his *Religion in America*, first published in Glasgow. Baird revised and expanded this work through several printings in the United States with the edition of 1856 being the most complete. Subsequently the history was translated into French, German, Dutch, and Swedish. In this work of almost seven hundred pages, Baird argued that revivalism was a positive feature of American religious experience.

In 1846 Baird visited Europe to attend the world's temperance convention in Stockholm and the meeting of the evangelical alliance in London, and on his return he delivered a series of lectures on the "Continent of Europe." In 1862 he vindicated in London before large audiences the cause of the union against secession with vigorous eloquence. Among his other published works are a "View of the Valley of the Mississippi" (1832); "History of the Temperance Societies" (1836); "Visit to Northern Europe" (1841) "Protestantism in Italy" (Boston, 1845); "Impressions and Experiences of the West Indies and North America in 1849" (Philadelphia, 1850), revised, with a supplement, in 1855; "History of the Albigenses, Waldenses, and Vandois."



Highland Game Events

Maine Highland Games

August 15, 2015

Topsham Fairgrounds

www.mainehighlandgames.org



Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games

June 13 - 14, 2015

Weeks Park, Blairsville, GA

www.blairvillescottishfestival.org



Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

July 9 - 12, 2015

MacRae Meadows, Linville, NC

www.gmhg.org





Highland Game Events

Long Island Scottish Festival & Highland Games

August 22, 2015
Old Wesbury Gardens,
Old Westbury, NY
www.liscots.org



Ohio Scottish Games June 27, 2015

Loraine County Fairgrounds
www.ohioscottishgames.com



The Old Man of Hoy, Orkney

SOME DUES ARE STILL DUE

by Robert L. Baird, Secretary

We were a bit late sending out notices for the 2015 membership dues. We had a very positive response and I wish to thank you for responding. As there are never enough funds, and to use a play on words, "Some Dues are still Due". For those of you in this category, it is not to late to remit your dues. They are still \$20 and they can be sent to,

Robert Beard, Treasurer,
16644 Vallely Dr.
Tampa, FL 33618

Or see below how to pay for your dues online through PayPal

Paying Annual Dues has been made EASY through PayPal

1. Go to the Clan Baird Society Worldwide website:
<http://www.clanbairdsociety.com/>
2. Select Membership tab, then Online Payment!
3. If you do not have a PayPal account, it will ask you to create one.
4. Paying online is very simple once you have a PayPal account!

The Old Man of Hoy is a famous 450 foot sea stack, first climbed in 1966 in a tele-vised assault, is perhaps Orkney's most famous landmark. Old Man of Hoy is Britain's tallest and probably most photographed sea stack. At 137 meters high and only about 30 meters wide at its base, this imposing rectangular stack has been carved from layer upon layer of Old Red Sandstone (Devonian) rocks. The shaping of the stack can be traced back through the centuries through paintings and maps. In 1750, the Old Man was depicted as a headland, but by the 1820's stormy seas had carved the rock into a stack and arch - two legs gave the Old Man his name. A severe storm however, washed away one of the legs to leave the pillar that remains - for now!

The future will almost certainly bring the total demise of the Old Man. There is already a large 40 meter crack running vertically from the top of the stack which threatens its upper reaches. Waves will also continue to erode the base of the stack until the entire pillar collapses.





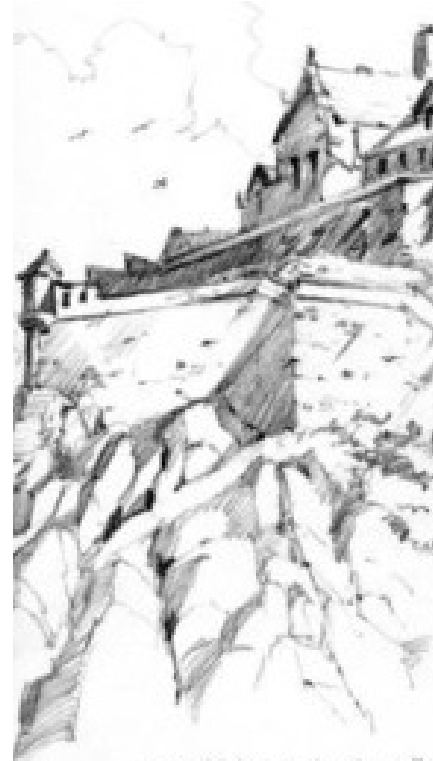
Dualchas

CULTURE · TRADITION · INHERITANCE

Hi! I'm Erin Park, and in this space I will be talking a little bit about Gaelic, Highland, and Scottish culture and history. Feel free to send me any suggestions that you would like to see covered!

Oral culture and print culture have coexisted for centuries in the Gaelic world. Beginning in Ireland with the use of Ogham script, which was mostly just used for practical inscriptions of personal names, then shifting to the use of Latin through the introduction of Christianity in the early Middle Ages, to use of the vernacular, Old Irish, written in the Roman alphabet. Despite this strong tradition of print in Gaelic (having one of the richest textual repositories in Europe in the early Middle Ages), oral culture has been the primary form of literary expression. Given this, Gaelic printing arose much later than manuscript production, in the nineteenth century, due to several factors. The first factor was migration from the Highlands and Islands to Inverness, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. This pouring in of Gaels led to the development of a class of urban, middle class Gaelic speakers, who saw print as a way to maintain their language and who had the financial means (perhaps after a generation or two) in order to produce and consume these texts. Another factor was the growth of Gaelic literacy among the masses of the

population. The Scottish Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge had created English-medium schools in the Highlands to bring both the English language and protestantism to the Gaels. However, after some time, Gaelic literacy was introduced as a way to transition the pupils from Gaelic monolingualism to learning English. These two factors combined led to a larger Gaelic middle class and a larger proportion of the population who could read and write. As with education through the SSPCK, Gaelic publishing was dominated by religious texts, especially printed sermons, at least at the start. In the mid-1800s the secular Gaelic periodical was pioneered by Tormod MacLeoid, who was himself a minister. While it can be said that oral culture has, and still does, hold the highest place in Gaelic literature, the growth of printing and publishing in the medium of Scottish Gaelic has been crucial to the development and enrichment of the language and culture.



Clan Baird Society Worldwide Financial Statement

First Quarter 2015

January 1 through March 31, 2015

Income:	
Dues Received	1500.00
Misc Income	
Donations	
Quartermaster Sales	

Total Quarterly Income: 1500.00

Expense:	
Advertising	
President-Membership	
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Scholarships	
Gryphon Games	486.24
Awards, Trophies & Donations	
Miscellaneous	9.88

Total Quarterly Expense: 496.12

Net Income or (Loss) for Quarter: (1,003.88)

Cash in Bank - Last Quarter: 7,092.65

Cash in Bank/Available Funds: 8,096.53

Submitted by:
Robert G. Beard, Treasurer for Clan Baird Society Worldwide

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 **Newsletter
Deadlines**

August 2015 Issue
deadline is July 15th

November 2015 Issue
deadline is October 15th

February 2016 Issue
deadline is January 15th

**Please submit newsletter
articles to:**

Heather Snyder at
gryphon@clanbairdsociety.com
or mail to:

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63 Northview Dr.
Northfield, VT 05663

Electronic file formats accepted are
Microsoft Word documents
Adobe Acrobat. Any photo images,
JPG, TIFF, GIF

**Any questions about *The Gryphon*
submissions please feel
free to call Heather
at 802-485-5541**

 **Where you
can find us**

Finding Your Family Roots

We have other of Clan Baird Society who are very knowledgeable in the history of Baird. Please email info@clanbairdsociety.com for more information.

**Check out our website!
clanbairdsociety.com**



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