

CLAN POLLOCK, INCORPORATED



CINNEADH POLLAG

POLLAG
A POOL OF INFORMATION
June 1984

MOTTO

Audacter et Strenue
Boldly and Strongly

Volume 1
No. 10

POLLOCK, POLLOK, POOK, POLK, POLKE, PAULK, POALK, POALKE,
POULK, POOLKE, POGUE

" A person who takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors cannot expect to be remembered for his noble deeds by remote descendents."

Editor's Corner

I am doing some research, whenever I get the chance, to solve a wee problem which has developed over the Latin words of the clan motto, in particular the word Audacter. Some believe the word should be spelled Audaciter. I have checked some Latin dictionaries and in most it is spelled either way. Its English translation is "boldly." What I am trying to determine is the spelling used on the authentic Pollock Coat of Arms. If anyone has information pertaining to this matter, I would appreciate hearing from you. As soon as I have satisfied myself of the correct spelling, future issues of the Pollag will bear the new clan crest. The new crest is identical to the old with the exception that the boar has been redrawn to appear more fierce. The new design was sent to several members of the clan for comment, and to a person they recommended it be adopted. I hope everyone will like it.

New Members

Three new members have joined the clan since publication of the last issue of the Pollag. We welcome them and sincerely hope they enjoy the kinship we enjoy. They are:

Russell B. Pollock - Manchester, NH
Donna P. Anania - Rolling Meadows, IL
Patricia P. Hoffmann - Milwaukee, WI

Their names and addresses will appear on the membership list

the next time it is published and mailed to all members of the clan. In the meantime, I will send their full address to anyone wishing to write to one of our new members.

The Maxwell History

Editor's Note: This is the second installment of the history of Clan Maxwell. There are some who argue that there were no Lowland "clans," and therefore the reference to Clan Maxwell should be correctly stated as the Maxwell "Family." I have seen references in history books to the Maxwells as both a clan and a family. In my opinion it is not incorrect to use "Clan Maxwell," for the Maxwell fortunes and misfortunes were likewise the fortunes and misfortunes of allied families such as the Pollocks. In that sense, they were no different than the highland clans.

(Continued) Lord Maxwell, besides the offices of Master of the Royal Household and Chief Carver to the King, obtained large grants of land in the shires of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Roxburgh, Perth, and Lanark. The extent of his influence is evidenced by the fact that he received bonds of man-rent from such powerful barons as Murray of Cockpool, ancestor of the Earls of Mansfield; Douglas of Drumlanrig, ancestor of the Dukes and Marquises of Queensberry; Stewart of Garlies, ancestor of the Earls of Galloway; Johnstone of Johnstone, ancestor of the Marquises of Annandale; Gordon of Lochinvar, ancestor of the Viscounts Kenmure, and from other influential Nithsdale and Galloway families. (Editor's Note: We shall later see the Johnstones became bitter enemies and rivals of the Maxwells for power in Annandale and vicinity, which eventually led to a bloody feud lasting for many years.) Robert, fifth Lord Maxwell, died in 1546. His younger son, Sir John Maxwell of Terregles, married Agnes, the daughter of the third Lord Herries, and succeeded to that title as the first Lord Herries of the House of Maxwell. The elders son--

Robert, sixth Lord Maxwell, appears to have been a man of courage with an impetuous and energetic character, but his early death prevented his attaining the conspicuous and influential position which his father held. His wife, Lady Beatrix Douglas, was a daughter of James, the fourth Earl of Morton, and co-heiress of the earldom. Her younger sister married James Douglas, nephew of Archibald, Earl of Angus, who through her obtained the title, and became the celebrated Regent Morton. As we have seen, Robert, fifth Lord Maxwell, was imprisoned in England. He was permitted to return to his native country only on condition that he promote the sinister designs of the English King. In return for some pecuniary assistance, the emissaries of Henry strove hard to induce Maxwell to give up the castle of Lochmaben. This he was unwilling to do. The long, bloody feud which raged between the Maxwells and the Johnstones seems to have originated at this time. The Laird of Johnstone violated the obligations of man-rent by which he bound himself to assist Lord

Maxwell in all his just and hoest actions. (Editor's Note: For centuries the border between England and Scotland was divided on each side into three areas called Marches. They were designated the East, Middle, and West March. Each March was ruled over by a warden. When in the good graces of the King, Lord Maxwell was often appointed Warden of the West March. His constant arch rival for this coveted position was Lord Johnstone.)

Wharton, one of the English Wardens, informed the Earl of Shrewsbury that he had used means to create discord between the Maxwells and the Johnstones. He had offered the Laird of Johnstone 300 crowns, his brother, the Abbot of Soulseat, and his followers 100 crowns, on condition that he would put the Master of Maxwell in his hands. Johnstone, he said, had entered into the plot, but he and his friends were of such poor reputation that he placed very little confidence in them.

There was so much double-dealing and treachery on both sides, that it was impossible to put much confidence in any of the leaders. The Master of Maxwell, in order to obtain his father's liberation from the Tower, promised the English ambassador that he would do his utmost to promote the English interests, but he did little to carry out his promise. On the other hand, the Governor of the Lords of the Scottish Council compelled him to give security that he would loyally keep the houses of Caerlaverock, Lochmaben, and the Thrieve, for Scotland. In 1545, the Master was taken prisoner and taken to London where his father had been in captivity for quite some time. He remained in England until 1549, when he was exchanged for Sir Thomas Palmer.

Lord Maxwell died in 1552, after only six years in the position of chief of the family. He had two sons. Robert, who succeeded his father as seventh Lord, died when only four years of age. John, became eighth Lord Maxwell and was afterwards created Earl of Morton. In the critical state of the country at that time, a long minority might have been highly prejudicial to the interests of the family. (Editor's Note: Meaning that the title was bestowed on a minor who, of course, could not effectivley manage his estates until he had grown to manhood.) Fortunately, however, the infant noble had for his guardian his uncle, Sir John Maxwell of Terregles, under whose judicious and careful management the possessions and influence of the house were fully maintained.

Lord Maxwell, at an early age, enrolled himself among the supporters of Queen Mary, and suffered severely for his adherence to her cause. (Editor's Note: The Pollocks of Pollock were also allied with Lord Maxwell and the cause of Mary Stuart. John Pollock of Pollock fought on Queen Mary's side at the battle of Langside. The Queen's army was defeated, the Queen was forced to flee to England, and John Pollock of Pollock was forfeited.) The Maxwell estates were laid waste, and in 1570 the Maxwell castles of Dumfries and Caerlaverock were destroyed by a powerful English army under the Earl of Sussex. Lord Maxwell and his uncle attended the parliament held in the name of the Queen at

Edinburgh, June 12, 1571, in opposition to the meeting convened by the Earl of Lennox, the Regent, a few weeks earlier. The young noble, to the great satisfaction of his retainers and numerous branches of his house, soon made it evident that he possessed the courage and intrepidity which had distinguished his grandfather. His marriage, in his twentieth year, to the youngest daughter of the seventh Earl of Angus, brought him into close alliance with the great houses of Douglas and Hamilton, the Scotts of Buccleuch, and the Earl of Bothwell. Not long after his marriage he obtained from the Regent Morton the office of Warden of the West March. The harmony between him and that imperious and grasping noble was not of long continuance. The claim which Lord Maxwell preferred to the earldom and title of Morton roused the jealousy of the Regent, and ultimately led to a violent quarrel.

The third Earl of Morton left three daughters, but no son. The eldest became the wife of the Earl of Arran, Duke of Chatelherault. The second eldest daughter married Robert, sixth Lord Maxwell. The third daughter married James Douglas the Regent, brother of the Earl of Angus. The Earl of Morton settled his earldom and estates upon Elizabeth, his youngest daughter, and her husband and male issue. The settlement was confirmed by the Crown in the year 1543. Lord Maxwell, however, refused to acquiesce in this settlement, which he considered unjust. He asserted his right to the earldom on the grounds that as his mother's heir he was entitled to one-third of the earldom, that he had a right to another third by the demission which he alleged had been executed in his favor by his aunt, the Duchess of Chatelherault, with the consent of her husband and son, and that he was heir-apparent of Lady Elizabeth, the Regent's wife, who had no issue. For pressing his claim, Maxwell was first imprisoned at Edinburgh Castle, then at Blackness, and finally at St. Andrews. Morton deprived Lord Maxwell of the Wardenship of the West March, and then conferred it on Maxwell's traditional enemy, the Laird of Johnstone. Maxwell obtained his release, however, and was restored to the office after the downfall of Morton in 1577.

He took a prominent part in the affairs of that day, which at one time threatened to lead to civil war. Shortly after his reinstatement in the wardenship, a case occurred which throws light on the arbitrary and barbarous manner in which the jurisdiction, entrusted to the nobles, was exercised in those days. A summons was raised by a John Bek against Lord Maxwell for personal maltreatment. It was affirmed that Lord Maxwell had put the complainant in prison at Caerlaverock, in which he was retained for ten days. When at last he was removed from the castle, he was taken to the nearby woods where he was bound hand and foot to a tree. A small cord was tied around his head and twisted tightly with a pin. All this barbarous treatment, he asserted, was inflicted on him because he refused to bear false testimony against John Schortrig, of Marcholme, as to alleged wrongs done by him to Lord Maxwell in reference to certain corns. After being thus cruelly tortured, Bek was again committed to prison. The case came before the Privy Council at Stirling, but

Lord Maxwell did not appear to answer to the charge. As a result he was ordered to set poor Bek at liberty within three days.

Maxwell became closely associated with the royal favorites Esme Stewart, Lord d'Aubigny, and the unprincipled Captain James Stewart, afterwards Earl of Arran, who were bitter enemies of the Regent Morton. After Morton's forfeiture and execution, Maxwell obtained from King James a grant of both the title and lands of the earldom of Morton. Even so, Maxwell soon lost favor with the King, due in part to complaints made about the state of the West March, complaints which appear to have been well founded. It was stated that Maxwell's "household men, servants, or tenants, dwelling upon his lands, or within the jurisdiction of his Wardenry, many of them being of the name of Armstrong, accompanied by some of the Grahams, Englishmen, and others, their accomplices common thieves, to the number of nine score persons, went, on 30th October, 1582, under silence, to the lands of Easter Montberengier, and carried off eighteen score of sheep, with plenishing estimated at the value of 290 merks. (Editor's Note: Plenish means stock as in livestock.) Immediately thereafter on the same night, they proceeded to the land of Ewchar, from which they stole twenty-two scores of sheep, twenty-four kye (cows) and oxen, and plenishing worth 100 merks." In addition they seized Thomas Dalgleish and Adam Scott, two of the persons whom they had ruthlessly plundered, and forcibly took them to Annandale bound in irons.

Deeds such as these did not go unnoticed and unpunished. At a time when Maxwell's friends were no longer favorites at court, he was summoned to appear before the Privy Council to present the persons who had committed the crimes. As might have been expected, he failed to appear or to answer the charges against him. The Council therefore, ordered him to be denounced as a rebel, and he was again deprived of the office of Warden of the West March. The office predictably was again conferred on his long standing enemy the Laird of Johnstone.

Soon thereafter, Maxwell fell into disfavor with Arran, an earl with considerable power at court. As a result, Arran decided to attempt to revive the feud which had developed between the Maxwells and the Johnstones. Maxwell was denounced as a rebel by the Council, on the plea that he had failed to present before their lordships two persons of the name of Armstrong, whom it was alleged he had protected in their depredations. He was ordered to enter his person within six days in ward in the castle of Blackness, and to deliver up the castles of Caerlaverock and Thrieve, as well as his other strongholds within twenty four hours, under penalty of treason. They also ordered Maxwell's friends to personally appear before the Laird of Johnstone, who was now again Warden of the West March. They were to "give security for their due obedience to the King, under pain of rebellion." To crown all, a commission was given to the Warden to pursue and seize Maxwell, and two companies of hired soldiers were dispatched by Arran to assist Johnstone in executing these

decrees.

Maxwell, thus forced to the wall, adopted prompt and vigorous measures for his defense. The defeat of the mercenaries at Crawford Moor by Robert Maxwell, Maxwell's brother, the destruction of the house of Lochwood, and the capture of Johnstone himself, when he was lying in ambush to attack Robert Maxwell, speedily followed. On the otherhand, the King, with advice of his Council, revoked and annulled the grant which he had made to Lord Maxwell of the lands and earldom of Morton. So formidable did Maxwell appear to the government that a sum of 20,000 pounds was granted by the Convention of Estates to levy soldiers for the suppression of the rebellion, and all the men south of the Forth, capable of bearing arms, were commanded to be in readiness to attend the King in an expedition against the powerful and refractory baron. It was justly said that "few nobelmen in Scotland could surpass him in military power and experience." But the projected raid into Dumfriesshire was deferred for some months and ultimately abandoned. Even Arran himself was so much impressed by the indomitable energy and the resistance which Maxwell had displayed, that he made an attempt, albeit unsuccessful, to reconcile with him. The downfall of the profligate and unprincipled favorite was, however, at hand. The banished lords who had attempted to usurp the power of the royal house, entered Scotland in October, 1585, at the head of a small body of troops. They were soon joined by Bothwell, Home, Yester, Cessford, Drumlanrig, and other powerful barons. Maxwell brought to their aid 1,300 foot and 700 horse, while the forces of all the other lords scarcely equalled that number. The insurgents marched to Stirling, where the King and his worthless favorite lay, and without difficulty obtained possession both of the town and castle. Hume of Godscroft described, with great indignation, the conduct of the Annandale Borderers under Maxwell. True to their predatory character, they carried off the gentlemen's horses, which had been committed to the care of their valets, respecting neither friend nor foe; and what was worse, they robbed the sick in the pest-lodges that were in the fields about Stirling, and carried away the clothes of the infected. Arran fled for his life, accompanied only by a single attendant. The banished lords, along with Maxwell, were pardoned. Their estates were restored, and an indemnity was granted them by parliament for all their unlawful doings within the kingdom.

Emboldened by his victory over Arran, Maxwell, who was a zealous Roman Catholic, assembled a number of his retainers and supporters of the old church at Dumfries, and marched in procession at their head to the Collegiate Church of Lincluden, in which he caused mass to be openly celebrated. As stringent laws had been enacted by the Estates against the celebration of mass, this conduct excited general indignation. Maxwell was summoned to appear before the Privy Council, and was imprisoned, by order of the King, in the castle of Edinburgh. Shortly after this episode, the forfeiture of Regent Morton was rescinded, and it was declared that Archibald, Earl of Angus, as his nearest heir of line, should succeed to the lands and dignities of the

	<u>Jun</u>		<u>Jul</u>
United Scot.Soc.Hghlnd Gms. Orange County Fairgrounds Costa Mesa, CA	26-27	Athena Caledonian Games City Park Field Athena, OR	14
Kan. City Highland Games Horizon Fitness Center Kansas City, MO	9	Portland Highland Games David Douglas High School Portland, OR	20-21
Utah Scot. Assn. Games Westminster College Salt Lake City, UT	16	Cambridge Highland Games Waterloo Recreational Gnds. Cambridge, Canada	21
Gateway Highland Games St. Louis, MO	16	Arcadian Scottish Festival Trenton, ME	21-22
Delco Scottish Games Devon Horse Show Grounds Devon, PA	16	Virginia Scottish Games Episcopal High School Alexandria, VA	28-29
Natl.Cptl.Reg. Games/Tattoo Lansdowne Park Ottawa, Canada	22-23	'Attend the games, they're great! And while you're there, set up a Clan Pollock booth and spread the word to our kinfolks.	

Until next time.

Aye,

Bill

earldom. Lord Maxwell, however, was not deprived of the title of Earl of Morton, which was subsequently given to him in royal charters and commissions, and which he continued to use until his death. (To be continued).

***** SCHEDULE OF EVENTS *****

Glengarry Highland Games Kenyon Agricultural Gnds. Maxville, Canada	4 Aug
Alaskan Scottish Games and Gathering Eagle River, AK	4 Aug
Scottish Games and Gathering of Maine Thomas Pt. Beach Brunswick, ME	11 Aug
Fergus Highland Games Victoria Park Fergus, Ontario, Canada	11 Aug
Rocky Mountain Highland Games Colorado School of Mines Golden, CO	11-12 Aug
Quechee Scottish Festival Quechee Polo Field Quechee, VT	25 Aug
Long Island Scottish Gathering and Games Old Westbury Gardens Old Westbury, NY	25 Aug

Charleston Scottish 15 Sep
Games and Gathering
Middleton Place
Charleston, SC

New Hampshire Gathering 15-16 Sep
of the Clans
Loon Mountain Recreational
Center
Lincoln, NH

Central California 15 Sep
Highland Games
Coombs Ranch
Fresno, CA

Williamsburg Scottish 22 Sep
Festival
William and Mary College
Williamsburg, VA

A reminder -- If you haven't sent you 84 dues to Rosemary,
please fill out the form below and mail it to her.

Also -- If you have any comments or suggestions as to what you
would like to see in the Pollag, please write and let me know.

Until next time,

Aye,

Bill