

CLAN POLLOCK



CINNEADH POLLAG

POLLAG
A POOL OF INFORMATION
29 March 1985

MOTTO

Audacter et Strenue
Bold and Strong

Volume 1
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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 descendants."

Editor's Corner

My apologies to all for failing to publish a Pollag for the last quarter of 1984. Constraints placed on my time forced me to delay publishing this edition until this quarter. Even though it is somewhat belated, I will take this opportunity to wish all of you a healthy and prosperous 1985.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Rob and Rosemary Pollock for the fine work they have done for us this past year. In addition to handling the finances for the clan, they have designed and had printed a beautiful set of clan membership certificates. Thanks also to both of you for the help you have given me over the year. Your advice and support always was sincerely appreciated.

You will note that the clan badge above has been modified to present a more fearsome looking boar. I hope that it will be to your liking. As a matter of interest, below is a copy of a book-plate which is in the genealogy files of the North Carolina State Library in Raleigh, N.C. The plate contains the inscription, "Armorial book-plate of Thomas Pollock, President of the Council and exofficio Governor of the Colony of North Carolina."



I have received an announcement from The James K. Polk Memorial Association, via Connie Calhoun, which may be of interest to the Polk members of the clan. The association has received permission to republish "The Polks of North Carolina and Tennessee." The book traces the descendants of William Polk of Maryland, who settled in North Carolina about 1750. It was originally published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1923-1924. For a copy, send a check or money order for \$17.50 to the James K. Polk Memorial Assn., P.O. Box 741, Columbia, TN 38401. Thanks Connie for the information.

A roster of all current members of Clan Pollock will be mailed sometime within the next thirty days.

The dues for 1985 remain at \$10.00, despite increasing postage and reproduction costs. We will keep them at \$10.00 as long as we can. Should we be forced to raise them at some future date, be assured the increase will be limited only to that amount necessary to meet our financial needs. For those who have not done so, please remit your 1985 dues to Rosemary as soon as possible. We request that you use the form on the last page of this issue of the Pollag. For checks written against funds in non-US banks, please indicate on the check "Payable in US funds." We have incurred some expenses in depositing checks drawn on non-US banks.

The winner of the Pollock Trophy in the dancing competition at the 1984 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games was Heather Campbell of Philadelphia, PA. We hope she will be back to compete again this year. With a name like Heather Campbell, how can you go wrong at a Scottish event?

As I have done in previous issues of the Pollag, I will continue with excerpts of the history of Clan Maxwell. I am sure that those of you who have joined the clan since I started this history may be somewhat lost. However, at the end of the last excerpt, I will provide the name and address of a book dealer where the entire manuscript may be purchased at a nominal fee.

New Members

We have five new members to welcome to the clan in this edition of the Pollag. They are:

Dolores Leifheit, Pinckneyville, IL
Hartman H. Pogue Jr., Perry, NJ
Robert C. Graves, Bowling Green, OH
Nancy A. Nash, North Tazewell, VA
Katy Galewski, Franklin, WI

Katy Galewski's name was inadvertently left out of the New Member column of the last edition of the Pollag. My apologies Katy. A hearty welcome to all of you. We sincerely hope that you will find membership in Clan Pollock interesting as well as pleasurable.

Flowers O' the Forest

With sadness and regret I report that two of our members have passed away since the last issue of the Pollag. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families.

David S. Pollock of North Port, Florida, passed away on the 8th of August, 1984.

Donald A. Pollock of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed away on the 3rd of January, 1985. Donald's two daughters, Pat Hoffmann and Donna Anania, are also members of Clan Pollock.

Genealogy Column

Dolores Leifheit, one of our new members, is an amateur genealogist. She has generously volunteered to make records checks in Perry County, Illinois for anyone in the clan, free of charge. Her address is Route 1, Box 159-B, Pinckneyville, IL 62274.

The Maxwell History(Continued)

King James expressed great indignation at the defeat and death of his Lieutenant of the Western Marches, and Sir James Johnstone and his accomplices were immediately put to the horn, and declared to be rebels. On December 22, 1593, a commission was appointed by the King to establish good order in the Western Marches. Johnstone and his accomplices were charged with burning the Kirk of Lochmaben, slaughtering some of his Majesty's subjects and slaying

Lord Maxwell, gentlemen of his name, and gentlemen who were his allies. (Editor's Note - Among the gentlemen allied with Lord Maxwell who lost their lives at his side was Sir John Pollock of Pollock.) The King's anger, however, was not of long duration, for in the course of a few weeks a warrant was obtained by Sir James Johnstone under the King's sign, ordaining a respite. The respite, which passed the Privy Seal, mentioned no fewer than a hundred and sixty of the Johnstones, and excused not only the slaughter of the Warden and of those who fell with him, but also the raising and burning of the Kirk of Lochmaben, and the slaughter of Captain Oliphant and others which took place before the battle of Dryfe Sands.

The Laird of Johnstone does not appear to have been grateful for the respite. He lost no opportunity to annoy and spoil his hereditary foes, attacking them whenever it was in his power to do so with effect. Retaliating forays on each side were a frequent occurrence, and the attempts of the government to end these feuds, so destructive of the peace of the kingdom, were entirely without effect. The appointment of Sir James Johnstone in April 1596, to the office of Warden of the West March, served, as might be expected, to increase the disturbances in the district. It soon became necessary to replace the chief of the Johnstone clan with Lord Stewart of Ochiltree. So great was the annoyance created by Johnstone's outrageous and illegal conduct, the government declared him a rebel and his portrait was hung upside down at the Cross in Edinburgh. In July, 1599, he was imprisoned for about a year, but his imprisonment does not appear to have taught him either prudence or forbearance.

The young Lord Maxwell, on his part, was neither wiser nor more forbearing than his rival. Like his father, he was a steadfast adherent of the Roman Catholic religion, and was declared a rebel for attending a mass at Dumfries. He was imprisoned in the castle at Edinburgh in March 1601 for "favoring Popery" but made his escape in January 1602. He was again proclaimed a traitor. His enmity to the Johnstones was irremovable, and in February of that year he attacked his hereditary foes, two of whom were put to death by his vassals with great cruelty. In 1605, a professed reconciliation took place between the two rivals, but it was not of long duration.

Lord Maxwell, with the combative disposition of his family, now became involved in a dispute with William Douglas of Lochleven, who, on the death of the Earl of Angus, was reinstated in the earldom and title of Morton. He challenged Douglas to single combat, and was, in consequence of this and numerous other turbulent acts, again imprisoned in the castle at Edinburgh in August, 1607. After eight weeks of confinement, he made his escape in a manner which strikingly displayed both his daring and his energy. A fellow prisoner of his was a great chieftain of the Isles, Sir James Macdonald. Seeing that he was not to be soon released, Lord Maxwell conspired with Sir James and with Robert Maxwell of Dinwoodie to effect an escape. Sir James, hesitating,

urged deliberation. Maxwell replied that such enterprises are not effected with deliberations and advisements, but with sudden resolution. He then called in two soldiers who were in charge of the prisoners. After plying them with a liberal supply of wine, Maxwell turned on them and forced them to give up their swords, exclaiming that he would either be out of the castle this night or would give up his life in the attempt. All three then left the room and locked the door behind them. They soon came to the inner gate which was guarded by the master porter, an old man, who tried to prevent them from passing. Lord Maxwell threatened to cut the old man to pieces, and did strike him on the arm with his sword. They obtained the keys and the three passed through the gate. They had another encounter at the second gate with an under porter. Lord Maxwell and Sir James wounded him and passed through the gate, but Robert Maxwell was prevented from doing so. He, however, made his escape by leaping over the west wall of the castle that leads to the west port of the castle. Lord Maxwell and Sir James, arriving at the same wall, climbed over it and leaped down, disappearing into the suburbs. Maxwell made his escape on a horse which had been kept in readiness for him, but Sir James, who had irons on, had twisted his ankle in the leap from the wall. He was discovered lying upon a dung hill to which he had crept, and was brought back to the castle.

Upset by the escape, the King ordered that anyone visiting Sir James would be punished by death. He issued orders that a special search be conducted for Lord Maxwell in order to hasten the infliction of exemplary punishment upon him. His Majesty complained in a letter to the Privy Council that Maxwell openly travelled through the country with no fewer than twenty horses in open defiance of royal authority, and renewed his injunctions that he be speedily apprehended. The Privy Council in reply stated that a diligent search was being conducted, and informed the King that one of Maxwell's hiding places was a certain cave in Clawbelly Hill, in the parish of Kirkgunzeon, which still bears the name of "Lord Maxwell's Cave."

Lord Maxwell evidently felt that the life which he was leading was dangerous as well as uncomfortable. With a view to gaining the favor of the King, he seems to have been truly desirous at this juncture to become reconciled to the Laird of Johnstone, who had expressed a similar wish to Sir Robert Maxwell of Orchardtoun, Lord Maxwell's cousin and his own brother-in-law. Sir Robert undertook the office of mediator between the two chiefs with some reluctance, for, as he remarked, "it was dangerous to meddle with such a man." On paying a visit to Lord Maxwell in March, 1608, he found that his lordship was not unwilling to reconcile with his hereditary enemy. Asked for his advice and counsel, Sir Robert judiciously recommended the turbulent noble to keep quiet and avoid giving any additional offense to the King. He also expressed his willingness to mediate between him and Johnstone, if he was willing that their differences should be amicably settled. Lord Maxwell declared that he was willing to overlook the past, should

Johnstone show any corresponding inclination, and would be ready to meet him with a view to their reconciliation.

A meeting was accordingly arranged, Sir Robert having previously exacted from Lord Maxwell a promise and solemn oath, that neither he nor the person who should accompany him would use any violence, whether they came to an accommodation or not. A similar obligation was given by Sir James Johnstone. They met on the 6th of April, 1608. Lord Maxwell was accompanied by Charles Maxwell, brother of William Maxwell of Kirkhouse, who seems to have borne the reputation of a passionate and quarrelsome person. Sir James Johnstone brought with him William Johnstone of Lockerbie. Sir Robert Maxwell was also present as mediator, and seems to have had serious misgivings as to the result of the meeting, when he saw that Charles Maxwell was Lord Maxwell's attendant, for he required that his Lordship should renew his oath and promise of strict fidelity for himself and his man, which was readily done. A similar pledge was exacted from Johnstone. The rival chiefs met on horseback, and after mutual salutations, they rode on to confer together, Sir Robert being between them. While they were thus engaged, Charles Maxwell quitted the place where he had been ordered to remain, and going towards Johnstone's attendant, commenced an altercation with him. The other attempted to sooth him with calm and peaceful words, but without effect. After some bitter and angry expressions, Maxwell fired a pistol at William Johnstone but only managed to pierce his cloak. Johnstone attempted to retaliate, but his pistol misfired, and he cried out "Treason!" Sir James, on hearing this, turned away from Lord Maxwell and Sir Robert, and rode towards the attendants. Sir Robert caught hold of his lordship's cloak, but Maxwell, bursting from his grasp, fired a pistol at the Laird of Johnstone, mortally wounding him in the back, and the laird fell to the ground. While his attendant was standing beside him, Charles Maxwell again fired at them. Looking up to heaven Sir James Johnstone exclaimed, "Lord, have mercy on me! Christ, have mercy on me! I am deceived," and soon after he died. The murderer and his attendant then coolly rode away. (To Be Continued)

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

Dundedin Scottish Games
and Festival
Dundedin, FL

18-21 April

Scottish Arts Clinic
Greensburg Sheraton Hotel
Greensburg, PA

20-21 April

Gaelic Society of Toronto
Downtown Holiday Inn
Toronto, Ontario

26-27 April

Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland St. John Vianney Ground Prince Frederick, MD	27 April
Scottish Cultural Society Tartan Ball Skokie Holiday Inn Skokie, IL	27 April
New Jersey Folk Festival Scottish Traditions in America Douglass College New Brunswick, NJ	27 April
Scottish Country Fair Macalester College St. Paul, MN	4 May
Savannah Scottish Games Fort Jackson Savannah, GA	4 May
National Capital Area Scottish Festival Rockville High School Rockville, MD	4 May
Scottish Heritage Fair and Gathering CSUN North Campus Northridge, CA	4-5 May
Scottish Society of the Virginia Highlands Spring Ceilidh Lewis Gale Medical Bldg. Salem, VA	10 May
Kentucky Scottish Weekend General Butler State Park Carrollton, KY	10-12 May
Gatlinburg Highland Games Gatlinburg, TN	17-19 May
1985 International Gathering of the Clans Glasgow and Edinburgh Scotland	25 May - 8 June

Again, if you haven't sent your dues for 1985 to Rosemary, please fill out the form below and mail it to her along with your check.

Until next time.

Aye,

Bill

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DUES FOR YEAR _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE _____

Please make your check payable to Clan Pollock. Dues are \$10.00 per year and are due each January for the ensuing year.

Mail to: Rosemary Pollock
305 Edinburgh Drive
Cary, NC 27511.