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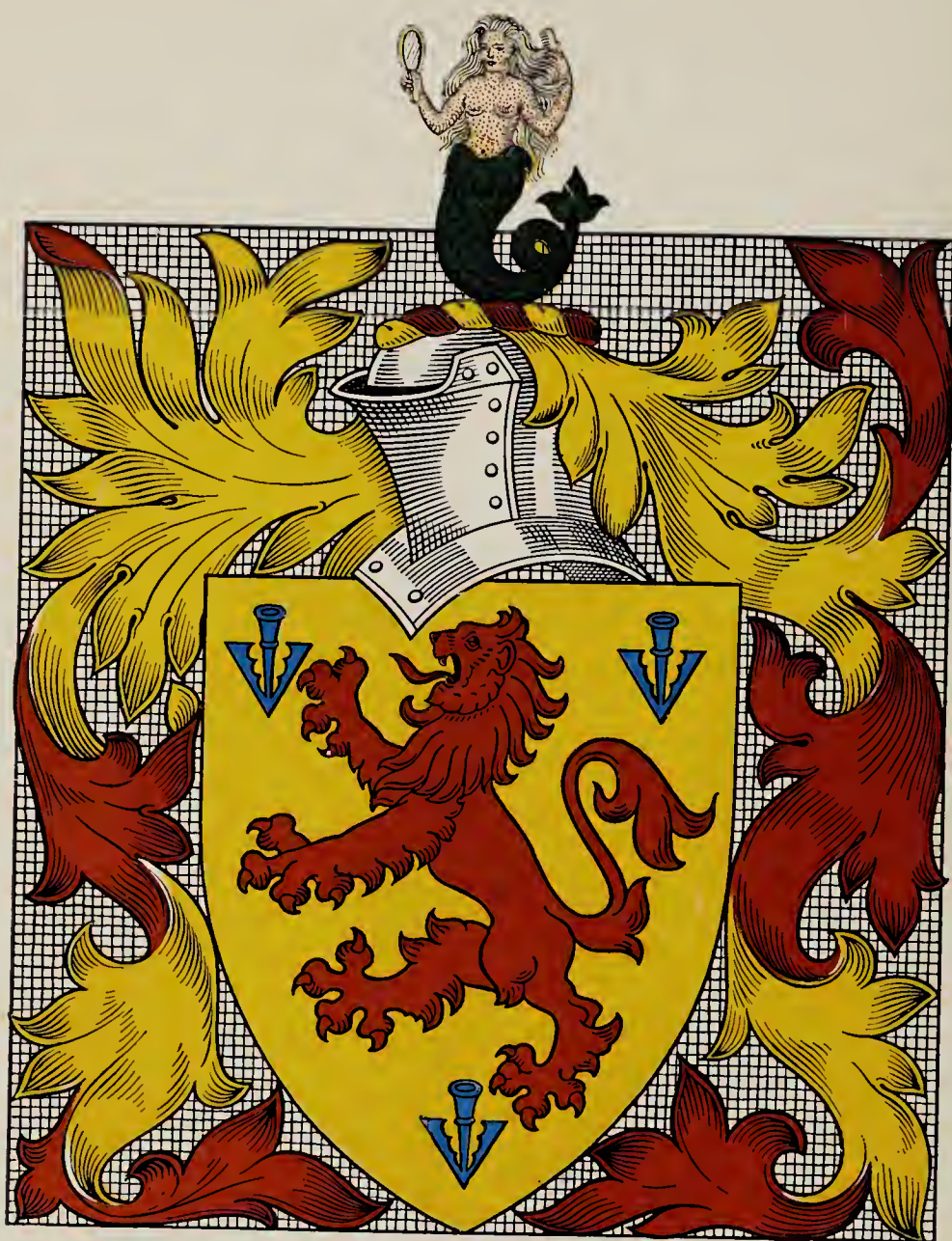


McNAIR, McNEAR AND McNEIR  
GENEALOGIES



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Mc Hair or Mc Hayr Arms  
A.D. 1314

# McNAIR, McNEAR, AND McNEIR GENEALOGIES

*Supplement 1960*

*Compiled by*

JAMES BIRTLEY McNAIR



PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR  
818 SOUTH ARDMORE AVENUE  
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*As long as marriages are recorded, births registered, gravestones used, and obituaries written there is value to genealogy. As long as heredity is recognized, family merit encouraged, and patriotism cherished genealogy is imperative.*—JAMES B. MCNAIR (1929).

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## PREFACE

The first volume of *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* was published in 1923. This has been followed by two Supplements, one in 1928 and another in 1955. Information about the families has continued to accumulate and has been considerably augmented by two trips of the compiler to the British Isles; one from August 13, 1956 to September 30, 1956 and another from April 1, 1958 to July 4, 1958. A number of McNairs were visited in London on both trips. These included: Dr. Andrew Archibald Macnair, Brigadier James L. P. Macnair, Brigadier John K. McNair, Robert J. McNair, Sir William L. McNair. In Leeds, Professor Philip McNair; in Exeter, Sir Douglas McNair, and in St. Andrews, Sir Robert Hill Macnair.

Searches were made with the aid of the Chief Herald and his staff in the Genealogical Office, Dublin Castle, Dublin Irish Free State; in Northern Ireland in Belfast in the Linenhall Library; in the Presbyterian Historical Society, Church House; and in the Public Record Office, Law Courts Building, May Street, Belfast. Considerable information was obtained in London; from the Genealogical Society of which the writer is a member, the British Museum, the Public Record Office, the Commonwealth Relations Office, the London Library, the General Register Office, and the Principal Probate Registry both in Somerset House.

In Edinburgh data was acquired at H. M. General Register Office, and the Public Library, while most of the time was spent in the National Library of Scotland. The writer would like to express his thanks for the many favors shown him in H. M. General Register Office, by the Lord Lyon and his

assistants; in the National Library of Scotland by Miss Marion P. Linton, Assistant Keeper, Mr. John B. McKeeman in the Department of Printed Books, and Mr. Thomas I. Rae, as well as Mr. J. S. Ritchie in the Department of Manuscripts; and in the Public Record Office, London, by Mr. L. G. Seed, Clerical Officer. Professor Philip McNair of the University of Leeds has supplied a number of marriage and birth records from Glasgow as well as information about his own family. Correspondence with Mr. C. W. Black, City Librarian, The Mitchell Library, Glasgow, has resulted in other valuable material for the present book.

The 1955 Supplement as well as the 1960 Supplement have been printed under the supervision of Mr. Paul D. Bailey, owner and manager of the Westernlore Press. The writer first became acquainted with Mr. Bailey in June 1947. In the Preface to the book that he printed for the author in that year appears the following; "The splendid cooperation with the publisher, Paul Bailey, who is owner and manager of Westernlore Press, should be noted. Mr. Bailey thinks more of his craftsmanship than he does of his purse." It is a pleasure to repeat the above and to add an appreciation of twelve years of fine friendship.

Perhaps the following quotation from Cervantes will serve as a good ending for this Preface. "When all is said, he that writes a book runs a very great hazard, since nothing can be more impossible than to compose one that may receive the approbation of every reader."

JAMES B. MCNAIR.

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## ORIGIN OF THE NAME McNAIR

*"More than a hundred years ago the concept of the 'Average Man' was invented by the Belgian scientist Adolphe Quetelet . . . He is an impossible monster, this average man; he may be useful for statistics and sociology, for cartoons and condemnations, but he does not live down any street of any city in the world, in which all the windows and the front doors may be the same; he does not exist, he never has existed, and never will exist. It is perhaps good to be reminded of that by the example of the saints and the bad men, the saviours and the destroyers, the philosophers and the eccentrics, the inventors and the explorers, the poets and the heroes, . . ." (some of whom may be found in the following pages).*

—GEOFFREY GRIGSON

CHARLES HARVARD GIBBS-SMITH

From introduction to "People." The Grosvenor Press. London. 1954.

## THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME McNAIR

“Personal names were originally significant, originating generally as patronymics or derived from place of residence, occupation, or personal peculiarities, though in time the meaning has often become obscure. The study of surnames is therefore not a mere matter of curiosity, but is of great value in historical, biographical and genealogical research. In early times a single name was deemed sufficient. This was the case with the Hebrews, Greeks, and early Teutons, though even among these people it was customary to add a sire-name (Joshua the son of Nun); the name of the bearer’s home town, (Jesus of Nazareth); or an epithet (Alexander the Great). Family or proper surnames first appeared among the Hindus (Siddhartha Guatama) and Romans (Marcus A. Antonius).”<sup>1</sup>

“The bearing of a surname of some sort became common in all classes of English society in the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries, though there was nothing official or static about them. A man might very well be known at different times or in different places by different names; for example, in the Battle Abbey deeds the same man is referred to indifferently as *John Henry*, *John Fitzhervie de Sudwerk* and *John de London*.

“In England the compulsory keeping of parish registers (from 1538) probably completed the process of fixing surnames. In the Lowland parts of Scotland surnames arose in the same way and after the same pattern as in England; but the Highlands retained the Celtic habit of the patronymic, and the clan names did not become genuine surnames until the 18th century.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Encyclopaedia Americana. 1957 Edition.

<sup>2</sup>Chamber’s Encyclopaedia. “New edition.” 1950.

Five possible origins have been found for the name McNair. (1) The Rossshire (Gairloch) McNairs are considered as derived from the Gaelic *M'An-uidhir* for *MacIain uidhir*, son of dun (*odhar*) John (son of John the Swarthy), condensed into M'In-nir.<sup>3</sup> (2) In Perthshire and Lennox the name is thought to come from the Gaelic *Mac-an-oighre* (son of the heir),<sup>4</sup> and appears in documents as M'Nayr (1468) and Macnayr (1390). In this region they are regarded as a sept of Clan MacFarlane. (3) Another source states that "the McNabs or at all events some of their number were known as *McNab Eyre* or *Oighre* (the son and heir of the Abbot). Hence their descendants are found under variously spelled names such as McGynnayr, McGenayr, McInayr, and MacNayre, doubtless the forerunner of the present-day McNair."<sup>5</sup> (4) Still another derivation of the name has been presented, as from the Gaelic *Mac-an-fhuibhir* (son of the smith).<sup>6</sup> (5) And lastly, as from the Gaelic *Mac-an-fhuidhir* (the stranger's son).<sup>7</sup> The last two Gaelic names are pronounced *Mac-an-ewar*, with *dh* and *fh* mute.

One can, therefore, regard the name McNair as the son of John the Swarthy, the son of the smith, the son of the stranger, or the son of the Abbot.

Perhaps the name McNair has had different origins in different parts of Scotland and the original spellings have gradually been modified to assume the present form.

<sup>3</sup>*Etymological Dictionary of the Gaelic Language*, by Alexander McBain, Stirling, 1911.

<sup>4</sup>*Loc. cit.*

<sup>5</sup>J. Christie in *Scottish Notes and Queries*, Vol. 12, March 1899, p. 129.

<sup>6</sup>Professor MacKinnon.

<sup>7</sup>Alexander McBain, *loc. cit.*

## ORIGIN OF THE McNAIR COAT-OF-ARMS



BRUCE TO HIS MEN AT BANNOCKBURN

*Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled,  
Scots wham Bruce has aften led;  
Welcome to your gory bed,  
Or to victorie!*

*Now's the day, and now's the hour;  
See the front o' battle lour:  
See approach proud Edward's pow'r—  
Chains and slaverie!*

*Wha will be a traitor-knave?  
Wha can fill a coward's grave?  
Wha sae base as be a slave?  
Let him turn and flee!*

*Wha for Scotland's king and law  
Freedom's sword will strongly draw,  
Freemen stand, or freemen fa',  
Let him follow me!*

*By oppression's woes and pains!  
By our sons in servile chains!  
We will drain our dearest veins,  
But they shall be free!*

*Lay the proud usurpers low!  
Tyrants fall in every foe!  
Liberty's in every blow!—  
Let us do or die!*

—ROBERT BURNS.

## McNAIR COAT-OF-ARMS—1314

According to a tradition handed down in the family of James McNair, Laird of Greenfield, Hamish (?), chief of the McNairs, was awarded a coat-of-arms for bravery by King Robert Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. The author has found nothing so far to prove this assertion although the following evidence may support it. W. M. Mackenzie in *The Battle of Bannockburn* says, "the knighting of men qualified for this honour on the field, Walter Steward and James Douglas among the number." Likewise Kerr makes the statement that on June 24, 1314, just before the Battle of Bannockburn, "King Robert the Bruce publicly conferred the honour of Knighthood on the Stewart, Douglas, and many others, in due order according to their respective ranks."<sup>1</sup>

No documentary proof for this has been found by James B. McNair, but the description of the coat-of-arms itself evidences its antiquity. The rampant lion gules on a field of gold are the same as that on the national coat-of-arms of Scotland (awarded to the Stewarts) at this time. The McNair coat-of-arms is recorded by Burke<sup>2</sup> with the following description: "Or, a lion rampant gules between three pheons azure. Crest, a mermaid proper holding in her dexter hand a mirror and in the sinister a comb."

<sup>1</sup>W. M. Mackenzie, *The Battle of Bannockburn* (Glasgow: J. MacLehose and Sons, 1913), p. 72. R. Kerr, *Scotland During the Reign of Robert I surnamed the Bruce* (Edinburgh: printed for W. Church, 1811), Vol. I, p. 469.

<sup>2</sup>Sir John B. Burke, *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales* (London: Harrison and Sons, 1884), p. 646. John Burke and Sir John B. Burke, *Encyclopedia of Heraldry* (3rd ed.; London; H. G. Bohn, n.d.).



A letter was received by James B. McNair from Dr. Samuel McNair dated February 16, 1922 at R. A. M. C. Mess, McGregor Barracks, Aldershot, England in which he said, "The coat-of-arms is very old—Many of the great families in England have taken and use a coat-of-arms very similar to ours—notably Lord Egerton of Tatton (?), Cheshire—Of course they have had to make a slight distinction. The mermaid is on the coat-of-arms owing to the home of the clan being at Loch Lomond. It is probably one of the oldest in existence. Its origin is lost in the mists of antiquity." Dr. McNair was a captain in the R. A. M. C. See page 93.

The Egerton coat-of-arms is described in Burke's *General Armory* as "Argent (silver), a lion rampant gules (red) between three pheons sable (black)." It was granted in 1617.

The standard used by Bruce in the Battle of Bannockburn had a lion rampant gules on a field of gold and in regard to the three pheons it is well to remember that the attack of the Scottish spearmen won the day at Bannockburn.

The McNair coat-of-arms appears in printed books as early as 1828,<sup>3</sup> and 1830,<sup>4</sup> and 1843,<sup>5</sup> and in *Burke's Distinguished Families of America*.<sup>6</sup> The McNair mermaid crest is illustrated in Fairbairn's *Book of Crests of the Families of*

<sup>3</sup>*Supplement to Encyclopaedia Heraldica or complete Dictionary of Heraldry*, by William Berry, 15 years registering clerk in the college of Arms, London, Vol. III. London, Sherwood Gilbert and Piper (1828-40). In British Museum.

<sup>4</sup>*The British Herald or Cabinet of Armorial Bearings of the Nobility and Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland . . .* by Thomas Robson, Sunderland, printed by Turner and Marwood, 1830. In British Museum.

<sup>5</sup>*A General Armory of England, Scotland, and Ireland*, by John Burke and John Bernard Burke. Revised edition, London, 1843. In the National Library of Scotland.

<sup>6</sup>*Burke's Distinguished Families of America*. The lineages of 1600 families of British origin now resident in the United States of America. Illustrated with heraldic color plates. London, Burke's Peerage Ltd., ca. 1939, pp. 2813-14. In British Museum.

*Great Britain and Ireland*.<sup>7</sup> However, it does not appear in Stevenson's *Scottish Heraldic Seals*.

Three families are known to have used this coat-of-arms on their stationery and silverware for many years. They are: the descendants of James McNair, Laird of Greenfield;<sup>9</sup> the descendants of Duncan McNair and Mary Fleckfield;<sup>10</sup> the Irish family of Dr. Samuel McNair, who graduated from Queens College, Belfast, and who was a licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and a fellow of the Royal Faculty of Physicians of Glasgow.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>7</sup>*Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland*, comp. from the best authorities by James Fairbairn, and revised by Laurence Butters . . . Ed. by Joseph Maclaren . . . Edinburgh, T. C. Jack; London, Hamilton, Adams and Co., 1860, Vol. 1, text. Vol. 2, plates.

<sup>8</sup>*Scottish Heraldic Seals*, by John Horne Stevenson, Glasgow, 3 vols. 1940.

<sup>9</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, Chicago, 1923, pp. 26-27.

<sup>10</sup>See pages 107-61 of this book.

<sup>11</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, Chicago, 1923, p. 33. *The Medical Directory*, London, 1937.



APPEARANCE IN EARLY DOCUMENTS

*"Every King springs from a race of slaves, and every slave has had Kings among his ancestors."*—PLATO. *Thaestetus*. Sec. 174.

*"The Emporor also has straw-sandaled relatives."*—A Chinese Proverb.

*"There's no' but three generations atween clog and clog."*—Lancashire Proverb.

*". . . a society like ours (U.S.A.) of which it is truly said to be often but three generations 'from shirt-sleeves to shirt-sleeves.' "*

—N. M. BUTLER. *True and False Democracy*.

*"The evil that men do lives after them, The good is oft interred with their bones."*

—SHAKESPEARE, *J. Caesar*. Act III, sc. ii.



## APPEARANCE IN EARLY DOCUMENTS

Christian Hair (error for Nair?) got a charter for the lands of Wester Fosseichs from King Robert I (Robert the Bruce, 1306-29). This occurred when the lands of the Abbey of Dull came to be secularized, and Christian Hair is the earliest name mentioned in this connection. The lands of Foss, in Perthshire (of which Wester Fosseichs was a part), were included in the extensive Abthanage of Dull, which appears to have embraced the greater part of the parishes of Dull and Fortingale, and there a chapel was erected at a very remote period. In the grant of the church of Dull and its dependencies—with the exception of the chapel of Brano in Glenlyon—to the priory of St. Andrews, by Richard, Bishop of Dunkeld, which was confirmed by Hugh, Bishop of the same, early in the thirteenth century, the Chapel of Fossach, was mentioned.<sup>1</sup>

Hugo de Berclay de Kyppok had Eister Fossachy prior to October 24, 1370, at which date David II, by charter at Perth, confirmed these lands to Donald McNayre. The English translation of this Latin document is as follows:<sup>2</sup>

“David by God’s grace King of the Scots to all persons, etc. may you know that we have granted, etc. to our faithful Donald McNayre, all the lands of Estirfossache together with its appurtenances, in the abthainry of Dulle within the district administration of Perth, which land was (that) of Hugo de Berclay de Kyppok, and which (land) the same

<sup>1</sup>The Macnayres, the Cardneys, and the Stewarts, Lairds of Foss, by J. Christie, *Scottish Notes and Queries*, Vol. 12, p. 129, March, 1899.

<sup>2</sup>Carta Donaldi McNair de terris de Eister Fossachy A. D. 1370-41 David II. *The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, A.D. 1306-1424*, ed. by J. M. Thomson, Edinburgh, 1912. H. M. General Register House, p. 125.

Hugo surrendered and resigned unconditionally and without reserve to us at Perth on the twenty-fourth day of October in the one thousand three hundred and seventieth year of the Lord. To be held and possessed by the said Donald and his heirs from us and our heirs in fee and inheritance, through all its marked-out limits and boundaries, together with all and individual privileges, etc., in the same measure freely and absolutely in all things and in every respect as the said Hugo or any one of his forebears duly held or possessed the said land together with its appurtenances at any time freely and absolutely. By performing thenceforth the due and customary feudal services. In—of this transaction, etc. witnesses, etc. at Perth, on the twenty-fourth day of October in the forty-first year of our reign L.i. 259.”<sup>3</sup>

In a search of the Calendar of the Great Seal Register to 1668, Miss Margaret F. Moore<sup>4</sup> found no further reference to Eister Fossachy than that in the charter of Donald McNayre. She found the names Fossoquhy and Fossoway in Perthshire, but these proved to be different estates belonging to other families.

Dr. W. Nicolaisen, of the School of Scottish Studies, Edinburgh, carried on a search in regard to the identification of the name Estirfossache of 1370. He followed up all the references to the places of that name in the Register of the Great Seal (where Donald McNayre’s Charter is found) with the following results:

“There appear to be two places called Fossachy or Fosso-way which are regularly mentioned in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland. One is said to be situated in the earldom of Errol, in Strathearn and in Perthshire, and the other

<sup>3</sup>Translated by Mrs. Evelyn Mohr and Professor Albert H. Travis, Department of Classics, University of California at Los Angeles.

<sup>4</sup>Miss Margaret F. Moore in a letter to James B. McNair, dated Edinburgh, January 20, 1958.



in the parish of Logieblair in Stirlingshire. Although this part of Stirlingshire seems to have been in Perthshire for quite a while from an administrative point of view, there is no doubt about it that it cannot be our fossache. It is mostly connected with the Shaw family and quite distinct from the other place of the same name. I have not found a modern equivalent of the Stirlingshire name on the one-inch map although I would not be surprised if there were one on the six-inch map of the district.

"The other name is of greater interest to us. It appears in the spelling *Fossoquhy* in the following years: 1490, 1529, 1540, 1541, 1549, 1607, 1638, 1642; other spellings are: Fossochy 1584, Fossachy 1600, Fassoquhy 1618, Fassochy 1629, Fossoquhay 1634 and 1648, Fossaquhie 1647, Fossaquhy 1648, and Fosoquhie 1664. It is usually connected with the Hay family, and once or twice the Kirkton; Thornton and Middleton of F. are mentioned separately. Both the latter places still exist near Fossoway (Kinross-shire), as does East Fossoway. Moreover, Fossachy is sometimes listed as a parish which, of course Fossoway still is. There does not seem to be any doubt about it either that Fossoway used to be part of Perthshire, and it can without difficulty be considered to have belonged to Strathearn as the River Earn is not too far away. For this reason, I should say that one may safely identify the Estirfossache of 1370 with the East Fossoway of 1959. (East Fossoway and West Fossoway are adjacent hamlets about 5½ miles west of Kinross).

"I have, however, not been able to find any conclusive evidence that the abthainry of Dulle once owned land in this area. That is why strictly speaking, we have still to regard this identification as tentative although it looks very probable indeed. I am glad you mentioned this point to me. It shows how difficult the problems of identification are.

"I shall let you know if I come across anything more definite because I have a suspicion as if this is not yet the end of the story, and there is still the possibility that there may have been a third Fossachy."

Dr. A. A. Macnair of London, England, in a letter to James B. McNair, dated June 19, 1959, considers that the Foss mentioned above in connection with Christian Hair is the Foss near Tummel Bridge, and it may be that the Macnayrs referred to in the Raid of Angus (1392±) came from there.

Dr. A. A. Macnair also suggests that Estirfossache mentioned in the 1370 charter is the Foss by Tummel Bridge.

For "It is said to be in the Abthainery of Dull. Under the old Celtic or Chaldee Church (modern Culdee) the priesthood was not celibate, and Abbacies were often hereditary. Dull was one of these, and was one of the important ones because it was a link in the chain of religious houses which ran from Iona to St. Andrews (two other links of that chain being Dunkeld and Perth). The Ab refers to the abbacy and the thainery to the territorial limits of a thegn or thane. The abthainery of Dull was coterminous with the present Parish of Dull, which in the Statistical Account of 1819 is described as "in the presbytery of Dunkeld, and 16½ miles NW, 20 miles from N to S and 12 in breadth." It stands in StrathAppin and comprises the five districts of Appin, Grandtully on the S.E., Fincastle on the NE, Foss on the NW, and Amulree on the S."

The particular line of McNayres of which Christian Hair (Nair?) and Donald McNayre may have been the progenitors may have ended in an heiress, who became the wife of William Cardney, the progenitor of another line of lairds of Foss. She was Rinald McGynnayr.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup>J. Christie, *op. cit.*

The derivation of the name McGynnayr is of interest. As far back as the reign of David I (1124-53), the Macnabs, or at all events some of their number, were known as McNab Eyre or Oighre, the son and heir of the Abbot; hence their descendants are found under various spelt names, such as McGynnayr, McGenayr, McInayr, and McNayre, doubtless the forerunners of the present day McNair. Down to the time of the Reformation the name is met with as being borne by ecclesiastics in the district, thereby showing their hereditary leaning to the Church.<sup>6</sup>

The Chronicle of Fortingall records that Rinald McGynnayr, Lady of Foss, and her husband, William Cardeny of Foss, both died on the same day, October 8, 1452, and are buried in Dunkeld.<sup>7</sup>

In the *Register of the Great Seal of Scotland* under date of August 25, 1450, is a confirmation of a Charter (November 12, 1447) by William Cardny, Laird of Foss, to Duncan de Cardny, his son, and the lawful heirs male of his body in feu ferm of the lands of Clathraddin; County Stratherne, of the Sherifffdom of Perth.<sup>8</sup>

There is also a Great Seal Charter, dated November 29, 1474, to Andrew de Cardeny of Foss, son and heir of Duncan de Cardeny of Foss, and his heirs, of the lands of Foss in the barony of Apnadull, sherifffdom of Perth.<sup>9</sup>

There is no doubt according to Margaret F. Moore<sup>10</sup> that "Foss in the Barony of Apnadull" is the equivalent of "Fas-sachie in the Abthania of Dulle" (in Donald MacNayre's

<sup>6</sup>J. Christie, *op. cit.*

<sup>7</sup>*The Black Book of Taymouth*, p. 112, gives a transcription of the Chronicle of Fortingall, a Latin document, which is really a chronology rather than a chronicle.

<sup>8</sup>*Register of the Great Seal of Scotland* No. 391, Vol. 2, p. 90.

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, No. 1190, Vol. 2, p. 242.

<sup>10</sup>Margaret F. Moore, *op. cit.*



Charter), for the ancient thanages later became baronies. Abthania means the "Thanage of the Abbot" and Apnadull, "Dull of the Abbot."

According to this line of reasoning, as presented by Mr. Christie, Miss Moore, and Dr. A. A. Macnair, the Estirfos-sache of Donald McNayre in 1390 is part of the Foss of Rinald McGynnayr and William Cardeny of 1452, the Foss of Duncan de Cardeny of 1450, the Foss in the barony of Apnadull of Andrew de Cardeny 1474 and the modern Foss by Tummell Bridge in the parish of Dull in Perthshire.

Some others of the name in the district are: Robert Macnare (1465) witness in Perth; James MacKnair (1539), matriculated at St. Andrews University; Duncan Maknair (1539) in Dunkeld; Dominus Robert McNayr (1548) matriculated at St. Andrews; in the same year as Dominus Robert Mackynnair he was made rector of Assent; Robert M'Nair (1552) matriculated at St. Andrews; Sir Duncan Maknair (1557), a papal knight, was at Dunkeld; Sir Robert McNair (1561), a papal knight, was of the diocese of Dunkeld; Margareta Maknair married John Cok, a burges of Perth (1562); James M'Nair, son of John M'Nair (1565); Duncan M'Nair, a notary in Dunkeld (1571); ditto 1573; Duncan M'Kynnair, son of John M'Nair, vicar of Lanye (1575) (Leny); Jo. M'Nair (1595), citizen of Dunkeld; Dominus Robert Maknair (1686), a canon of Dunkeld.

Other early appearances of the name are shown by George F. Black to appear as follows: Andrew McNayr and Angus McNayr were put to the horn in 1392 as art and part in the slaughter of Walter de Ogilvy, sheriff of Angus.<sup>11</sup> Sir Simone

<sup>11</sup>*The Surnames of Scotland, Their Origin, Meaning and History*, by George F. Black, New York, 1946. *The Acts of Parliament of Scotland, 1124-1707*, London, 1814-75, 12 Vols. in 13. Vol. 12 is Index. Vol. 6 is in two parts, Vol. 1, p. 579.

M'Nar, rector of Arddewnane (Ardunan), and Sir Robert M'Nar witnessed a sesine in favor of Thomas of Abbyrcromby of that ilk of the lands of Murthly and Nether Eskyndi (Essendy House) in 1445.<sup>12</sup> The obid of Rinalde M'Gynnayr in 1452 is recorded in *The Chronicle of Fortingall* (p. 112). Malcolm McNoyare appears as "Mair" of Menteth in 1454 and 1456,<sup>13</sup> and twenty years later Robert Maknare witnessed a charter by John of Muncreff of the Ilk.<sup>14</sup> Duncan M'Kynnayr of Lettyrmarcloyne, Charter witness, 1457.<sup>15</sup> Finla M'Nar or Fynlay M'Nare was witness to a sesine of the lands of Tollard Begg in 1478.<sup>16</sup> The tenement of Umfridus Maknayr in Glasgow is mentioned in 1487,<sup>17</sup> and Johannes Maknayr was tenant of the lands of Mykil Gwffane (Govan) in 1521.<sup>18</sup> Robert Macnare was a witness in Perth in 1495.<sup>19</sup> Donald Maknoyer was respited in 1526 for rebellion and fire raising,<sup>20</sup> and John MaKnewer had a remission from Queen Mary for assisting the English in burning the town of Dunnone (Dunoon) and

<sup>12</sup>*The Red Book of Grandtully*, by Sir William Fraser (Edinburgh, 1868), Vol. 1, p. 10.

<sup>13</sup>*The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*, Vol. 1-23 (1264-1600). Edinburgh, 1878-1908, Vol. V, vi.

<sup>14</sup>*Report on the Charters of the Duke of Athole*, Great Britain Historical Manuscripts Commission, 7th Report, Appendix, pp. 703-716, London, 1879, p. 709.

<sup>15</sup>*The Lennox* by Sir William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1874, 2 Vols., Vol. 2, p. 73.

<sup>16</sup>*An Inventory of Lamont Papers* (1231-1897), by Sir Norman Lamont, Edinburgh, 1914, p. 24.

<sup>17</sup>*Liber collegi Nostre Domine registrum ecclesie B. V. Marie at Anne infra muros civitatis Glasguensis* MDXLIX (Glasgow, 1846), p. 200.

<sup>18</sup>*Rental Book of Diocese of Glasgow* (1509-1570), In: Simon (Cuthbert) *Liber protocollorum*, Vol. 1, pp. 41-214.

<sup>19</sup>*Registrum magni sigilli regum Scotorum*. The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, Vol. 1-11 (1306-1668), Edinburgh, 1882-1914, Vol. 2, p. 896.

<sup>20</sup>*Registrum secreti sigillum regum scotorum*. The Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland, Vol. 1-2 (1488-1542), Vol. 1, p. 3640.



besieging the castle in 1546.<sup>21</sup> Patrick McNair in Darquhalliche (Derculich) was fined for resetting members of the outlawed Clan Gregor in 1613,<sup>22</sup> John McNure from the parish of S. Ninians, a covenanter, was drowned off Orkney, 1679.<sup>23</sup> John M'Nair was "thesaurer" of the burgh of Stirling in 1654,<sup>24</sup> John McKnaire was appointed bailie there in 1686,<sup>25</sup> Donald M'Inure was tenant in Danamore (Danna), Knapdale, in 1689.<sup>26</sup> Finlay M'Nuer was a merchant at Inverary in 1720,<sup>27</sup> and Archibald M'Inuar, merchant tailor in Rothesay, died in 1784.<sup>28</sup> Mcinair 1592, M'Innyeir and M'Inuyer, 1672, McInuair 1746, McKnaer 1527, M'Knair 1608, Maknair 1573, M'Kynnair 1575, Macknair 1664, McNayair 1665, M'Nare 1456, McNeir 1592, M'Newer 1574, M'Nuir (Cowal) 1685, MacNuire 1746, M'Nuyer (Invernes) 1681, M'Nvyr 1492, McNwyer (Kilbride) 1665, and undated M'Innar, M'Innuer, M'Innuier, McNoyar, McNoyair.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup>*Register of the Privy Council of Scotland*, First series, Vol. 1-14 (1545-1625); second series, Vol. 1-8 (1625-1660); third series, Vol. 1-14 (1661-1689), Edinburgh 1877-1933, Vol. xiv, 634.

<sup>23</sup>*The Scotch-Irish, or, The Scot in North Britain, North Ireland, and North America*, by Charles A. Hanna (New York, 1902), II, 253.

<sup>24</sup>*Extracts from the Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling*, A.D. 1519-1666. With Appendix, A.D., 1295-1666. Glasgow, 1887, p. 214.

<sup>25</sup>*Register of the Privy Council of Scotland*, 3rd series, Vol. 1-14 (1661-1689) Edinburgh, 1877-1933, XII, 493.

<sup>26</sup>*The Commissariat of Argyll, Register of Inventories, 1693-1702*. Edinburgh, 1909. Re Danamore, it is interesting to note that there is a Donoughmore in County Donegal, Northern Ireland.

<sup>27</sup>*The Clan Campbell, Abstracts of Entries Relating to Campbells in the Sheriff Court Book of Argyll at Inverary*, Edinburgh, 1913, 2 Vols. 1, 180.

<sup>28</sup>*The Commissariat Record of the Isles, Register of Testaments, 1661-1800*, Edinburgh, 1902.

<sup>29</sup>*The Surnames of Scotland, Their Origin, Meaning and History*, George F. Black, New York, New York Public Library, 1946.

Dr. A. A. Macnair of London has found a number of references to the name McNair in the *History of Clan MacFarlane* by James MacFarlane,<sup>30</sup> as follows:

1438—MacInayre on Lock Tay.

1454—Gilleaspy McNare “put in irons in Kirkcubright” and released again in 1457 (Gilleaspy is Gaelic for Archibald.)

1456—MacNewer and Maknewar in Dunoon.

1457—McNayr “inhabitans terres of Duchray” (just south of Aberfoyle). This is shown in the rentals of Strathearn and Menteith.

1480—Donalde McNayr, Dovok McNair and Johanni MaKnair shown in the rentals of the Barony of Downe (modern Doune), shown also in 1488 and 1492.

1492 to 1500—Donaldo McNayr and Andree McNuyr also in the Doune rentals.

1521—Elizabeth McKnair, also in the rentals of Menteith.

1532—There is reference in the Doune rentals to a house called Maknaristoun in the possession of William Hamilton, an auditor of the Exchequer.

1548—Robert Makynnair, Rector de Assent (modern Assynt in Sutherland).

1565—John Ferguson of Derculich was curator of John McNair in a charter granted by Robert McNair, Canon of Dunkeld.

1568—Archd. Macnare, attached to or attendant on Queen Mary.

1574—Donald MacNewer shown in the Menteith accounts audited, and at Holyruidhous.

<sup>30</sup>Published under the auspices of the clan Macfarlane Society, Glasgow. D. J. Clark, Ltd., 1922.

1576—Duncano M'Kynnair in a charter signed at Palatum S. Crucis, Dunkeldi.

1592—Thomas Macnair, servant of Campbell of Ardkinglas (on Loch Fyne).

1605—Patrick M'Nair in Brae of Cluny (near Dunkeld).

1685—Macnair in Cowal.

1686—Johanni M'Nair, Jacobi M'Nair in a charter Roberti MaKnair, Canonci Dunkeldi.

In regard to the area of Menteith and Doune to which the above references refer, Dr. A. A. Macnair says that "all of this area was land in the direct possession of the Crown, Doune in particular having been held by the Earls of Menteith, the Duke of Albany, and later the Earls of Moray, the first of these being that Earl of Moray who was the illegitimate son of James V and the half-brother of Mary, Queen of Scots. Mary herself is associated with this district, having spent some of her childhood years in a religious house on the island of Inchmahome on the Lake of Menteith. She lived for a time also in the Castle of Doune, where her apartments are still shown. That being the case, it is credible that the Archd. Macnare, servant of Queen Mary, came also from this district."

It has been noted above that "Andrew McNayr and Angus McNayr were put to the horn in 1392 as art and part in the slaughter of Walter de Ogilvy, Sheriff of Angus." In regard to this, Dr. A. A. Macnair comments that "this Raid of Angus was a raid made by the Robertsons and their confederates on the district of Angus, which was met and defeated (?) by the Sheriff of Angus commanding the Ogilvies, Clan Donaday and Lindsays (see Robert Scott's, *Tales of a Grandfather*.) That suggests that the McNayr came from the district of the River Tay between Fortingall and Dunkeld (or possibly Foss by Loch Tummel).



For other early appearances of the name McNair see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1928, pp. 23-32.

In the "Rental Book of the Diocese of Glasgow from 1509 to 1570"<sup>31</sup> is found another early line of McNairs.

"Waltir Maknayr, zownger, rentalit in 19/6 land off Bawchagre be consent off his modyer to bruyk afftyr his deceis." (Entry of a son by consent of his [widowed] mother, reserving life rent July 19, 1521.)

"Andus Maknayr rentalit in 13/ land off Balschagre, be consent of Wat Maknayr his fadyr to bruk effter his deceise" (Entry of eldest son during father's lifetime, July 20, 1521.)

By the following entry Jonat Wilson alias Gerwyn, Walter Maknayr's widow, had had a license to marry this said James Montgumbry without forfeiting her right of "Saut Mungo's Wedo." (Entry of husband of female rentailier November 23, 1546, is retalit James Montgomery, son of Henry Montgumbry of Cottis, in the 19/6 land in Balchagery vacant in our hands by decesse of umquhil Waltir Mak[nayr] in sale of succession of his person til succede.)

In the years 1291 and 1296 the nobility, barons and clergy of Scotland swore fealty to Edward I of England when he was in Scotland. But no McNair appears as a signer.<sup>32</sup>

A list has been printed of the *Members of the Parliament of Scotland Including the Minor Barons, the Commissioners for the Shires, and the Commissioners for the Burghs from 1357 to 1882*.<sup>33</sup> But no McNair appears in the list.

No list of barons or members of the Parliament of Scotland have been found for the years 1297 to 1357. According

<sup>31</sup>*Diocesan Register of Glasgow*, Grampion Club, London, 1875, pp. 98-99.

<sup>32</sup>The Ragman Roll. *Instrumenta publica sive processus super fidelitatibus et Nomagiis scotorum domino regi angliae factis A.D. MCCXCI-MCCXCVI* (Edinburgh, 1834).

<sup>33</sup>By Joseph Foster, privately printed (London, 1882).

to Major J. F. A. McNair (Supplement 1955, p. 79) there was a Baron McNair of Easterfoss who was called to Parliament in the days of King Robert Bruce (1306-1329).

Likewise in 1587 no McNair name is to be found on the *Roll of Landlords in the Highlands and Isles where broken men dwelt*.<sup>34</sup>

Although a number of McNairs are known to have been covenanters, only one is mentioned (sergeant John McNair of Perthshire) in the extant copies of the covenants.<sup>35</sup>

In the last Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46, when Bonnie Prince Charles Stewart raised the White Banner of the Stewarts at Glenshiel in 1745, which ended in the disastrous Battle of Cullodin in 1746, no McNairs are listed as prisoners.<sup>36</sup>

From the foregoing evidence, it would seem that the McNairs never were very numerous in Scotland. For this reason they did not have as much influence as the larger clans. A Scottish clan, according to Robert Bain,<sup>37</sup> can have as few as thirty men while some clans had as many as 2,820, as in the case of the MacDonalds in the rebellion of 1715. The Highland forces in this uprising also included 1,000 MacLeods and 1,000 Stewarts.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>34</sup> Appended to an Act of Parliament known as "The General Band" (of James VI).

<sup>35</sup>*The Covenanters* . . . by J. K. Hewison, Glasgow, 1908, Vol. 1 and 2. A list of extant copies of the Scottish and British covenants and appended. The incomplete list of signers does not include any McNair. *Papers relating to the army of the Solemn league and covenant 1643-1647*, by C. S. Terry, Edinburgh, 1917, in publications of the Scottish History Society, 2nd series, Vols. XVI and XVII, p. 76.

<sup>36</sup>*The Prisoners of the '45*, by B. G. Seton and J. G. Arnot, Edinburgh, published by the Scottish History Society, 3rd series, Vols. XIII, XIV and XV, 1928-1929. *A List of persons concerned in the Rebellion*. . . by Walter Macleod, Edinburgh, The Scottish History Society, Vol. VIII, 1890.

<sup>37</sup>*The Clans and Tartans of Scotland*, Robert Bain, Collins (London and Glasgow, 1939), p. 132.

<sup>38</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1928*, by James B. McNair, Chicago, 1929, p. 17.



## SEAT OF THE CLAN

## LOCH LOMOND<sup>1</sup>

*"By yon bonnie banks and by yon bonnie braes,  
Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomon',  
Where me and my true love were ever wont to gae,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomon'.*

Chorus:

*O ye'll tak the high road and I'll tak the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland afore ye;  
But me and my true love will never meet again  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomon'.*

*'Twas there that we parted in yon shady glen,  
On the steep, steep side o' Ben Lomon',  
Where in purple hue the Hieland hills we view,  
And the moon coming out in the gloamin'.*

*The wee birdies sing and the wild flowers spring,  
And in sunshine the waters are sleepin';  
But the broken heart it kens nae second spring again  
Though the waefu' may cease from their greetin.' "*

—ANONYMOUS

<sup>1</sup>According to some this song represents the farewell of a Jacobite prisoner, about to be executed at Carlisle in 1746, to his sweetheart who had attended his trial there and must travel home alone. While she took the ordinary "high road," his spirit by the "low road" of the grave, would be in Loch Lomond before her.

## SEAT OF THE CLAN

The seat of the McNair clan is considered to be on the borders of Loch Lomond. This is indicated by the mermaid crest on the coat-of-arms and by the locations of the clans of which the McNairs are considered as a sept, namely, the MacFarlane, MacNaughton, Buchanan, MacGregor, and MacNab.<sup>1</sup>

Loch Lomond is only about 16 miles northwest of Glasgow. The first Glasgow Directory of 1783-1784 contains a number of McNairs and Glasgow today as evidenced by its telephone directory of April 1959 has more McNairs (52) than any other city in Scotland.

However, the first appearances of the McNair name in literature shows a prevalence of the family in Perthshire (see "Appearance in Early Documents"), and Perthshire may have been the seat of the clan at that time.

<sup>1</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, by J. B. McNair (Chicago: Privately printed, 1923), pp. 3-13; *Supplement 1928*, p. 15. *The Scottish Clans and their Tartans* (22nd ed.; London: Ward, Lock and Company, Ltd., 1932), p. 48. *The Clans and Tartans of Scotland*, by R. Bain (Glasgow: Collins, 1939), p. 29.



MEMBERS OF GLASGOW HIGHLAND SOCIETY



*"Everyman is like the company he is wont to keep."*—EURIPIDES.

*"Tell me what company you keep and I will tell you what you are."*—CERVANTES.

*"Tell me with whom you associate and I will tell you who you are."*—GOETHE.

*"Birds of a feather flock together."*

GLASGOW HIGHLAND SOCIETY MEMBERS  
(1727-1902)<sup>1</sup>

- 1734 McNair, Robert, Jun., wearer (sic) and merchant
- 1736 McNair, Robert, sen., weaver
- 1739 McNair, Duncan, weaver there (No. 5, p. 133)
- 1748 McNair, Andrew, weaver
- 1753 McNair, James, merchant (No. 6, p. 133)
- 1760 McNair, William, weaver
- 1794 McNair, Robert, merchant
- 1794 McNair, John, manufacturer (No. 46, p. 143)
- 1798 McNayr, James, sugar-house (No. 47, p. 144)
- 1808 McNair, John, manufacturer
- 1817 McNair, John, jun., merchant
- 1818 McNair, James, Buchanan Street
- 1826 McNair, Robert, Thistle Bank (No. 27, p. 164)
- 1843 McNair, Archibald

<sup>1</sup>Extracted from the *Glasgow Highland Society, rules and regulations and list of members, 1727-1902*. Glasgow, 1902. Courtesy The Mitchel Library, Glasgow.



FIRST GLASGOW DIRECTORY

*"As in a building  
Stone rests on stone, and wanting the foundation  
All would be wanting, so in human life  
Each action rests on the foregoing event,  
That made it possible, but is forgotten  
And buried in the earth."*

—LONGFELLOW, Michael Angelo. Pt. V.

*"So build we up the being that we are."*

—W. WORDSWORTH.

*"That which comes after ever conforms to  
that which has gone before."*—M. AURELIUS.

*"What is bred in the Bone will never be out  
of the Flesh."*—N. BAILEY.

An Universal Etymological English Dictionary.  
20th ed. London. 1763

*"Ulysses said, 'I am part of all I met' "*

—HOMER. Odyssey.



# McNAIRS IN THE FIRST GLASGOW DIRECTORY (1783-4)<sup>1</sup>

## Faculty of Procurators

James McNayr, Kings Street (No. 41, p. 134)

## General

James McNair, Hardware & toy shop, Saltmarket.

John McNair, Bookseller, Trongate.

Robert McNair, Bookbinder, Saltmarket.

(No. 11, p. 163)

Robert McNair, Easter Sugar House, Gallowgate.

(No. 45, p. 142)

Robert McNair, Manufacturer, Old Wynd.

James McNair, Tallow Chandlers, Trongate.

John McNair, Bricklayer, Gallowgate.

James McNair, Cloth lapper, Bell's Wynd.

James McNair, Incle manufacturer, Gallowgate.

<sup>1</sup>Supplied through the courtesy of Mr. C. W. Black, City Librarian, The Mitchell Library, Glasgow, Scotland.

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UNIVERSITY MATRICULANTS AND GRADUATES

*"Train up a child in the way he should go:  
and when he is old, he will not depart from  
it."*—PROVERBS, XXII verse 6

*" 'Tis education forms the common mind; Just  
as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined."*  
—POPE. Moral Essays. Epis. i. Line 149

*"The child is father of the man."*  
—WORDSWORTH. My Heart Leaps Up. Line 7

*"When a child is three years of age, you can  
judge his adulthood; when he is seven, you  
can foretell his old age."*  
—YU-SHAN-HAN. Chinese Proverbs.

## UNIVERSITY MATRICULANTS AND GRADUATES

### UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN GRADUATES<sup>1</sup>

1495-1925

No McNairs.

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH MATRICULANTS<sup>2</sup>

1763-4

David McNair, Scotus, medicine.

1778-80

Robert McNair, medicine.

1786-8

James McNair, medicine.

1813-5

Benjamin McNair, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, medicine.

1815-8

John McNair, Lanarkshire, medicine.

1819-20

Robert McNair, Edinburgh, medicine.

<sup>1</sup>*Officers and graduates of the University and King's College, Aberdeen, 1495-1860*, by P. J. Anderson, published by the New Spalding Club, 1893. *Roll of alumni in arts of the University and King's College of Aberdeen, 1596-1860*, by P. J. Anderson, Aberdeen University Studies, No. 1, 1900. *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae Aberdonensis*, Vols. 2 and 3: *Officers, graduates and Alumni, 1593-1860*, by P. J. Anderson. Published by the New Spalding Club, 1898. *Roll of the Graduates of the University of Aberdeen 1860-1900*, by Col. W. Johnston, Aberdeen MCMVI. *Roll of the Graduates of the University of Aberdeen, 1901-1925*, by T. Watt, Aberdeen, MCMXXXV.

<sup>2</sup>From 1623-1861, obtained in person from records at the University by James B. McNair, September 1956.



1847

Robert McNair, Edinburgh, literature.

1851-2

George McNair, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, literature.

1851-3

James McNair, Lanarkshire, medicine.

1854-8

James McNair, Dunoon, Argyleshire, literature.

1857

John Calvin McNair, North Carolina, United States, 1  
gen.<sup>3</sup>

1858-9

Robert McNair, Renfrew, medicine.

1859-61

Robert McNair, Paisley, medicine.

#### UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW MATRICULANTS<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup>John Calvin McNair (1823-1858), *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), pp. 125-143.

<sup>4</sup>For a list of the matriculants of the University of Glasgow from 1744 to 1856 see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955*, pp. 26-30.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS MATRICULANTS<sup>5</sup>

1539

Jacobus (James) Maknair, Nationis Britanniae. Vicesimo die mensis maii anno quo supra.

1548

Dominus<sup>6</sup> Robertus M'Nayr.

1552

Robertus M'Nair, Ex collegio Divi Leonardi.

1857

Alexander Hill Macnair, Ex classe physica Gulielmi L. F. Fischer professoris.

1863

John F. Macnair.

<sup>5</sup>*Early Records of the University of St. Andrews.* The Graduation Roll 1413-1579 and the Matriculation Roll 1473-1579, by J. M. Anderson. Publications of the Scottish History Society. Edinburgh. 3rd series, Vol. 8, pp. 242, 252 and 257, 1926. *Records of the University of St. Andrews. The Matriculation Rolls, 1579-1747.* Proof sheets bound together and read by James B. McNair at the University of St. Andrews, September 21, 1956, in the office of and through the courtesy of Professor J. B. Salmond. *The Matriculation Roll of the University of St. Andrews, 1747-1897*, by J. M. Anderson, Edinburgh, 1905. *Lists of Students at the University of St. Andrews, 1873-1899.* *Alphabetical Lists of Students at the University of St. Andrews 1899-1904.*

<sup>6</sup>"The Title of Dominus is prefixed to 148 names in the Matriculation Roll. Only 15 of these names are repeated in the Graduation Roll, but from three of them the title Dominus has disappeared. In the Graduation Roll, on the other hand, there are 224 entries with Dominus prefixed. The Matriculation Roll has 12 of these names with the title, 37 without it, while 21 are absent from it altogether. In dealing with statistics of this kind, allowance has, of course, to be made for the fact that the two rolls begin at quite different dates. Dominus is a word with various applications. In the Rolls it occurs frequently as a prefix to the names of persons also described as canons, chaplains, rectors, vicars, monks, etc., but it mostly precedes a plain name. The latest occurrence of this title in the Graduation Roll is in 1544. In the Matriculation Roll it goes on till 1564, which is its first and last appearance after the Reformation." *Ibid.*, Introduction, p. xxviii.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE GRADUATES<sup>7</sup>

1868

Henry Bingham McNair.<sup>8</sup>

1879

Robert Stanser McNair.<sup>9</sup>

1890

Lindsay John McNair.<sup>10</sup>

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD MATRICULANTS<sup>11</sup>

1862

Lindsay William McNair.

1909

G. D. McNair, New College, 4 Jurisprudence.

1913

J. B. MacNair, University, 1 Jurisprudence, 1913; Bachelor of Civil Law Examination 1914.

1931

M. A. McNair, St. Hugh's 3 English 1931.

1938

J. T. H. Macnair, Exeter, 2 Modern History 1938.

1942

E. J. Macnair, Somerville, Chemistry, Part I 1942; 2 Chemistry 1943.

<sup>7</sup>*Alumni Cantabrigienses a Biographical List of all known students . . .* By J. A. Venn, Part I from the earliest times to 1751. Vol. III, Cambridge, 1924. Part II from 1752 to 1900. Vol. IV, Cambridge, 1951.

<sup>8</sup>See page 154.

<sup>9</sup>See page 183.

<sup>10</sup>See page 157.

<sup>11</sup>*Alumni Oxonienses: The members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714*, by Joseph Foster, Early Series, Vol. III, Oxford and London, 1891. *Alumni Oxonienses: The members of the University of Oxford, 1715-1886 . . .*, by Joseph Foster, Vol. III, London, 1888. "Oxford University Honours," *Oxford Historical Register 1220-1900 with index of honours*. Oxford, 1900. *University of Oxford Supplement to the Historical Register of 1900 . . . 1901-1930*. Oxford 1934.

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



*"The celestial order and beauty of the universe compel me to admit that there is some excellent and eternal Being, who deserves the respect and homage of men."*

—CICERO, DE DIVINATIONE,  
BK. II, CH. 72, SEC. 148

*"The Heavens declare the Glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork."*

—PSALMS XIX, 1.

*"Consider the lilies how they grow; they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."—ST. LUKE XII, 27.*

*"If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him."*

—VOLTAIRE, ÉPÎTRE À L' AUTEUR DU  
LIVRE DES TROIS IMPOSTEURS. 10 NOV., 1770.

*Addison says of the immortality of the soul: "If it be a dream, let me enjoy it; since it makes me both the happier and the better man."*

## MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND<sup>1</sup>

Of the following six ministers of the Church of Scotland, four are members of one family, namely, the descendants of Walter McNair and Susanna Steven.<sup>2</sup>

1573

DUNCAN MCNAIR, presented to the Treasury of Dunkeld, which is the vicarage of Little Dunkeld, Dowally and Caputh, vacant by Act of Parliament in default of Robert Abercrombie, last vicar, being "ane Jesuit beyond the say;" competent not before the Bishop of Dunkeld, December 19, 1573.<sup>3</sup>

1759

JAMES MACNAIR was born in 1759, the fourth son of James Macnair, merchant of Glasgow. He was educated at Glasgow University, licensed by the Presbytery of Glasgow, October 1, 1783; appointed in 1783 to Shettleston, Chapel-of-Ease in the same year, presented by George III October 6, 1783; ordained to Slammannan April 1, 1788; died April 15, 1798. He was married April 24, 1789, to Agnes McNair, the eldest daughter of Robert McNair, merchant of Glasgow. She died November 28, 1807. They had issue: Robert McNair, D.D., Minister of Paisley Abbey; Mary McNair, born June 4, 1792; James McNair, born April 1, 1794, died at Mobile, Alabama, U.S.A., on October 3, 1823; Agnes McNair, born March 6, 1797. Publications: *Set Thine House in Order*,

<sup>1</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae, the succession of ministers in the church of Scotland from the Reformation*, by Hew Scott, new ed. Vol. 1-8, Edinburgh, 1915.

<sup>2</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, pp. 63-65, and pages 201-205 of this book.

<sup>3</sup>*Reg. Pres. Bene.*, I, 14. *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 8, page 350.

a sermon (Glasgow, 1808); *Account of the Parish* (Sinclair's *Stat. Acc.*, XIV).<sup>4</sup>

1790

ROBERT MACNAIR was born September 10, 1790, the son of James Macnair, minister of Slammanan; educated at the University of Glasgow; M.A. (1808); licensed by the Presbytery of Glasgow December 8, 1813; ordained to Ballantree May 11, 1815; presented to Paisley by the tutor of James, Marquess of Abercorn; translated and admitted April 9, 1824; D.D., University of Glasgow, April 12, 1842; died July 22, 1851. He was married October 13, 1818, to Jane Hill, second daughter of George Hill, D.D., principal of the University of St. Andrews. She died at Leith, March 1, 1871. They had issue: Harriet Scott Macnair, born August 20, 1819, died November 1, 1847; James Macnair, minister of Canon-gate Parish, Edinburgh; George Hill Macnair, born June 15, 1823, died December 23, 1835; Agnes Macnair, born January 18, 1826, died 1872; Robert Macnair, M.D., minister of Gourock; Alexander Hill Macnair, C. E., India, was born August 5, 1830, died 1897. Publications: *An Address to the Heritors, Parishioners, and Congregation . . . showing the want of Church Accommodation and Pastoral Superintendence in the Parish, and suggesting a Plan by which the Evils thence arising may in part be remedied* (Paisley, 1836); *Separation between Paul and Barnabas, a discourse* (Paisley, 1843); *Address to the Parishioners, especially in Congregation of the Abbey on their Duty in the Present Circumstances of the Church of Scotland* (Paisley, 1843), *Account of the Town and Parishes of Paisley* [with Robert Burns, D.D.].<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 1, p. 229; Vol. 3, p. 490; Vol. 8, p. 48. *Cleland's Ann. McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1928 (10), p. 64; *Supplement* 1955, p. 27.

<sup>5</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 3, p. 167, *New Stat. Acc.*, vii. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1928 (7), p. 69; *Supplement* 1955, p. 28.



1821

JAMES MACNAIR was born at Ballantree, Ayrshire, April 24, 1821, the son of Robert Macnair, D.D., Abbey Parish, Paisley; educated at Paisley Grammar School and the University of Glasgow; M.A. (1841); licensed by the Presbytery of Paisley; Assistant at Lanark; presented by Henry Ker Seymer of Morriston to Legerwood and ordained, December 19, 1844; translated to Auchtermuchty July 1, 1853; presented to Queen Victoria September 10, 1869; translated to Canongate December 23, 1869; died November 13, 1888. He was married (first) on June 8, 1852, to Jane Gregorson, daughter of John Gregorson of Ardtornish, Sheriff-substitute of Argyll, and Mary Maclaine of Lochbuie. They had issue: Mary Macnair was born August 31, 1853, died November 15, 1871; Robert Macnair, stockbroker, Edinburgh, was born April 17, 1855, died May 21, 1904; John Gregorson Macnair, banker, Edinburgh, was born September 27, 1857, died March 26, 1899; Angus Gillian Maclaine Macnair, engineer in Mexico, was born March 18, 1860, died February 28, 1903. His second wife was Harriet Hill, who was born June 24, 1827, the daughter of Professor Hill of Glasgow. She died June 22, 1892. Their child was: James Alexander Hill MacNair, C. A. London, who was born October 23, 1861.<sup>6</sup>

1827

ROBERT MACNAIR was born August 28, 1827, the third son of Robert Macnair, D.D., minister of Paisley; educated at the University of Glasgow; M.A. (1845); sometime minister of a Presbyterian Church at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; minister of Gourock, 1854-5; was a chaplain at Scutari during the Crimean War, 1855. He studied medicine,

<sup>6</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 1, p. 27; Vol. 2, p. 157; Vol. 5, p. 127; Vol. 8, p. 7. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928* (17), p. 64; *Supplement 1955*, p. 30.

took a degree of M.D. (1862) and L.R.C.S. (1867) at Edinburgh, and from 1862 to 1883 was a medical practitioner in Leith. Joined the Baptist denomination; minister of Orange-field Baptist Congregation Greenock, 1883-86; died at Edinburgh, July 15, 1896. He was married to Anne Maria Forsyth, who died on March 17, 1919, and had issue.<sup>7</sup> Editor of Scot. Baptist Magazine, 1875, etc.

1879

ALEXANDER WOOD MACNAIR was born at Greenock, November 22, 1879, the son of Robert Macnair and Hamilton Wood; educated at Holmscroft School and the University of Glasgow; licensed by the Presbytery of Greenock in May 1906; assistant at Kelvinhaugh and Strathbungo, Glasgow; ordained to Elchies May 7, 1912; translated to Logie-Buchan, December 19, 1913; Chaplain to Forces at Dieppe during World War I; translated and admitted February 14, 1917, to Tarves; translated from Tarves January 23, 1929, to St. Boswell's. He was married August 14, 1912, to Joan Davidson Stuart Kerr, daughter of George Duff Bruce and Jeannie Finlayson Stewart Kerr, and widow of A. Gibson Smith.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 3, pp. 196-97. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1928* (15), p. 64; *Supplement 1955*, p. 29.

<sup>8</sup>*Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. 6, p. 341; Vol. 8, pp. 153, 577.



McNAIRS MARRIED IN GLASGOW

*"What life shall a man choose? In court and mart  
Are quarrels and hard dealing; cares at home;  
Labors by land; terrors at sea; abroad,  
Either the fear of losing what thou hast,  
Or worse, nought left to lose; if wedded, much  
Discomfort; comfortless unwed; a life  
With children troubled, incomplete without:  
Youth foolish, age outworn. Of these two choose  
then;  
Or never be born, or straight to die."*

—POSIDIPPUS (or Plato, the Comic Poet)  
GREEK ANTHOLOGY. BK ix, Epig. 359

*"Every man is an omnibus in which all of his  
ancestors are seated."*

—OLIVER WENDALL HOLMES.

*"One thinks of the date of a man's birth as  
his beginning. As a matter of fact, the determining  
factors in his personality are in the annals of his  
ancestors, in their physical beings, their impulses,  
the fortunes which drove them here and there."*

## McNAIRS MARRIED IN GLASGOW 1689-1761<sup>1</sup>

Walter	=	Susanna Stevens	30- 7-1689
Henrie	=	Lillias Adame	14-12-1693
Henrie	=	Marie McNair <sup>2</sup>	24- 1-1695
Duncan	=	Mary Fleckfield	17- 6-1698
James	=	Katharin Kessen	23-12-1703
Walter	=	Margaret Meinzies	6- 3-1706
Robert	=	Jane Areskin	10- 7-1706
James	=	Marrion Pollock	24- 6-1708
Archibald	=	Christian Gilchrist	8- 7-1708
Walter	=	Grissel Riddel	6- 9-1709
John	=	Mary Nimmo	21- 8-1718
John	=	Jane Brysson	23- 6-1719
Robert	=	Christin Alexander	31- 8-1721
John	=	Isobel Reid	16- 7-1722
Andrew	=	Janet Grahame	4- 6-1723
Robert	=	Jean Holmes	29-12-1726
Robert	=	Margaret Welsh	24- 1-1727
Andrew	=	Mary Reid	12- 6-1727
Andrew	=	Mary McKay	10- 8-1727
James	=	Agnes Greene (?)	20- 6-1728
Moses	=	Isobel McFile	1- 6-1732
Duncan	=	Margaret Henry	17- 8-1732
James	=	Janet Pollock	5- 9-1732
Robert	=	Margaret Grahame	29-11-1733
Robert	=	Mary McJankin	3- 6-1735
Robert	=	Janet Graham	15- 1-1738
James	=	Jean Walker	6- 8-1738

<sup>1</sup>Compiled from the register of the parish church by Professor Philip McNair, The University, Leeds, England.

<sup>2</sup>Doubtful.

James	= Mary Buchanan	30-11-1740
James	= Agnes Anderson	13- 3-1748
Robert	= Jean Gray	26- 2-1749
James	= Kathrin Keir	1- 4-1750
Robert	= Janet Gilmor	21- 4-1751
Robert	= Margaret Paull	2- 6-1751
Duncan	= Agnes Miller	6-10-1751
Duncan, tanner in Glasgow	= Janet Brash, resident in Gorbals	17- 7-1757
Joseph, weaver	= Jean Reid, relict of Robert Anderson, weaver, both in Glasgow	(also on 17- 7-1757)
John, weaver	= Janet Findlayson, relict of William Pollock, tanner	11- 6-1758
John, tanner	= Rebecca Campbell, lawful daughter of Neil Campbell, Merchant in Glasgow	15-10-1758
William, merchant in Glasgow	= Jean Robertson, lawful daughter of the deceased major Robertson of Earnock	1- 4-1759
Duncan, weaver	= Mary Wright, lawful daughter of Duncan Wright, boatman	6- 1-1760
Andrew, weaver	= Anne Nicholson, d. of David Nicholson, weaver	11- 1- 61
Robert (younger), merchant	= Agnes Williamson, d. of Joseph Williamson, Advocate in Edinburgh	15-11-1761

McNAIRS BAPTIZED IN GLASGOW



*"Knowledge of kindred and the genealogies of the ancient families deserveth the highest praise. Herein consisteth a part of the knowledge of a man's own self."*

—FRANCIS BACON.

*"People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestry."*

—EDMUND BURKE.

*"Those who do not treasure up the memory of their ancestors do not 'deserve to be remembered by posterity.'"*

—EDMUND BURKE.

# McNAIRS BAPTIZED IN GLASGOW 1684-1765<sup>1</sup>

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
James	Eliz. Gemmil	Catharin	16- 3-1684
James	Eliz. Gemmill	Iso(bel)	31-10-1686
(One leaf is wanting for January-February 1688)			
John	Janet Seller	Janet	26- 8-1690
James	Elizabeth Gemle	James	19- 4-1691
Walter	Susanna Steven	Robert	3-10-1692
James	Helen Bar	Helen	5- 2-1693
James	Eliz. Winnie (?)	James	4-11-1694
Walter	Susanna Steven	John	2- 5-1695
Henry	Marie Duncan	John	19- 3-1696
Walter	Susanna Steven	Walter	2- 9-1697
Henry	Mary Duncan	Margaret	30- 1-1698
Matthew	Jean Lindsay	Margaret	30- 6-1698
Walter	Susanna Steven	James	23- 5-1700
Henrie	Mary Duncan	Archibald	4- 7-1700
Duncan	Mary Fleckfield	John	25- 8-1700
Walter	Susanna Steven	Marrion	14- 5-1702
Duncan	Mary Fleckfield	Elizabeth	6- 8-1702
(Henry)	Mary Duncan	John	21-11-1703
Walter	Susanna Steven	William	27- 2-1704
Duncan	Mary Fleckfield	Robert	26-12-1704
James	Katrin Kessen	Robert	27-12-1705
Henrie	Mary Duncan	Robert	28- 4-1706
Walter	Mary Meinzies	William	13- 3-1707
Duncan	Mary Fleckfield	Duncan	8- 6-1707
Robert	Jane Areskin	William	16-11-1707
James	Katrin Kessen	James	14- 1-1708

<sup>1</sup>Compiled by Professor Philip McNair, The University, Leeds, England.

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Henry	Mary Duncan	Agnes	23- 5-1708
John	Jane Shaw	Mary	6- 3-1709
James	Marrion Pollock	Agnes	21- 5-1710
James	Katrin Kessen	Janet	6- 8-1710
Duncan	Mary Fleckfield	James	3-12-1710
Henry	Mary Duncan	James	15- 3-1711
John	Janet Neil	Anne	1- 7-1711
James	Marrion Pollock	John	11- 1-1713
John	Jane Shaw	Moses	25- 1-1713
James	Katrin Kessen	Katrin	31- 5-1713
John	Janet Neil	Margaret	13-12-1713
John	Janet Shaw	James	17- 3-1715
James	Marrion Pollock	Marrion	26- 7-1715
John	Jane Shaw	Joseph	20- 5-1716
John	Janet Neil	John	28- 7-1717
John	Jane Shaw	Agnes	25- 8-1717
James	Marrion Pollock	James	23- 1-1718
John	Jane Shaw	Mary	1- 1-1719
John	Mary Nimmo	Robert	7- 6-1719
James	Marrion Fullerton	Mary	14- 4-1720
John	Janet Neil	Agnes	1- 5-1720
John (dead)	Jane Brysson	John	29- 5-1720
John	Mary Nimmo	Archibald	12- 3-1721
Robert	Christin Alexander	Robert	3- 6-1722
John	Mary Nimmo	Agnes	20- 1-1723
James	Marrion Pollock	Walter	27- 1-1723
John	Isobel Reid	Margaret	13- 6-1723
Robert	Christin Alexander	James	1-12-1723
Andrew	Janet Grahame	Mary	28- 3-1725
John	Isobel Reid	John	6- 6-1725
Robert	Christin Alexander	Christin	13- 6-1725
John	Isobel Reid	James	26- 3-1727

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Robert	Christin Alexander	John	30- 4-1727
Robert	Jean Holmes	Jean	9-11-1727
John	Isobell (sic) Reid	Isobell	2- 2-1729
Robert	Christian Alexander	Margaret	9- 2-1729
Robert	Jean Holmes	James	21- 4-1729
Andrew	Mary McKay	John	1- 8-1729
Robert	Christin Alexander	Andrew	20- 9-1730
Robert	Jean Holmes	Duncan	20-12-1730
Andrew	Mary McKay	John	29- 8-1731
John	Isobell Reid	Robert	23-10-1731
Robert	Christin Alexander	Joseph	2- 7-1732
Robert	Jean Holmes	Robert	4- 7-1732
Duncan	Margaret Henry	Robert	27- 5-1733
Moses	Isobel MacFile	Jean	7- 6-1733
James	Janet Pollock	John	18- 7-1733
John	Isobell Reid	Jean	29- 7-1733
Robert	Jean Holmes	John	3-11-1733
Robert	Christian Alexander	Christian	14- 7-1734
Andrew	Mary Mackay	Robert	25- 8-34
Robert	Jean Holmes	William	9- 2-1735
Robert	Margaret Grahame	John	2- 3-1735
Moses	Isobell MacFile	Janet	8- 6-1735
Duncan	Margaret Henry	John	17- 8-1735
John	Isobel Reid	John	27-10-1735
Duncan	Margaret Millar	Alexander also	27-10-1735
James	Janet Pollock	James	20- 1-1736
Robert	Jean Holmes	Andrew	1- 2-1736
Robert	Christian Alexander	Marion	30- 5-1736
Robert	Marion McJankin	Robert	17-10-1736
Robert	Jean Holmes	Jean	30- 1-1737
Duncan	Margaret Henry	James	15- 5-1737
Moses	Isobel McFile	Isobel	12- 6-1737



FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Robert	Jean Holmes	Samuel	5- 2-1738
Duncan	Margaret Millar	William	19- 3-1738
Robert	Janet Graham	James	19-11-1738
Andrew	Mary Reid	Robert	3-12-1738
Robert	Jean Holmes	William	11- 2-1739
		<i>born</i>	6- 2-1739
Moses	Isobell McFeal	John	19- 8-1739
			<i>Sabbath</i>
James	Jean Walker	Margaret	26- 8-1739
John	Margaret Hamilton	John	9- 9-1739
			<i>Sabbath</i>
Robert	Mary McJunkie	Alexander	7-10-1739
			<i>Sabbath</i>
Duncan	Margaret Millar	John	27- 3-1740
Robert	Jean Holmes	Thomas	6- 4-1740
		<i>born</i>	24- 3-1740
		<i>baptized by Mr. Hamilton</i>	
Robert	Janet Graham	Grisall	17- 8-1740
Walter	Elizabeth Shirer	Elizabeth	18- 9-1740
James	Jean Walker	James	4- 2-1741
Robert	Jean Holmes	Marrion	28- 6-1741
		<i>born</i>	23- 6-1741
Robert	Janet Murra (sic)	Janet	2- 8-1741
James	Mary Buchanan	Mary	22- 8-1742
Robert	Jean Holmes	Kathrin	29- 8-1742
Robert	Janet Graham	Alexander	5- 9-1742
James	Jean Walker	John	1- 5-1743
Walter	Elizabeth Shirer	Janet	19- 6-1743
Duncan	Margaret Millar	John	21- 8-1743
James	Margaret Hamilton	Robert	13- 9- 1743
Thomas	Jean Wood	Jean	4-10-1743



FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Robert	Jean Holmes	Mary	13-11-1743
		<i>born</i>	7-11-1743
John	————	Margaret	18-12-1743
		<i>natural daughter</i>	
James	Mary Buchanan	Andrew	10- 5-1744
Robert	Janet Graham	Robert	25-10-1744
John	Margaret Hamilton	Archibald	3- 3-1745
Robert	Jean Holmes	Margaret	24- 3-1745
James(abroad)	Jean Walker	Duncan & Mat-	
		thew (twins)	20- 4-1745
Walter	Elizabeth Shirer	Robert	7-11-1745
(A page of the Register is torn and entries for the period 23-1-1746 to 1-2-1746 are missing)			
Thomas	Jean Wood	Agnes	20- 2-1746
James	Mary Buchanan	Jean	11- 3-1746
Robert	Jean Holmes	Duncan	12- 6-1746
		<i>born</i>	2- 6-1746
John	Margaret Hamilton	Margaret	16-11-1746
Alexander	Isobell Gray	James	12- 1-1747
Robert	Janet Graham	Robert	30- 1-1747
James	Mary Buchanan	Margaret	16- 7-1747
Walter	Elizabeth Sherer	Ann	27-12-1747
Robert	Elizabeth Melvin	Andrew	6- 3-1748
John	Margaret Hamilton	James	28- 4-1748
————	Elizabeth McNair	Alexander	9- 5-1748
		<i>natural son</i>	
Thomas	Jean Wood	John	29- 5-1748
Duncan	Margaret Miller(sic)	David	23- 6-1748
Robert	Jean Holmes	David	31- 7-1748
		<i>born</i>	25- 7-1748
Alexander	Janet Gray	daughter (name left blank)	13-11-1748

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
James	Mary Buchanan	Elizabeth	20- 6-1749
James	Agnes Anderson	Janet	6- 8-1749
John	Margaret Hamilton	Margaret	3-12-1749
Robert	Elizabeth Miller	James	7- 1-1750
Walter	Elizabeth Sheerer	Margaret	18- 2-1750
Thomas	Jean Wood	Andrew	12- 7-1750
James	Jean Walker	John	5-10-1750
Alexander	Janet Gray	Alexander	13-12-1750
James	Agnes Anderson	James	27-12-1750
James	Agnes Anderson	Isabel	1- 4-1752
Walter	Elizabeth Sheerer	Isobel	7- 8-1752
Robert	Jean Gray	Jean	29- 8-1752
James	Jean Walker	Duncan	16-12-1752
Alexander	Janet Gray	James	19- 1-1753
James	Mary Buchanan	Robert	18- 2-1753
John	Margaret Hamilton	Marjory	2- 6-1753
Robert	Margaret Paull	James	21- 7-1753
James	Agnes Anderson	James	10-11-1753
Robert	Elizabeth Melvill	Robert	27-12-1753
Robert	Jean Gray	Andrew	3- 8-1754
Robert	Margaret Paull	Margaret	28- 8-1754
Alexander	Janet Craig	John	30-10-1754
Thomas	Jean Wood	Thomas	18- 1-1755
James	Jean Walker	Robert (as ?)	30- 4-1755
James	Agnes Anderson	Archibald	29- 6-1755 <i>born same day</i>
Robert	Elizabeth Melvill	Robert	27- 9-1755 <i>born same day</i>
James	Mary Buchanan	James	20- 3-1756 <i>born 15- 3-1756</i>
Duncan	Agnes Millar	Agnes	20- 4-1756 <i>born 17- 4-1756</i>

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Archibald	Janet Walker	Agnes	15- 5-1756
		<i>born</i>	12- 5-1756
Robert	Margaret Paull	John	12- 9-1756
Alexander	Janet Gray	Grizzall	5- 1-1757
( <i>weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	2- 1-1757
James	Jean Walker	Matthew	15- 1-1757
( <i>younger, weaver</i> )		<i>born same day</i>	
James	Agnes Anderson	James	21- 6-1757
		<i>born</i>	19- 6-1757
James	Mary Buchanan	Mary	4- 2-1758
( <i>weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	28- 1-1758
Robert	Elizabeth Melvill	John	24- 6-1758
( <i>brickmaker</i> )		<i>born</i>	22- 6-1758
Joseph	Jean Reid	John	14- 7-1758
( <i>weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	10- 7-1758
Robert	Margaret Paull	Ann	11-11-1758
( <i>flesher</i> )		<i>born</i>	5-11-1758
Alexander	Janet Gray	Mary	12-12-1758
( <i>weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	10-12-1758
James	Mary Buchanan	James	21- 4-1759
( <i>merchant</i> )		<i>born</i>	14(?) -4-59
James	Agnes Anderson	Archibald	14- 7-1759
		<i>born</i>	13- 7-1759
William	Jean Robertson	Robert	18-10-1759
( <i>merchant</i> )		<i>born</i>	16-10-1759
Robert	Margaret Paull	Agnes	6- 1-1760
( <i>flesher</i> )		<i>born</i>	5- 1-1760
John	Janet Finlayson	Jean	7- 3-1760
( <i>incle weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	6- 3-1760
Alexander	Janet Gray	William	5- 7-1760
( <i>weaver</i> )		<i>born</i>	2- 7-1760

FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
James ( <i>merchant</i> )	Mary Buchanan	Jean	11-10-1760 <i>born</i> 9-10-1760
John ( <i>tanner</i> )	Rebecca Campbell	Neil	22-12-1760 <i>born same day</i>
William	Jean Roberton	John	28- 1-1761 <i>born</i> 19- 1-1761
Robert ( <i>brickmaker</i> )	Elizabeth Melvil	Robert	1- 4-1761 <i>born</i> 30- 3-1761
Robert	Margaret Paull	Robert	6- 2-1762 <i>born</i> 31- 1-1762
Robert ( <i>weaver</i> )	Jean Gray	Janet	27- 2-1762 <i>born</i> 22- 2-1762
Joseph ( <i>weaver</i> )	Jean Reid	Robert	27- 3-1762 <i>born</i> 22- 3-1762
James	Agnes Anderson	Margaret	3- 7-1762 <i>born</i> 29- 6-1762
James ( <i>weaver</i> )	Mary Buchanan	Robert	?- 7-1762 <i>born</i> 11- 7-1762
Robert junior ( <i>merchant</i> )	Agnes Williamson	Agnes	28- 9-1762 <i>born</i> 20- 9-1762
Alexander	Janet Gray	James	8- 1-1763 <i>born</i> 6- 1-1763
James ( <i>brewer</i> )	Margaret Camichael	Isobell	23- 4-1763 <i>born</i> 21- 4-1763
William	Jean Roberton	James	10- 8-1763 <i>born</i> 5- 8-1763
Robert	Elizabeth Melville	Elizabeth	12- 9-1763 <i>born</i> 31- 8-1763
James ( <i>brickmaker</i> )	Catherine Sheir (?Keir?)	Peter	26-10-1763 <i>born</i> 24-10-1763
Robert ( <i>sadler</i> )	Christian Young	James	1-11-1763 <i>born</i> 24-10-1763



FATHER	MOTHER	ISSUE	DATE
Robert	Margaret Paull	Margaret	10- 2-1764 <i>born same day</i>
John ( <i>shoemaker</i> )	Janet Alexander	Janet	17- 7-1764 <i>born</i> 10- 7-1764
James ( <i>weaver</i> )	Mary Buchanan	John	6-10-1764 <i>born</i> 1-10-1764
James ( <i>brickmaker</i> )	Catherine Sheir	Catherine	7-12-1764 <i>born</i> 5-12-1764
Robert	Margaret Paull	James	1- 6-1765 <i>born</i> (     )
James ( <i>brewer</i> )	Margaret Carmichael	John	5- 6-1765 <i>born</i> 2- 6-1765





## ARMY OFFICERS

*"Courage, the highest gift, that scorns to bend  
To mean devices for a sordid end.  
Courage—an independent spark from Heaven's bright  
throne,  
By which the soul stands raised, triumphant high alone.  
Great in itself, not praises of the crowd,  
Above all vice, it stoops not to be proud."*

—GEORGE FARQHAR. Love and a Bottle. Dedication

*"In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*"We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*"Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you with failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields."*

—JOHN McCRAE.

BRITISH ARMY OFFICERS (1760-1944)  
 OFFICERS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY  
 (1810-1860)  
 AND BRITISH OFFICERS IN THE INDIAN ARMY  
 (1861-1890)<sup>1</sup>

Of the following nineteen army officers whose ancestry is known, thirteen are descendants of Duncan McNair and Mary Fleckfield,<sup>2</sup> namely, Robert McNair (1795-1862), Captain Archibald McNair (1804-1838), Lieutenant Colonel Robert McNair (1803-1857), Major John Christie McNair (1806-1899), Major John Frederick Adolphus McNair (1828-1910), Captain George Augustus McNair (1830-1862), Lieutenant General Edward John McNair (1838-1921), Major General Henry Archibald McNair (1840-1908), Captain John McNair (1840-——), Cadet Robert Nelson McNair (1841-——), Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Lionel McNair (1843-1925), and Lieutenant Charles Henry Robert McNair (1860-1885), Brigadier John Kirkland McNair (1893-——); two are descendants of James McNair, Laird of Greenfield,<sup>3</sup> namely, Lieutenant Colonel James McNair (1787-1836) and Ensign James Stanser McNair (1825-

<sup>1</sup>Compiled by James B. McNair from the (British) *Army Lists* in the National Library of Scotland and in the British Museum. Valuable assistance and additional material were supplied by Mr. L. G. Seed, clerical officer, in the Public Record Office, London, from War Office records, including the files of the Commander in Chiefs. Information was supplied by the Commonwealth Relations Office, London, re: officers of the East India Company (1810-1860) and British Officers in the Indian Army (1861-1890).

<sup>2</sup>*McNair, McNeir and McNear Genealogies, Supplement 1955*, pp. 79-92, 34-38.

<sup>3</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (Chicago, 1923), pp. 26-27.

—); two are descendants of John McNair and Ann Ross,<sup>4</sup> namely, Lieutenant-General John McNair (1756-1840) and Lieutenant William McNair (1819-1845).

Of the following officers who made a career of the army, there are: two lieutenant generals, one major general, two brigadiers, one colonel, three lieutenant colonels, three majors, three captains, and three lieutenants. The careers of some were shortened by death.

A. Y. MCNAIR, Lieutenant in the medical corps (M.D. No. 11) (E), August 10, 1916, Canada.<sup>5</sup>

ALEXANDER MCNAIR, Surgeon, commissioned, January 11, 1760, in the 9th Regiment of Foot. Retired, February 12, 1762.<sup>6</sup>

ALFRED LIONEL MCNAIR was born October 12, 1843, in the Parish of Delhi, India, the son of Lieutenant Colonel Robert McNair (1803-1857) of the 73d. Regiment of Native Infantry. He was educated at Dr. Beln's at Winchester and by Mr. Inchbald, Cheltenham College, in classical and mathematical courses. He was recommended by his mother, Mrs. Harriet Caroline McNair and nominated August 6, 1861, by Sir Frederick Currie, Bart., as a cadet for the military College at Addiscombe (Royal Indian Military College).

He was Ensign, August 27, 1861, in the 2nd Bombay Fusiliers (106th Regiment of Foot of the Bombay Light Infantry); Lieutenant in the same, September 30, 1862; Lieu-

<sup>4</sup>This book, pp. 191-95.

<sup>5</sup>*Army List.*

<sup>6</sup>*A List of the General and Field-Officers as they Rank in the Army . . . complete to June 20, 1759. London, p. 56; complete for 1760. London, p. 193; complete for 1761. London, p. 62. Roll of Commissioned Officers in the Medical Service of the British Army . . . June 20, 1727, to June 23, 1898. By H. A. L. Howell, Aberdeen, 1917. In National Library of Scotland and also in the Public Record Office, London.*



tenant of the Staff Corps, October 9, 1864; attached to the 3rd and 1st Sind Horse (14th Prince of Wales' Own), 1862-68; Squadron Officer, 1st Sind Horse, October 26, 1864; Captain, Staff Corps, August 5, 1868; Squadron Commander, 1st Sind Horse, August 27, 1873; Major, August 27, 1881; First Bombay Lancers, October 12, 1883; second in command and Squadron Commander, First Bombay Cavalry; Major Commandant, Seventh Cavalry, October 23, 1885; Lieutenant Colonel, Commandant, Seventh Cavalry, August 27, 1887; retired in Europe, October 23, 1892; Colonel, August 29, 1893. He served in the Abyssinian War in 1867-68 (medal) and also in the Second Afghan War in 1878 (medal).

In 1861 he had as relatives besides his mother, William McNair, 53 Finchley Road, St. John's Wood, London, and George McNair, 24 Abbey Place, St. John's Wood, London.<sup>7</sup> He died January 15, 1925.

ARCHIBALD MCNAIR was born November 23, 1804, in Abchurch Lane, Parish of St. Mary Abchurch in London, the son of Archibald McNair and Mary Ann Lindsay.<sup>8</sup> He was educated in Mr. Wanostrocht's at Camberwell in classical and mathematical studies. He was recommended by James Mangles, Esq., and appointed by John Inglis as a cadet for the military college at Addiscombe (Royal Indian Military College).

He was commissioned an Ensign in the 4th Regiment of Native Infantry, February 13, 1821; Lieutenant, July 12, 1824, in the 15th Regiment of Native Infantry (formerly the 4th Regiment); Captain, May 31, 1831.

<sup>7</sup>*Cadet Papers*, No. 570 of 1859-60 in Commonwealth Relations Office, London. *The Army List. McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 89.

<sup>8</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement* 1955, p. 34.

He was appointed Quartermaster, Interpreter, and Paymaster for the regiment on March 20, 1829. On promotion to Captain, he ceased to be Quartermaster and Interpreter, August 9, 1831.

He died at Chittoor on July 11, 1838.<sup>9</sup>

CHARLES HENRY ROBERT MCNAIR was born March 26, 1860, the son of Captain George Augustus McNair (1830-1862) of the 38th Regiment of Foot, and Elizabeth Thompson.

He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the 19th Regiment of Foot, August 13, 1879; 2nd Lieutenant, 65th Regiment of Foot, September 27, 1879; Lieutenant, July 1, 1881; probationer, India Staff Corps, August 30, 1883. Died at Midnapore, Bengal, January 26, 1885.<sup>10</sup>

DAVID MCNAIR, Surgeon, ranked from February 3, 1769, in the 12th Regiment of Foot (or the East-Suffolk Regiment). Stationed at Gibraltar from December 7, 1785, in the 3rd (or the King's Own) Regiment of Dragoons. Retired April 20, 1791.<sup>11</sup>

David McNair, Lieutenant, December 3, 1909, 2nd Wessex Regiment, Plymouth, England; Territorial Force, Royal Army Medical Corps (1910), Captain, June 3, 1913.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>9</sup>*Gazette*, July 17, 1838. *Cadet Papers*, 1820. Madras Service Statements, *Service Army List, Madras*, Vol. 4, p. 79. India Records Section, Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

<sup>10</sup>*Army List*. "The First Battalion formerly 65th (2nd Yorkshire, North Riding) Regiment, from 1756-1884. *Roll of the Officers of the York and Lancaster Regiment . . .*" By G. A. Raikes. London, 1885. Public Record Office, London.

<sup>11</sup>*A List of the General and Field-Officers as they Rank in the Army . . .* London, 1770. *Roll of Commissioned Officers in the Medical Service of the British Army . . .* June 20, 1727 to June 23, 1898. By H. A. L. Howell, Aberdeen, 1917.

<sup>12</sup>*Army List*. For his ancestry, education and army career see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, pp. 45-6. He may be a descendant of Duncan McNair and Mary Fleckfield.

EDWARD JOHN MCNAIR, was born July 9, 1838, in Bath, County Somerset, England, the son of Major John Christie McNair and Margaret Armstrong. He was educated in Bath Grammar School and in Bruton Grammar School in classical and mathematical subjects. He was recommended by Mrs. Henry Thornton and nominated by John Henry Astell for a cadetcy in the Royal Indian Military College at Addiscombe, May 13, 1856.

He joined the late 2d Regiment of European Bengal Fusiliers, April 29, 1854. On July 26, 1856, he was commissioned an Ensign in this Regiment, and two years later on April 12, 1858, he was promoted to Lieutenant. He served in the Indian Mutiny Campaign (Sepoy War) 1857-59, and was present at the assault and capture of Delhi (medal and clasp) as well as at the battle of Budlee-Ke-Seral and all operations throughout the seige. He was also in the Bekameer district in 1859 (medal with clasp).

In 1861 the 2d Regiment of European Bengal Fusiliers became the 2d Battalion of the 104th Foot (Royal Munster Fusiliers), and McNair was transferred to the 24th Regiment of Native Infantry on September 5, 1862. He continued in regimental employment until June 1874.

He was appointed Deputy Judge Advocate at Peshawur from June to November 1866 and at Jubbulpore from May to November 1872. He was also officiating deputy judge advocate in the Saugor and Gwalion district.

Promoted to a captaincy in the Bengal infantry May 22, 1867, he became Wing Officer 24th Regiment Native Infantry and was with the Hazara field force in 1868 (medal and clasp), and was present in the operations on Black Mountain (medal with clasp).



Promoted to Major in the Bengal Infantry, September 23, 1871, he became Wing Officer of the regiment on the same date.

He became a Lieutenant Colonel on January 1, 1874, and Deputy Assistant Adjutant General for musketry, 1st circle, Bengal on the same date. On April 1, 1877, he was promoted to second in command and Squadron Commander, 12th Bengal Cavalry. He served in the Afghan War in 1879-80 (mentioned in dispatches, medal). "The conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. McNair has never been the subject of a court martial or court of enquiry."

On July 1, 1881, he became a Colonel and officiating Commandant, 4th Bengal Native Infantry. He was permitted to reside out of India and returned to Bath. On December 24, 1887, he was promoted to Major General and on December 20, 1891, to Lieutenant-General. In 1892 he was retired. In 1920 he was on the list of Bengal Infantry (*Indian Army List*).<sup>13</sup>

ERIC ARCHIBALD MCNAIR was born June 16, 1894, in Calcutta, India, the son of George de Burgh McNair and Isabel Frederica Gowsmith. He was educated at Branksome Hall, Godalming (Mr. Sylvester's), India, and at Charterhouse, a school for boys in Surrey, England. Here he was a member of the Officers Training Corps, and head of the school when he left at mid-summer 1913, with a Demyship at Magdalen College, Oxford. He went into residence at Oxford in October 1913, and was working for the Indian Civil Service; but on the outbreak of World War I he applied for and obtained a commission, being gazetted to the 10th Royal Sussex Regiment, transferring to another battalion in August 1915, and

<sup>13</sup>*The Army List, Cadet Paper*, No. 134 of 1855-56, in Commonwealth Relations Office, London. Other papers in the Public Record Office, London. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement* 1955, pp. 35-37.

going to the front the following month. In February 1916, he won the Victory Cross, the highest award in the British Army, under the following circumstances:

When the enemy exploded a mine, Lieutenant McNair and many men of two platoons were hoisted into the air, and many men were buried. But, though much shaken, he at once organized a party with a machine gun to man the near edge of the crater and opened rapid fire on a large party of the enemy who were advancing. The enemy were driven back, leaving many dead. Lieutenant McNair then ran back for reinforcements, and sent to another unit for bombs, ammunition, and tools to replace those buried. The communication trench being blocked, he went across the open under heavy fire, and led up the reinforcements the same way. His prompt and plucky action and example undoubtedly saved the situation.

In August 1916, he was severely wounded, and it was not until early in 1917 that he was passed fit for service again; and then he was put on probation for Staff work, subsequently going through a special Staff course. After serving at home for some months, he went to another front in the early part of this year, attached to the Staff, but was invalided back about six weeks ago (previous to August 20, 1918) to a base hospital, where he died on August 12, 1918.<sup>14</sup>

F. A. R. McNAIR, Lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the Canada Reserve T., June 12, 1916.<sup>15</sup>

GEORGE AUGUSTUS McNAIR was born June 15, 1830, the son of Major Robert McNair (formerly Lieutenant of the 8th [or the King's] Regiment of Foot) and Catherine Elizabeth ———.<sup>16</sup> He obtained his commission of Ensign by a letter from his father as follows:

<sup>14</sup>*Who Was Who*, 1916-1928. Army List. *The Times* (London), March 31, 1916, p. 7, column b; May 22, 1916, p. 11, column b; August 29, 1916, p. 3, column f; August 20, 1918, p. 2, column b. See page 209 of this book.

<sup>15</sup>*Army List*.

<sup>16</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955* (19) p. 90. See also 156 of this book.



District Office  
17 Duke Street Westminster  
30 March 1844

My Lord

Having had the honour of being in the service since the year 1812, and being conscious of having performed my duty with zeal and fidelity, I venture respectfully to recall my humble services to your notice, in the hope that, should they appear to merit the favour, your Lordship will be pleased to submit the name of my son, George, age 14 years, to the Field Marshall—His Grace the Commander in Chief with the view to being noted for a commission in the line without purchase on attaining the regulation age.

I have the honour to be  
with the highest respect  
Your Lordships  
Most obedient humble servant  
Robt McNair  
Adjutant London District

Lieut. General  
Lord Fitzroy Somerset<sup>17</sup>  
KC.B.  
& &  
Horse Guards

(A note appears on the above letter as follows:)

“Memoranda—Regulars—9 November 1846 67th Foot—George Augustus McNair, gentleman, to be ensign without purchase vice Murray promoted.” (Recommended by) Lt. and Adjutant McNair, London District. R<sup>18</sup>

George Augustus McNair was commissioned an Ensign, November 13, 1846, in the 67th (The South Hampshire) Regiment of Foot. He was promoted to 2d Lieutenant, De-

<sup>17</sup>First Baron Raglan (1788-1855). A British general, youngest son of the First Duke of Beaufort. He entered the army in 1804; served in the Peninsular War; was military secretary to the Duke of Wellington, who was Commander in Chief of the army at this time.

<sup>18</sup>*War Office* 31/912, in Public Record Office, London.

cember 22, 1846, in the 70th (the Surrey) Regiment of Foot; Lieutenant, June 30, 1848; Captain, March 10, 1858, in the 17th (The Leicestershire) Regiment of Foot; to the 38th Regiment of Foot by exchange, July 30, 1858.<sup>19</sup> "George Augustus McNair, Captain H.M. 38th Regiment and officiating Commandant 20th Regiment. Punjabees died Peshawar 24 July 1862 aged 32 years." Monument at Taikal Cemetery, Peshawar District, North-West Frontier Province.<sup>20</sup>

Captain McNair was married and had issue (see page 156 of this book).

H. McNair, Captain, 6th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry, 1919.<sup>21</sup>

HENRY ARCHIBALD MCNAIR was born June 28, 1840, at Bangalore, Madras, India, the son of Major John Christie McNair, Madras Artillery, and Margaret Wilson. He was educated in Bruton Grammar School, Mr. Purrell's at Brighton, and at Mr. Gaitskell's in Kensington in classical and mathematical studies. He was recommended by his father and nominated by Major General Sir R. Vivian, K.C.B., as a cadet for Bengal Infantry in the East India Military College, into which he was admitted June 1, 1858.<sup>22</sup>

He became an Ensign in the 29th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry in 1859. On July 11, 1861, he became a Lieutenant in the same organization. Later he became Lieutenant Adjutant in the 12th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry. While in this regiment he was promoted to Captain on November 1,

<sup>19</sup>War Office 31/912, in Public Record Office, London.

<sup>20</sup>*A List of Inscriptions on Christian Tombs or Monuments in the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Kashmer and Afghanistan.* By Miles Irving, Lahore, 1910. Casualty returns of the 38th Regiment of Foot. War Office 25/3256 in Public Record Office, London.

<sup>21</sup>*Army List.*

<sup>22</sup>*Cadet Paper* 362 of 1857-58 in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

1868; Squadron Officer; Major, July 16, 1876; Squadron Commander and Lieutenant-Colonel, April 1, 1877, commanding at Jullunder; Colonel, July 1, 1881; permitted to reside in England; Major General, September 30, 1893; placed on unemployed supernumerary list April 11, 1895.

His war services include the Abyssinian Campaign in 1868; Kurcum (?) Valley Field Force, Afghan Campaign, 1878-79.<sup>23</sup>

JAMES MCNAIR was born September 24, 1787, at Greenfield, Shettleston (near Glasgow), Lanarkshire, Scotland, the son of James McNair, Laird of Greenfield.<sup>24</sup>

In the Commander-in-Chief memoranda is found this note of July 4, 1805. "To be Lieutenant without purchase in 52nd (Regiment of) Foot, Ensign James McNair."<sup>25</sup>

His dates of rank are as follows: Ensign in the 52nd Regiment of Foot March 14, 1805; Lieutenant, June 30, 1805; Captain, May 11, 1812; Major, April 25, 1822; Lieutenant-Colonel, August 3, 1830, of the 73rd Regiment of Foot. All were obtained without purchase.

His military career includess the following battles: Corrunna, January 16, 1809; Busacu, September 27, 1810; Fuentes D'Onor, May 5, 1811; Salamanca, July 22, 1812; Waterloo, June 18, 1815. Sieges: Badajoz, April 6, 1812. Affairs: The Coa, Sabugaland, and various minor skirmishes with the L (?) Division. Campaigns: 1808, Sir John Moore; 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, Duke of Wellington; 1814, Lord Lyndoch (Sir Thomas Graham); 1815, Duke of Wellington; 1816-1818, Army of Occupation.

<sup>23</sup>*Bengal Services*, Vol. 16, no. 82, in Commonwealth Relations Office, London. Papers in Public Record Office, London. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies. Supplement* 1955, p. 35.

<sup>24</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, Chicago 1923, p. 26.

<sup>25</sup>War Office 31/186 in the Public Record Office, London.



His services abroad include: Sicily, 1806-1808; Sweden, 1808; Portugal and Spain 1808-1809; Spain, 1809-1812; Belgium, 1813-14; on board ship at Cove of Cork, bound for America, January to April 1815; Belgium and France, 1815-18; North America, 1823-26.

He volunteered with the storming party at Badajoz and was wounded in the head April 6, 1812. For this he was given one year's pay as a lieutenant. He received the Waterloo medal and was made a Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order (K.H.).

On July 31, 1824, he was married at St. Mary's, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, to Eleanor Stanser, daughter of the Reverend Dr. Stanser, Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia. She died at Edinburgh, Scotland, June 8, 1848. Issue: James McNair, born June 6, 1825, at Fredericton; Robert McNair, born March 5, 1827, in Scotland; Philip McNair, born October 10, 1828, at Portsmouth, England.<sup>26</sup>

JAMES LEWIS PUGH MACNAIR was born August 17, 1892, at Calcutta, India, the son of John Frederick Macnair and Veronica Charlotte Pugh. He was educated at Uppingham School and at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, England. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in 57th Battery, XLIV (Edinburgh) Regiment of Royal Field Artillery, December 23, 1911; transferred to 23rd Battery, XL (Bulford) Regiment, Royal Artillery in 1913; became a Lieutenant, December 23, 1914; Captain, August 8, 1916; Staff Captain, War Office (temporary), April 22, 1919, to April 30, 1920; Brigade Major, Royal Artillery, West Riding Division, June 16, 1920, to April 5, 1921; Major, 1929;

<sup>26</sup>War Office 25/795 and War Office 31/186 in the Public Record Office, London. *The Gentleman's Magazine* for August 1848.

Colonel, 1937; retired, 1946. He is a member of the Army and Navy Club (London).<sup>27</sup>

The following is his service record. From 1914 to 1918 he fought in France and Flanders in World War I. From 1919 to 1922 he was in the Military College of Science. He had formed the erroneous opinion that there was no future in pure soldiering, so he took the army scientific course. Between World War I and World War II he was on the Technical Staff, mostly in the Research Department, Woolwich, or at the Military College of Science. Between appointments, he reverted to regimental assignments, i.e., from 1926 to 1927 he was at Hong Kong, where he was a Staff Officer for the Royal Artillery at Headquarters; in 1931 he commanded the first medium battery at Portsmouth; from 1940 to 1941 he was Chief Superintendent of the Research Department. During the winter of 1941 he visited a number of research establishments in the United States and Canada on behalf of the Ministry of Supply. From 1942 to 1943 he was a member of the Ordnance Board; from 1944 to 1945, Commandant of the Military College of Science, and in 1945 he was retired from the service as he had passed the age limit for his rank.<sup>28</sup>

JAMES STANSER MCNAIR was born June 6, 1825, at Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, the son of Lieutenant-Colonel James McNair, K.H. of the 73rd Regiment of Foot, and Eleanor Stanser.<sup>29</sup>

In regard to his obtaining an ensigncy the following correspondence is of interest:

<sup>27</sup>*Army List. Kelly's Handbook to the Titled, Landed and Official Classes* 1958. London. See also page 103 of this book.

<sup>28</sup>Letter from Brigadier J. L. P. Macnair to James B. McNair, dated Februray 17, 1957, at 14 Jubilee Place, London S.W. 3.

<sup>29</sup>War Office 25/795 in the Public Record Office, London. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, Chicago 1923, p. 26.



*Royal Barracks*

Dublin 18th September 1840

My Lord

I take the liberty of bringing to your notice for a cornetcy in the 12th Royal Lancers, Mr. James McNair, the son of my cousin the late Lt. Colonel McNair who served for many years in the 52nd and afterwards commanded the 73rd Regiment. He died a few years since from the effects of a severe wound received at Badajoz.

The young gentleman is between 15 and 16 years of age, possesses a good property, and is in every respect qualified for the service. I therefore trust the long services of his father and the extreme anxiety of his mother that her son should be placed in a regiment with me will be a sufficient apology for the trouble I am giving your Lordship upon this occasion.

I have the honour to be  
my Lord

Your very humble  
and obedient servant

A. G. (?) Barton, Lt. Col.

Lt. General Lord Fitzroy Somerset<sup>30</sup>  
K.C.B.

Military Secretary.

Memorial of Mrs. Eleanor McNair residing at No. 18 Vale Place, Hammersmith, widow of the deceased Lieutenant Colonel James McNair sometime of the 73rd Regiment of Foot, thereafter on half pay unattached to His Grace Field Marshall the Duke of Wellington pay attached to

His Grace Field Marshall

The Duke of Wellington K.G.G.C.B. &&&&

Commander in Chief of Her Majesty's Forces

Sometime ago an application was made by the memorialist, the widow of the late Lieutenant Colonel McNair, and by Lieutenant Colonel Barton of the 12th Royal Lancers to the late General Commanding in Chief Lord Hill to have the name of James Stanser McNair the eldest son of the late Lieut. Col. McNair put down for a

<sup>30</sup>First Baron Raglan (1788-1855), *op. cit.*

commission in the 12th Lancers to which his Lordship was graciously pleased to reply that he would recollect Mr. J. S. McNair's preference for that Regiment and his connection with Lieut. Colonel Barton, and bring him forward when his other engagements would permit.

Since the above application was made your memorialist considering that her son James Stanser McNair is now nearly eighteen years of age and also certain circumstances of a prudential nature connected with her late husband's pecuniary affairs (with the particulars of which it is unnecessary to trouble your Grace) has come to the resolution, by the advice and recommendation of her late husband's Trustee, humbly to request that the above application for a cornetcy in the 72 Lancers may be transferred as an application for an ensigncy so that Mr. J. S. McNair may be appointed to an Infantry Regiment so soon as may be consistent with your Grace's pleasure.

The memorialist knowing the interest taken by Your Grace in the individuals who served in the late war against France would with great reference and respect advert (?) to the services of the late Lieut. Col. McNair as affording an apology on her part for craving your kindness and consideration in favor of her son.

Lieut. Col. McNair was appointed to an ensigncy in the 52nd Regiment of Light Infantry early in the year 1805 served in Sicily, and in the expedition to Sweden in 1808, he joined the British Army in Portugal, was in Sir John Moore's campaign and retreat to Corunna—and in all the subsequent campaigns under Your Grace ending with the battle of Waterloo at which he was present. He was severely wounded in the head at the storming of Badajos for which he neither applied for nor received any compensation,—but which wound on a post mortem examination was declared by the medical men who conducted it to have been the ultimate cause of his death—He remained with the 52nd in active service till 1830 when he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the 73rd which regiment he immediately joined at Malta, and remained there till the state of his health induced him to apply for leave of absence in the year 1834. When his leave of absence was about to expire not finding himself sufficiently recovered to join, and yet reluctant to quit a profession he loved so much, he went upon half pay for the first time receiving the regulated difference and in 1836 he died leaving a widow and four sons all in minority.

The memorialist has only in addition to observe that her son's education which has been conducted with a view to the army being his profession is now completed, and that she is most anxious to have him appointed to an ensigncy by purchase at as early a period as may be consistent with Your Grace's pleasure, or as the claims which she has set forth may appear to your Grace to have upon your indulgence and consideration.

7 March 1843

Eleanor McNair<sup>31</sup>

*Goodwood*

March 28, 1843

My dear Fitzroy

The widow of the late Col. McNair who was one of our best officers in the 52 Lt. (light) Infantry during the war has asked me to apply that her son may purchase an ensigncy instead of a cornetcy for which his name is down at the Horse Guards. I do this more willingly as I have no doubt that if the lad is like his father that he will be an excellent recruit.

Believe me  
my dear Fitzroy  
Yours sincerely  
Richmond<sup>32</sup>

Lord Fitzroy Somerset<sup>33</sup>

80 Pall Mall  
17 July 1843

My Lord

We have the honor to report for the information of His Grace the Commander in Chief, that the sum of Four Hundred and Fifty Pounds has this day been paid into our hands for the purchase

<sup>31</sup>War Office 31/861 in the Public Record Office, London.

<sup>32</sup>The Duke of Richmond, Lord William Pitt Lennox (1799-1881). An English soldier, fourth son of the fourth Duke of Richmond.  
The Lord Fitzroy Somerset<sup>33</sup>

<sup>33</sup>First Baron Raglan (1788-1855), *op. cit.*



of an ensigncy in the 52nd Regiment for Mr. James Stanser McNair.

We have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships most obedient

Humble servant

John ———<sup>34</sup>

Lieut. General

Lord Fitzroy Somerset KCB

18 Oale Place

Hammersmith

24th July 1843

Mrs. McNair presents her respectful compliments to Lieut. General Lord Fitzroy Somerset, and in acknowledging the receipt of his Lordships communication of the 21st July, begs to express her very grateful thanks for the kind consideration shown towards her son by His Grace the Commander in Chief and also his Lordships in recommending him for an appointment to the 52nd Foot.<sup>35</sup>

(not signed)

Memoranda—Regulars—17 July 1843

52 (Regiment of) Foot

To be ensign by purchase James Stanser McNair, Gentleman. (Recommended by) the Duke of Richmond, Mrs. McNair, Lt. Col. Barton 12th Lancers.

He was commissioned an Ensign in the 52nd (the Oxfordshire) Regiment of Foot, July 21, 1843, and retired on June 28, 1844, at which time his ensigncy was sold by him at a profit.<sup>36</sup>

JOHN MCNAIR was commissioned an Ensign in the 5th West India Regiment of Foot on October 6, 1808; a Lieutenant on February 19, 1810; placed on half pay on August 24, 1817; and in the *Army List* until 1832.

<sup>34</sup>War Office 31/861 in Public Record Office, London.

<sup>35</sup>*Loc. cit.*

<sup>36</sup>*Army List*. War Office 31/861 in Public Record Office, London.

In the Commander in Chief's file, packet No. 262, is to be found this memoranda. "John McNair, gentleman to be ensign without purchase." Memoranda 6th October 1808. Regulars.<sup>37</sup>

JOHN MCNAIR (1756-1840) Lieutenant General. See page 191.

JOHN MCNAIR was born June 8, 1840, at Sylhet, Allahabad, diocese of Calcutta, the son of Lieutenant-Colonel Robert McNair (1803-1857), 73rd Native Infantry, and Harriet Caroline Garstin.<sup>38</sup> He was educated in Blair Lodge, Stirlingshire, and by Mr. Hodge in Fifeshire in classical and mathematical studies. He was recommended by Lady Abbott and nominated by Colonel W. H. Sykes, M.P., for a cadetship in the East India Company's Training College at Addiscombe, Surrey, to which he was admitted on February 2, 1858.<sup>39</sup>

His dates of rank are as follows: Ensign, January 18, 1858; 2nd Lieutenant, February 20, 1858; Lieutenant, November 21, 1858; Captain, February 20, 1870.

The service record of John McNair is as follows: Ensign 57th Native Infantry, Bengal, January 18, 1858; attached to 10th, 19th, and 73rd Regiments, May 1858 to January, 1860; Duty Officer, 3rd P.I., February 13, 1860, to July 5, 1861; Officiated as Adjutant most of above period and commanded a wing for two months; attached to the 16th native infantry from February, 1864, to September, 1865; 11th Native Infantry, September 1858; 2nd duty officer, November 6, 1865;

<sup>37</sup>*Army List*. War Office 31/262 in the Public Record Office, London.

<sup>38</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies. Supplement 1955*, p. 89. In his *Cadet Paper No. 139 of 1857-58* he gives John McNair, 12 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh, as his nearest of kin. John may be his uncle; see page 156 of this book.

<sup>39</sup>*Cadet Paper, No. 139 of 1857-58* in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London.



1st wing subaltern, February 13, 1868; Adjutant from November 30, 1867, to December 3, 1869; Quartermaster from April 20, to July 1, 1868, in addition to other duties; 2nd in command from April 11 to September 26, 1869; Adjutant from December 3, 1869, to November 27, 1871; Quartermaster from April 16 to July 10, 1869, in addition to other duties; Wing officer from January 3 to March 30, 1872, and again from April 23 to June 20, 1872; Quartermaster from April 27 to August 16, 1872; 2nd wing subaltern from November 27, 1871; Quartermaster, August 16, 1872; Station Staff, Dum Dum, from December 19, 1868, to March 1, 1869, and from September 5 to November 11, 1871. Placed on half pay, April 2, 1876, and remained in the *Army List* until 1899.<sup>40</sup>

JOHN CHRISTIE MCNAIR was born November 12, 1806, in Abchurch Lane, Parish of St. Mary Abchurch, London, the son of Archibald McNair and Mary Ann Lindsay. He was educated in Dr. Wanostrocht's school at Camberwell in classical studies. On August 7, 1822, he was nominated to Addiscombe as a cadet by William Wigram, Esq., on the recommendation of John Christie, Esq., London. Addiscombe was the East India Company's Training College at Addiscombe, Surrey.<sup>41</sup>

He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, December 16, 1824; Lieutenant, December 17, 1824; Captain, December 16, 1839 (brevet); Captain, June 3, 1841; and Major, February 25, 1842.

On December 16, 1824, he passed his examinations at the military seminary at Addiscombe, and arrived at Madras, July 8, 1825. He was Adjutant 1st Brigade of Horse Artillery, July 13, 1827; Quartermaster and Paymaster to the above,

<sup>40</sup>*Army List*. Record of Service of Captain John McNair from *Bengal Services*, vol. II, No. 142 in Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

<sup>41</sup>*Cadet Papers*, No. 342 for 1821 in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955*, p. 34.

November 9, 1827; Adjutant C Troop of Horse Artillery, March, 1831; to 3rd Battalion of Artillery, January 21, 1836; Quartermaster and Interpreter for the Horse Brigade of Artillery, February 8, 1839. He was Adjutant to the above, June 22, 1839; Adjutant and Quartermaster, February 5, 1841; the same to the 4th Battalion of Artillery, August 21, 1841, and to the 1st Battalion of Artillery, February 28, 1842. On March 5, 1844, he was retired from the service.<sup>42</sup>

JOHN FREDERICK ADOLPHUS MCNAIR was born October 23, 1828, at Bath, England, the son of Major Robert McNair of the 8th (or the Kings) Regiment of Foot and Catherine Eliza ———. He was educated at Thomas Grose's school at Tower Hill in classical and mathematical courses. On the recommendation of Colonel Charles Wyndham, M.P., and the nomination of George Lyalt, Esq., M.P., he entered the Royal Indian Military College at Addiscombe, Surrey.<sup>43</sup>

His dates of rank are as follows: 2nd Lieutenant, December 13, 1845; Lieutenant, August 12, 1853; 2nd Captain, August 27, 1858; Captain, September 1, 1864; Major (brevet), August 31, 1870; Retired, August 31, 1870. C.M.G., May 24, 1870.

He was a staff officer of artillery in the Straits Settlements from June 27, 1856, to January 31, 1858, and Adjutant and Quartermaster of the same from the latter date until March 16, 1858. He acted as Aid de Camp to the Honorable Governor of the Straits Settlements, without prejudice to his regimental duties, from April 1 to December 1, 1857. He was executive engineer and superintendent of convicts at Singa-

<sup>42</sup>*Madras Service Army List*, Vol. 5, p. 361, in Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

<sup>43</sup>*Cadet papers*, 1844-45 in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, 1923, pp. 34-35; *Supplement*, 1955, p. 90.

pore after March 17, 1858. On December 19, 1867, he became colonial engineer of the Straits Settlements and on August 31, 1870, colonial engineer and surveyor general of the Straits Settlements.<sup>44</sup>

JOHN KIRKLAND MCNAIR was born October 21, 1893, at Aylesbury, County Buckingham, England, the son of the Vicar of Aylesbury, Harry Bingham McNair, and Sybilla Mackenzie Kirkland Bartlett. He was educated at Rugby and at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. His first commission as a 2nd Lieutenant, July 18, 1913, was in the 128 Howitzer Battery, XXX-Bulford Regiment of Royal Artillery; Lieutenant, June 9, 1915; temporary Captain, April 29 to August 4, 1916; acting Major, Royal Artillery, April 8 to 22, 1918, and June 13, 1918; in 1930, Brevet Major; in 1931, Major; in 1935, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel; in 1938, Lieutenant Colonel; in 1938, Colonel; in 1940, temporary Brigadier. He served in the European War (World War I), 1914-18, in France in the Royal Field Artillery and was twice wounded. During 1923-24, he was in the Staff College at Quetta; from 1925-27, he was a Staff officer second grade, India; from 1927-29, he was a Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General; in 1931 he was stationed at the Royal Air Force Staff College at Andover; during 1932-34 he was general staff officer 2 in the War Office. In 1938 he was a student at the Imperial Defense College; during 1939-40 he was again a general staff officer in the War Office; from 1940-41 a deputy director of military operations in the War Office; from 1941-42, a Brigadier in the Royal Artillery Southern Command; from 1942-44, a Brigadier on the General Staff (operation and plans) of the Joint Staff Mission, in Washington, D.C. In 1946 he was retired. Later he became senior administration officer on

<sup>44</sup>*Army List*, "Statement of Services No. 27" in *Madras Services*, Vol. 1, Commonwealth Relations Office, London.



the Imperial War Graves Commission. He has been made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and the United States government awarded him the Legion of Merit award. He is a member of the Naval and Military Club.<sup>45</sup>

JOHN MILLER MCNAIR was born March 9, 1837, in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He entered the service aged 17 5/12 years by purchase of an ensigncy August 18, 1854, in the 79th Regiment of Foot (Cameron Highlanders). By purchase he became a Lieutenant, February 9, 1855, and a Captain, July 10, 1860, in the same regiment. By exchange he joined the 5th (Royal Irish) Lancers, May 10, 1871. He was breveted a Major, March 25, 1873, and went on halfpay May 12, 1875. On June 30, 1877, he went on active duty as a Captain in the 16th Lancers, from which he again went on halfpay February 16, 1878. On April 1, 1878, he was made a Paymaster; and Staff Paymaster June 1, 1882. He was awarded an honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, June 1, 1882.

John Miller McNair was instructor in musketry in the depot battalion October 21, 1861; served with the 79th Highlanders in Crimea under Sir William Codrington from August 16, 1855, including the siege and fall of Sebastapol, and assault of September 8th (medal with clasp and Turkish medal); served also in the Indian Mutiny of 1858-59 under Lord Clyde, including the siege and capture of Lucknow (medal with clasp); Pay Master, April 1, 1878; attack on Fort Rooyab, actions of Allygunge, Bareilly, and Shahjehanpore, capture of Forts Bunniar and Mahomdie, passage of the Gogra at Fyzahad, capture of Rampore Kussia, and subsequent operations in Oude across the Goomtee and Raptee rivers (medal with clasp); Staff Paymaster, June 1, 1882; honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, June 1, 1882; served

<sup>45</sup>*Who's Who*, 1954 (London). *Army List*, see page 155 of this book.

with the Cameron Highlanders in the Egyptian War of 1882 (medal and Khedive's star).<sup>46</sup>

JOSEPH MCNAIR was commissioned an Ensign in the 9th (or East Norfolk) Regiment of Foot on August 11, 1799, and a Lieutenant on March 22, 1800. He is in the 1802 *Army List*.<sup>47</sup>

P. S. MACNAIR, 1st Lieutenant, May 6, 1900, 4th Highland Mountain Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery (1909), Tarbert, Lochfyne, North Britain. Captain, 1917; Major, 1918.<sup>48</sup>

R. MACNAIR, 2nd Lieutenant, December 21, 1912, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Scots (Lothian) Regiment.<sup>49</sup>

ROBERT MCNAIR was born January 21, 1795, the son of John McNair, merchant, and Jean French, daughter of provost William French of Glasgow.<sup>50</sup> He was recommended for an ensigncy by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York<sup>51</sup> in response to a letter addressed to her by Euphemia French (the aunt of Robert McNair) as follows:

Madam

It has afforded me the most heartfelt pleasure, to learn from Miss Carbery, that your Royal Highness, continues to enjoy the inestimable blessings, of good health, and spirits, both of which, I most ardently hope, will long be preserved to you.

<sup>46</sup>*Army List. War Office Form 360* filled out by Captain J. M. McNair, April 1, 1870, in the Public Record Office, London. *War Office* 25/838 in the above office.

<sup>47</sup>*Army List War Office* 31/86 in the Public Record Office, London.

<sup>48</sup>*Loc. cit.*

<sup>49</sup>*Loc. cit.*

<sup>50</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement* 1955, p. 89-91.

<sup>51</sup>The Duchess of York, at this time, was Princess Fredericka Charlotte Ulrica Katherine, the eldest daughter of Frederick William II, King of Prussia. The Duke of York was Frederick Augustus (1763-1827), the second son of George III of England.



I flatter myself that your Royal Highness, will pardon the liberty I now take in presuming to address you most humbly to solicit a favour, which from your Royal Highness former unremitted goodness to me, I am induced to hope, you will condescend to oblige me in, if in your power: namely to take the trouble of stating to His Royal Highness, the Commander in Chief, that I have an orphan nephew, a fine young man of seventeen years of age, who has had so good an education as to have been for sometime past, employed in the Law, but who has become an enthusiastically fond of a military life, that he cannot settle to his profession. His father died a few months ago, not in good circumstances, and the young mans, nearest relatives, can do but little for him; he was looking towards his uncle (and my own brother) Lieutenant Colonel John French, late of the 71st Regiment, to assist his views, but he unfortunately died, in the month of January last, so that he is left without any aid, that he could naturally apply to, what I therefore earnestly request (if such a request is not improper) is that your Royal Highness would have the goodness to represent the matter to His Royal Highness, the Commander in Chief, and, if it is not inconsistent, with the rules of the office; if His Royal Highness, would be graciously pleased to bestow him, such an appointment, as wherein good conduct, in all respects, might lead to his advancement; I cannot help feeling a confident hope, that the young man, will by his excellent disposition, be of service to his country, and do honour to himself—If the request I have mentioned thus to make be improper, I beg with all humility instantly to withdraw it, but, as I have experienced so many favours from Your Royal Highness, I am induced to hope, that Your Royal Highness will have the goodness, to condescend to inform me, how, otherwise His Royal Highness, may be approached with such an application, which would be esteemed as the next greatest favour that could be conferred upon me, and for which I should ever feel most truly grateful—my nephew Robert Macnair is the eldest of eight unprovided orphans, of a handsome figure, fine face, and pleasant address, above five feet eight inches in height and still

growing—I shall only further trespass upon Your Royal Highness's time to subscribe myself with every sentiment of gratitude, and esteem.

Madam

Your Royal Highness's  
much obliged  
and most devoted  
humble servant

Euphemia French

Carmyle

near Glasgow

9th June 1812.

(Note on back)

CM

This young man must be appointed early to a commission with the Line.

June 24th

Memoranda—Regulars—22 October 1812 8 Foot: Robert Macnair gentleman to be ensign in Bradford (Recommended by) H. R. H. The Duchess of York.<sup>52</sup>

Robert McNair was commissioned an Ensign (vice Jevers) October 22, 1812, in the 8th (or the King's) Regiment of Foot. On March 24, 1814, he became a Lieutenant, and was promoted to Captain, April 12, 1850, and to Major, February 12, 1862. On April 12, 1862, he died at Abbey-road, St. John's-wood, London.<sup>53</sup>

"Lieutenant McNair served during the American War (War of 1812) in the campaigns of 1813 and 1814 on the borders of Lake Ontario, and on the Niagara frontier, including the investment of Fort George, action at Black Rock, and capture of the Town of Buffaloe; siege of Fort Erie, and the

<sup>52</sup>*War Office* 31/357 in Public Record Office, London.

<sup>53</sup>*Army List. Gentleman's Magazine*, new series, Vol. 12, p. 657. 1862. London. *Home Office Census Returns 1851 (H.O. 107/1491)* for the borough of Marylebone, parish of Marylebone, London. In Public Record Office. London.

action at the sortie, 17th September 1814, besides other affairs. Prisoner of war about six months."<sup>54</sup>

On March 30, 1844, Robert McNair was Lieutenant and Adjutant of the London District (of the Grenadier Guards?).

Lieutenant Robert McNair was captured when the enemy attacked the British before Fort Erie on September 17, 1814. The action is described by Major General L. De Watteville as follows: At three o'clock in the afternoon the engagement began. The British forces were composed of the second brigade under Colonel Fisher, composed of the eighth and De Watteville's regiments.

Under cover of a heavy fire of his artillery from Fort Erie, and much favoured by the nature of the ground, and also by the state of the weather, the rain falling in torrents at the moment of his approach, the enemy succeeded in turning the right of our line picquets without being perceived, and with very considerable force attacked both the picquets, and support in their flank and rear; at the same time another of the enemy's columns attacked in front of the picquets between no. 2 and no. 3 batteries, and having succeeded in penetrating by no. 4. picquet, part of his force turned to his left, and thereby surrounded our right, and got almost immediately possession of no. 3. battery. The enemy then directed his attacks with a very superior force towards no. 2 battery; but the obstinate resistance made by the picquets under every possible disadvantage, delayed considerably his getting possession of no. 2 battery, in which however, he at last succeeded.<sup>55</sup>

ROBERT MCNAIR was born December 25, 1803, at Glasgow, the son of Robert McNair, sometime suger refiner in Glasgow, afterward collector of customs at Leith, and Helen McCall. He was educated in the Edinburgh High School in classical and mathematical subjects. He was recommended by Sir William Johnstone Hope and nominated by the Right

<sup>54</sup>*Army List* for 1848 and 1849 p. 263.

<sup>55</sup>*The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle*, Vol. 84, pp. 558-89. London, 1814.



Honorable George Canning as a cadet for Bengal Establishment, United East India Company, January 7, 1821.<sup>56</sup>

His dates of rank and record of service are as follows: Ensign, January 13, 1821, in the 21st Native Infantry Regiment; transferred as Lieutenant to 11th Native Infantry Regiment, July 11, 1823; to 15th Native Infantry Regiment (late 11th Native Infantry Regiment), May 1824; attack on and capture of Mahara; Bulwant Singh at Patan, near Kotah, November 7, 1824; Lieutenant, 15th Native Infantry Regiment under Captain Charles Kiernander. Captain Kiernander in reporting the successful result of the above attack observes, "It is not in my power to express my sense of the gallant conduct of Lieutenants Troup, Evans, and McNair of the 15th Regiment Native Infantry during the course of the service, etc." Transferred to 5th Extra Regiment (became 73rd Native Infantry), May 1825. Interpreter and Quartermaster, 73rd Native Infantry Regiment, July 29, 1825, till February 15, 1832; Furlough private affairs, March 30, 1832, till January 30, 1835; doing duty, Assam Light Infantry, February 21 till April 1835; Interpreter and Quartermaster, 73rd Native Infantry Regiment, February 8, 1836, till September 2, 1839; leave (sick certificate) 6 months to China, September 14, 1836; officiating temporary Brigade Major to Brigadier J. H. Littler's force on eastern frontier January 5, 1838, and May 27, 1839; permanent Brigadier October 22, 1839, till December 30, 1840; Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Meerut Division, May 21, 1842. Temporary commanding 1st Infantry levy, October 11, 1842; Assistant Executive Engineer 12th (Ambala) Division, public works Department, April 17, 1844, till April 1847; second Sikh War; in garrison at Lahore; Brevet Major, 73rd Native Infantry Regiment (medal) Fur-

<sup>56</sup>*Cadet paper No. 125 of the year 1820 in Commonwealth Relations Office, London.*



lough (sick certificate) January 1850 till November 1851; with Field Force for annexation of Oudh, 1850; Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, 73rd Native Infantry Regiment; posted Lieutenant Colonel to 73rd Native Infantry Regiment, September 1856; transferred to 17th Native Infantry Regiment in 1857. Died, Coonoor, Madras, July 20, 1857, "of fatigue."

He was married first in Edinburgh, June 12, 1834, to Catherine More, second daughter of J. S. More, advocate. She died in Calcutta, November 10, 1835, aged 21. He was married secondly in St. Andrew's Church, Calcutta, August 2, 1837, to Harriet Caroline Garstin, second daughter of Captain Jonathan Hayter "John" Garstin of His Majesty's 88th Regiment.<sup>57</sup>

ROBERT NELSON MCNAIR was born July 28, 1841, at Allahabad, County of Bengal, India, the son of Lieutenant Colonel Robert McNair (1803-1857) of the 17th Native Infantry Regiment and Harriet Caroline Garstin, daughter of Captain Jonathan Hayter "John" Garstin of Her Majesty's 88th Regiment. He was educated at Mr. Smeaton's Institution at St. Andrews, Scotland, at Dr. Behr's at Winchester, England, and by a private tutor, Mr. Inchbald. He was recommended by his mother and nominated by Sir Frederick Currie, Bart., as a cadet in the East India Military College, February 14, 1859.<sup>58</sup>

S. MCNAIR, Captain, in the Royal Artillery Medical Corps, 1919.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>57</sup>*Bengal Service Army List*, Vol. 5, pp. 427 and 428. *Allen's Indian Mail*, September 17, 1857, p. 605. *List of the Officers of the Bengal Army 1758-1834*, by Major V. C. P. Hodson, Part III, pp. 189-90. London, 1946. *Will* dated January 8, 1856, and administered November 10, 1858. Above in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

<sup>58</sup>*Cadet Paper No. 244 of 1858-59* in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London.

<sup>59</sup>*Army List*. For the ancestry of Dr. Samuel McNair see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (1923) p. 33.

T. K. MCNAIR, Lieutenant (E), September 3, 1915, Canada.<sup>60</sup>

WILLIAM MCNAIR was born December 8, 1819, at Stranraer, Scotland, the son of Lieutenant General John McNair, formerly of the 90th Regiment of Foot, and Anne Ross, daughter of William Ross, Esq., collector of His Majesty's customs at Stranraer. He was commissioned Ensign December 2, 1836, and Lieutenant, December 15, 1838, in the 62nd (or the Wilshire) Regiment of Foot. He was killed or mortally wounded at the Battle of Ferozshahr, December 21 and 22, 1845, in the Punjab, India. He received his ensigncy through the influence of his father and his father's friend, Lord Lynedoch (General Sir Thomas Graham). For copies of the correspondence, see page 192-94 of this book.

<sup>60</sup>*Loc. cit.*

## AMERICAN ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS

There have also been McNair officers in the United States Army and Navy, and in the Confederate States Army. Biographies of some of these men appear in the three earlier volumes, i.e., *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (Chicago, 1923); *Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929); and *Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955). They are: Lesley James McNair (1883-1944), General, U. S. Army; William Sharp McNair (1868-1936), Major General, U. S. Army; Frederick Vallette McNair (1839-1900), Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy; James Duncan McNair (1874-1946), Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy; Laurence North McNair (1884-——), Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy; Robert McNair (1797-1886), Brigadier General, Pennsylvania Militia; Evander McNair (1820-1902), Brigadier General, Confederate States Army; Frederick Vallette McNair, Jr. (1882-——), Captain, U. S. Navy, Congressional Medal of Honor.





McNAIRS IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

*"Nobody ever achieves conspicuous success in politics or any profession without possessing some superior quality. It may not be a quality required for the position he holds, but it is always something which his competitors lack. Entirely foolish individuals never get on."*

—SIR HENRY DRUMMOND WOLFF.

*Wall St. J.* Sept. 5, 1923. p. 2.

*"We cannot prevent nature from producing men of quite unequal capacity, and a few with a talent for direction which will give them colossal advantages."*

—VISCOUNT HALDANE.

*Wall St. J.* Aug. 31, 1923. p. 2.

*"I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me."*

—A. LINCOLN, Speech. 1864.

*"Very few people are in position to shape out their own lives."*

—THOMAS SPEER MCNAIR, (aged 69),  
In a letter to A. E. Bachert, November 6, 1893.

## DESCENDANTS OF ANDREW MACNAIR AND JANET DUNLAP<sup>1</sup>

1. ANDREW MACNAIR of Milngavie, Dumbartonshire, Scotland, was born about 1760. He was married to Janet Dunlap, the daughter of David Dunlap of Clober, Stirlingshire, and to Miss Macgregor, the daughter of James Macgregor of Clober. Children:

2. Andrea Macnair, died aged 18.
3. Anne Macnair, died aged 20.
4. Janet Macnair
5. ———Macnair, who was married to Dr. John Robertson and had several children.
6. James Macnair

### SECOND GENERATION

4. JANET MACNAIR (Andrew [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1793 and was married to John Urqhart of Fairhill and Auchingramont, Lanarkshire, and of Caraneugh, Perthshire, Scotland. He was born in 1783 and died in 1854. She died in 1840. They had nine sons and six daughters.<sup>2</sup>

6. JAMES MACNAIR of Aucheneck, Stirlingshire, Scotland, was born during October 1796.

<sup>1</sup>The following information, unless otherwise stated, was obtained from: *A Chronicle of the Family of Gairdner of Ayrshire, Edinburgh and Glasgow, and their connections, from the seventeenth century*, by William Henry Bailey, privately printed by Hammett and Company. (Taunton) Ltd., 1947, pp. 121-23. *Strathendrick and Its Inhabitants from Early Times*, by John Guthrie Smith, F.S.A., Scot., 1896.

<sup>2</sup>Urqhart of Strawberryhill in *Burke's Landed Gentry*, 1894 edition.

He was a very well-known man in the West of Scotland and, though stone deaf, caused by a severe illness in his early childhood, he was a man of great intelligence and information and an accomplished improver of land and an agriculturist. When Mr. Macnair bought Auchenech and West Finnach-Tennant, the greater part of his estate was a bleak, muirish place with a few trees only standing around the old steadings and cottages in the glen.

Mr. Macnair at once set himself to improve his estate by planting, draining, fencing, road making and bridge building, and finally he erected a comfortable mansion. There is no place in the parish of Drymen that has been so much changed and improved during the last seventy years, and to Mr. Macnair belongs the credit of, so to speak, the discovery and civilization of this beautiful estate.

Auchenech is full of interest. There are few fairer prospects in the West of Scotland than that from the windows of the house looking towards Loch Lomond and the Highland Hills, and from the top of Caldon Hill there is an unrivalled view of the surrounding district. In the glen, through which the Carnoch flows, there is a very fine waterfall and many other points of beauty, and to the antiquarian it is interesting to find on Auchenech, traces of another of the many chapels which were dedicated in Strathendrick to the blessed Kessog, the patron saint of the old Earls of Lennox.

The estate comprised: I. Auchenech and the lands called the Old Miln Lands purchased by Macnair, April 24, 1828; II. Wester-Finnach, including the Spital Lands purchased by Macnair, April 24, 1828; III. Easter-Finnach, purchased by Macnair in 1832; IV. Middle Cameron or Cameron Logan and V. Easter Cameron or Cameron Douglas (these Cameron lands include the portion of Muir allocated to James Macnair by deed between him and Jemina Jane Leith Buchanan) purchased by Macnair on December 22, 1848. He sold Balvie to John Campbell Douglas, of Mains, and afterwards, till his death, he resided at Aucheneck.

Owing to his deafness Macnair's family had to converse with him by means of the deaf and dumb alphabet, and in church his wife used to communicate the sermon to him by this method.

On December 28, 1828, he married Janet Smith Ranken, the daughter of Andrew Ranken (1785-1851), merchant and baillie of Glasgow, and Hannah Smith (d. 1866), the daugh-



ter of John Smith, fourth Laird of Craigend, Stirlingshire. She died at Broom, Newton Mearns, July 5, 1889, and he died at Aucheneck, April 7, 1865. Their children were:

7. Andrew Macnair
8. Hannah Macnair
9. Jemina Janet Macnair
10. James Alexander Macnair
11. Robert Henry Macnair
12. Anne Macnair
13. John Frederick Macnair
14. Elizabeth Dunlap (Lilla) Macnair

### THIRD GENERATION

7. ANDREW MACNAIR was born on July 19, 1833, and was married on November 20, 1872, in Guernsey to Helen Maude, the daughter of Edmund Maude. She died at Torquay on October 14, 1918, and her husband died at Exmouth on April 30, 1881. Their children were:

15. Hilda Maude Macnair
16. Juliet Andrea Maude Macnair

8. HANNAH MACNAIR was born May 18, 1836, and was married on March 31, 1858, to Charles Gairdner, LL.D., of Brown, Newton, Mearns. Their children were:

17. Jessie Edith Gairdner was born at Glasgow May 16, 1859. She died October 7, 1939, at Stansted, Essex.
18. Charles Dalrymple Gairdner was born at Glasgow, April 17, 1861, and died May 2, 1942, at Corbet Tower, Kelso, Roxburghshire. On September 7, 1892, he was married to Beatrice Mary Balloch.

There were children:

19. Agnes Hannah Gairdner was born at Glasgow on October 26, 1863, and was married on July 27, 1886, to William

August Tennant, the eldest son of William and Harriet Tennant. There were children.

20. James Macnair Gairdner was born at Eastfield, June 4, 1865, and was married on July 29, 1897, at Old Brathay, near Ambleside, to Grace Hartley, the daughter of Alfred Hartley and Grace A. P. Fleming. There were children.
  21. Marion Ellison Gairdner was born at Eastfield, December 19, 1866, and died October 3, 1945, at Rhu, Dumbartonshire.
  22. Robert Henry Gairdner was born at Eastfield, July 16, 1868, and died March 3, 1882, at Loretto School.
  23. Anna Louisa Gairdner was born at Mount Vernon, March 23, 1870, and died November 12, 1944, at Rhu, Dumbartonshire. On August 20, 1896, she was married to John Darymple Tennant, the son of William and Harriet Tennant. There were children.
  24. Lucy Margaret Montgomerie Gairdner was born at Mount Vernon on January 15, 1872.
  25. Alice Elizabeth Gairdner was born at Mount Vernon on September 9, 1873.
  26. Mary Adelaide Gairdner was born at Mount Vernon on September 30, 1878, and was married on April 12, 1906, to Frederick Charles Macaulay, who was born October 19, 1874, and killed in France, January 14, 1915. There were children.
9. JEMINA JANET MACNAIR was born December 1, 1837, and was married on October 5, 1859, to Lieutenant-General David MacFarlan, C.B., R.A. There were children.
10. JAMES ALEXANDER MACNAIR was born May 3, 1839, and died at Aucheneck, October 30, 1865.
11. ROBERT HENRY MACNAIR was born August 17, 1842, at Balvie and died October 8, 1848.
12. ANNE MACNAIR was born March 22, 1845, at Balvie and was married on December 12, 1865, to John MacFarlan, I.C.S. There were children.

13. JOHN FREDERICK MACNAIR was born August 9, 1846, at Gourock and was married November 3, 1891, to Veronica Charlotte Pugh, the daughter of Lewis Pugh (barrister-at-law, and formerly of Calcutta and of Abermead, Cardiganshire, and sometime member of Parliament for Aberystwyth). He died at Cowes, Isle of Wight on March 12, 1908. Their children were:

- 27. James Lewis Pugh Macnair
- 28. John Hamilton Macnair
- 29. Veronica Janet Macnair was born September 16, 1902, at Newcrofts, Hillingdon, Middlesex.

14. ELIZABETH DUNLAP (Lilla) MACNAIR was born September 10, 1847, and was married on August 30, 1872, to the Reverend Henry Wallis Smith, D.D. There were children.

#### FOURTH GENERATION

27. JAMES LEWIS PUGH MACNAIR was born August 17, 1892, at Calcutta, India.<sup>3</sup> He was educated at Uppingham School and at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, England. On October 30, 1915, he was married to the Honorable Mary Norah Grace Atkin, daughter of the Right Honorable Lord Atkin (Lord of Appeal). Their children are:

- 30. James Travers Hamilton Macnair
- 31. Richard Hugh Derek Macnair
- 32. Maurice John Peter Macnair

28. JOHN HAMILTON MACNAIR was born at Abermaed, May 9, 1895. For many years he was in the service of the Royal Navy. He was sub-lieutenant of the battle cruiser H.M.S. *Inflexible* in the Falklands action and at the Dardanelles, and later in the North Sea. He went in for submarine duties in July 1917, and his commands in this branch have

<sup>3</sup>For his record in the British army, see pages 77-78 of this book.



included L27 and L8, the largest British submarine X1. At the time of his promotion to commander in June, 1930, he was in command of the submarine *Perseus* in China. On May 20, 1933, he assumed command of the monitor *Marshall Soult*, turret drillship at the Nore. On June 8, 1934, was given command of H.M.S. *Shamrock* at Gibraltar. This carried with it the command of the Local Defense Flotilla at Gibraltar. On March 31, 1937, he assumed command of the destroyer *Verity* and was senior officer of the Portsmouth Local Flotilla. On August 2, 1939, he was appointed to command the H.M.S. *Cormorant*, depot-ship at Gibraltar. During the previous year he had been employed in special duties at Malta.<sup>4</sup> By 1947 he had been promoted to Captain.

On August 7, 1918, he was married to Ruth Dent. Their children are:

33. Eleanor Janet Macnair, who was born August 27, 1921.
34. Dionis Macnair, who was born April 6, 1930.
35. John Miles Macnair, who was born in 1937.

#### FIFTH GENERATION

30. JAMES TRAVERS HAMILTON MACNAIR was born on October 22, 1916. He was educated at St. Paul's School and at Exeter College, Oxford. In the Second World War he became a major in the Royal Artillery of the Territorial Army and was awarded the Military Cross. There is an incident described about him as follows:<sup>5</sup>

When I reached C Company I found them full of enthusiasm for Macnair, who was attached to us for the operation (capturing Rees during the crossing of the Rhine, March 25th, 1945) with three 3.7

<sup>4</sup>*The Times* (London), May 20, 1933, p. 7, column 7f; June 8, 1934, p. 4, column d; March 31, 1937, p. 15, column e; August 2, 1939, p. 17, column e.

<sup>5</sup>*So Few Got Through, the diary of an infantry officer*, by Martin Lindsay (Collins; London, 1946), p. 242.



howitzers. These are the little guns that one has seen naval teams take to pieces at Olympia, pass over an obstacle and put together again on the other side. For three years they had been training near Inverness for mountain warfare, and were rushed out here especially for this operation, being the only artillery which is small enough to go in a buffalo. They have a range of 6,000 yards and fire a 21 lb. shell, and much more accurately than any other gun, as they guarantee to strike to within eighty yards. This was Macnair's first action, and such enthusiasm for battle as he showed can seldom have been seen before—in fact, it was rather easy for some of our more battle-weary officers to be quite funny about it. For each situation in the street-to-street battle Macnair had some excellent suggestion for using his gun. He hauled it over rubble, rushed it round corners, layed it on a house that was giving trouble, dodged back again, prepared his charges, and then back to fire them. He even took it to bits and mounted it in an upstairs room. "Exactly which window is the sniper in?" he said, and then, when the sniper fired at him, "Oh, that one!" and laid his gun on it. It set houses on fire as well as any crocodile, and the effects on the enemy was devastating. This very brave officer took incredible risks; finally he ran out into a street which was under fire and pulled in a wounded officer. He and his gun became the talk of companies, and already, in a few hours, he has become an almost legendary character!

In August 1944 he was married to Dr. Margaret Cameron, the daughter of Major-General Neville John Gordon Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., of Dalchonzie, Comrie, Perthshire, Scotland. Their children are:

36. William Peter Cameron Macnair was born on January 19, 1946.
37. Rebecca Susan Macnair was born February 1947.
38. Mark Richard Macnair was born June 1950.
39. Charles Neville Macnair, was born March 1955.

31. RICHARD HUGH DEREK MACNAIR was born, February 27, 1919. He was educated at St. Paul's School and at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. He served in the Second World War and became a Captain in the Royal Artillery.

At Tobruk in North Africa, he was captured and was a prisoner of war until the armistice. He was married and has had at least one child.

40. Michael Richard Trench Macnair was born in September, 1954.

32. MAURICE JOHN PETER MACNAIR was born February 27, 1919, and was educated at St. Paul's School. He served in the Second World War where he attained the rank of Captain in the Royal Artillery. He fought throughout the North African Campaign and in Italy, where he lost an arm. After the war he entered St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. Since then he has married and has had the following children:

41. Lucy Veronica Macnair was born in November 1953.
42. Katharine Susan Macnair was born in January 1955.
43. Hughe Peter Atkin Macnair was born in September 1956.

## DESCENDANTS OF DUNCAN McNAIR AND MARY FLECKFIELD<sup>1</sup>

1. DUNCAN McNAIR, who was born about 1675 and died before September 1731, was probably a descendant of John McKnaire, son of Thomas McKnaire and Betetha Pollock, who was baptized in Glasgow, December 12, 1609.

Glasgow has always been the natural outlet for youths from the West Highlands, and possibly Duncan McNair was one of those; but he must have attained some position, for the Fleckfield family into which he married were people of standing in the craft, and, on no fewer than five occasions, members occupied the office of Deacon.

Duncan McNair became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow by reason of his wife Mary Fleckfield on September 22, 1698. At this time he was a weaver.<sup>2</sup>

He married Mary Fleckfield in Glasgow on June 17, 1698. A comparison of the Glasgow Burgess Roll and the membership list of the Highland Society suggests that Duncan McNair and Mary Fleckfield had at least four sons and one daughter. This has been confirmed from the baptismal records of Glasgow as determined by Professor Philip McNair of the University of Leeds.

<sup>1</sup>Additional information to that found in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), p. 62; *Supplement 1955*, pp. 79-92. The material on page 107 of this book was obtained from *The Kennedys of Auchtyfarde, and other papers*, N.P. 1936, by James Gourlay. In the Edinburgh Public Library. Professor Philip McNair (146), The University, Leeds, England, has supplied the marriage date of Duncan McNair and Elizabeth Fleckfield, the marriage and birth dates of many of their descendants (see pages 51-63), the relationship of James MacNayr (41) to the family, and details of the descendants of Archibald McNair (42).

<sup>2</sup>*The Burgess and Guild Brethren of Glasgow, 1573-1750, Scottish Record Society*. Edited by J. R. Anderson, Edinburgh, 1925. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955*, p. 18.



2. John McNair
3. Elizabeth McNair was baptized in Glasgow on August 6, 1702.
4. Robert McNair
5. Duncan McNair
6. James McNair

## SECOND GENERATION

2. JOHN MCNAIR (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married July 16, 1722, in Glasgow to Isobell Reid. Their children were:

7. Margaret McNair was baptized in Glasgow June 13, 1723.
8. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow June 6, 1725, and died before October 1735.
9. James McNair
10. Isobell McNair was baptized in Glasgow February 2, 1729.
11. Robert McNair was baptized in Glasgow October 23, 1731.
12. Jean McNair was baptized in Glasgow July 29, 1733.
13. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow October 27, 1735.

4. ROBERT MCNAIR (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>).

The statement, said to have originated with Provost Cochrane, that the prosperity of Glasgow was due to the ability of Spiers, Ritchie, Cunningham, and Glassford, is true only in part.<sup>3</sup> No doubt they were outstanding; but there were many others who contributed in lesser degree perhaps to the development of the commerce of the city during that wonderfully fruitful period between 1707 and 1779. Among these, not the least in importance and ability was Robert M'Nair. His career and character, however, have been sadly misrepresented by Robert Reid ("Senex"). According to this writer, M'Nair was little better than an illiterate clown who began his career as a species of kerb-merchant and was always making himself ridiculous by foolish actions that set the whole town laughing. Very little research was needed to discover that "Senex" knew very little about the man, and only recorded tittle-tattle nearly a century old, that had lost nothing and gained much during its long life.

<sup>3</sup>*Glasgow and Its Clubs*, by John Strang, 1856, p. 42.



As far as published history is concerned, the story begins with M'Ure. In his list of shopkeepers he gives "Robert M'Nair and Jean Holms in company." He was a contemporary of M'Nair and makes no comment on the unusual combination. When, however, Duncan MacVean came to publish his new edition in 1830, he added the following footnote—"Robert M'Nair and Jean Holms were husband and wife."

From being a small huckster, M'Nair became an extensive merchant and sugar baker. He purchased the "Easter Sugarie" about the middle of the last century. A satirical song was composed on the occasion, which began thus—

You're welcome to the sugarhouse,  
Robin M'Nair,  
You're welcome to the sugarhouse,  
Robin M'Nair;  
How is your sister Bell?  
And how is Jean Holms hersel'?  
Robin M'Nair.<sup>4</sup>

He died in 1779. The newspapers gave the following notice:

"On Monday (June 7) died about the 76th year of his age, Mr. Robert M'Nair, merchant here. His application to business was crowned with so great success that he raised himself to be the greatest proprietor of houses in this city—*Glasgow Mercury*, June 10th, 1779.—Ed."

On this somewhat slender foundation, "Senex" builds a fairly elaborate structure. The peculiar title in M'Ure he attributes to a desire to magnify himself on the part of M'Nair, so that he might be regarded by his fellow townsmen as equal in importance to those joint stock co-partneries who owned the larger businesses in the city. M'Nair was not such a fool as to expect that in a small community of about 20,000 people, where everyone knew his neighbors, he could impose on anyone. What "Senex" apparently did not know was that M'Nair was a weaver originally, not a grocer, and Jean Holms, his wife, probably inherited the grocery business, but as a woman was not eligible to become a Burgess and, therefore, could not have traded.

<sup>4</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present: illustrated in Dean of Guild Court Reports, and in the reminiscences . . . of Senex, etc.*, by Senex (pseudonym of Robert Reid. 2nd ed. 1884), 3 Vols. Glasgow.

Rather than lose a good business, therefore, the names were linked, so that he, being a Burgess and Guild Brother could continue his weaving and she could retain the grocery. The form in which the names were given was, while unusual, not unique, for there occurs:

Fergus Kennedy, Duncan Nivien, and Thomas Glendinning in company";<sup>5</sup> also "Alison Barclay, Jean and Margaret Bogle in company."<sup>6</sup>

There are several tales related of M'Nair which may be noticed in passing.<sup>7</sup> The first states that, being opposed to the carriage tax, M'Nair removed the wheels from his conveyance and had himself and his family dragged to church on a species of sledge. One such experience would surely prevent any repetition of so uncomfortable a form of transport; yet Mrs. Agnes Baird states that she frequently saw this vehicle in the Trongate and that it was a Sedan chair on runners. We are also informed that having ordered two cwts. of copperas from London, capers were supplied owing to bad writing and spelling on the order. These were indignantly refused as "sour peas," but on being returned, were sold at an enhanced price to M'Nair's advantage. The only example of his writing known, his signature, is remarkably clear and distinct, and no one would take the responsibility surely of executing such an extraordinary request without confirmation. Besides, why go to London for copperas, for it was produced locally. In 1771, Glasgow exported over sixty tons and imported none.<sup>8</sup> The last, and possibly the most improbable story of all, however, states that being short of oranges, he attempted to deceive a rival by spreading a report that he expected a cargo immediately, and then parading a porter backwards and forwards with a laden barrow of the fruit within his competitor's view. A very little inquiry would have settled the matter, and such an easily exposed trick was surely too childish to be adopted by so shrewd a man as M'Nair.

Leaving these unsupported traditions, and turning to facts which can be substantiated by documentary evidence, the story of M'Nair's life, which has not previously been related, is well worth recovering.

\* \* \*

<sup>5</sup>*The Glasgow Courant*, December 1750.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.* January 8, 15, 1752.

<sup>7</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present, op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 294.

<sup>8</sup>*History of Glasgow*, by John Gibson (Glasgow, 1777), p. 233.

Robert M'Nair, therefore, was well connected, a weaver by training and trade, and by no means the huckster of MacVean's imagination. On December 26, 1726, he married Jean Holms, possibly a daughter of James Holms, merchant in Glasgow. She was a remarkable woman, strong, vigorous and capable, and to her undoubtedly Robert M'Nair owed much of his success.

\* \* \*

After his marriage, nothing has been recorded regarding Robert M'Nair except the monotonous regularity with which another child was born to the couple, and with almost equal regularity, died in childhood. Out of fifteen children, only six survived their father, three certainly dying in infancy and the others early in life.

There is an entry dated 17th June, 1740,<sup>9</sup> by which the Burgh Treasurer is authorized to pay to Robert M'Nair, tacksman of the trone and weighhouse roup, 1739, the sum of £3 9s.4d. sterling for the use by the town of the girnells and weighhouse for holding soldiers' baggage, and use of the fish market for storing coal for the inhabitants during the late severe frost. It seems quite probable that the individual referred to is the subject of these notes. A much more important incident, however, and one which undoubtedly involves him and throws some light on his character, occurs a few years later. On October 1, 1747,<sup>10</sup> describing himself as "merchant weaver," he handed to the council a proposal of a remarkable nature. The whole statement is too long to quote in full, but briefly he informed the Council that he had been impressed with the large number of idle boys and girls in the city. He, therefore, intended to build a factory "next adjacent to his own lands on the south side of the Trongate," to be equipped with textile machinery, and if the magistrates would hand over to him such delinquents as were brought before them he would, at his own expense, board and lodge them in the factory and train them in the trades of spinning and weaving and the like. Indeed, it was a proposal for an industrial school, but it is to be feared that he hardly appreciated the difficulties certain to arise; nor the size of the building which he proposed to erect seem adequate for the accommodation of the numbers which he intended to employ. The Council were no doubt only too glad to be relieved of what must have been a

<sup>9</sup>*Glasgow Burgh Records*, Vol. 6, p. 61.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 267.



troublesome matter, but evidently doubtful of their powers, they only agreed "to recommend to the magistrates in giving their assistance and concurrence in delivering over to said Robert M'Nair delinquents for the purpose foresaid, in so far as they are authorized by law." It is fairly certain that M'Nair could not have detained any "delinquent" who wished to leave, and nothing further seems to have happened, no additional ground was bought, nor was the factory ever built.

On 22nd August, 1755,<sup>11</sup> there is a reference to John M'Nair, maltman, and a tack of certain mills, but this does not seem to refer to the family under consideration.

Towards the end of 1748, there appeared an advertisement which was to have a potent influence on M'Nair's life.<sup>12</sup>

#### TO BE SOLD

The haill *Easter Sugar-House* of Glafgow, confisting of Buildings, Garden, Parts and Pertinents, thereto belonging as a *Sugar Work*; together with a compleat sett of utensils, both for refining *Sugars* and diftilling *Brandie* in good order and ready for prefont use. Whoever inclines to purchase the fame may apply to Mr. Ralph Fairlie, Manager of faid Sugar Houfe who will commune with them thereanent.

N. B. There is likewise in faid Sugarhoufe a convenient *Malt-Kiln* with Lofts and other *Utensils* ready for brewing and diftilling *Aqua vitae* which can be carried on at the fame Time with the Refining of *Sugars* and the Diftilling of *Brandie*."

This was repeated on a date a week or two later, but no sale having taken place, it again appeared,<sup>13</sup> with the additional information that the Roup was to take place on Thursday the 5th day of January, 1749, within the Old Coffee House of Glasgow between the hours of 12 and 2. The conditions of Roup, Progress of Writs of The Lands and Inventory of the Subjects were to be seen in the hands of Ralph Fairlie, Manager of the sugarhouse or John Wardrop, Writer in Glasgow. It did not sell, but was again advertised,<sup>14</sup> the date of roup being advanced to Thursday, 18th March, with the added words:

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 442.

<sup>12</sup>*The Glasgow Courant*, October 3, 10, 1748.

<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, November 21, 28, 1748.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, March 6, 13, 1749.



"N.B.—The hail of the above subjects are to be fet up at 1700£ sterling." This time the property was sold to Robert M'Nair, probably at or about the upset price.

At first sight it seems a strange business for a merchant weaver to take up, but his shrewdness suggested to him that by exporting his own linen to the West Indies and purchasing raw sugar with the proceeds, he could avoid intermediate profits and supply his new refinery with the material required at the lowest possible price. The scheme was perfectly sound, but the execution of it failed in the first instance at least.

Chartering a small vessel named the *Adventure*, he loaded her with goods at a cost of £1,100, and taking his eldest son James, a lad of nineteen years of age, from the useful calling of a weaver to which he had been bred, he placed him as super-cargo, gave him letters of commendation to John and Alexander Harvie, probably relatives of his mother by marriage, and dispatched him to Barbadoes, with instructions to sell his cargo, buy sugar with the proceeds and return home.

In due course James arrived, but found that there would be no sugar available for some time, and that he could not dispose of his cargo to advantage. Instructing the brothers Harvie to load the ship with sugar when available and send her home to the Clyde, he left them a part of his cargo to sell as best they could, and loading the balance on a vessel he had chartered, he sailed for Virginia.

He later bought a small brigantine named the *Industry*, renaming her the *Jean* after his mother, and with her he traded between the James river and Barbadoes for some months, but partly by accident, but largely by mismanagement and want of skill, he was constantly unsuccessful. By the month of May, 1750, James was beginning to get tired of his adventure; he had one-fourth interest in it, and by this time probably thought that a weaver in Glasgow had the advantage of a trader sweltering in the tropics. On the 7th and again on the 22nd of that month, he wrote to his father that he proposed to load the *Jean* in Hampton Road with a cargo of corn and pork, sail to Barbadoes, and, selling it there, purchase raw sugar and go home to Scotland. He advised him to insure the ship and cargo for the voyage from Barbadoes to the Clyde for £1,000, but, curiously enough, omitted all mention of insurance for the immediate voyage

from Virginia to Barbadoes; for this James had other plans. Robin, on receiving his son's letter, apparently considering that first things should come first, covered the first risk for the sum suggested and did nothing in respect of the voyage home.

On June 25th, 1750, James wrote his father again that he was in Hampton Road awaiting a favourable wind, and sent a detailed statement of the amount and value of his cargo and ship, namely:

4,850 bushels Indian Corn at 4/-per bushel.

45 barrels pork at £3 per barrel.

50 barrels tar at 32/6 per barrel.

8,000 barrel staves at 7/-per 1,000.

Live stock and sundries, £75, and the value of the vessel, £787 stg., or, in all, £2,104 5/-stg.

This does not include £145, being the share affeiring to Baillie James Smith. Arithmetic was not apparently James's strong point, for he is over £50 in error in the above figures. He advised covering for £1,800, adding the words "neither delay any time after receiving this letter in getting insurance, for if you do fail you may perhaps be a sufferer and acquaint Baillie James Smith concerning his value that in case the vessel meet with any accident that he blame me not in not advising him. But be sure that you do not neglect to insure the above value of yours in time, for there is an island called Bermulas that lies betwixt Virginia and Barbadoes that I am very much afraid of and that there is strange notions runs in my head that I will meet with some accident about it." James' gloomy forebodings proved only too true, for a week later the *Jean* was wrecked on the island that he feared.

On receiving his son's remarkable letter well on in August and although he must have been aware that the proposed voyage would now be over for better or worse, Robin did not remain idle, but at once called on his friend John Jamieson and invited him to grant an additional insurance of £350. Jamieson, however, declined, stating that he would not insure £100 even for a premium of £50, adding certain uncomplimentary remarks regarding James' letter which he had been shown. Next day Robin obtained what he desired from Andrew Stalker, "keeper of the insurance room," having been more cautious this time and kept the letter to himself. When the loss of the ship became known the insurers "raised a great clamour," threw

James into jail on his return to Glasgow, and charged him with casting away the ship. The case certainly looked very bad, for James had prepared a fictitious log which differed entirely from that of the master which, unfortunately for him, had survived the wreck. Moreover, all the correspondence came into the hands of the insurers, for "Mr. Cross, one of their number, came to Mr. M'Nair's shop and desired to see some of the letters of correspondence that passed between him and his son concerning the ship *Jean*. M'Nair suspecting no evil and willing to give the insurers every satisfaction, brought Mr. Cross a drawer wherein most of the letters and papers relative to that affair were contained, and while he was attending some other business in his shop, Mr. Cross run (sic) off with all the letters and papers." James, however, was not at the end of his resources, for he alleged that his incriminating letter was untrue and really written from Bermuda, after the wreck, to defraud the insurers. The jury found the charge of casting away not proven, but guilty of attempted fraud. Naturally the insurers declined to pay. M'Nair had, however, no intention of being so easily defeated, and so from 1751 until 1773 he fought on through court after court, and when beaten on one line of argument, was always ready to start afresh on another line. Finally, he secured an award of £1,000, together with nineteen years' interest. This roused the insurers to eloquent denunciation—it was all that was left to them—"Elated with his prosperity and flushed with his unlooked for victory, he pursues the vanquished with unrelenting vengeance"—he had had the audacity to ask for expenses.

The insurers were:

James Coulter	£100
George Bogle	100
Archd. Ingram	100
Jas. Spruil	100
John Graham (of Dougalston)	200
John Cross	200
James Johnston	100
George Buchanan, jun.,	100

Witnesses—Henry Aitken, Shopkeeper to Andrew Stalker, Bookseller, and the aforesaid Andrew Stalker.



In the course of the litigation, James Spruil and George Buchanan died, the former being succeeded by his daughters, Margaret, Jean, and Grizel, while Andrew Buchanan succeeded his father.

It appears that the cargo which James stated to be on board was double what the *Jean* could carry, and her value as given in his letter was £747, whereas he had bought her for £450. He seems to have got off very lightly, for undoubtedly he was a thorough rascal; and though old Robin may not have known of the fraudulent scheme in the beginning, he could hardly fail to recognize that his son was up to no good. Nevertheless, he was quite prepared to profit by the crime if possible. That he ultimately won was due to a quirk of the law, his own obstinacy, and an extraordinarily elastic conscience.<sup>15</sup>

The trial of James M'Nair must have excited a good deal of interest, for its course was reported with unusual frequency as shown by the following quotations:

"Edinburgh, Feb. 19th.

"Laft week James MacNair imprifoned here at the Infance of the Infurances Company of Glaſgow received his Indictment, and his Trial comes on the Fourth of next Month before the High Court of Admiralty."<sup>16</sup>

"Edinburgh, March 12th.

"This Forenoon was refumed the Trial of James MacNair Merchant in Glaſgow, before the Court of Admiralty, when the Judge found the libel relevant to infer an arbitrary Punifhment and the Court are now on the Examination of the Evidence."<sup>17</sup>

Under "Glasgow News" heading, same date:

"We hear from Edinburgh that the Jury on James M'Nair have returned a Verdict, finding the Libel not proven upon which he was afoilzed from the Bar." (*idem.*)

Few men who have had the experience of carrying on a Law Plea for twenty-two years would care to indulge in further litigation,

<sup>15</sup>The particulars are contained in the National Library, Arniston collect., Vol. 98, No. 25, Vol. 113, No. 11, and Appeal cases 1772-75 H. L. Prints, No. 11E.

<sup>16</sup>*The Glasgow Courant*, February 18, 25, 1751.

<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, March 11, 18, 1751.



yet M'Nair had a passion for fighting, and seemed to win most of his cases. The following throws much light on the condition of the city in those days.

"29th April, 1756. The which day and anent the complaint at the instance of Robert M'Nair, merchant in Glasgow against James Paterson, baker in Glasgow, and and James Gilmour, Wright there and Marion Loudon his spouse, and (blank) their tenant, mentioning that whereas the said James Paterson, the proprietor and the said James Gilmour and Marion Loudon, liferenters of a tenement of land in King's Street lying next to the complainers lands there have by themselves or by the said (blank) their tennent laid down their dung or fuilzie upon the complainers back wall and that by so doing destroyed the inside of his house to that degree that it has been impossible to live in it. That in time of rain the nasty dampness from the dung penetrated through the wall and not only rendered a disagreeable smell but made the bed cloaths all moulded and if the dung was allowed to be continued to lye at the back of the complainer's wall his house would be rendered useless. Craving upon the defenders might be found lyable in the complainer's expences and discharged from putting any more dung in the foresaid place as the complaint bears which complaint being considered by the Dean of Gild and brethren and they having once and again visited the dunghill complained of, they prohibitt and discharge the said defenders and their tennents from carrieing any dung to the said dunghill for the future but what belongs to the land and decern and ordain the said defenders to built a wall of six inches thick closs to the complainers back wall betwixt it and the middensted as high as the dung is laid and at no time to allow the dung to be laid higher than the wall to be built and that they take out the dung and clean the middensted once every six weeks, and that under the penalty of ten pounds Scots toties quoties and further discerns and ordains the defenders jointly and severally to pay to the complainer the sum of five shillings

sterling, and four shillings sterling, as the expenses of court and of extracting hereof.

*Signed* JOHN BOWMAN''

(Act. Book of the Court of the Dean of Gild.)

In 1756 there was a curious Law Plea in which M'Nair was engaged with others. They had formed a co-partnery called the Arran Fishing Company which had, however, proved a failure, and were sued by John Stevenson and others for ropes supplied by them from their rope work at Port-Glasgow. The fishing company had been promoted and managed by Captain Walker, late Commodore of the Royal Family Squadron of Privateers, but he, finding that things were going badly, sold his shares to Stevenson. He, discovering that he had been more or less swindled, thought to recover some of his loss by making a bogus claim for goods. M'Nair and his partners offered to settle with Stevenson by handing over their shares, which being worthless, he naturally refused. They then disposed of them to some unknown and unsuspecting purchasers, who were sufficiently guileless to accept them along with the liability for the debt for the cordage. M'Nair escaped—he generally did—but both sides seem to have lied with a facility only possible through long practice added to natural aptitude.<sup>18</sup>

In 1763, he had some trouble with the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons over some alleged interference by them with one of his buildings which adjoined their hall in the Trongate, but the result of the action is unknown.<sup>19</sup>

In 1760, there was some dispute with one John Willson over the ownership of a wall and another in 1769; the cause of offense in the last named does not appear. In it he had associated with him John Maitland, and the defendant was James Howitson.<sup>20</sup>

He did, however, succeed in securing the abolition of a most objectionable practice in the Exchequer Court. It was then usual for the advocate for the Crown, in concluding his address to the jury, to promise them a guinea each and their supper if they gave their verdict in his favour. M'Nair had got into some trouble with the Excise authorities, and on the case being called and the above inducement

<sup>18</sup>*Court of Session Papers*, Signet Library, Edinburgh, Vol. F14, Item 28.

<sup>19</sup>*Account Book of the Court of the Dean of Gild.*

<sup>20</sup>*Loc. cit.*

offered, having obtained permission to address the jury, he at once offered them each two guineas, their dinner, and as much wine as they could drink if he won. As a matter of fact he did do so, and the custom was dropped permanently.<sup>21</sup>

Reverting, however, to that period of his life when his son James had just escaped from the clutches of the law, it was not many years before his family again caused him further anxiety. About 1754, his eldest daughter Jean, then about eighteen years of age, made a run-away marriage with James Steedman. He was the son of a cutler of the same name who, on 12th May, 1737, had been invited by the Town Council to settle in Glasgow on account of his superior skill in "cuttle work and sharpening and dressing of razors."<sup>22</sup>

This marriage, for some reason or another, met with bitter opposition from her father, and he took the extraordinary course of inserting the following advertisement:

"Glasgow, 23 October 1758. We, Robert M'Nair and Jean Holmes, having taken into our consideration the way and manner our daughter Jean acted in her marriage, that she took none of our advice, nor advised us before she married, for which reason we discharged her from our family for more than twelve months; and being afraid that some or other of our family may also presume to marry without duly advising us thereof, we taking the affair into our serious consideration, hereby discharge all and every one of our children from offering to marry, without our special advice and consent first asked and obtained; and if any of our children should propose or pretend to marriage to any without, as aforesaid, our advice or consent, they in that case shall be banished from our family twelve months; and if they should go so far as to marry without our advice and consent, in that case they are to be banished from our family seven years; and whoever advises us of their intention to marry, and obtains our consent, shall not only remain children of the family, but also shall have a due portion of our goods, gear and estate, as we shall think convenient, and as the bargain requires. And further, if any of our children shall marry clandestinely, they, by so doing, shall lose all

<sup>21</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present, op. cit.*, p. 295. *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955*, pp. 84-85.

<sup>22</sup>*Glasgow Burgh Records, Vol. 5*, p. 480.



claim or title to our effects, goods, gear or estate, and we intimate this to all concerned, that none may pretend ignorance."<sup>23</sup>

Jean had evidently been married at least a year before this, so the advertisement must have been aimed at some other member of the family, but which it is was not known.

It has been stated that "the Glasgow newspaper one hundred years ago, teems with the advertisements of this funny old grocer."<sup>24</sup> The writer must have had access to sources of information which are now unknown, and he might at least have stated to which newspaper he referred. A careful and exhaustive examination of all newspapers of the period now known revealed hardly a single advertisement; indeed, only three in three years, and only one which has not already been published. Wardrop & Mitchelhils, both grocers, advertised frequently and much on the lines which M'Nair employed, but the above-mentioned statement is pure nonsense. So that the series may be completed, the hitherto unpublished advertisement referred to is now given:

"There is to be fold at Robert M'Nair's Shop oppofite to the *Main Guard* a parcel of lne English Potatoes of a large multiplying kind for seed, and will anfwer well if planted on dry or fandy channelling ground, but anfwers not fo well on Clay ground, unlefs well dunged, and twice ploughed. The way they plant them in England: They make large Furrs with the Plough, and 18 inches diftance, and drops them into the Furrs about 12 inches distance and covers them over with Earth, and when they grow up, and the Stalk be about 6 or 7 inches long, then they how out the Weeds, and heep the Earth about the Stalk, in the fame manner as we do Peafe; then the Work is over and when they raife them out of the Ground they plough them up, gather and heap them by, either in Houfes, or dig a large Hole in the Ground about 10 Feet deep, and cover them with the Earth they took out of the Hole, and make it higheft in the middle, that the Rain may defcend each way and be fure the Earth be well clapped together, fo that the Rain may not go into them, for it will fet them a growing, but if the Rain go not into them, they will fstand all weathers, but the Earth muft be at least two feet above them to

<sup>23</sup>*The Edinburgh Courant*, October 28, 1758. *McNair, McNear, and McNeir, Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 86.

<sup>24</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present, op. cit.*, Vol. 2, p. 532. Glasgow.



prevent Froft, and if this Method is followed, they will keep until the Month of March or April, and fometimes they keep them this way till May or the middle of June.

"There is alfo a Parcel of Lemons and Oranges to be fold at my Shop, they are fo good that I will uphold as much Juice in 30 Chefts as any I have feen in Scotland, will have in 40 Chefts, they being all pulled off the Trees by the Hand and great care taken in preferv- ing them, the Oranges hath not failed in making good Marmalade all this feafon being of a high red colour, large and juicy.

ROBERT M'NAIR."<sup>25</sup>

The "baking" of sugar, but more probably the distilling of aqua- vitae must have proved a profitable business, for by 1758, M'Nair was on the outlook for a country residence. Though the house in Trongate continued his place of business, and was left to his wife in life rent in his will, it had its drawbacks as a place of residence es- pecially if your neighbours bespattered your walls with their "fuilzie." The following property had come into the market:

"The whole nurfery upon the faid hill of Tollcross to be ex- pofed for fale 26th Oct. Patrick Tod—merchant in Edinburgh to be communicated with."<sup>26</sup>

Originally part of the lands of Tollcross, and known as the Little Hill of Tollcross, it was feued in 1751 to William Boutcher, an Edin- burgh seedsman, who laid it off as a nursery garden. He failed in 1754, and two years later it was sold to Patrick Tod, an Edinburgh merchant, for £81. He made some attempt to carry on the nursery, but without success; and in 1758, Robert M'Nair bought the ground, about 20 acres by public roup in Edinburgh for £100. It is related<sup>27</sup> that a bond for the payment being demanded, he produced a greasy leather bag, and pawkily explained, "Na, na, nane o'yere gauds for me: here's Jean's pouch (tumbling out the guineas), gie me my papers." This is attritbuted to his ignorance of the methods followed in land purchase, a statement which is difficult to accept. The sum was not large, cheques were not then in extensive use, and if he wished to pay cash why should he not do so. On this land he built a

<sup>25</sup>*The Glasgow Courant*, April 2, 9, 1753.

<sup>26</sup>*The Glasgow Journal*, October 4, 11, 1756.

<sup>27</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present*, *op. cit.*, Vol. 2, p. 535. McNair, McNear and McNeir *Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 85.

house he named Jeanfield after his wife. This he did with the assistance of a local builder, and the point is made that having employed no architect, so as to save expense, the stair to the upper floor was forgotten, and much alteration consequently entailed. Only the largest mansions were in those days designed by architects, of whom there were hardly any in Scotland; indeed, three-fourths of Glasgow has been built by builders who did their own designing, so M'Nair was only following quite a usual practice. No drawing of Jeanfield is known, but it is described as a queer rambling place, and stood a little back from the road between Edinburgh and Glasgow on the west outskirts of Camlachie. It must have enjoyed a very fine view across the Clyde valley, as it stood on the highest point from which the ground falls away towards the river. Evidently the building of it was a slow process, for it was not completed till about 1764. It would appear that he had at this time ample funds at his disposal, for he was one of the bidders when the estate of Balshagray was offered for sale in 1759. The estate brought £4,540.<sup>28</sup> Jeanfield remained his home for the rest of his life and there he died.

It was about this period of his life that M'Nair entered on the last phase of his commercial activity, the erection of tenements, indeed what would now be called building speculations. As a certain amount of confusion exists by reason of the name M'Nair's Land being applied to different properties, it will be advisable to trace the history of certain of these and the sites adjacent to them. The story really begins as far back as 1720 when "The magistrates and town council . . . empower and commiffionat Allexander Finlayfon clerk, to bidd for the faid lands in name of the town."<sup>29</sup> These lands lay on the south side of the Trongate opposite to the Candleriggs and were to provide the entrance to the street which the Council proposed to form from Trongate to the Briggate. Not very much progress was made, but in 1733 the Buchanan Society purchased an old thatched tenement at the west corner of King Street and Trongate.<sup>30</sup> Immediately west of this building, which fronted both to Trongate and King-Street, there stood Robert M'Nair's grocer's shop and dwelling house,

<sup>28</sup>*The Regality Club*, 2nd series, part 3. Balshagray, printed by J. Maclehose and Sons, Glasgow, 1893.

<sup>29</sup>*Burgh Council Records*, April 19, 1720, Vol. 5, p. 81.

<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, May 1, 1733, Vol. 5, p. 398.



later numbered No. 31 Trongate. It is described as a double shop with two bow windows painted bright green. This is occasionally termed "M'Nair's Land." When this property came into his possession is unknown, but he owned it when M'Ure wrote in 1736. In 1760 he bought a site on the west side of the new King Street, now beginning to take shape. This ground was bounded on the north by the ground belonging to the Buchanan Society, and he secured certain additional land from the Council so as to come into the building line. On this he erected the large tenement generally referred to as M'Nair's land.<sup>31</sup> It has been stated that the arches were carved with grotesque human faces and that M'Nair greatly enjoyed mixing with the crowd of country folk who gathered to laugh at these so that he might listen to their remarks. To carve the keystone of an entrance into the semblance of a head was by no means unusual, and the sketches which have been preserved do not show anything more than can be seen in any carvings. One can only conclude that the story is apocryphal, or else that in those days the sense of humour was more acute than it is today. Both of these properties were in M'Nair's possession when he died, and were included in the lengthy advertisement of the sale of these, to be given later. There was another property facing the Trongate, however, which is not so included and which was known as M'Nair's Land, though it is possible that the name is derived not from Robert M'Nair, but from his son or grandson. As the evidence is given below, it is open to anyone to draw his own inference.

"HOUSE IN TRONGATE TO BE LET  
TO BE LET AND ENTERED ON IMMEDIATELY  
THAT HOUSE ON THE South Side of the Trongate lately  
occupied as a Printing Office by William Reid and Company.  
It is well calculated for a Warehoufe having four windows  
of a Northern exposure, and may eafily be converted into a  
Dwelling houfe, the expenfe of which the Faculty of Physi-  
cians and Surgeons are bound by their leafe to the prefent  
tenants to defray.

Apply at the Courier Office."<sup>32</sup>

<sup>31</sup>*Sketches of Quaint Bits of Old Glasgow Still Standing in the Year 1885*, by D. Small, fol., Glasgow, 1887. *Burgh Council Records*, March 4, 1760, Vol. 7, p. 5.

<sup>32</sup>*The Glasgow Courier*, December 3, 1796.

Evidently the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons were the owners. The imprint of the *Glasgow Courier* was:

"William Reid & Co., Trongate.

Second Entry East from King Street."

Now the imprint of the *Glasgow Mercury* was:

"By Robert Chapman & Alexander Duncan, Printers.

Mr. McNair's Land, Trongate, first close East from the Head of King's Street."

The Faculty Hall of the Physicians and Surgeons was immediately West of the Laigh Kirkyard, and faced the Trongate, so that this M'Nair's property was apparently between the Faculties' property and King Street. It will be recalled that M'Nair had a dispute with the Surgeons in 1763, so possibly he acquired it then; there is certainly no other property known in which the two proprietors were in contact.<sup>33</sup>

In 1779 there appeared the following advertisement:

"NOTICE that having fome houfes to build in Jeanftown, any man that builds one or more of them muft keep fix layers on the wall befides his other hewers and darkfmen (i.e. dargs-men—day labourers) and fhall get from me three pounds the firft week, four the fecond, and five the third week to pay his men, and the balance fhall be paid him that day the work is done. And he is to have naught for the lintels or fharpning—irons, nor foles or foundations, but only his agreed price for the rood. His fervants are not to curfe or fwear, and if they do they are to pay as by Act of Parliament or as the Magiftrates have fixed it. Whoever agrees muft give me in their eftimate on Friday, and begin on Monday."

ROBERT M'NAIR<sup>34</sup>

This seems to have been a building scheme, and according to MacArthur's map, Jeanstown was on the North bank of the Clyde, near Carmyle. This was his last property speculation, for two months later he died.

<sup>33</sup>There is a good deal of interest regarding this property of the Faculty which does not appear to be incorporated in their published history. See *Glasgow Burgh Records*.

<sup>34</sup>*Glasgow Mercury*, April 1, 1779, quoted by Small.



"On Monday (June 7) died about the 76th year of his age Mr. Robert M'Nair merchant here."<sup>35</sup>

As the burial records of the High Kirk of Glasgow from 1779 to 1782 inclusive are lost, his place of burial cannot be identified, but as his son Robert was buried there in 1787, the grave was probably the same. No indication of the position, however, is given in the Register, so the grave is unknown.

His Will, dated 17th Oct., 1778, and registered in the Commissary Court of Glasgow, has been lost. It is not in the bundle in which it ought to be in the office of the Sheriff-Clerk of Lanarkshire, and it is thought to have been borrowed for use in the Law Plea referred to later and never returned. Probably it is now lying in the basement of some Edinburgh lawyer's office. Fortunately, however, its terms are fully detailed in connection with the subsequent proceedings resulting from it.

The Will is a remarkable production. In it the testator endeavoured to establish a species of entail, the heir general in each generation being the senior descendant, male if available, female if not. The Trust so created was burdened with minute instructions regarding payments. His wife received the property in the Trongate in life rent and the contents of the shop absolutely, also four shillings per day; Margaret, his youngest daughter, and his son Thomas, four shillings per day; but the other members of his family alive when the Will was made, including the undutiful Jean, only three shillings per day. The widow of his son William was granted a life rent annuity of ten pounds, and so on in varying sums to all his descendants, male and female, in all time coming, with a general division of the accumulated residue every seven years. His son Robert, apparently attempted to carry out the provisions of this strange document, but shortly after his death the testator's grandson, Robert, raised an action of Reduction and Declarator in Court of Session, which was heard on May 18, 1791.<sup>36</sup> He contended that the deed was "irrational, inextricable, and utterly impossible of being carried into execution," for it gave no power to discharge the defunct's debts, "which amounted to a very considerable sum," and further, they were without

<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, June 10, 1779.

<sup>36</sup>*Register of Decreets* (MacKenzie), Vol. 818, May 18, 1791, in the Historical Section of the Register House, Edinburgh.

ability to sell any of the properties to enable them to do so. The Court agreed, the Will was set aside, and a scheme of division substituted with the approval of the Court. The great value of this deed is that as all the living descendants had to be cited as defenders, it furnishes a complete and accurate list of these. As soon as the original Will was set aside, efforts were made to bring the affairs of the Trust into order. This is shown by the various advertisements that appeared about this time.

#### "SUGAR HOUSE TO SET

To be Set by Public roup on Friday the 11th day of November 1791, betwixt the Hours of one and two o'clock within the Tontine Tavern, Glasgow. All and Whole the EAST SUGAR HOUSE of Glasgow, with the Work-Houses, Cellars and other Buildings belonging thereto, lying in the Gallowgate street of Glasgow, as presently possessed by Mr. Robert M'Nair.

"The Articles of roup and conditions of set will be seen by applying to Benjamin Barton, commissary Clerk, Mr. John Brown, Master of Work or the proprietor and the premises will be shewn by applying at the Sugar House."<sup>37</sup>

#### "FARM TO LET

"To be let for such a number of years as may be agreed upon.

"A small farm, about two miles east from Glasgow, consisting of 26 acres or thereby, extending along the front of the Edinburgh road. The tenant will be accommodated with a good house and suitable office-houses.

"For particulars enquire of Mr. Robert M'Nair, the proprietor.

"Glasgow, 19th Novr. 1791. (*Glasgow Courier*)

This was probably the lands of Jeanfield and part of the out buildings. By this time the property had fallen on evil days. The coal pits about Shettleston had doubtless done their part in degrading the whole neighborhood and destroying its attractions as a place of residence. Jeanfield had become a forlorn broken down place, divided to suit poorer tenants.

<sup>37</sup>*The Glasgow Courier, Saturday, October 22, 1791.*

"A VILLA ETC TO LET.

"To be let for one or more years, and entered to immediately.

"THE EAST HALF OF THE HOUSE OF JEANFIELD east end of Camlachie, confisting of Nine rooms two Clofets and Kitchen lately finifhed in a neat and fubftantial manner, with a Barn, Stable, Byre, Milkhoufe and a good Garden. The Tenant may be accommodated with a PARK containing two acres of good land adjoining the houfe if required.

"Alfo to be let or fold, upon reafonable terms and entered to immediately.

"SEVERAL GENTEEL LODGINGS in that large Land lately built in Taylor's Street with Garden Ground if required.

"Apply to Glen and Currie, Timber Merchants, Glaſgow.

"Glaſgow 7th Nov. 1795."<sup>38</sup>

"A HOUSE & GARDEN TO LET  
AT THE HEAD OF THE GREEN

"THE HOUSE confifts of a Dining-Room and Parlour Clofet and Kitchen on the firft flat, with a Drawing-Room, three Bedrooms, and Bed Clofet, on the fecond flat with other conveniences.

"For particulars apply to Mr Robert M'Nair, or James Cleland, Wright.

"Glaſgow, November 7th 1794."<sup>39</sup>

This advertisement was repeated on Nov. 18 with the addition:

"alfo to be let

"TWO SHOPS in King Street, feveral HOUSES in Tron-gate, Stockwell, Gallowgate, and in the neighbourhood of this City. Apply to Mr. M'Nair.

"Glaſgow, Nov. 17th 1794."<sup>40</sup>

The Taylor Street property and the House on the Green probably sold as they are not included in the list offered later for sale.

<sup>38</sup>*Ibid.*, November 7, 1794.

<sup>39</sup>*Ibid.*, November 11, 1794.

<sup>40</sup>*Ibid.*, November 18, 1794.



"TO BE LET  
FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS

"THAT part of the HOUSE of JEANFIELD at the EAST END of the VILLAGE of CAMLACHIE within two miles of Glasfow, with BARN, STABLE, BYRE and other accommodations, alfo a GARDEN and about FIVE ACRES and a HALF of LAND all as prefently pofeffed by Mr. John Glen.

"The Houfe confifts of feven Rooms befides a Kitchen and Clofet, all lately repaired in a fubftantial manner and maybe entered to at Whitfunday next: The Lands and Garden are in excellent order, and may be entered to immediately.

"For farther particulars, application may be made to Mr Glen or to Mr. John Leckie, Writer in Glasfow."

This advertisement was repeated and later modified by offering the property alternatively for one year, and the house with or without land. Glen is designated as "Wood merchant, Glasfow."<sup>41</sup>

This would be the *other* half of the house.

At the sale in 1797, Jeanfield was bought by John Mennons, proprietor of the *Glasgow Advertiser* newspaper, the price being £2,435, but he held it for only a year when he disposed of it to John Finlayson.<sup>42</sup> Ultimately, in 1846, the property passed to the Eastern Necropolis Company, and the old house was pulled down in the following year; careful search has failed to discover any drawing or photograph of the building.

Another advertisement sounds rather curious to modern ears:

SUMMER QUARTERS

"To be fet and entered into immediately, Several DWELLING HOUSES within two miles of the Town of Glasfow, in a high and dry fituation and confifting of Houfes of different fizes, viz.: from three rooms and a kitchen to fix rooms and a kitchen and other conveniences, and the Tenants may, if they chufe, have grafs for a cow, or the neighbouring Tenants fupply them with plenty of milk.

"For particulars apply to Mr. Robert M'Nair or Mr John Brown, merchants, Glasfow."<sup>43</sup>

<sup>41</sup>*Ibid.*, March 24, April 28, 1795.

<sup>42</sup>*Glasgow, Past and Present, op. cit.*, Vol. 2, p. 536.

<sup>43</sup>*The Glasgow Courier*, January 11, 1792.



This John Brown is probably the same individual who is described as Master of Work in the advertisement of the Sugar House, already quoted. These "Summer Quarters" were no doubt the houses in the building scheme to which the name Jeanston was given, near Carmyle. Early in 1797 the Trustee prepared a comprehensive scheme for the disposal of the whole estate. A preliminary advertisement therefor appeared as follows:

*Courier* January 31—1797 Advert.

HOUSES AND LANDS

"To be fold by public roup, in the Tontine Tavern, Glasgow, on Thurfday the 4th Day of May next, at twelve o'clock noon.

"THE WHOLE HERITABLE SUBJECTS lying in the City of Glasgow and neighbourhood, that belonged to the deceased ROBERT M'NAIR, Merchant in Glasgow, viz:—

- 1st That LARGE TENEMENT of LAND and SHOPS and BACK-HOUSES, lying near the head and on the west fide of the King's Street of Glasgow.
- 2nd These large FORE SHOPS and FLATS immediately above the fame, presently pofeffed by James Gairdner, Grocer and others, and BACK TENEMENTS on the South fide of the Trongate Street.
- 3rd The EASTER SUGAR HOUSE, FORE SHOPS and other TENEMENTS and WASTE GROUND on the South fide of the Gallowgate Street.
- 4th That FRONT TENEMENT near to the head and on the East fide of the Stockwell Street: and STABLES and VACANT GROUND behind the fame.
- 5th The LANDS of LITTLE HILL of TOLLCROSS or JEAN-FIELD and HOUSES thereon, lying at the east end of Camlachie, on the fouth fide of the road from Glasgow to Edinburgh.

"These subjects will be fet up in fuch lots as well be expreffed in future advertisements.

*"Alfo to be fold at the fame time*

"A Yearly Tack Duty of 55.£ Sterling payable by the Magiftrates of Glasgow for part of the Ground on which the

Barracks are built, and whereof there are fifty-one years to run from Martinmas next.

"For further particulars application may be made to Mr. Robert M'Nair, Merchant in *Glaſgow*, or Benjamin Barton, Comiffary Clerk of *Glaſgow*.

Repeated in several later issues."

This was extended later, occupying about a column and comprising 38 lots, in the *Courier* of Feb. 18, 1797.

Most of these properties can be identified, but one on the east side of the Stockwell Street, lot 36, does not appear to be mentioned elsewhere and its position is not known with accuracy. Lot 38 refers to a piece of ground leased by the Trust from the College in 1784 and lying between the Gallowgate Port and the West side of the Gallowmuir. They seem to have exchanged it with the Council for the old Meal Mill opposite the College and certain other subjects in 1797, but subject to the Tacks already affecting it of which the M'Nair's area was one. The land was required for the erection of the new Barracks, and by rearrangement, dated 15th May, 1794, the Council agreed to pay for the ground taken the sum of £55 annually till 1840.<sup>44</sup>

What amount the sale realized is unknown, but most of the properties seem to have been disposed of for they appear no more in the advertising columns of the press, except the original shop in the Trongate, for it was later offered as under:

"To Be SOLD Or LET

"For fuch a number of years as may be agreed upon.

"That large, well-known and well-frequented SHOP in TRONGATE, *Glaſgow*, formerly profeſſed by the deceaſed Robert M'Nair, and preſently by James Gairdner, grocer, with the LAIGH SHOP under it, and the DWELLING-HOUSE immediately above it, of five Rooms and a Kitchen, alſo the DUNGHILL in the adjoining Cloſs. There is a communication from the Shop to the Houſe by an infide ftair.

"For particulars apply at faid fhop.

"N.B. The money may remain in the hands of the purchaser for a considerable time."<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup>*Burgh Council Records*, Vol. 8, pp. 542-51, p. 691.

<sup>45</sup>*The Glasgow Courier*, November 23, 1797.

James Gairdner was the son-in-law of Robert M'Nair and succeeded him in the grocery part of his business.

It is uncertain when Jean Holms died. She was alive when the Will was made in 1778, but is not cited in connection with the action of 1789, so she must have been dead prior to that date. Search in the Registers available after 1790 has failed to discover her name; it may therefore be assumed with something approaching certainty that her death occurred during that period between 1779 and 1782, the registers for which are now lost.

So ends the story of Robert M'Nair and Jean Holms. It may not perhaps possess those outstanding or dramatic features which are to be found in those of his more famous contemporaries, nor was his success so great as theirs. Jeanfield was a poor place compared with Lainshaw or Elderslie; but if his part was a minor one, he played it bravely and in a way that surely entitles him to something better than practically oblivion and a nameless grave. The citizens of the early nineteenth century have much to answer for, but few of their misdeeds are more regrettable than their utter and callous neglect of the graves and records of their forebears in the old churchyards of the city.

Few of us escape some strain of contradiction in character, but Robin M'Nair had more than his share. Intensely individualistic even to the point of eccentricity, shrewd and keen in business, caring not one jot for public opinion, he yet had that peculiar guilelessness which is often found in the West Highland stock from which he probably came. Social life had no attractions for him, his business provided him with all that he desired; pugnacious in defense of his rights, extraordinarily dogged in following any course of action which he resolved on, his aim in life was financial success, and he attained it. Yet he was a lovable old rascal in spite of his queer ways. Even though no portraits are known, it is possible to picture this old Glasgow couple in some measure at least; the early days in the Trongate, with the ever-increasing family of boys and girls—one wonders how they all packed into the five rooms and a kitchen—he in his powdered wig, she in her silk gown and ribbons, bustling about the shop—the all too numerous little funerals, and then the household shaken to its foundations when Jean snapped her fingers at them all and ran off with Steedman the cutler's son. Robin would have a good deal to say about that when he heard the news. Then came the steadily growing



fortune, and with it the ambition to call a bit of land their own—Jeanfield, where in the summer evenings they could wander amongst the stocks and the wallflower or in the winter nights sit by the fire pondering the purchase of some property or other advertised in the *Journal* just arrived from the city, while the snow-laden wind from Dechmont Hill souged in the chimneys. So they remained “in company” to the end, for only a year or two can have divided them, their dust under one of those obliterated slabs worn smooth by time and neglect, that pave the old High Kirk Yard.

Though Shettleston churchyard is the nearest burial ground to Jeanfield, where Robert M’Nair died, no stone exists there to his memory. His son Robert died in 1787, just about eight years after his father, and the Register of the Burials for the High Kirk Yard contains the entry:

“1787 December 31 Robert M’Nair, merchant, aged 68 years. Wrights (*i.e.* undertakers) name Alexander Campbell.”

There is no indication of the position of the grave. It is, however, a fair inference to make that the son and the father would both be buried in the same grave, and that Robert M’Nair and Jean Holmes do therefore lie in this churchyard. The age given above is inaccurate; it should be 55 years. From a notice in the *Glasgow Mercury*, December 26 1787/Jan 2, 1788 issue we learn:

“*Thursday* died Mr. Robert M’Nair, merchant in this city.”

The heading is Glasgow, January 2nd, so that the date of death was apparently Thursday, December 27th 1787, and the funeral took place on December 31st.

The children of Robert McNair and Jean Holmes were:

14. Jean McNair was baptized in Glasgow November 9, 1727.
15. James McNair
16. Duncan McNair was baptized in Glasgow December 20, 1730.
17. Robert McNair
18. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow November 4, 1733.
19. William McNair was baptized in Glasgow February 9, 1735.
20. Andrew McNair was baptized in Glasgow February 1, 1736.
21. Jean McNair



22. Samuel McNair was baptized in Glasgow February 5, 1738.
23. William McNair
24. Thomas McNair was born in Glasgow March 24, 1740, and baptized April 6, 1740. He was unfortunate in business and seems to have died prior to July 1795.<sup>46</sup>
25. Marrion McNair
26. Kathrin McNair was baptized in Glasgow August 29, 1742.
27. Mary McNair
28. Margaret McNair was baptized in Glasgow March 24, 1745.
29. Duncan McNair was born in Glasgow June 2, 1746, and baptized June 12, 1746.
30. David McNair was born in Glasgow July 25, 1748, and baptized July 31, 1748.

5. DUNCAN MCNAIR (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow June 8, 1707. He was a weaver and became a Burgess and Guild Brother as the eldest living son of Duncan McNair, weaver, Burgess and Guild Brother, September 8, 1731. On August 17, 1732, he was married in Glasgow to Margaret Hewey. Their children were.

31. Robert McNair was baptized in Glasgow May 27, 1733.
32. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow August 17, 1735.
33. James McNair was baptized in Glasgow May 15, 1737.

6. JAMES MCNAIR (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>), merchant, became a Burgess and Guild Brother, as the fourth son to deceased Duncan McNair, weaver, Burgess and Guild Brother, December 1, 1740. He may have been the James McNair who married Janet Pollock September 5, 1732, in Glasgow. They had issue:

34. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow July 18, 1733.
35. James McNair was baptized in Glasgow January 20, 1736.

<sup>46</sup>*Glasgow Mercury*, August 31, 1780; November 23, 1780. *Glasgow Courier*, July 4, 1795.

## THIRD GENERATION

9. JAMES MCNAIR (John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup> was baptized in Glasgow March 26, 1727. He was the head of the firm of James McNair and Company, Cordiners, and died intestate before 1795, when a Testament Dative was drawn up January 21, 1795, by his son James (41) in respect of him and his eldest son John (37). He married March 13, 1748, in Glasgow, Agnes Anderson, whose father, Archibald Anderson, cordiner in Glasgow, died in 1758, aged 66, and was buried April 3 of that year in the churchyard of the High Church of Glasgow. At the time of his marriage, James McNair was admitted Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow "as married to Agnes, lawful daughter of Archibald Anderson, Cordiner, Burgess and Guild Brother." James McNair and Agnes Anderson had issue:

36. Janet McNair was baptized in Glasgow August 6, 1749, and was married *circa* September, 1777 to Duncan Bell, cordiner in Glasgow.
37. John McNair was baptized in Glasgow December 27, 1750. He started life as a cordiner in his father's firm, but was later a merchant in Kingston, Jamaica. He died intestate before 1795, when he was joint-subject with his father of a Testament Dative drawn up January 21 by his brother James (41).
38. Isabel McNair was baptized in Glasgow April 1, 1752, and was married *circa* November 1774 to John Elder, cordiner in Glasgow.
39. James McNair was baptized in Glasgow November 10, 1753, and died before June 21, 1757.
40. Archibald McNair was baptized in Glasgow June 29, 1755, and died aged 2 and was buried July 10, 1757, in the churchyard of the High Church of Glasgow.
41. James McNair was born in Glasgow June 19, 1757, and baptized June 21, 1757. (He evidently preferred the spelling "MacNayr.") He matriculated (2865) at Glasgow

University in 1759. He became a writer (i.e., solicitor) in Glasgow, and was admitted April 16, 1778, Burgess and Guild Brother. He entered the Faculty of Procurators in 1780, and was given the degree of Doctor of Law (LLD) by the University of Glasgow in 1800.

Dr. MacNayr edited *The Glasgow Courier* from its first issue on Thursday September 1, 1791. He succeeded John Mennon, first editor (1783-1802) of the great Scottish daily newspaper now called *The Glasgow Herald* (originally *The Glasgow Advertiser*), and "was evidently prepared to conduct the *Advertiser* with the same vigour as he had done the *Courier* and in the issue of Monday, November 1, 1802, solicited in the name of Benjamin Mathie, writer, Thomas Mennons, printer (son of the founder), and himself the patronage of their "friends and of the publick in the management of the *Herald and Advertiser*." Seven weeks later, on January 3, 1803, the *Herald and Advitiser* came out with a notice that "Dr. James McNayr, writer, ceases to be concerned in this paper, and also as a partner of the printing business." MacNayr had failed to find the necessary capital to enter the partnership.

Dr. MacNayr "was a golfer. He was a weather prophet, and no more reliable than most of his field. He held original views about building, and his house on Woodlands Hill was known as McNayr's Folly." (Extracts from an article published in the 175th Anniversary Supplement of *The Glasgow Herald*, January 1958, by R. N. Biles.) "James MacNayr was among the earliest, if not the very first, of those to build on Woodside-Hill, Glasgow, which at that time included the whole of the highgrounds of the West End Park. The house built by him was on the very summit, where Woodland Terrace now (1872) is, and was long a most conspicuous object."

Dr. MacNayr was the author of three books listed in the British Museum Catalogue, one being a *Guide to the Highlands* (Glasgow, 1797).



Dr. James MacNayr died September 8, 1808, aged 50 years.<sup>47</sup>

42. Archibald McNair

43. Margaret McNair was born in Glasgow June 29, 1762, and baptized July 3, 1762.

15. JAMES MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow April 21, 1729. The supercargo (mentioned on pages 113-16) continued seafaring for some years.<sup>48</sup> Later he became a candlemaker and was dead prior to 1778, the date of his father's will. The name of his wife is unknown.

This James McNair is considered in the account of James Gourlay<sup>48a</sup> as James I. In Gourlay's account he is given as the father of James II (1759-1798) minister of Slammanan. He is stated as married to his cousin Agnes McNair (No. 44 on page 137 of this book). However, James II is a descendant of Walter McNair and Susanna Steven as is Agnes McNair he married.<sup>84b</sup>

17. ROBERT MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow July 4, 1732. He worked in the Easter Sugar House and was married on June 23, 1765, to Janet, daughter of John Cochrane, late of Alderston, probably became a Burgess and Guild Brother in 1764, died on December 27, 1787, and was buried five days later in the High Kirk Yard, Glasgow. Nothing seems to be recorded of his life.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>47</sup>Additional material is to be found in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 39-40.

<sup>48</sup>*Glasgow Past and Present, op. cit.*, 2nd ed.

<sup>48a</sup>*The Kennedys of Auchtyfarde, and other papers*. N.P. 1936. See footnote on page 107 of this book.

<sup>48b</sup>See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*. Pp. 63-4 and page 203 of this book.

<sup>49</sup>*Glasgow Mercury*, December 26, 1787. *Register of Burials, High Kirkyard*.



His wife died in 1799. Their children were:

- 44. Agnes McNair
- 45. Robert McNair
- 46. John McNair
- 47. James McNair
- 48. Janet McNair
- 49. Mary McNair

21. JEAN MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow January 30, 1737. She was married to James Steedman, who seems to have been unsatisfactory and left her a widow at an early age. She died in 1786 of pulmonary tuberculosis and was buried in the High Kirkyard in Glasgow June 4, 1786, aged 30.<sup>50</sup> She had a small grocery business; and John Swanston, the grocer, was appointed to wind it up as principal creditor, she dying intestate.<sup>51</sup> She seems to have owed Swanston £35-17/-, and after paying rent and funeral expenses, he realized only £6-4/9 from the sale of her effects. Apparently her nephews, who were men of means, did little for her. Jean McNair and James Steedman had the following children:

- 50. Robert Steedman
- 51. James Steedman
- 52. Andrew Steedman
- 53. William Steedman
- 54. Jean Steedman
- 55. Mary Steedman
- 56. Margaret Steedman

23. WILLIAM MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow February 6, 1739, and baptized on the

<sup>50</sup>*Register of Burials, High Kirkyard.*

<sup>51</sup>*Commis. of Glasgow Register of Tests, Vol. LXX, Confirmation, May 15, 1787.*

eleventh. On April 1, 1759, he was married to Jean Robertson, (*sic*), daughter of Major John Robertson, of Earnock.<sup>52</sup> The proper name is Robertson. Major Robertson died as Fort Major of Edinburgh Castle, and intestate, on January 4, 1756.<sup>53</sup> For particulars of the Robertson family, see *Earnock and its early proprietors*.<sup>54</sup> He received a grant of arms in 1761.<sup>55</sup>

This grant of arms has the following description:

"Arms (McNair, 1761, Glasgow): Quarterly first and fourth argent in a sea a ship in full sail 1 pr. 2 gu. a close helmet or third arg. an anchor impaled (charged with a cross, crosslet pitcher sable) Crest, a demi-negro holding a sugar cane over the dexter shoulder, in the sinister hand a bunch of tobacco leaves all ppr. Motto: 'Labor amnia vincit.' "

This coat-of-arms, as modified by Major John F. A. McNair, appears facing page 90 in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), and opposite page 156 of this book. He died prior to his father but his widow was alive in 1791. The children of William McNair and Janet Robertson are:

57. Robert McNair was born in Glasgow, October 16, 1759 Perhaps the descendants of James McNair and Janet D. Dunlop are descendants of this Robert McNair. See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, pp. 45-6.
58. John McNair born in Glasgow, January 19, 1761 married and had a daughter, Marchmaud McNair.
59. James McNair born in Glasgow, May 8, 1763 married and had a daughter, Violet McNair.

25. MARRION MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow June 23, 1741, and baptized on June 28.

<sup>52</sup>*Marriage Register of the City and Parish of Glasgow.*

<sup>53</sup>*Register of Tests, Hamilton and Campsie*, September 26, 1756.

<sup>54</sup>In the National Library of Scotland.

<sup>55</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, p. 45. Burke, *Encyclopedia of Heraldry*.

She was married in Edinburgh July 4, 1762, to James Gairdner, a grocer.<sup>56</sup> He took over his father-in-law's grocery business and was Preses of the Grocer's Society of Glasgow.<sup>57</sup> Mrs. Gairdner died February 28, 1809.<sup>58</sup> The date of Gairdner's death is unknown. Their children were:

- 60. Cecilia Gairdner
- 61. Robert Gairdner
- 62. Margaret Gairdner
- 63. James Gairdner

27. MARY MCNAIR (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow November 7, 1743, and baptized November 13. She was married to John Blair of Edinburgh. Both were dead prior to 1791. Their children were:

- 64. Dorothy Blair
- 65. Margaret Blair

#### FOURTH GENERATION

42. ARCHIBALD MCNAIR (James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow July 13, 1759, and was baptized July 14. Archibald McNair was named after his maternal grandfather Archibald Anderson, who died the year before he was born. With his brother James (41) he matriculated (2843) at the University of Glasgow in 1769 at the exceptionally early, but not unprecedented, age of ten.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>56</sup>*Glasgow Courier*, November 24, 1791, November 23, 1797.

<sup>57</sup>*Glasgow Burgh Records*, Vol. IX, p. 51.

<sup>58</sup>*Glasgow Herald*, March 10, 1809.

<sup>59</sup>*McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 26-27. It was fairly common for boys to matriculate at the age of 13 during the eighteenth century. James McNair (41) and Archibald McNair (42) are entered as "filius natu secundus" and "filius natu tertius" respectively, because James McNair (39) and Archibald McNair (40), who died in infancy, are discounted.



It is highly probable that Archibald McNair accompanied his eldest brother John (37) to Kingston, Jamaica, and was associated with him in trade with the West Indies.

Soon after his brother's death, and probably about the year 1795, he settled in London, where he became a merchant in the city. From his house at 29 Abchurch Lane, near the Church of St. Mary Abchurch, which was partially destroyed during the 1939-1945 war (World War II), he carried on a prosperous trade with the Indies.

About the year 1820 he retired to Dorset, where he lived at Weytown Cottage, Netherbury, near Bridport. Here he died February 16, 1826, aged 66 years.<sup>60</sup> He was buried in Netherbury churchyard, where his tombstone was still visible shortly before the 1939-1945 war (World War II).

Archibald McNair was married about the year 1797 to Mary Ann Lindsay, who was born *circa* 1767 and died in the house of her brother-in-law John Christie, Esq., in Queen Street, Mayfair, London June 20, 1832, aged 65 years. She was the fourth of the five daughters (known as "the Five Lindsay Belles") of William and Margaret Lindsay. Her father was descended from the Lindsays of Edzell Castle, Scotland. Her sisters were (1) Janet, who married George Bathie, D.D., of Edinburgh and Hammersmith, and had issue; (2) Margaret, who married John Christie, and had issue; (3) Charlotte, who married William Lydell; and (4) Sophia, who married Thomas Wilson, and had issue. Her brother was William Lindsay, who married Mary Macintosh.

Archibald and Mary Ann McNair are the subject of the following inscription on a tablet (still extant) over the entrance door inside St. Mary Abchurch:

Sacred/ to the memory of/ Archibald McNair Esquire/ formerly of this parish/ who died/ at Weytown in Dorsetshire/ on the 16th day

<sup>60</sup>*The Gentleman's Magazine*, March, 1826.



of February 1826/ in the 67th year of his age/ Also in memory of/ Mary Ann McNair/ relict of the above/ who died/ on the 20th day of June 1832/ in the 66th year of her age/ and was interred in a vault/ beneath this Church.

A miniature of Archibald McNair is in the possession of his great granddaughter, Mrs. Liesching, of 23 Aylands Road, Taunton, Somerset, England.<sup>61</sup>

Archibald McNair and Mary Ann Lindsay had seven children:

66. Mary Ann McNair was born *circa* 1798, and died November 17, 1871. She never married, but lived with her sister Charlotte (73) at 3, Bicton Terrace, Exmouth, Devonshire, England. She and her two sisters are the subject of a memorial window in the north wall of the north aisle of Littleham Church, near Exmouth, bearing the following inscription: "In Loving memory of Sophia Spettigue Mary Ann and Charlotte McNair/ placed by their nephews and nieces."
67. James McNair was born *circa* 1799 and died in infancy.
68. William McNair
69. Sophia McNair was born *circa* 1801. She married Dr. John Spettigue, an Exmouth surgeon who died February 11, 1887, aged 85 years, and who is commemorated by a second memorial window in the north wall of the north aisle of Littleham Church, near Exmouth, bearing the following inscription: "In affectionate memory of John Spettigue Surgeon died Feb. 11, 1887, aged 85 years/ erected by his nephews and nieces." John and Sophia Spettigue lived at 7, Bicton Place, Exmouth, and left no issue.
70. Archibald McNair
71. John Christie McNair
72. Charlotte McNair was born June 23, 1808 in Abchurch Lane in London. She never married, but lived with her sister Mary Ann McNair (66) at 3, Bicton Terrace, Exmouth. She died February 2, 1885.

<sup>61</sup>Additional material to that in *McNair, McNear, McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 34-38.

45. ROBERT MCNAIR (Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1766 and became a Burgess and Guild Brother in 1790. According to James Gourlay, the family of Robert McNair "reached its zenith in him, for he alone inherited his grandfather's energy and enterprise." On January 27, 1797, he was served Heir General to his grandfather, and raised the action by which this unworkable Will was set aside. In 1787, he took his brother James (47) into partnership<sup>62</sup> and feued a piece of ground on the south side of Ingram Street at its junction with Queen Street, and built thereon a new sugarhouse. On December 21, 1789, he was married to Helen M'Call, daughter of John M'Call of Belvidere.<sup>63</sup> M'Call died on October 8, 1790.<sup>64</sup> McNair advertised the sugar house for sale by public roup at Martinmas 1791.<sup>65</sup> Belvidere was offered for sale by private bargain, presumably by M'Call's trustees,<sup>66</sup> and McNair, now a wealthy man, appears to have acquired it.<sup>67</sup> Elected a magistrate in 1805, he became impressed with the sad condition of the lunatics in the Town's Hospital and succeeded in raising £12,000 toward the building of the Asylum in the Parliamentary Road, later transferred to Gartnavel Mental Hospital. For this beneficent work he well deserves to be remembered with gratitude and with honor. The story is told in full in the 18th Annual Report of the Glasgow Royal Asylum, January 1832. There is a further article in the *Gartnavel Gazette* of January 1909. He became Dean of Guild in 1811, but was unable to complete

<sup>62</sup>*Old Country Houses*, 2nd ed., p. 22.

<sup>63</sup>*Glasgow Mercury*, December 22, 1789.

<sup>64</sup>*Ibid.*, October 5/12, 1790.

<sup>65</sup>*Ibid.*, January 6/13, 1789; *Glasgow Courier*, October 22/29, 1791; November 17, 1792.

<sup>66</sup>*Glasgow Courier*, November 21, 1797 and December 26, 1797.

<sup>67</sup>Further particulars will be found in *Glasgow, Past and Present*, Vol. II, p. 414, also in the *Glasgow Courier*, September 13, 1794.

his term of office, having lost his fortune in a coal mining speculation. Belvidere was sold<sup>68</sup> and he retired to Leith where his friends had procured for him the appointment of Collector of Customs. He died there on January 5, 1832, and an obituary notice<sup>69</sup> gives an appreciation of him. His wife, possibly broken by misfortune, died on April 20, 1812. Both are buried in Restalrig.<sup>70</sup> The children of Robert McNair and Helen M'Call were:<sup>71</sup>

- 73. Janet McNair
- 74. Grace McNair
- 75. John McNair
- 76. Robert McNair
- 77. Helen McNair died at Leith, Scotland, December 27, 1849.
- 78. Agnes McNair
- 79. Elizabeth McNair
- 80. Agnes McNair married Robert Graham, merchant of Leith, and died aged 20, December 24, 1840.
- 81. Daniel McNair

46. JOHN MCNAIR (Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was probably born in 1770 and matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1784. He became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow February 3, 1790, and a member of the

<sup>68</sup>*Glasgow Herald*, February 7, 1812, *et seq.*

<sup>69</sup>*Ibid.*, January 9, 1832.

<sup>70</sup>*Register of Burials, Restalrig*, Scottish Record Society. See also *Memo* by Fred M'Call in the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh; and *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), p. 25. See also *Supplement 1955*, pp. 88-89.

<sup>71</sup>The children mentioned in his Will or Settlement dated March 6, 1822, at Leith include all the children except Daniel. He added alterations and restrictions to this deed of settlement. These were dated June 28, 1825, and January 27, 1830. He valued his estate at approximately £9780. The furniture and plate were bequeathed to his daughters. The silver knives and forks that belonged to his father were given to his son John. Public Records of Scotland 6/227, *Extract of Settlement etc. of Robert McNair* registered March 15, 1832, Scottish Record office, H. M. General Register House, Edinburgh.



Highland Society in 1794. John McNair is thought to have at one time resided at a villa, "Larchgrove," situated on the ground now occupied by the High School in Elmbank Street, but latterly with his son, John (85), at 12 Woodside Crescent.<sup>72</sup> At Sandyford, on January 24, 1791, he was married to Jean, daughter of William French, provost of Glasgow in 1778-9.<sup>73</sup> His wife died in Glasgow in 1807.<sup>74</sup> He died at "Larchgrove" on November 23, 1842, aged 86.<sup>75</sup> Their children were (eight unprovided orphans):<sup>76</sup>

84. Robert McNair

85. John McNair was married to Margaret Dobie.

86. Jean McNair was married to James Scott. Their children were: Isabella and Janet Scott.

87. Margaret McNair was married to ——— Stevenson. Their children were Gabriel and Janet Stevenson.

47. JAMES MCNAIR (Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born probably about 1772 and was matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1787. He became a partner with his brother, Robert (45), in the Queen Street sugarhouse. He was possessed at one time of considerable means, for, in 1800, he built Calder Park.<sup>77</sup> In 1822, he seems to have suffered serious losses, and was sequestrated.<sup>78</sup> Calder Park and a number of other properties were offered for sale.<sup>79</sup> His name continues to appear in Glasgow Directories as a sugar refiner up to 1834, but no record of his death has been discovered.

<sup>72</sup>*Fleming's Map*, of 1807.

<sup>73</sup>*Glasgow Mercury*.

<sup>74</sup>*West. Star*, December 18, 1807.

<sup>75</sup>*Glasgow Herald*, November 25, 1842.

<sup>76</sup>See page 89 of this book.

<sup>77</sup>*Old Country Houses*, article "Calder Park."

<sup>78</sup>*Glasgow Courier*, February 2, 1822.

<sup>79</sup>*Ibid.*, September 21, 1822, also *Glasgow, Past and Present*, Vol. II, p. 123, and *Glasgow Courier*, November 2, 1822.



He may have left the city or emigrated. On February 27, 1798, he was married to Christian Edington, eldest daughter of Thomas Edington of Carmyle, manager of the Clyde Iron Works.<sup>80</sup>

48. JANET MCNAIR (Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married to John Finlayson on February 23, 1795<sup>81</sup>. He was the son of the minister of Carstairs and a merchant in Glasgow. His coal speculations ruined most of his relatives.

54. JEAN STEEDMAN (Jean McNair [21]<sup>3</sup> Robin [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married to John Mennons. Their children were:

- 88. James Mennons
- 89. Mary Mennons
- 90. Agnes Mennons
- 91. John Mennons was married to Catherine Anna Mills and had children.
- 92. Jane Mennons
- 93. Cecilia Mennons
- 94. Marion Mennons

#### FIFTH GENERATION

68. WILLIAM MCNAIR (Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1800. He was probably educated like his brother, John Christie McNair (71), at Alfred House Academy, Camberwell, a school founded by Nicholas Wanostrocht, who died November 19, 1812.

He entered the Honourable East India Company's service attaining the rank of Captain. His ship was the *Sophia*. He was specially commended by Queen Victoria for gallantry in the China Expedition of 1840-1842 (the "Opium War").

<sup>80</sup>*Glasgow Courier*, February 27, 1796.

<sup>81</sup>*Ibid.*, February 24, 1795.

William McNair lived at 5, The Crescent, Kensington, Middlesex, where he died September 19, 1845, of epilepsy induced by a spike of bone which grew into the front of his brain. He was buried in Brompton Cemetery. His portrait is in the possession of his grandson, Donald McNair, Esq., of The Old Grammar School, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, England.

William McNair married August 12, 1834, at Hammersmith his first cousin Charlotte Caroline Bathie, fourth daughter of the Rev. George Bathie, D.D. (Edinburgh) of Hammersmith, who through his mother, Jean Stark of Cupar, Fife, was the great grandson of Bishop Stark. George Bathie died April 24, 1825, aged 67 years. Charlotte Caroline McNair died in 1854. A portrait of her with her two children is in the possession of her granddaughter, Miss Janet H. McNair, of Bath House, Taunton, Somerset, England.

Captain William McNair and Charlotte Caroline Bathie had issue:

95. Lindsay William McNair

96. Janet Mary McNair was born (at 5, The Crescent, Kensington) in 1837 and spent most of her life abroad in Rome, Florence, and Vevey, where she died in 1909. She was a convert to Roman Catholicism. She was courted by a Florentine nobleman, but never married. Her portrait is in the possession of Philip McNair, The University, Leeds 2, England.

70. ARCHIBALD MCNAIR (Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John[2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1804, and was probably educated at Alfred House Academy, Camberwell. He was a Captain in the 15th Madras Native Infantry, and died at Chittoor, July 11, 1838, aged 34 years. He married Eliza Gray. Their children were:

97. Mary Ann Eliza McNair and

98. Emily Jane McNair and

100. Caroline Harriett McNair were born between 1825 and 1835, and evidently lived with their aunts, Mary Ann McNair (66) and Charlotte McNair (72), at Exmouth, Devonshire, England. They never married. Emily Jane was the first to die, and is commemorated by a third memorial window in the north wall of the north aisle of Littleham Church, bearing the following inscription: "Emily Jane McNair died 5 Nov 1893—erected by her sisters."
99. Charlotte Catherine Maria McNair was born before 1835 and married a citizen of Reading.

71. JOHN CHRISTIE MCNAIR (Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) (named after the husband of his mother's sister Margaret) was born November 12, 1806, in Abchurch Lane in the City of London. He was educated at Alfred House Academy, Camberwell. He was later nominated to Addiscombe, the Surrey training college of the Indian Civil Service, as a cadet by William Wigram, Esq., on the recommendation of his uncle, John Christie, Esq., of 6, Queen Street, Mayfair; but, in the words of his grandson, "He had a row with his professor at Addiscombe, and in consequence was not allowed to join the Indian Civil Service." (Brigadier J. K. M. McNair)

John Christie McNair served in the Madras Artillery: Brevet Cadet, 1824; Regimental Ensign and Second Lieutenant December 16, 1824; Lieutenant December 17, 1824; Brevet Captain December 16, 1839; Captain June 3, 1841; and Major February 25, 1842. He retired March 5, 1844.<sup>82</sup>

For fifteen years in India he had studied engineering in his leisure sufficiently well to assist Isambard Kingdom Brunel on part of Great Western Railway in England.

John Christie McNair's London address was 55, Parliament Street. He lived variously at Bruton, Exmouth, and at Bath, where he died April 23, 1889, and was buried in Lans-

<sup>82</sup>See pages 84-85 of this book.



down Cemetery. He left £22,460, naming his son, Harry Bingham McNair (103), and his brother-in-law, General Edward Dayot Watson, of 2, Nortland Place, Bath, as his executors.

John Christie McNair married September 7, 1837, by license in the Parish Church of Melcombe Regis, Dorset, England, his kinswoman, Margaret Armstrong Watson, who was the granddaughter of George and Janet Bathie, and the second child of their eldest daughter Margaret by her first husband, Edward Watson, Esq., H.E.I.C.S., of the Bengal Civil Service, Judge and Magistrate of Benares, whom she married at Bhangulpore in November 1811, and who died at St. Helena during Napoleon's captivity there March 9, 1818. Margaret McNair died at Bath December 24, 1851. Her brother was General Edward Dayot Watson, who married Adelaide Barnes.

Major John Christie McNair and Margaret Armstrong Watson had issue:

101. Edward John McNair

102. Henry Archibald McNair was born June 28, 1840, at Bangalore, Madras, India, where he was baptized September 5, 1840, in St. Marks.<sup>83</sup> Major General McNair was spare of build and stood six feet four inches. He was so strikingly handsome that he was known to his cousins as "the Apollo Belvedere." He lived on a substantial private income, an ample pension of £1,000 per annum. He always lived in clubs and hotels, mainly in Bath. After 1900 he used to stay one month of the year with the widow of his brother, Harry Bingham McNair (103). "He didn't like children, and couldn't bear to see them fed. When the gong sounded for luncheon, it was the signal for Uncle Archibald to put on his

<sup>83</sup>For the details of his army service, promotions, and decorations, see *Who's Who* (London) for 1908, and *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), p. 35, and pp. 75-76 of this book. Add to these accounts the fact that he led the cavalry in General Lord Robert's famous march to Kandahar.



hat and walk in the garden, saying: 'Sybila, tell me when the brats have been served, and I'll come in and take my lunch.' He may not have hit it out too well with Harry Bingham McNair (103), but was evidently partial to his widow." (Personal reminiscences of Brigadier J. K. M. McNair.)

Major General McNair died at York House Hotel, Bath, August 22, 1908.

103. Harry Bingham McNair

104. Charles McNair

76. ROBERT MCNAIR (Robert [46]<sup>4</sup> Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born December 25, 1803, at Glasgow. He became a cadet in the Bengal Establishment of the United East India Company and later became Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, 73rd Native Infantry Regiment. He died at Conoor, Madras, July 20, 1857, "of fatigue."

He was married first in Edinburgh, June 12, 1834, to Catherine More. She died in Calcutta, November 10, 1835, age 21. Catherine More was the daughter of John Schank More, advocate, doctor of law and professor of a branch of law at the University of Edinburgh. He married Mary, daughter of William Gillespie of Bishopton. Robert McNair and Catherine More had one daughter:

Mary Catherine More. In the will of John Schank More appears the following; "my daughter Catherine McNair who died several years ago at Calcutta leaving one daughter Mary Catherine McNair, and that her father Colonel Robert McNair is also dead and she has been taken charge of by her father's friends, and will probably be better provided for than any of my own children, therefore and to testify my affection and regard for the said Mary Catherine McNair I hereby give and distribute to her the sum of thirty pounds. . ."

He was married secondly in St. Andrew's Church, Calcutta, August 2, 1837, to Harriet Caroline Garstin.<sup>84</sup> The children

<sup>84</sup>Additional information is to be found on pages 91-93 of this book.

of Lt. Col. Robert McNair and Harriet Caroline Garstin include:

- 105. John McNair
- 106. Robert Nelson McNair (see page 93 of this book).
- 107. Alfred Lionel McNair (see pages 68-69 of this book).
- 108. Flora Alice McNair was born August 23, 1847, and baptized October 19, 1847, at Jullunden, Bengal, India.
- 109. Anna Lourie Barlow McNair was born November 14, 1848, and baptized March 8, 1849, at Ambala, Bengal, India.

84. ROBERT MCNAIR (John [46]<sup>4</sup> Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 21, 1795, and died on April 12, 1862. In 1827 he married an English lady, Catherine Eliza ———, who was born in 1788, and died January 10, 1872. Major Robert McNair, according to the Home Office Census returns for March 30, 1851,<sup>85</sup> resided at 47 Abbey Road, Borough of Marylebone, parish of Marylebone, London. His wife was born in Islington, Middlesex. Residing with them were:

- 110. John Frederick Adolphus McNair
- 111. George Augustus McNair (was in India at this time).
- 112. Eliza McNair
- 113. Robert French McNair (born in Chestnut, Herts) was aged 18 and was a clerk in the Army and Navy Club, London.
- 114. Alice McNair, aged 16, was born at Brighton, Sussex.<sup>86</sup>

#### SIXTH GENERATION

95- LINDSAY WILLIAM MCNAIR (William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 6, 1835, at 5, The Crescent, Kensington, London. He was educated privately and at Pembroke College, Oxford,

<sup>85</sup>Home office, 107/1491.

<sup>86</sup>For additional information about Major Robert McNair, see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 89-90, and pages 88-91 of this book.

where he matriculated October 21, 1862.<sup>87</sup> He read Greats, but never took Schools. Before going up to Oxford at the age of 27 he had taught at Western College, Brighton, the School of Dr. Henry Stein Turrell. His intention in going up to the university was to take Holy Orders, but the death of Dr. Turrell in 1863 recalled him to Brighton.

Lindsay McNair later started a school of his own in Hove, Brighton, which he called Westlands. He had some notable pupils, including his kinsman, Edward Carpenter, Ryder Haggard, and Hook the painter.

After settling in Croydon, Surrey, England, Lindsay McNair retired for his health's sake to North Devon, where he lived the latter years of his life at Windy Ash, an isolated house in the country outside Barnstaple. Here he died December 9, 1906, and was buried in Barnstaple Cemetery.

Portraits are in the possession of his son, Donald McNair, Esq., of the Old Grammar School, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and of his grandson, Philip McNair, The University, Leeds 2, England.

Lindsay William McNair was married in the Parish Church of Brighton, June 23, 1864 by his bride's kinsman, the Rev. Bache W. Harvey, M.A., assisted by his (McNair's) first cousin, the Rev. George R. Winter, M.A., to Harriet Agnes Turrell, fourth daughter of Dr. Henry Stein Turrell, of Montpelier House, Brighton.

Henry Stein Turrell was born at Brussels in 1815, and was carried over the field of Waterloo shortly after the battle. His father was Lieutenant Charles Turrell, R.N., who was born in 1785 and died January 13, 1846, aged 60 years, at Peckham.<sup>88</sup> His mother was Ann Wallace, daughter of Sir

<sup>87</sup>See Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses* and page 42 of this book.

<sup>88</sup>See his life in William R. O'Byrne, *A Naval Biographical Dictionary* (London, 1849).



Thomas Dunlap Wallace (1750-1837) and niece of Jane, Duchess of Gordon (1749-1821), who was born *circa* 1799 and died at Brussels, July 4, 1852, aged 53 years. He was educated at St. Catharine's Cambridge, and at Heidelberg, where he took his Ph.D. At 19 years of age he was the youngest headmaster in England. He was the first president (1846-1850) of the College of Preceptors, which he helped to found. He was the author of scholastic works.<sup>89</sup> At his death in 1863 he was Headmaster of Western College, Brighton. His portrait is in the possession of his grandson, Donald McNair, Esq. In 1865-66, a Gold Turrell Memorial Prize Medal, executed by Joseph S. Wyon, Chief Engraver of Her Majesty's seals, was struck in his memory.

Dr. Turrell married at Islington, July 7, 1840, Rebecca Wainwright, eldest daughter of John Wainwright, Esq., of New Furnival's Inn and the High Court of Chancery, who died March 9, 1832. The Wainwrights had held Chancery appointments for generations; their London residence was in Devonshire Place, their country seats were Calcot Lodge, Berkshire, and Grafton Manor, Oxfordshire (now owned by Christ Church, Oxford).

Harriet Agnes Turrell was educated at Rawdown House, Hoddlesdon, Hertfordshire, and abroad. She was a gifted writer of verse. After her husband's death she returned to Croydon, where she died September 2, 1915. Portraits are in the possession of her son, Donald McNair, Esq.

Lindsay William McNair and Harriet Agnes Turrell had the following children:

115. Lindsay John McNair

116. Stuart Edmund McNair was born in Brighton, March 8, 1867, and was educated at the Whitgift School, Croydon. From the age of eight he felt a distinct call to preach the

<sup>89</sup>See the *British Museum Catalogue*.



Gospel to the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking peoples of South America, and never wavered in obeying it throughout his long life. In order that he should be dependent on no man, he trained as an engineer. He spent a considerable time in Spain and Portugal, learning the languages, before beginning his life work in Brazil. He never married, but devoted himself entirely to the Lord's work in Latin America for more than fifty years, helped, for much of this time, by his sister, Charlotte. Stuart McNair wrote several books, among which are *Round South America on the King's Business*, *The Browns in Brazil*, *A Christian Anthology*, *Preacher's Guide*, etc. Most of these were printed and published by his own Casa Editora Evangelica in Terezópolis. For further details, see his *Reminiscences*, published in English and Portuguese. He died in Terezópolis, January 10, 1859, in his 92nd year.

- 117. Mabel McNair was born August 11 and died August 13, 1868.
- 118. George McNair was born October 29 and died October 30, 1870.
- 119. Henry Stein McNair
- 120. Janet Harriet McNair was born September 21, 1874, and has lived most of her life in Croydon, where she taught music. She is an accomplished pianist and composer. On retiring from active life she took up residence in Taunton, where she lives at Bath House on the Wellington Road. She has been for many years a tireless worker in Braille for the blind. She is unmarried.
- 121. Charles Carpenter McNair
- 122. Charlotte Emily Wainewright McNair was born July 29, 1878, and trained as a nurse in London and Edinburgh. For many years she has helped her brother Stuart in Brazil. At the time of writing, June 1959, she intends to return to England for the remainder of her life. She is unmarried.
- 123. William McNair
- 124. Margaret Evelyn McNair
- 125. Donald McNair

101. EDWARD JOHN MCNAIR (John Christie [71]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 9, 1838, and baptized in Bath, England, August 22, 1838. He was educated at King Edward's Grammar School, Bath, and at Bruton Grammar School. He was first commissioned into the Honourable East India Company's service in July 1856.<sup>90</sup>

Lieutenant General McNair lived for some time at Roundwood, Lord Nelson's old house in Ipswich, before his return to Bath in 1910.

He stood six feet four, and was well filled out. He fancied he could play the cello, and had four cellos in his house. He went a bit senile and cranky toward the end, and suffered from loneliness. He became rather tiresome to Hannah (?), his housekeeper. (Drawn from personal reminiscences of his nephew, Brigadier J. K. M. McNair.) Portrait is in the possession of Philip McNair, the University, Leeds 2, England.

Lieutenant General McNair married Catherine Louisa Spry Dias, who died in 1910. They had issue:

126. Edward Montague Cecil McNair emigrated to Canada. He married late in life and died about 1944, leaving a son, Edward.

127. Margaret Ethel McNair was married to Arthur J. Rouse. She is now (1958) a widow and resides in London.

103. Harry Bingham McNair (John Christie [71]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 28, 1845. His father had served in India with Colonel Bingham of Bingham's Melcombe, Dorset, hence the middle name. He was educated at Kings Bruton, and Cheltenham College. He was admitted to Emmanuel College, Cam-

<sup>90</sup>For the details of his army service, promotions, and decorations see pages 71-72 in this book and *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, pp. 35-37. Add to this the fact that when he died April 15, 1921, he was the senior general officer in the British Army.

bridge, August 6, 1864. He matriculated Michaelmas, 1864, took his B.A. degree in 1868, and his M.A. degree in 1876. (See J. A. Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses*, Cambridge University Press, 1951.)

He was ordained deacon (Bath and Wells) in 1868, and priest (Worcester) in 1871. His first curacy was Stoke Courcy (Stogursey), Somerset, 1868-69; his second was Hampton Lucy, Warwickshire, 1870-74; his third was Abingdon, Berkshire, 1874-84. In Abingdon he was also Reader of St. Nicholas's, 1876-84. He was Vicar of St. Peter's, Early, Berkshire, 1884-89. (Perpetual Curate, April 2, 1884.)

He became Vicar of St. Mary's, Aylesbury, on March 11, 1889. ("The Queen has appointed the Rev. Harry Bingham McNair . . . to the important vicarage of Aylesbury, Bucks. . . ."). He was Rural Dean of Aylesbury, 1892-95. He resigned his vicarage July 25, 1895, on account of ill health, and was obliged to take a complete rest. He became Vicar of Wasperton, Warwickshire in 1896, and died there February 21, 1900. He was buried in the churchyard of St. John the Baptist, Stone, near Aylesbury.

Harry Bingham McNair stood a spare six feet, four inches. He was a Low Churchman. He always kept five to six curates, unmarried, in the Clergy House opposite the Vicarage in Aylesbury, and used to have photographs taken of himself amongst them.

He married about 1891 Sybila Mackenzie Kirkland Bartlett, the eldest child of John Edward Bartlett of Peverel Court, Stone, Bucks, and died there in 1915. She was born February 1, 1860. She had money of her own.

Harry Bingham McNair and Sybila Bartlett had issue:

128. John Kirkland Mackenzie McNair<sup>91</sup> who was twice married.

By his first marriage, to Evelyn Dorothy Rasbicke Hanson,

<sup>91</sup>For his army record see pp. 86-87 of this book.



he had a daughter, Heather Margaret Sybila McNair, born in 1920, who was married to Commander Neville Townley McHarg, D.S.O., O.B.E., Royal Navy. They have a daughter born in 1949 and a son born in 1955. By his second marriage to Nancy Adeleiza Della Gana, he had a son, Nigel John Edward McNair, born October 8, 1945, and a daughter, Sybilla Adeleiza Kirkland McNair, born September 9, 1949.

129. Archibald Edward McNair, who was born December 7, 1896, was drowned in 1910 on a summer holiday while out swimming with his brother and his tutor at Aberdovey, Wales, being carried away by strong undercurrents.

105. John McNair (Robert [76]<sup>5</sup> Robert [45]<sup>4</sup> Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup> was born June 8, 1840.<sup>92</sup> His wife's name was Mary Henrietta — and they had one son.

130. Laurence Gordon McNair, who was born October 20, 1866, and was baptized November 12, 1866, at Dinapore, India.

110. John Frederick Adolphus McNair (Robert [84]<sup>5</sup> John [46]<sup>4</sup> Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>). For a sketch of his biography see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies*, (1923), pp. 34-35. For information about his descendants, portraits of himself, and his son, Arthur Wyndham McNair, see *Supplement 1955*, pp. 90-92. For his army record see pages 85-86 of this book.

111. George Augustus McNair (Robert [84]<sup>5</sup> John [46]<sup>4</sup> Robert [17]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1830 and died in Peshawar, India, July 26, 1862.<sup>93</sup> He was married to Catherine Elizabeth Thompson. They had issue:

131. Alice Mary McNair was born July 17, 1853, and was baptized August 21, 1853, at Christ Church in Cawnpore, Bengal.  
132. Charles Henry Robert McNair, whose army career is to be found on page 70 of this book.

<sup>92</sup>*Ibid.*, see pp. 83-84 of this book.

<sup>93</sup>*Ibid.*, see pp. 73-75 of this book.





M. Nair.



## SEVENTH GENERATION

115. Lindsay John McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Brighton, January 18, 1866. He was educated at the Whitgift School, Croydon, and at Cambridge University (matriculated 1886, B.A. 1890, M.A. 1905); assistant master at Ebor School (kept by Henry D'Arcy Champney, Esq.), 1885; at Channel View School, Clevedon, 1891; at Landsdowne School, Croydon, 1904; and at St. Olave's School, London, 1905-28. He wrote scholastic works under his own name and under the name of Lindsay (see British Museum Catalogue). He died May 12, 1928.

On July 30, 1897, he was married to Alice Emma Bertholet (Swiss) and they had issue:

- 133. Yolande Otilie Lindsay McNair was born June 8, 1899, and was married to John Moore, the well-known cellist. They live at Up Yonder, Lower Kingswood, Surrey. They have no children.
- 134. Yvonne Alison Lindsay McNair was born January 7, 1905, died June 4, 1928.

119. Henry Stein McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 2, 1873. He emigrated to Australia, where he lived in Brisbane. With his elder brothers, Lindsay and Stuart, he was an energetic and effective preacher of the Gospel. He died in Australia, November 2, 1943, in his 71st year.

On February 6, 1899, he was married to Annie Woodhead. Children:

- 135. Henry Stuart Stein McNair was born February 13, 1900.
- 136. Glenny Stein McNair was born May 31, 1902.
- 137. Dudley Stein McNair was born March 10, 1905.

121. Charles Carpenter McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 3, 1876. He went to sea under sail at an early age, and spent his active life on the water. When he retired he was, and had been for years, a Captain in the British India Line. Towards the end of his life he lost his eyesight. He died at Ilfracombe, Devon, February 16, 1946.

On January 12, 1921, he was married to Lily Grace Petter and had issue:

138. Patricia Alice Lindsay McNair was born December 9, 1921, and died (poisoned by her Indian nurse) June 7, 1923, in India.

139. Barbara Joan Oriole McNair was born June 4, 1924, and is a nurse in England. On her thirty-fifth birthday she announced her engagement to Captain Piotr Kozaka (*Daily Telegraph*, June 4, 1959).

140. Clive Alexander Charles Turrell McNair was born January 15, 1928, in Exeter, Devon, and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton. He is now an officer in the British India Line.

123. William McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 11, 1880, studied engineering, and as a young man emigrated to America. He was living in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake of April, 1906, and wrote a vivid account of it which was later published. After working on railway construction in the Western States and Alaska for years, he settled in Vancouver, B. C., where he died October 9, 1951.

He was married on July 18, 1914, to Ruth Petter (sister of Lily Grace Petter) and had issue:

141. Elizabeth Rowena McNair was born December 16, 1915, trained as an art student in Vancouver, and is an excellent portraitist. She was married to Captain Arthur Morrell.



142. Charles Cedric Turrell McNair was born October 15, 1920, and is an officer in the Canadian Navy/Merchant Navy (?) He served in the 1939-45 war (World War II) and in the Korean War. He has been twice married and has children.

124. Margaret Evelyn McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born February 7, 1882, and since 1938 has lived at 23, Aylands Road, Taunton, Somerset.

She was married January 6, 1914, to William Enwright Liesching (who died March 25, 1926, at Tiverton, Devon) and has three sons and two daughters.

125. Donald McNair (Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 27, 1883, and has spent most of his life in the West of England. Before retiring from active life in 1939 he was a company director. He served under General Allenby in Palestine in the 1914-18 War (World War I). For many years he has lived at the Old Grammar School, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

On January 18, 1916, he was married to Janie Grace Jourdan. Children:

143. Thomas Eric Lindsay Jourdan McNair  
 144. Archibald Alister Jourdan McNair  
 145. Ivan Alan Jourdan McNair was born January 19, 1921, and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, and at the Slade School of Fine Art, Oxford. He was a promising artist, but died in his twenty-third year, May 20, 1943.  
 146. Philip Murray Jourdan McNair  
 147. Rachel Elizabeth Jourdan McNair was born May 21, 1925, and married in February 1950 at St. Jame's, Spanish Place, London, Dr. Iain MacDougall of Harley Street, son of the late Sir Raibeart MacDougall, K.C.M.G. Present address: The River House, Woodhall Park, Hertfordshire, England.

148. Ruth Geraldine Grace McNair was born September 7, 1932, and married July 4, 1952 at Cirencester, Dr. David Ingram, now Professor of Physics at Keele University. Present address: (1959) 11 The College, Keele University, England.

#### EIGHTH GENERATION

143. THOMAS ERIC LINDSAY JOURDAN MCNAIR (Donald [125]<sup>7</sup> Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 16, 1917 and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton. He trained as a medical student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and practiced as an obstetrician for some years in Cambridge, England (where he was Registrar of Addenbrooke's Hospital). He served in World War II in the Royal Navy as Surgeon-Lieutenant aboard the *H.M.S. Foxhound*. He now lives and practices at Bulawago, South Rhodesia.

He married in 1949 Constance Mary Beresford and has issue:

149. Sarah McNair  
150. Deborah McNair

144. ARCHIBALD ALISTER JOURDAN MCNAIR (Donald [125]<sup>7</sup> Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born December 16, 1919, and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton. After a legal training he settled in Chelsea, London, and entered the world of finance. He is a manufacturer and chairman of a group of companies. Present address: (1959) 39 Carlyle Square, London, S.W. 3.

He married August 7, 1954 at Lavenham, Suffolk, Catherine Alice Jane Fleming, and has issue:

151. Hamish Lindsay McNair, born March 16, 1956  
162. Camilla Margaret McNair, born September 17, 1958

146. PHILIP MURRAY JOURDAN MCNAIR (Donald [125]<sup>7</sup> Lindsay William [95]<sup>6</sup> William [68]<sup>5</sup> Archibald [42]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born February 22, 1924, and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, and Christ Church, Oxford, where he read Modern Greats, Theology, and Modern Languages. M.A. 1948; Luca Ruffini Scholar 1951; Paget Toynbee prizeman 1952; author of various articles on literature, etc. Served in World War II in non-commissioned and commissioned ranks with the Queen's Royal Regiment, Claims Commission, etc. and at H. Q. Eighth Army (Austria) and H. Q. Rhine Army (Germany). He is Lecturer in Italian at the University of Leeds, England. Present address: (1959) 14 Monkbridge Road, Headingley, Leeds 6, England.

He married February 3, 1948 at Cirencester, May Aitken of Edinburgh, and had issue:

153. Philippa Jane Anastasia Hamilton McNair, born March 5, 1949 in Cirencester.



## DESCENDANTS OF HENRIE McNAIR AND LILLIAS ADAM AND MARIE DUNCAN<sup>1</sup>

1. Henrie McNair married Lillias Adam in Glasgow, December 14, 1693. By virtue of marrying Lillias, the lawful daughter of the late John Adam, gardener, Henrie became a Burgess of Glasgow, February 8, 1694. Henrie was also a member of the Incorporated Trade of Gardeners. There were no births recorded from the marriage in Glasgow. On January 24, 1695, Henrie was married to Marie Duncan in Glasgow, and on June 12, 1695, he became a Guild Brother of Glasgow. The children of Henrie McNair and Marie Duncan, all baptized in Glasgow, were:

2. John McNair
3. Margaret McNair, baptized January 30, 1698.
4. Archibald McNair, baptized July 4, 1700.
5. John McNair, baptized November 21, 1703.
6. Robert McNair, baptized April 28, 1706.
7. Agnes McNair, baptized May 23, 1708.
8. James McNair, baptized March 15, 1711.

### SECOND GENERATION

2. John McNair (Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow March 19, 1696. The eldest son of deceased Henrie McNair, a gardener, became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow on September 11, 1771. He had several children:

9. Agnes McNair was married in 1808 to William Hutcheson, a weaver.
10. James McNair
11. Robert McNair

<sup>1</sup>Additional information to that in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), pp. 34-36 supplied by Dr. Andrew Archibald McNair, 412 Footscray Road, New Eltham, London, S.E.9. See also pages 51-63 of this book.

All bibliographic references have been supplied by James B. McNair.



## THIRD GENERATION

10. James McNair (John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>), gardener, became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow on the same day as his father (September 11, 1771). He had several children:

- 12. Andrew McNair, weaver, became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow on September 5, 1799.
- 13. Agnes McNair was married in 1800 to John Stewart, a weaver.

11. Robert McNair (John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>), merchant, became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow on September 15, 1786. In Glasgow, at that time, the word merchant did not necessarily mean what we mean by the word. In this particular connection it meant someone who was not a member of one of the fourteen incorporated trades of Glasgow. Robert was actually a bookbinder to start with and later became a bookseller.

On July 18, 1784, he was married to Kathren Duncan, daughter of James Duncan, a bookseller in Glasgow. He was of the Duncan family who were the printers of *M'Ure's History of Glasgow* in 1736.<sup>2</sup>

Robert McNair died before 1815.

There were a number of children, the records of whose births are to be found in the register of the City of Glasgow parish from 1784 to 1801. About 1801 the family must have moved for there are three known children whose births are not recorded in this parish. A number of children died in childhood. The following are the ones of whom anything is known:

- 14. John McNair, the first son, born in May 1787, was so named following the ancient Scottish custom of naming the first

<sup>2</sup>See Footnote on page 39 in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955).

child after his grandfather. There was another son named John later. But nothing is known of either.

15. Robert McNair
16. Elizabeth McNair was born in 1790.
17. Andrew McNair
18. Marion McNair was born in 1794.
19. Margaret McNair was born in 1795.
20. Elizabeth Handasyde McNair was born December 28, 1798, and died November 26, 1861.
21. John McNair was born in 1801.
22. Jane McNair
23. Richard McNair
24. James McNair was born between 1801 and 1814 and emigrated to America.

#### FOURTH GENERATION

15. Robert McNair (Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born February 21, 1789. He was married to Mary Steele sometime before 1813 as their first child was born in June 1814. Children:

25. Catherine McNair was born in June, 1814.
26. John McNair was married and had two sons. The sons were known to be living in Australia in 1906.
27. Robert McNair, merchant, and clerk in the Thistle Bank in Glasgow, became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow, December 27, 1813, upon the death of his father. He was married and had four daughters and one son. The son was known to have been living in South Africa in 1906.
28. Jane McNair, who became Mrs. Todd, whose descendants are still (1956) living in Edinburgh.
29. Mary McNair

17. Andrew Macnair (Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 1, 1792, in Glasgow and died February 4, 1855. On December 7, 1815 he became a Burgess and

Guild Brother of Glasgow as a partner of Andrew McNair and Company, hat manufacturers, Trongate. On July 4, 1814, he was married to Margaret Scott. They had fifteen children of whom only three married. Most of the others died in infancy:

30. Robert Macnair was born November 30, 1815, and died November 31, 1815.
31. Catherine Macnair was born January 2, 1817, and died October 28, 1818.
32. Annabella Macnair was born September 7, 1818, and died August 4, 1837.
33. Robert Macnair was born May 5, 1820, and died January 11, 1822.
34. John Scott Macnair
35. Margaret Scott Macnair was born May 10, 1824, and died in 1860.
36. Andrew Macnair was born August 30, 1826, and died September 11, 1827.
37. Andrew Duncan Macnair was born June 7, 1828, and died July 7, 1828.
38. Worthington Macnair was born June 26, 1829, and died August 9, 1829.
39. Duncan Scott Macnair
40. Catherine Macnair was born July 21, 1832, and died in December, 1833.
41. Richard Macnair was born April 29, 1834, and died February 11, 1852.
42. Andrew Duncan Macnair
43. Robert Macnair was born June 13, 1838, and died February 18, 1843.
44. George Macnair was born March 24, 1840, and died September 13, 1849.

22. Jane McNair (Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>), was born between 1801 and 1814. She was married on Sep-



tember 27, 1844, to James McNee, merchant, who thus became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow. Children:

- 45. Catherine McNee who married—Bell.
- 46. Margaret McNee
- 47. Mary McNee who married—Keiller.
- 48. James McNee

23. Richard McNair (Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born between 1801 and 1814 and emigrated to America. Children:

- 49. Spencer McNair
- 50. John McNair

#### FIFTH GENERATION

29. Mary McNair (Robert [15]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married to William Crease whose descendants are still (1956) living in Edinburgh. Children:

- 51. William Crease
- 52. Jane Eliza Crease
- 53. Anne Claperton Crease
- 54. Johanna Crease

34. John Scott Macnair (Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 27, 1822, and died January 3, 1893. With his brother, Duncan Scott McNair, he founded a business of drysalters which is still in existence in Glasgow. He was married to Jessie Catherine Readman October 3, 1849. Their children were:

- 55. Jessie Scott Macnair
- 56. John Scott Macnair was born February 26, 1852, and died April 24, 1852.
- 57. Grace Macnair was born March 4, 1853, and died July 23, 1901. She was married to Frank Duncan who died in 1901. There are no children.



58. Andrew Macnair was born March 5, 1855, and died on March 19, 1922. He was married to Louie Matthew, May 15, 1902. There were no children. The following appears in *The Times* (London) for August 8, 1922, page 7, column 7d. "Mr. Andrew MacNair, of The Shanty, Marple, Cheshire, and of Ardwick, Manchester, methylated spirit manufacturer, who died on March 19, left estate of the gross value of £57,753, with net personalty £49,811. He left £2,000 to his sister, Margaret Scott MacNair, and all his other property to his wife absolutely."

In *The Times* (London) for December 4, 1952, on page 10, column f, is found the following: "Mrs. Mary Louisa Macnair, of Marple, Cheshire (duty paid £29,972) gross value £67,743."

59. George Macnair was born January 7, 1857, and died June 23, 1923. He was a planter in Trinidad.
60. Margaret Scott (Madge) Macnair was born October 27, 1859, and died January 2, 1936. She resided in London, England.
61. Duncan Scott Macnair

39. Duncan Scott Macnair (Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 21, 1830, and died January 3, 1878. He was associated with his brother, John, in the drysaltery business in Glasgow. He was married to Elizabeth Knox and there were the following children:

62. George Knox Macnair
63. Alfred Duncan Macnair
64. Margaret Scott (Maggie) Macnair was born March 20, 1868, and died February 1, 1943. She was unmarried.
65. Wilson Macnair was born June 19, 1873, and died unmarried July 12, 1908; (therefore he is not the author of *Blood and Iron: Impressions from the Front in France and Flanders*, published by E. P. Dutton Co.).
66. Mary Elizabeth (Maisie) Macnair was born July 4, 1875, and is unmarried.

42. Andrew Duncan McNair (Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow June 10, 1836, and died August 18, 1904. In 1865 he was married in Jedburgh to Mary Irvine who was born in Jedburgh in 1841 and died in Glasgow in 1917. One of her brother James' grandsons was the Sandy Irvine who was lost with Mallory in climbing Mt. Everest. Their children were:

67. Andrew Irving Macnair

68. Christina Agnes Macnair was born in Glasgow April 8, 1868, and died April 15, 1900. She was unmarried.

69. James Irvine Macnair

70. Richard Macnair

71. Norman Macnair was born in Glasgow March 26, 1873, and died in 1945. In 1904 he was married in Berkenhead to Helen Fergusson Irvine, but had no children. He was a doctor of medicine and resided at 5 Kingsborough Garden, Hyndland, Glasgow, W.2. He had the following degrees: B.SC., Glasgow (Nat. Sc.) 1894; M.D., 1899; M.B.C.M. (Commend.) 1897; M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London, 1897; F.R.F.P.S., Glasgow, 1902. He studied at the University of Glasgow and in Vienna. He was late assistant surgeon, Glasgow Ear Hospital; house physician and assistant physician, Royal Hospital for Sick Children; assistant physician, Glasgow Royal Infirmary.<sup>3</sup>

72. Margaret Scott (Meta) Macnair was born November 14, 1874, and died December 25, 1951.

73. Duncan Scott Macnair

#### SIXTH GENERATION

55. Jessie Scott McNair (John Scott [34]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 30, 1850, and died January 26, 1903. She was married to John Oldrey Williamson of Hamburg, Germany who was born in 1847 and died in 1895. Children:

<sup>3</sup>*The Medical Directory*, London, 1937.

74. John Readman Brydon Williamson, who was born July 31, 1878, and died February 20, 1945. He was married to Clara Behre. Their daughter, Jessie M. Williamson, born in 1911, married William Fehne and had two children: John Alexander Fehne, who was born in 1913 and died in 1945 (?) and Harold W. Fehne, who was born in 1916.
75. Jessie Catherine (Katie) Williamson, who was born April 26, 1882, and married Rudolf Wohlwill.
76. Florence O. Williamson was born in 1889 and died in 1945. There were two sons; John A. Williamson, born in 1913, and Harold Williamson, born in 1916.

61. Duncan Scott Macnair (John Scott [34]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow October 18, 1861. It was he and not his brother, Andrew Irvine Macnair, who was the author of *An Introduction to Chemistry*, published by G. Bell & Sons, London, 1902. For his biography see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 31-33.<sup>4</sup> He was married to Dora Matthews, daughter of Andrew Matthews. They had two sons.

77. Allan Scott Macnair

78. Frank Macnair

62. George Knox Macnair (Duncan Scott [39]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 1, 1866, and died December 13, 1943. At one time he was a merchant in Manchester, England. On June 2, 1908, he was married to Evelyn Zoe Goodrich. Child:

79. Enid Goodrich Macnair was born October 13, 1910.

63. Alfred Duncan Macnair (Duncan Scott [39]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 5, 1869, and died July 16, 1924. He was a physician living in

<sup>4</sup>For a similar account see *The Times* (London), December 1, 1937, p. 18, column e.



London, England and had received the M.B. and Ch.M. degrees. On June 1, 1901, he was married to Louisa Whitmee, who died in 1918. Child:

80. Dorothy Margaret Macnair was born February 14, 1902, and died February 17, 1902.

67. Andrew Irvine Macnair (Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 8, 1866, and died October 17, 1949. The following appears in *The Times* (London), January 11, 1950, page 9, column d, "Mr. Andrew Irvine Macnair, of Reigate, Surrey (England), of J. & D. Macnair & Co., wholesale dry-salters, Glasgow (value of estate) £56,651." He was married in 1897 in Glasgow to Molly Allen who was born December 29, 1869, and they had the following children:

81. Kirsteen Olive Irvine Macnair B.D. was born in Glasgow June 14, 1902.

82. Ada Lilian (Aileen) Macnair was born in Glasgow March 14, 1907.

69. James Irvine Macnair (Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born at Partick, Glasgow, December 5, 1869, and in 1928 resided at Polnarth (?) Terrace, Edinburgh. He was educated at the Glasgow Academy, in Germany and later at Edinburgh University. He first went into the family business of A. D. Macnair and Co., but was drawn to missionary work. After being ordained, he went to India with the London Missionary Society. His work there was among the Telegu people. He served as a missionary for twenty-five years, the last few years being spent as principal of Gooty Training College. He was the author of a number of training and religious works in Telegu.

He returned to Scotland in 1924 and was for a time the Scottish Secretary of the London Missionary Society, but later



had a church in Melrose. For one year he held the position of Chairman of the Congregational Union of Scotland.

It chanced that during his year of office in the last position that the house in which David Livingstone, the missionary and explorer, was born and spent his early years of manhood, came into the market. James during that year was in virtue of two offices (that of chairman of the Congregational Union, and of Secretary of the Missionary Society which sent Livingstone to Africa), travelling and preaching all over Scotland. He seized the opportunity and was himself largely responsible for the success of the Livingstone Memorial at Blantyre which followed. From then until his death he was Chairman of the Livingstone Memorial, which, in its present form, owes a great deal to his vision and inspiration.

Livingstone had always been much in his mind, and he became the author of a book entitled, *Livingstone, the Dauntless, 1813-1873*,<sup>5</sup> in 1935. This was followed in 1940 by what is now one of the standard lives of Livingstone, with the title, *Livingstone, the Liberator*.<sup>6</sup> This has been translated into many languages.

Livingstone, himself, wrote three large books on his travels which have been out of print for a number of years. James edited and condensed these into one book, providing a narrative thread to link them together. This was published in 1954 under the title, *Livingstone's Travels*.<sup>7</sup> This book, which was enthusiastically reviewed, earned for James the Gold Medal of the Royal Geographical Society.

His work in these spheres, and his work for the Congregational Church in Scotland, earned for him from Edinburgh University an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

<sup>5</sup>(*Makers of History No. 1*), published by A. Wheaton & Co., Ltd., Exeter, England.

<sup>6</sup>Published by William Collins & Sons & Co., Ltd., London and Glasgow.

<sup>7</sup>Published by J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd., London.

On November 22, 1900, he was married to Jessie Winifred Longbottom in Madras, India. She was born in Halifax, July 30, 1874.<sup>8</sup> Children:

83. Andrew Archibald Macnair

84. Elspeth Mary Macnair (Elspeth is the Scottish form of Elizabeth).

85. John Innes Macnair

70. Richard Macnair (Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow, July 19, 1871, and was living in 1928 in Highgate, London. He was the London representative of A. D. Macnair & Co. until his death in 1928,<sup>9</sup> when his brother, Andrew Irvine Macnair, came down to take over. He was married in Glasgow June 21, 1898, to Nelly Robertson who was born December 29, 1869 and has three children.

86. Mona Robertson Macnair was born February 11, 1903. She was married to Alec P. R. Borrowman, M.B., Ch. B., who during the 1939-1945 war (World War II) was major R.A.M.C., and was awarded the M.B.E. for his work as transfusion officer at the Anzio landing. He died in 1949.

87. Andrew Duncan Macnair

88. Mary Isabel (Maisie) Macnair

73. Duncan Scott Macnair (Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow April 20, 1877. He is the senior director of A. D. Macnair & Co., and lives at 2 Sydenham Road, Glasgow. On September 2, 1909, he was married to Isabel Theodora (Dorothy) Salt who was born January 1, 1887. Their children are:

89. Helen Margaret Macnair

<sup>8</sup>*The Times* (London), August 27, 1955, p. 9, column a.

<sup>9</sup>Under "Will" in *The Times* (London), August 20, 1928, page 15, column d is found, "Mr. Richard Macnair (57) of Highgate Keep, The Park, N. (net personalty £32,415), £33,198."

90. Barbara Mary Macnair was born in Glasgow October 25, 1913.
91. Christina Agnes Macnair was born in Glasgow September 22, 1914.
92. Dorothy Rachel Macnair was born in Glasgow September 19, 1919.

## EIGHTH GENERATION

77. Allan Scott Macnair (Duncan Scott [61]<sup>6</sup> John Scott [34]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 11, 1900. He is a paint manufacturer in Manchester, England and lives at The Shanty, Marple, Cheshire, England. On June 22, 1939, he was married to Iris Zuny who was born January 6, 1908. Their children are:

93. Christine Claire Macnair was born October 3, 1942.
94. Gordon Hugh Macnair was born January 16, 1945.
95. Philip Neil Macnair was born November 7, 1947.

78. Frank Gordon Macnair (Duncan Scott [61]<sup>6</sup> John Scott [34]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 11, 1902 and died May 26, 1948. He received at the University of Edinburgh the degrees of M.B. and Ch.B. in 1925 and M.D. in 1930. He was assistant medical officer in the medical department of the infirmary at Stockport; certified Fact. Surgeon; late physician at the City Hospital; Edinburgh and Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Edinburgh; and assistant in the department of pharmacology at Edinburgh University.<sup>10</sup> He was also a general practitioner, first in Castle Douglas, and later in Marple in Cheshire, England. On March 19, 1942, he was married to Margaret Jones who was born July 6, 1917. Their children are:

96. Robin Scott Macnair was born January 31, 1943.
97. Andrew Duncan Macnair was born April 29, 1945.

<sup>10</sup>*The Medical Directory*, 1937. London.



83. Andrew Archibald Macnair (James Irvine [67]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 24, 1902. He held the Welsh Classical Bursary at Edinburgh University, and is an M.A. and M.B. Ch.B. of Edinburgh University. During the 1939-1943 War (World War II) he was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Artillery Medical Corps. He served in the Middle East and in Italy and was cited in '8 army orders for an Act of Gallantry, and was mentioned in dispatches. He is now a general practitioner and lives at 412 Footscray Road, New Eltham, London, S.E. 9.

On July 17, 1929, he was married to Jessie Kathleen Douglas Rudge who was born December 4, 1899. (Her great uncle was that Mr. Rudge of Bath, England, whose work on the bioscope influenced Frise-Green who is regarded as the inventor of the cinema). Their children are:

98. Douglas Irvine Macnair, who was born March 6, 1933.

99. Duncan Ritchie Macnair, who was born May 4, 1936.

84. Elspeth Mary Macnair (James Irvine [67]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 27, 1906. On July 30, 1930, she was married to William Edward Orchard M.B. Ch.B., who during the 1939-1945 war (World War II), was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Artillery Medical Corps and served in North Africa and Italy. Their children are:

100. Verity Anne Macnair Orchard, who was born September 2, 1932, was married to John Morrison April 7, 1956.

101. Elspeth Jane Orchard was born in 1936 and died in 1938.

102. Alison Macnair (Sally) Orchard was born February 17, 1943. By adoption.

85. John Innes Macnair (James Irvine [67]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie



[1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 6, 1908. He is B. Com of Edinburgh University and is the managing director of A. D. Macnair and Co. in Glasgow. He lives (1956) at 5 Dumbreck Road, Glasgow S.2. He was married firstly July 16, 1931, to Dorothy Spence. Their children are:

103. Norman David Macnair was born March 6, 1934, and in 1956 was studying for Chartered Accountancy.

104. Joan Maud Macnair was born December 26, 1936.

87. Andrew Duncan Macnair (Richard [70]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 5, 1905. During the 1939-45 war (World War II) he was a major in the R.A.S.C. and served in the Middle East, Italy and France, and was mentioned in dispatches. He is the London representative of A. D. Macnair and Co., and lives (1956) at 70 Gloucester Road, New Barnet, London. In 1930 he was married to Monica Mary Ashton, who was born November 4, 1907. Their children are:

105. Jean Muir Macnair

106. Richard John Macnair was born May 21, 1933, and in 1956 was studying Chartered Accountancy.

107. Alexander Lewis Macnair was born March 25, 1935, and in 1956 was a medical student at St. Andrew's University.

108. Susan Scott Macnair was born March 25, 1938.

109. Monica Charlotte Macnair was born November 3, 1944.

88. Mary Isabel (Maisie) Macnair (Richard [70]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 2, 1907. She was married October 14, 1933, to William Dennison C. Wiggins. Their children are:

110. Judith Dennison Wiggins was born June 9, 1935.

111. Mona Dennison (Lyn) Wiggins was born March 8, 1938.

89. Helen Margaret (Peggy) Macnair (Duncan Scott [73]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born February 11, 1911, and was married to David Frier Lawson on August 8, 1940. Children:

112. Duncan Frier Lawson was born October 15, 1942.

113. Angus David Lawson was born July 21, 1945.

114. Katherine Margaret Lawson was born January 6, 1950.

#### NINTH GENERATION

105. Jean Muir Macnair (Andrew Duncan [87]<sup>7</sup> Richard [70]<sup>6</sup> Andrew Duncan [42]<sup>5</sup> Andrew [17]<sup>4</sup> Robert [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Henrie [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 26, 1931, and in 1950 was married to Geoffrey Cutting. Their children are:

115. Judith Anne Cutting was born in May, 1951.

116. Richard Geoffrey Cutting was born April 3, 1953.

117. Penelope Susan Cutting was born February 27, 1956.

## DESCENDANTS OF JAMES McNAIR

1. JAMES McNAIR, a merchant deceased before 1870, had at least one child:

2. Nathaniel McNair

### SECOND GENERATION

2. NATHANIEL McNAIR (James [1]<sup>1</sup>), a London tea-broker, was married to Miss Lilius Pringle Bigland, daughter of John Bigland, broker of New Brighton, on August 12, 1869, at the Parish church in New Brighton, County of Chester, England.<sup>1</sup> They had at least one child:

3. Roderick James McNair

### THIRD GENERATION

3. RODERICK JAMES McNAIR (Nathaniel [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born November 25, 1870, at No. 3 Catherine Road, Kingston, County of Surrey, England.<sup>2</sup> He became a noted athlete. The following is a quotation from "Lawn Tennis and Badminton" of January 29, 1927, supplied through the courtesy of the secretary.

The newly elected Chairman of the Lawn Tennis Association, Mr. R. J. McNair, has a long and distinguished record in connection with lawn tennis, both as a player and as an administrator. First elected as a member of the L.T.A. Council in 1905, he became a Vice-President in 1912, in which year he was elected Chairman, a post to which he was re-elected in 1913. This is, therefore, his third term of Office as the Chairman of the L.T.A. Council.

Mr. McNair is a Vice-President of the County Associations of Surrey and Sussex, and has served on innumerable committees, both

<sup>1</sup>Information from the entry of marriage at General Register Office, Somerset House, London, England.

<sup>2</sup>Information from the entry of birth at the General Register Office, Somerset House, London, England.



on the Association and on the various clubs of which he is a member. In addition to these activities, he was one of the originators and founders of the International Lawn Tennis Federation, was for many years a member of the Advisory Committee of that body, and has represented Great Britain at all the General Meetings of the Federation held since its formation in 1913. He is also a member of the Council of the British Olympic Association.

On the active side of the game, he captained Great Britain's Davis Cup teams on at least seven occasions. He was selected on two occasions to represent England, and captained many other international sides, including the British team which competed at the Olympic Games held at Antwerp in 1920.

Mr. McNair has always displayed particular interest in county lawn tennis and represented Surrey in many inter-county matches. He won a large number of events in open tournaments, including many mixed doubles with Mrs. McNair. His chief successes were the Singles Championship of Berkshire, at Reading in 1907, the All England Veteran's Doubles Championship with Mr. C. P. Dixon, at Eastbourne in 1913, and with Mr. A. D. Prebble in 1921. He also achieved the distinction of reaching the semi-finals of the Doubles Championship at Wimbledon.

In his youth, Mr. McNair divided his activities between rowing and Association Football, with occasional appearances on the running track. He also plays a certain amount of real tennis and frequently represents Queen's Club.

In his spare moments he finds time for a round of golf, at which his handicap is for longer than is justified by his skill at that game!

Space does not permit of giving details of the other sports and athletic exercises of which he has excelled at one time or another. Enough has been said to prove conclusively that the new Chairman—urbane and tactful in his methods of dealing with men and matters, having a fine record as an all-round sportsman, athlete and administrator, with an intimate knowledge of the game of lawn tennis is well fitted for the duties he will have to discharge.

We feel sure that all players and supporters of the game will wish Mr. McNair every success during his term of office.



Additional information appears in an obituary, from which the following is quoted.<sup>3</sup> "The leadership of a number of teams in international matches revealed his wide knowledge of lawn tennis. Amongst these—captain of England v. France in the Davis Cup, preliminary tie at Folkestone, and England v. Ireland in Dublin in 1912; Great Britain v. America in Davis Cup challenge round at Wimbledon, and English team which visited Russia in 1913; English team v. South Africa at Eastbourne in 1919; England v. America at Wimbledon, and British team in Olympic Games at Antwerp in 1920; England v. Spain at Hendon in 1921; and England v. Spain at Edgbaston in 1924.

"At the outbreak of war in 1914, Mr. McNair resumed his commission as captain in the East Surrey Regiment Territorials and retired with the rank of major in 1918.

"On November 18, 1944 he died from acute military tuberculosis<sup>4</sup> and was survived by his wife Winifred Margaret McNair.<sup>5</sup>

"A memorial service was held (on November 23, 1944) at St. Philip's, Earl's Court Road (London) for Mr. Roderick James McNair. The Rev. H. C. Thomas officiated. Among those present were representatives of the Stock Exchange, the International Lawn Tennis Club, the All England Lawn Tennis Club, and Kensington Company, Home Guard."<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup>*Lawn Tennis and Badminton*, January-February 1945, p. 37. London.

<sup>4</sup>Information from an entry of death at the General Register Office, Somerset House, London, England.

<sup>5</sup>Information from a copy of the last will and testament of Roderick James McNair, the Principal Probate Registry, London.

<sup>6</sup>*The Times* (London) November 24, 1944, p. 7, column b.

## DESCENDANTS OF JAMES McNAIR LAIRD OF GREENFIELD

1. James McNair Laird of Greenfield, matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1765 as the oldest son of James McNair of Shettleston.<sup>2</sup> On September 7, 1777 he was married to Margaret Barton, daughter of Philip Barton, merchant, in the parish of Newbattle, Edinburgh.<sup>3</sup> James McNair and Margaret Barton had issue, seven daughters and two sons. These included:

2. James McNair
3. Benjamin McNair
4. Margaret McNair, eldest daughter, was married to John Black, merchant of Glasgow in 1796.<sup>4</sup>

### SECOND GENERATION

2. JAMES McNAIR (James [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 24, 1787 at Greenfield, Shettleston (about 4 miles east of the center of Glasgow), Lanarkshire. He matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1801.<sup>5</sup> He was a Lieutenant-Colonel and Knight of Hanover.

There is a letter in possession of James E. P. McNair (27) from Major General Sir John Moore, K.B. who commanded the regiment to James McNair, Esq., Greenfield, Glasgow, dated at Sandgate, March 31, 1805 in which the latter's son is welcomed into the regiment.

<sup>1</sup>Additional material to that in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (1923), pp. 26-7. All bibliographic references supplied by James B. McNair. This branch of the McNairs considers themselves as a sept of the MacGregars.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid. Supplement* 1955, p. 26.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid. Supplement* 1928, p. 23.

<sup>4</sup>*The Gentleman's Magazine*, 1796.

<sup>5</sup>*Op. cit. Supplement* 1955, p. 27.

James McNair Esqr.  
Greenfield

N.B. Glasgow

Sandygate 31st March  
1805

Dear Sir

I have delayed to answer the letter which you did me the honour to address to me, until I had seen your son. He joined the Regt. yesterday—before I saw him. I was glad of this opportunity of obliging my friend, and relative, Mr. Macintosh. I am now glad to have your son in my Regt. on his own account. His appearance and manners are very prepossessing and the character he has brought with him from his late Corps confirm what his looks bespeak. I shall be happy to show him every attention, and shall be very glad if I can be at all instrumental in making him a good soldier.

I have the honour to be

Dear Sir

Your faithful

Obedient Servant

John Moore.<sup>5a</sup>

For his military record and marriage see pages 76-77.  
James McNair and Eleanor Stanser had issue:

5. James Stanser McNair was born June 6, 1825 at Fredericton, Nova Scotia.<sup>6</sup> For his army career see pages 78-82.
6. Robert McNair
7. Eleanor McNair
8. Philip Barton McNair, born October 10, 1828 at Portsmouth, England, died October 11, 1847 at Ardyne House, Argyleshire.<sup>7</sup>
9. George Best McNair

<sup>5a</sup>Lieutenant General Sir John Moore (1761-1809) was born in Glasgow. "He was the finest trainer of men that the British has ever known. He had the true gift of great men, judgment of character." J. C. Moore *Life of Sir John Moore* (1834); *The Diary of Sir John Moore* (ed. by Sir J. F. Maurice, 1904); the Records of the 52nd (Oxfordshire Light Infantry); *Encyclopaedia Britannica* 1958. Vol. 15 pp. 783-4.



3. BENJAMIN MCNAIR (James [1]<sup>1</sup>) matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1808 and received at the University of Edinburgh the degree of M.D. in 1815, and M.F.P.S.C. in 1819. He practiced as a physician in Glasgow and died at Dunipace, January 25, 1844.<sup>8</sup>

He was married and had three daughters:

10. Mary McNair

11. Margaret Barton McNair was married in Edinburgh, December 27, 1861 to Charles R. Kinnear, Esq. M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets.<sup>9</sup>

12. Annie McNair

### THIRD GENERATION

6. Robert McNair (James [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 5, 1827 in Scotland. On November 8, 1855 he was married at Humbleton, near Hull, to Charlotte-Helen Dixon, the eldest daughter of Rev. Isaac Dixon, Vicar of Garton.<sup>10</sup> They had two children:

13. Robert Stanser McNair

14. Helen McNair, unmarried

9. GEORGE BEST MCNAIR (James [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>). For his biography see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (1923), p. 27. He was married July 26, 1860 at Rotherfield

<sup>6</sup>*Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. 18.

<sup>7</sup>*The Gentleman's Magazine*, December 1847.

<sup>8</sup>*Op Cit. Supplement* 1955, p. 28. A grand nephew was John Black Cowan who was born at 42 West Nile Street, Glasgow, on September 14, 1829 the son of Robert Cowan, Professor in the University of Glasgow. He received the degree of M.D., 1851; LL.D., 1880; L.F.P.S.G., 1851; F.F.P.S.G., 1853. Civil Surgeon in the Army in Crimea. Lecturer in Anderson's College, Glasgow, on (1) Medical Jurisprudence, 1856-62, (2) Practice of Medicine, 1862-65. Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Glasgow, 1865-80. Member of the University Court, as Senate's Assessor, 1876-80. Died at Brookesby, Largs, July 27, 1896.

<sup>9</sup>*The Gentleman's Magazine*, new series, Vol. 12, p. 220, 1862, London.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. 44, p. 532, 1855.



to Frances Dorothy Dixon daughter of the late Rev. J. Dixon, Vicar of Garton, Yorkshire<sup>11</sup> and Charlotte Bagshawe. Children:

15. Frances Eleanor McNair, unmarried
16. Emily Edith McNair, unmarried
17. Mary Christian McNair, unmarried
18. George Stanser McNair
19. James Herbert McNair married Frances MacDonald and had one son, Sylvan McNair.
20. Mildred McNair married her cousin Frederic Percival Dixon. Their children, all surviving (1959) are: Arthur, Beatrice and Charlotte. Arthur is a retired Lieutenant-Colonel of the Indian Army.
21. Philip Lionel Hugh McNair, unmarried
22. Gertrude McNair, unmarried

#### FOURTH GENERATION

13. ROBERT STANSER MCNAIR (Robert [5]<sup>3</sup> James [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>) was graduated from the University of Cambridge in 1879. In 1923 he was the owner of Greenfield, but lived in Edinburgh where he practiced law. He married Edith Montgomery and their children are:

23. Evelyn McNair
24. Marjorie McNair
25. Allison McNair

18. GEORGE STANSER MCNAIR (George [9]<sup>3</sup> James [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>) married Annette de la Nauze Williamson, daughter of Rev. David Williamson and Annie Martha de la Nauze. Children:

26. George Henderson Stanser McNair graduated from Cornell University in 1918. He married M. Arlonine Chesebrough. No children.

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. 9, p. 316, 1860.

- 27. James Edward Parry McNair
- 28. Dorothy Mildred Trelawney McNair, unmarried
- 29. Hugh Noel de la Nauze McNair, unmarried

#### FIFTH GENERATION

27. JAMES EDWARD PARRY MCNAIR (George [18]<sup>4</sup> George [8]<sup>3</sup> James [2]<sup>2</sup> James [1]<sup>1</sup>) is a retired Colonel of the Army of the United States and lives in Staten Island, New York. He was called to active duty as a Captain in the Cavalry Reserve, in May 1941. Horse cavalry being no longer used, his naval training caused him to be assigned to the water division, Brooklyn Port of Embarkation and later he became Supply Officer, Water Division, at the Staten Island Terminal. Subsequently he was Transport Commander of the *Empress of Scotland* and finally Army Transportation Officer on board the *U.S.S. General W. A. Mann*. Highest rank obtained was Colonel. Retired August 1946. He is married and has the following children:

- 30. Edward Parry McNair graduated from West Point (United States Military Academy) in the class of 1954. He was married to Rebecca A. Archer and they have a son, Stephen, and a daughter, Andrea.
- 31. Hugh Dermot McNair matriculated at Pennsylvania Military College. He was married to Laura Ann Harsha and they have two sons, James Hugh and Thomas Harsha.

## DESCENDANTS OF JOHN McNAIR AND JEANIE GRIERSON<sup>1</sup>

4. William McNair was born March 9, 1759 presumably in Kilbarchen or Paisley, Scotland. He had the following brothers:

1. Hugh McNair was born February 7, 1753
2. Patrick McNair was born March 3, 1755
3. John McNair was born January 23, 1757
5. Robert McNair was born May 11, 1761
6. Duncan McNair was born May 16, 1763
7. Thomas McNair was born April 12, 1765
8. James McNair was born September 13, 1767
9. Alexander McNair was born June 25, 1770

### SECOND GENERATION

10. John McNair who died in 1834 was a son of William McNair who was born March 9, 1759. John was a weaver and manufactured cloths or shawls in Paisley. He married Jeanie Grierson who died in 1833. There was at least one child:

11. Duncan McNair

### THIRD GENERATION

11. Duncan McNair was born in 1826 and died in Paisley in 1909. He was one of the last weavers in Paisley. He married Catherine Gibb who was born in 1826 and died in Paisley in 1915. There was at least one child:

12. John McNair

### FOURTH GENERATION

12. John McNair was born in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland April 13, 1856 and died in London December 23, 1925.

<sup>1</sup>Additional material to that in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, pp. 75-8.



The following appeared in *The Times* (London), December 24, 1925, page 18, column e:

The market learned with deep regret of the death of Mr. John McNair, secretary of Lloyd's Underwriters' Association and Lloyd's Underwriters' Fire and Non-Marine Association since their inception many years ago. Mr. McNair was an underwriting member at Lloyd's from 1899 to 1908 and afterwards became a non-underwriting member. He was manager in London of the insurance department of James Finlay & Co., Limited. A great deal of useful work redounds to his credit, and the market will miss not only a personality that was much liked, but also the labours of one who strove keenly for the best interests of the London Marine Insurance market. He was, at the time of his death, 70 years old."

In *The Times* (London) of March 24, 1926 on page 19, column d is found under Will:

Mr. John McNair, of Court-lane, Dulwich, S.E., and Lloyd's, secretary of Lloyd's Underwriters' Association, and of Lloyd's Underwriters' Fire and Non-Marine Association (net personalty £6,413) Gross value £8,062.

John McNair married Jeanie Ballantyne, also of Paisley, April 13, 1886. Children:

13. Arnold Duncan McNair
14. Arthur James McNair. For his biography see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, pp. 77-8.
15. William Lennox McNair. For his biography see *Ibid.*, pp. 75-6.
16. Dorothy McNair. For her biography see *Ibid.*, p. 76.
17. John Ballantyne McNair. See *Ibid.*, p. 76.

#### FIFTH GENERATION

13. Arnold Duncan McNair. A biography is to be found in *Ibid.*, pp. 76-7. His portrait also appears in that book. The following account appears in *Current Biography Yearbook* 1955 ed, by M. D. Candee. H. W. Wilson Co. New York. pp. 396-8.



When Sir Arnold D. McNair was elected president of the fifteen member International Court of Justice on May 6, 1952 it marked the climax of a career in legal scholarship and international legal affairs. An associate of the Institute of International Law, fellow of the British Academy, and Queen's Council, Sir Arnold has been a judge of the International Court since its inception in 1946. He has also been a British member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration since 1945. Sir Arnold is the author of many books concerning international law and he has taught at the universities of Cambridge, Calcutta and London and The Hague Academy of International Law.

Sir Arnold informed the United Nations on September 3, 1954 that he would not be a candidate for re-election to the International Court when his term expired at the end of 1955. On February 10, 1955 he resigned the presidency of the court and was succeeded by Judge Green H. Hackworth of the United States.

Born in London on March 4, 1885, Arnold Duncan McNair was the eldest son of John and Jeanie (Ballantyne) McNair. He was educated at Aldenham School and at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University where he was elected president of the Cambridge Union and received law tripos in 1908 and 1909. He was called to the bar at Gray's Inn. In 1913 McNair was made a fellow and law lecturer at Gonville and Caius College and in 1925 he received the LL.D. degree.

From 1926 to 1927 he was reader of international law at the University of London. Representing the British Air Ministry, McNair attended a conference on air law in Chicago in 1930. His Tagore lectures at the University of Calcutta were published in 1932 as *The Law of the Air* (Butterworth). The *Journal of Air Law* (October) made a comment, 'Without doubt this book is the most valuable general textbook on British aeronautical law that has yet appeared.'

McNair held the Whewell chair of international law at Cambridge University from 1935 to 1937. He was professor of The Hague Academy of International Law in 1928, 1933 and 1937. From 1937 to 1945 he was vice-chancellor of the University of Liverpool and in 1945 he was appointed professor of comparative law at Cambridge, a post he held for about one year.

In British public service McNair served as secretary of the Coal Controller's Advisory Board from 1917 to 1919. He was secretary of the Coal Industry (Sanky) Commission in 1919. In 1924 he wrote

*The Problem of the Coal Mines.* From 1942 to 1944 he was Chairman of the Committee on the Supply and Training of Teachers and Youth Leaders, the outcome of which was the McNair report which recommended creating a closer association between training colleges and universities.

In 1945 he was the chairman of the Palestine Jewish Education Commission. His services to his country have been officially recognized in 1918 when he was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and in 1943 when he was made a knight. Sir Arnold became a King's Counsel in 1945.

In international affairs he served as the British substitute member of the third session in 1926 of the committee of experts of the League of Nations Codification Committee. He was also a member of the International Labour Organization's Commission of experts on the application of labor conventions, which contributes the international code of social justice in the field of industry and labor.

Despite the failure of the League of Nations, McNair did not give up hope of achieving the ideal of collective security. In 1940 he wrote: 'It is unlikely in the extreme that international law will, if left to itself and unaccompanied by any kind of organization, ever develop satisfactory rules to ensure the just making and revision of treaties and to secure their observance. My hope is that at the end of the present war we shall begin where we left off in 1919, that we shall free a reformed Covenant of the League from connection with any particular group of treaties, that we shall endow the Permanent Court of International Justice with obligatory jurisdiction over all legal disputes amongst the states who belong to it.'

On February 6, 1946 Sir Arnold was elected by the U. N. General Assembly and Security Council to a nine-year term on the International Court of Justice which had been created at the end of World War II by an international treaty, the Statute of the Court, which forms an integral part of the U. N. Charter. The new court had as a heritage the experience and traditions of the Permanent Court of International Justice created by the League of Nations. There was no break in the continuity of principles and system between the two courts. No state can be sued without its consent unless it has accepted compulsory jurisdiction of the court under the Statute of the Court, and then only with respect to specified classes of cases. As between parties to the statute, states which had accepted compulsory jurisdic-



tion of the old court automatically accepted compulsory jurisdiction of the new court for the unexpired period of such acceptances.

The court decides cases in accordance with international law. It applies international conventions, international customs (as evidence of a general practice accepted as law), the general principles of law recognized by civilized nations, and it may look to judicial decisions and the teaching of highly qualified publicists, as subsidiary means for determining rules of law. At the request of the General Assembly or the Security Council, the court may give advisory opinions on legal questions.

The court elected Sir Arnold its president on May 6, 1952 for a three-year term. He succeeded Jules Basdevant of France. On the following July 22 the court in a 9 to 5 decision held that it had no jurisdiction in the British-Iranian dispute over oil nationalization. The decision was predicated upon the majority finding that the 1933 oil concession to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company by Iran was a simple contract rather than an international agreement and that Britain could not invoke previous treaties because the Iranian declaration of 1932 accepting the court's compulsory jurisdiction excluded disputes involving prior agreements. Britain had protested Iran's breach of the concession of 1933 to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company by unilateral nationalization of the company's property. The *New York Times* (July 23, 1952) noted: 'Judge McNair's participation in the majority decision marked the first time in the history of the postwar court that a judge had voted against his own government.'

Another important case was that of August 27, 1952 when the court found the French decree of December 30, 1948, imposing import regulations in Morocco, contrary to treaty rights of the United States, as set forth in the 1836 agreement and in the 1912 Act of Algeciras, but that the U. S. citizens must pay Moroccan taxes and that, apart from certain civil and criminal cases when they may claim the right to be heard in U. S. consular courts, they are subject to Moroccan laws.

The court ruled on April 3, 1954 that Japan has a right to present disputes to the court. On June 15, 1954 the court ruled unanimously in favor of Italy's contention that the court was not competent to hear Italy's dispute with the United States, Great Britain and France over \$2,600,000 in gold looted from Rome by the Germans. The

court said it lacked jurisdiction because, Albania, an essential party to the dispute, had not consented to the hearings.

By a 9 to 3 decision on July 13, 1954 the court found the U. N. General Assembly 'has no right or any ground' to cancel \$179,420 in compensation to eleven U. S. citizens dismissed from U. N. jobs for refusal to answer questions of U. S. investigative bodies on alleged communist connections. The court's ruling was advisory and the Assembly approved it.

The judge served as president of the Society of Public Teachers of Law in 1933, treasurer of Gray's Inn in 1947, and president of the Institute of International Law from 1948 to 1950. He was the recipient of the honorary LL.D. degree from the Universities of Glasgow, Liverpool, and Birmingham; the D.C.L. from Oxford; and D. Litt. from the University of Reading. Among Sir Arnold's many books are: *The Law of Treaties; British Practice and Opinions* (Oxford, 1938), *War and Treaties* (Oxford, 1940), *The Need of the Wider Teaching of International Law* (1944), and *Legal Effects of War* (Cambridge, 1944).

Married to Marjorie Bailhache in 1912, Sir Arnold is the father of one son and three daughters. He is a member of the Athenaeum Club. One of his interests is Dr. Samuel Johnson and in 1948 he published *Dr. Johnson and the Law* (Cambridge). Norman Birkett (*Spectator*, January 21, 1949) commented: 'The author . . . may well be assured that Johnson would have approved the use he has made of his leisure, for "he has turned over half a library to make one book" and has enriched it with the fruits of his experience and his gifts of understanding and judgment.'



## DESCENDANTS OF JOHN MCNAIR AND ANNE ROSS

1. JOHN MCNAIR was born in 1756 and made a career of the British Army. He first became an ensign May 21, 1794, in an Independent Company.<sup>1</sup> Then he joined the "90th Regiment of Foot" as a lieutenant June 13, 1794.<sup>2</sup> He remained in this regiment for the rest of his career. The following are his dates of rank: Captain-Lieutenant, August 8, 1794; Captain, October 8, 1794; Major, April 5, 1801; Lieutenant-Colonel, August 1, 1804; Colonel, June 4, 1813; received medal for attack and capture of Martinique, February 1809, while in command of a brigade as a lieutenant-colonel; made a Companion of Bath, 1814; Major-General, August 12, 1819; Lieutenant-General, January 10, 1837.<sup>3</sup>

The following is his Statement of Service as written by him March 14, 1810, when a Lieutenant-Colonel.<sup>4</sup>

I was on the expedition to the coast of France in 1795. I was in Gibraltar and the Mediterranean six years with Sir Charles Stewart at the capture of Minorca in 1798. I was with the expedition to Cadiz in 1800 and in Egypt in 1801. I commanded the Light Infantry in front of the 90th (Regiment of Foot) as the advance guard in the action of the 13th March and was also in that of the 21st of the same month before Alexandria. I was present at the affairs on the march to Cairo, and at the surrender of that city. I was also at the siege and surrender of Alexandria, and was one year in Britain, two years in Ireland and nearly five years in the West Indies. I commanded a Brigade at the siege of Fort Bourbon and capture of Martinique in 1809. I have commanded the regiment seven years. I never was on half-pay nor absent on my own affairs. I have just now the Com-

<sup>1</sup>War Office 31/16, in Public Record Office, London, England.

<sup>2</sup>War Office 31/17, *ibid.*

<sup>3</sup>War Office 31/16 and 31/17, *ibid. Records of the 90th Regiment*, by A. M. Delavoye, London, 1880.

<sup>4</sup>In Public Record Office, London.

mander in Chief's leave of absence for the adjustment of public accounts.

While holding the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel he was married, August 11, 1817, at Stranraer, Scotland, to Miss Anne Ross, daughter of William Ross, Esq., collector of his majesty's customs at Stranraer.<sup>5</sup>

He died August 1, 1840, in the Parish of All Saints, district of Southampton, County of Hants, England.<sup>6</sup>

Their children are:

3. A son, born July 3, 1818, at Stranraer,<sup>7</sup> who died before 1837.
4. William McNair born December 8, 1819, at Stranraer.<sup>8</sup> It was his desire, as it was that of his father, that he enter the army. In this connection the following correspondence is of interest.

12 Stratton St.  
Feb. 26, 1836

L'Fitzroy

M. Genl. McNair an old and excellent companion of D. Hill's and mine in the 90th Regt. has an only son now past 16 who is decidedly inclined to make the army his profession. May I therefore beg of you to submit his name to the Commander in Chief, that his name may be admitted on his list of candidates for commission in the army.

———my Lord ever  
most faithfully yrs.

Lynedoch<sup>9</sup>

(General Sir Thomas Graham)

<sup>5</sup>From the Register of Proclamations and Marriages kept at the General Registry Office, Edinburgh.

<sup>6</sup>Entry of Death, General Register Office, Somerset House, London.

<sup>7</sup>*Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. III.

<sup>8</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*, British Museum Library, London.

<sup>9</sup>Letter in Public Record Office, London.

30th October 1836

My Dear Lord

. . . My son William is still with me, and most anxiously hoping for a happy introduction to the army, my own feelings on the occasion are inexpressible.

In perfect reliance on your Lordships Kindness, I trust the peculiarity of my situation will apologize for my intrusion on your valuable time.

I have the Honor to be  
your Lordships  
most faithful and obedient servant

General Lord Hill

John McNair<sup>10</sup>

7th November 1836

My dear General

. . . I will not forget your son William, but it is difficult to say when I may have it in my power to recommend him for a commission, as it does not often happen that a vacancy offers which can be filled otherwise than by a half pay ensign or a cadet from the military college.

Believe me  
my dear General  
very faithfully yours

Major General McNair

(General Lord Hill)<sup>11</sup>

Clifton, Bristol 26th Feb. 1837

My Dear Lord

Awaiting myself of the presumption of your Lordship's return to Town at this season of the year, I take the liberty of expressing my great satisfaction at my son's having been appointed to the 62d Regiment in December last, he is now at the Depot in Chastleton (?), my gratitude on this occasion is great indeed.

My object in being here is the education of my three little girls and I feel deeply interested in their future happiness.

<sup>10</sup>Letter in Public Record Office, London. Viscount Rowland Hill, Commander in Chief of the British Army 1828-42.

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*



Permit me to solicit your benevolent influence in obtaining from His Majesty the distinction of the second order of the Bath, as I commanded a Brigade at the seige of Fort Bourbon and capture of Martinique in 1809 which in *other times* would have been considered a very splendid affair. I have the Honor to be

Your Lordship's Faithful and Obed. Serv.

Gen. Lord Lynedoch

John McNair<sup>12</sup>

Memoranda—Regulars—24 Nov. 1836

62 Foot. William McNair, gentleman, to be ensign (in place of ensign Griffin Nicholas who is to be Lieutenant) (Recommended by)

Major General McNair.<sup>13</sup>

Ensign Dec. 2, 1836; Lieutenant Dec. 15, 1838, in 62nd (or the Wilshire) Regt. of Foot.<sup>14</sup>

In the death notices in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for April 1846. Aged 26, Lieut. William M'Nair, of the same regiment [H.M.'s 62d Foot], only son of the late Lieut-Gen. John M'Nair, C.B. . . .

There is also a tablet in St. Andrew's Church, Ferozepore District, Punjab, which states; Lieut. W. McNair. 62nd Foot. Killed or mortally wounded at the Battle of Ferozshahr, 21st and 22nd Dec. 1845.<sup>15</sup>

5. A daughter, born July 16, 1821, at Stranraer, died before 1837.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>12</sup>Letter in "Lynedoch M. S." Vol. 3621, page 183 (1837), in National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh. Permission to use the above was obtained by Mr. J. S. Ritchie, Assistant Keeper, Department of Manuscripts, from Mr. Anthony Maxtone Graham, as shown in his letter May 19, 1958, to James B. McNair.

<sup>13</sup>War Office 31/753 in Public Record Office, London.

<sup>14</sup>In *Army List* for 1846.

<sup>15</sup>*A List of Inscriptions on Christian Tombs or Monuments in the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Kashmer and Afghanistan*, by Miles Irving, Lahore, 1910. In Society of Genealogists, London.

<sup>16</sup>*Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, in London Library, London.



6. A son, born March 2, 1823, at Stranraer. Died before 1837.<sup>17</sup>
7. Mary McNair, born March 31, 1825, at Stranraer.<sup>18</sup>
8. Anne Campbell McNair, was born January 25, 1827, in the Parish of Bathwick, Somerset County, England.<sup>19</sup> She died at Ivy House, Stranraer, on May 25, 1854.<sup>20</sup>
9. Euphemia McNair, was born September 19, 1829, at Montpelier Place, Gloucester, England, and baptized at Christ Church, Gloucester.<sup>21</sup> On January 3, 1856, she was married at Bombay, India, to William Wilson, Esq., Lieutenant and Adjutant, First Native Infantry.<sup>22</sup>

2. THOMAS MCNAIR, the last surviving brother of John McNair (1), died at Belmont, Scotland, aged 89, April 1850.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup>*Ibid. Gentleman's Magazine*, British Museum Library, London.

<sup>19</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*, British Museum Library, London.

<sup>20</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*, new series, Vol. 42, p. 92, 1854.

<sup>21</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*, British Museum Library, London.

<sup>22</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*, new series, Vol. 45, p. 512. 1856, in British Museum Library, London.

<sup>23</sup>*Gentleman's Magazine*.

## DESCENDANTS OF JOHN McNAIR AND MARGARET S. SMITH

1. JOHN McNAIR, hosier, was married to Margaret S. Smith, and they had at least one child:

2. Peter Macnair

### SECOND GENERATION

2. PETER MACNAIR (John [1]<sup>1</sup>), tobacco spinner, was born in 1836 and died in Glasgow in 1895. On June 9, 1864, he was married in the United Presbyterian Church, in Glasgow, to Catherine Aitken, who was twenty-two years of age at the time. She was the daughter of John Aitken and M. S. Stevenson. She died at Greenock in 1923. Their children were:

3. John Macnair was born May 25, 1865, at 133 Sydney Street, Glasgow. He died in infancy.

4. Peter Macnair

5. Jane Stevenson Macnair was born December 25, 1869, at 26 George Street, Glasgow. She was married to Mr. Campbell-Brown and died at Brisbane, Australia, in 1953.

6. Charles Macnair was born December 3, 1871, at 26 George Street, Glasgow. He died in Glasgow.

7. Duncan Macnair

8. William Macnair

9. Robert Macnair

10. Maxwell John Macnair was born December 24, 1873, at 116 North Frederick Street, Glasgow. He emigrated to the United States and married.

### THIRD GENERATION

4. PETER MACNAIR (Peter [2]<sup>2</sup> John [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born on September 12, 1867, at 26 George Street, Glasgow. While he was still a boy, his family moved to Perth where he was edu-

cated in Kinroul School and Perth Academy. He left school when 13 years old to be apprenticed to a draper. In 1895 he was classified as a draper's assistant.

Mr. Macnair was a self-educated man, and an avid reader. Geology was especially interesting to him, although he was also well educated in zoology and botany. Good literature also interested him and his reading included Shakespeare, Dickens, George Bernard Shaw, and many of the poets.

When about twenty years of age he spent two years in London employed in his trade. It is thought that during this time he developed his love of geology by spending spare time in the geological museum on Jermyn Street, and also in the other London museums.

He returned to Glasgow to carry on his trade as a draper and met Rebecca Mackenzie (daughter of Duncan Mackenzie) in the shop where they both worked. They were married July 1894.

In 1899 he gave up the drapery trade and took an appointment at the Peoples Palace in Glasgow Green in the center of Glasgow, as a museum curator. While this was the major step which determined his future life, it was finally determined by the Glasgow International Exhibition of 1901 in Kelvingrove Park, where he was assistant in the Fine Art and Historical Section. When the building at Kelvingrove was opened in 1902, he was transferred there as curator of the natural history collections, including geology and zoology. In this position he remained until his death.

Since his death the zoology section has changed quite considerably, but the geology section remains quite the same as he left it. "It is largely owing to Mr. Macnair's efficiency in classifying and arranging the geological and zoological collections at the Kelvingrove Museum that the natural history section there is the excellent and comprehensive one it is to-



day." It is a monument to his work which should persist for a long time to come.

Mr. Macnair was well known in Scotland and elsewhere as a lecturer, and read numerous papers before technical societies. He was at his best in this field and he was always very interesting to listen to. He made his subject matter simple, and his talks were always scattered with anecdotes and quips which helped to make a rather dull subject more interesting. Prior to the First World War he lectured in geology in the evenings at the Royal Technical College in Glasgow; and after the war, as professor of Zoology at Anderson's Medical College—nearby the Kelvingrove Museum.

"His services as a geological expert were in considerable demand, and he gave evidence in a number of important cases before both the Court of Session and Committees of the House of Commons."

He was president of the Glasgow Geological Society, and editor of its *Transactions*; Examiner in Geology in the University of Aberdeen, 1908-10—a distinct honor for a non-university man; Examiner in Biology to the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, for the Triple Qualification of the Scottish Licensing Bodies, 1922; Tutor in Geology to the Workers' Educational Association, 1921; and Consulting Geologist in questions of mining and civil engineering. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a Fellow of the Geological Society. From among a large number of candidates from all parts of the world, Mr. Macnair was placed in 1908 on a short list of four for the post of director of the National Museum of Wales.

"He wrote extensively on the geology of Scotland, and his work on the scenery and geology of the Grampians is considered to be an important contribution to the exposition of the structure of the Scottish Highlands." Altogether



he wrote nearly one hundred papers and memoirs on geology, the geological structure of the Highlands of Scotland, Scottish palaeozoic geology, and museum subjects. Among his publications are: *The Building of the Grampians*, 1903; *The Geology of the Rouken Glen*, 1906; *The Intrusive Dolorites in the Neighbourhood of Glasgow*, 1907; *The Geology and Scenery of the Grampians and the Valley of Strathmore* (2 vols.), 1908; he partly wrote and edited *History of the Geological Society of Glasgow*, 1909; second edition, 1921; *Introduction to the Study of Minerals*, 1910; *Introduction to the Study of Rocks*, 1911; *Perthshire, Argyll and Bute (Cambridge County Geographies)*, 1911-13; and *Introduction to the Study of Fossils*, 1912.

He died suddenly at his home from cerebral hemorrhage, at 37, Lawrence Street, Partick, Glasgow, Scotland, March 28, 1929.<sup>1</sup>

On July 30, 1894, Peter Macnair was married in the Scottish Episcopal Church in Glasgow to Rebecca Mackenzie, daughter of Duncan Mackenzie, grocer and wine merchant, and Helen Kearney. She died in Glasgow in 1937. Their children were:

11. Peter Mackenzie Macnair was born October 16, 1895, at 16 Martyn Street, Glasgow. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Glasgow in 1921; later he obtained a Doctor of Philosophy degree. In 1954 he was works manager, and resided at 27 Cae Bryn Avenue, Sketty, Swan-

<sup>1</sup>Data obtained by James B. McNair from "The Glasgow Herald" of March 30, 1929; *Who's Who* (London), 1929 and 1930; Letter from Peter Mackenzie Macnair, dated Swansea, Wales, January 7, 1957; letters from Peter O. Wright, Registrar, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow, dated September 22, and December 17, 1954; letter from R. Clelland, Asst. Records Officer, Glasgow Registration Department, dated February 27, 1956.

sea, Glamorgan, Wales.<sup>2</sup> He was married to Phyllis Thomas, and they have four children.

12. Duncan Cameron Macnair was born January 9, 1897, at 16 Martyr Street, Glasgow. He is married and is living in California. He has three children.
13. Ian Macnair was born January 2, 1898, at 70 Eastwood Avenue, Shorelands, Glasgow. He was killed in an airplane crash in World War I, April 1, 1918.
14. Helena (Lena) Macnair was born November 4, 1899, at 20 Martyr Street, Glasgow. She married W. Knox, and they have three daughters.
15. Katherine Aitken Macnair was born June 19, 1903, at 24 Caird Drive, Partick, Glasgow. She was married and has three children.
16. Johanna Macnair was born March 7, 1905, at 24 Caird Drive, Partick, Glasgow. She was married to W. Boyd, and they have one child.
17. Hector Maxwell Macnair was born December 28, 1909, at 39 Gardner Street, Partick, Glasgow. He was married and has three children.

<sup>2</sup>*Register of Members of the General Council of the University of Glasgow. For the year commencing first of January 1954, Glasgow, 1954.*

## DESCENDANTS OF WALTER McNAIR AND SUSANNA STEVEN<sup>1</sup>

1. Walter McNair and Susanna Steven were married in Glasgow, July 30, 1689. They had the following children, all born in Glasgow:

2. Robert McNair
3. John McNair, baptized May 2, 1695
4. Walter McNair, baptized September 2, 1697
5. James McNair, baptized May 23, 1700
6. Marriion McNair, baptized May 14, 1702
7. William McNair, baptized February 27, 1704

### SECOND GENERATION

2. ROBERT McNAIR (Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow, October 13, 1692 and died August 31, 1721. He was a weaver and on January 10, 1729 became a Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow through his marriage to Christin, the daughter of deceased James Alexander, weaver, Burgess and Guild Brother of Glasgow.<sup>2</sup>

Robert McNair and Christin Alexander were married in Glasgow on August 31, 1721. They had the following children all born in Glasgow:<sup>3</sup>

8. Robert McNair
9. James McNair
10. Christin McNair was baptized June 13, 1725
11. John McNair was baptized April 30, 1727

<sup>1</sup>Additional information to that in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, pp. 63-5; *Supplement 1955*, pp. 93-4.

<sup>2</sup>The Burgess and Guild Brethren of Glasgow, 1573-1750. Scottish Record Society. Edited by J. R. Anderson. Edinburgh, 1925. *Ibid. Supplement 1955*, p. 20.

<sup>3</sup>See page 51 of this book.



12. Margaret McNair was baptized February 9, 1729
13. Andrew McNair was baptized September 20, 1730
14. Joseph McNair was baptized July 2, 1732
15. Christian McNair was baptized July 14, 1734
16. Marion McNair was baptized May 30, 1736

### THIRD GENERATION

8. ROBERT MCNAIR (Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow, June 3, 1722. He was a merchant in Glasgow and on April 18, 1776 became a Burgess and Guild Brother as being the eldest living son of Robert McNair, merchant. On November 15, 1761, he married Agnes Williamson, a daughter of Joseph Williamson, advocate in Edinburgh. Their eldest daughter was:

17. Agnes McNair

9. JAMES MCNAIR (Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was baptized in Glasgow, December 1, 1723. He was a weaver and merchant in Glasgow where he was married to Mary Buchanan on November 30, 1740. Their children, all born in Glasgow, were:

18. Mary McNair was baptized August 22, 1742
19. Andrew McNair was baptized May 10, 1744
20. Jean McNair was baptized March 11, 1746
21. Margaret McNair was baptized July 16, 1747
22. Elizabeth McNair was baptized June 20, 1749
23. Robert McNair was baptized February 18, 1753
24. James McNair was born March 15, 1756 and baptized March 20, 1756
25. Mary McNair was born January 28, 1758 and baptized February 4, 1758
26. James McNair
27. Jean McNair was born October 9, 1760 and baptized October 11, 1760



28. Robert McNair was born July 11, 1762
29. John McNair was born October 1, 1764 and baptized October 6, 1764

## FOURTH GENERATION

17. AGNES MCNAIR (Robert [8]<sup>3</sup> Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow, September 20, 1762 and baptized there September 28, 1762. On April 19, 1789 she was married to her cousin, James McNair (26). She died March 28, 1807. They had four children (see under 26).

26. JAMES MCNAIR (James [9]<sup>3</sup> Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Glasgow April 14 (?), 1759 and baptized April 21, 1759. For his education and service as a minister see pages 45-46. He was married April 24, 1789 to Agnes McNair (17) his cousin. Issue:

30. Robert McNair
31. Mary McNair, born June 4, 1792
32. James McNair, born April 1, 1794 and died in Mobile, Alabama, October 23, 1823. According to the death notice in *Blackwoods Edinburgh Magazine* (Vol. 15) he died at Moone, near New Orleans, Louisiana.
33. Agnes McNair, born March 6, 1797

## FIFTH GENERATION

30. ROBERT MACNAIR (James [26]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 10, 1790. For his education and service as a minister see page 46. In 1845 he was presented with a gold watch and a large silver tray. The tray has on it the following engraved inscription:

To / The Reverend Robert Macnair D. D. / From /  
 Friends of the Church of Scotland / in Paisley / A Testi-  
 monial / of personal esteem and of grateful acknowledgment  
 / For / His valuable services / During a period of difficulty  
 occasioned by / The late secession from the Church / 1845

He was married on October 13, 1818 to Jane Hill the second daughter of George Hill, D.D. (1750-1819), Moderator of the Church of Scotland, Dean of the Thistle, Dean of the Chapel Royal, and Principal of St. Andrews University. Robert Macnair died July 22, 1851, and his wife died at Leith, March 1, 1871. Children:

34. Harriett Scott Macnair was born August 20, 1819, and died November 1, 1847
35. James Macnair. For his biography and descendants see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1928, pp. 64-5; also page 47 of this book. One of his sons, James Alexander Hill Macnair C. A., left an estate, net personalty £13,095 gross value £13,980 (*The Times*, London, July 7, 1931, page 20c.)
36. George Hill Macnair was born June 15, 1823, and died December 23, 1835
37. Agnes Macnair was born January 18, 1826 and died in 1872
38. Robert Macnair. For his biography including his service as a minister see pages 47-48. Publications: *Christian Baptism spiritual not ritual* (Edinburgh, 1858); *The Christian Sabbath: or rest in Jesus* (London, 1858); *The Doctrine of Quakerism; an enquiry into the causes which have led to the present moral and numerical weakness of the Society of Friends* (London, 1860).
39. Alexander Hill Macnair

#### SIXTH GENERATION

39. ALEXANDER HILL MACNAIR (Robert [30]<sup>5</sup> James [26]<sup>4</sup> James [9]<sup>3</sup> Robert [2]<sup>2</sup> Walter [1]<sup>1</sup>) M.I.C.E. was born August 5, 1830. In 1857 he matriculated at St. Andrews University. He was a civil engineer in India. A paper was published by him, "On the theory of arches," *Medley, Indian Enginere*, Vol. 3, 1866, pp. 239-50. He died in 1897. He was married to Mary Jane Hirschfield. Children:

40. Jean Macnair was married to J. Bell of the English post office

41. Robert Hill Macnair died August 17, 1959. For his biography see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955*, pp. 93-4.
42. John Charles Hirschfield Macnair was born October 21, 1883. *The Times* (London) for August 15, 1930, page 15, column d, contains the following; "Mr. J. C. H. Macnair of Albert—terrace, Edinburgh, late of the Indian Civil Service (personal estate) gross value £2,716."
43. Mary Macnair

## DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM NATHANIEL McNAIR AND ANN SMITH

1. ROBERT McNAIR presumably was a resident of Ayrshire, Scotland, as his son, according to Sir (George) Douglas McNair, came from Ayrshire to India. Perhaps his will can be located in the office of the Sheriff Clerk of Ayrshire in Ayr, in which his son will be mentioned. He had at least one child:

2. William Nathaniel McNair

### SECOND GENERATION

2. WILLIAM NATHANIEL McNAIR (Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) went from Ayrshire, Scotland, to India according to his grandson, Sir (George) Douglas McNair. This is indicated by the fact that there is no trace of a record of his birth or baptism in India between the years 1801 to 1830. Perhaps his birth can be found registered in Ayrshire.

On October 10, 1848, while an assistant in the firm of Messrs. Allan Deffell & Co., he was married at Calcutta to Ann Smith, aged eighteen and daughter of William Smith. At this time he was of full age and a bachelor.<sup>1</sup>

He was Headmaster of a Government School at Monghyr, Bengal, from at least July 1855 to the time of his death on November 4, 1859.<sup>2</sup> The Indian Mutiny started in 1853 and this may have had an influence on McNair in causing him to leave his employment and become a schoolmaster.

These schools were provided for half-castes or Eurasians and native children; a very little education was required to teach them! No degrees or university education would be necessary and that is why McNair could suddenly change over from his own job, to teach-

<sup>1</sup>Bengal, pp. 74-258, in the Commonwealth Relations Office, King Charles Street, London, S. W. 1, England.

<sup>2</sup>Bengal, pp. 96-384, 97-131, *ibid.*



ing and being in charge of one of these schools. No Englishman had his children educated in India. English children were brought home to England at the age of two or three, and left in England for their upbringing and education. The only English children who would require education would be the children of soldiers (other than commissioned officers) stationed out there, and these children would have schools provided by the Army in cantonments. The India of that day did not mix with the natives, if they were white or English. The colour line was very severely fixed and the half-caste was stigmatized for life.<sup>3</sup>

Attempts were made to find an obituary notice of William Nathaniel McNair in the newspapers of India and Scotland but to no avail. There were no newspapers at the British Museum Newspaper Library, at Colindale, for Calcutta or any place in Bengal for 1859. Neither did the *Glasgow Citizen*, and the *Weekly Herald* (Edinburgh), and the *Weekly Mercury* (Edinburgh) for 1859 have any such notice.<sup>4</sup>

On October 4, 1862, the widow of William Nathaniel McNair was married in the Old Church, Calcutta, to Robert John Arthur, the son of John Arthur. Robert John Arthur was a bachelor and an engineer.<sup>5</sup> She died in Tenandry, Perthshire, Scotland.

The children of William Nathaniel McNair and Ann Smith included:

3. Annie Lillian McNair, who became Mrs. A. L. Griffith, Connaught House, Mussoorie, India. She married secondly the Reverend J. Lamb and died in Edinburgh, Scotland.
4. William Watts McNair was born September 13, 1849, in India. He was appointed a surveyor in the Junior Division Survey of India, Topographical Branch, September 1, 1867. The following has been extracted from the *General Report*

<sup>3</sup>Letter dated April 1, 1957, at London from Mrs. M. W. Hesketh-Williams, London, to James B. McNair.

<sup>4</sup>Letter dated May 15, 1957, *ibid.*

<sup>5</sup>Bengal, pp. 102-618, *op. cit.*

on the Operations of the Survey of India Department for 1888-89, paragraph 46. "In the Junior Division, seven surveyors and assistant surveyors have ceased to belong to the departments by deaths and retirements. Of these the name of Mr. W. W. McNair, surveyor, 3rd grade, who died from fever contracted at Quetta, is worthy of notice. Mr. McNair has been twenty-two years in the department, in which he distinguished himself as geographical surveyor in Afghanistan and on the North-West Frontier. His main achievement, however, was his adventurous journey to Kafiristan in 1883, while on leave, which gained him the Murchison Grant of the Royal Geographical Society, and by which he has won a lasting name as an explorer."<sup>6</sup> He died August 1889 at Mussoorie, India, aged 39 years 11 months. Next of kin: Mother, Mrs. Annie Arthur, widow; Sister, Mrs. A. L. Griffith, both residing at Connaught House, Mussoorie; Brother, George B. McNair, Solicitor, Calcutta.<sup>7</sup>

5. George de Burgh McNair

6. John Ward McNair was born, March 17, 1854, at Monghyr, India, and was baptized, July 27, 1855, at Monghyr.<sup>8</sup> When he died, June 1, 1878, at Lahore, India, he was officiating Assistant Accountant General, Punjab.<sup>9</sup>

### THIRD GENERATION

5. GEORGE DE BURGH MCNAIR (William Nathaniel [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 18, 1852, in Monghyr, India, and was baptized July 21, 1855, by Milward R. Burge, offici-

<sup>6</sup>For additional information about his life work and explorations, see: *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (Chicago, 1923), pp. 36-39; *Dictionary of National Biography* (edited by Sidney Lee), Vol. XXXV, p. 243 (New York: Macmillan, 1893), from memoir by J. E. Howard in *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society* (1884), p. 1; (1889), pp. 612-84.

<sup>7</sup>Information from the Commonwealth Relations Office, King Charles Street, London, S.W., 1, England.

<sup>8</sup>Bengal, pp. 96-384, *op. cit.*

<sup>9</sup>*Reports of Deaths in India of Uncovenanted Servants*, Vol. 2, 1876-1882, p. 132, in the Commonwealth Relations Office, King Charles Street, London, S.W. 1, England.

ating chaplain. He died in Calcutta, India on April 29, 1932. He was a solicitor and was married in London on September 29, 1881, to Isabel Frederica Gowsmith, daughter of William Gowsmith. There were two children:

7. George Douglas McNair
8. Eric Archibald McNair. For an account of his life, see pages 72-73 of this book.

#### FOURTH GENERATION

7. (GEORGE) DOUGLAS MCNAIR (George de Burgh [5]<sup>3</sup> William Nathaniel [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 30, 1887. He was educated at Charter House and at New College, Oxford (B.A. 1909). He began his career in England as a barrister when he was called to the Bar, Middle Temple, in 1911. In 1912 he was admitted as an advocate in the High Court in Calcutta. He was a second lieutenant in the Indian Army Officers Reserve and served in Mesopotamia, 1916-19. In 1917 he was Aide-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Sir J. L. MacMunn, I.G.C., Mesopotamia, and was awarded a membership of the Order of the British Empire. He practiced as a barrister before the Privy Council in Indian Appeals, 1920-33; was an examiner in Hindu and Mohammedan Law for the Civil Service Commission; was appointed Judge of the High Court, Calcutta, 1933 and served as such, 1933-45; in 1941 was president of the Dacca Riots Enquiry Committee; Legal Chairman of the Pensions Appeal Tribunal, 1946; Justice of the Peace in Devonshire, England, 1950; and Chairman, Devonshire Quarter Sessions, since 1956. In 1943 he was knighted. His recreations are: fishing, lawn tennis, and golf. His residential addresses are: Brightwell, Beaconsfield, Bucks and Horseford Lodge, East Worlington, Devonshire. He is a member of the Oriental and Bengal (Calcutta) Clubs.



In 1914 he was married to Primrose Garth, the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Garth.<sup>10</sup> Their children are:

9. Richard McNair
10. Erica Valda McNair was married on April 4, 1942, to Frederick Lionel Guthrie Griffith-Jones of The King's Royal Rifle Corps, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Griffith-Jones.<sup>11</sup>
11. Philip McNair

<sup>10</sup>Data obtained by James B. McNair from *The Indian Year Book*, 1936-37, Vol. XXIII (Edited by Sir S. Reed and F. Low. Bombay: Bennett, Coleman and Co., Ltd.), as well as from *Who's Who*, 1958 (London); *The Times* (London), April 11, 1934, p. 13, column g; January 1, 1943, p. 2, column c.

<sup>11</sup>*The Times* (London), April 9, 1942, p. 7, column b.



McNAIRS OF NORTH CAROLINA

*"Character is Destiny."*

—HERACLITUS.

*"God gives to every man  
The virtue, temper, understanding, taste,  
That lifts him into life, and lets him fall  
Just in the niche he was ordain'd to fill."*

—COWPER, *The Task*. Bk. iv l. 792.

*"For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt  
fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good  
fruit.*

*For every tree is known by its fruit. For of thorns  
men do not gather figs, nor of bramble bush  
gather they grapes.*

*A good man out of the good treasure of his heart  
bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil  
man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth  
forth that which is evil; for of the abundance of  
the heart the mouth speaketh."*

—LUKE 6:43-45.

## DESCENDANTS OF DUNCAN McNAIR AND KATHERINE McCALLUM<sup>1</sup>

1. Duncan McNair was married to Katherine McCallum in Scotland in 1785. He was born on the Isle of Skye and his wife was born in Loupe, Scotland. In the summer of 1786, after a three months voyage in a small sailboat from the Isle of Skye, Duncan and Katherine (McCallum) McNair with their six months old son, John arrived in America and settled where is now St. Pauls, Robeson County, North Carolina. Duncan purchased land here and began farming and was the first ruling elder in St. Pauls Presbyterian Church. This church was organized in 1799. A tablet to his memory has been placed in that church. About 1800 he died and his widow lived until 1841. Both are buried in the McAlpine Cemetery at Rennert, Robeson County, North Carolina. A monument has been placed at their graves. Duncan McNair had a sister, Mrs. Henderson, a widow with two children, Jimmy and Sallie. They came over with Duncan. Duncan's old father came to Robeson County in 1800 to find that his son had died shortly before he landed. The old man lived only a short time and was buried in McAlpine Cemetery by his son, Duncan, and wife, Katherine McCallum McNair. The children of Duncan McNair and Katherine McCallum are:

### 2. John McNair

<sup>1</sup>Information contributed by Mrs. R. Eugene McLendon, Lendolure Farm, Bishopville, South Carolina. Additional material about this family can be found in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (Chicago, 1923), p. 103; *Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), pp. 124-146; *Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 163-69.

3. Malcolm McNair was born in 1788 in Robeson County, North Carolina.<sup>2</sup>
4. Robert McNair was born in 1790 in Robeson County, North Carolina.<sup>3</sup>
5. (Polly) Mary McNair was born in 1792 in Robeson County, North Carolina.
6. Duncan McNair was born in 1794 in Robeson County, North Carolina.<sup>4</sup>
7. Katherine McNair was born in 1796 in Robeson County, North Carolina.<sup>5</sup>

## SECOND GENERATION

2. John McNair (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 1, 1786, in Scotland and died May 1, 1873. In 1811 he was married to Mary Graham who was born April 5, 1787, in Cumberland County, North Carolina. She died August 6, 1872. Both are buried in St. Pauls Presbyterian Cemetery, Robeson County, North Carolina. Their children, all born in Robeson County, are:

8. Margaret (Peggy) McNair was born in Robeson County, North Carolina, June 27, 1812, and died May 31, 1877. She was married on April 24, 1834, to John McGoogan who

<sup>2</sup>For the descendants of Malcolm McNair and Katherine McNair see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, pp. 124-46 (with biography and portrait of John Calvin McNair), *Supplement 1955*, pp. 163-65. For additional information write Mr. Henry McLure McKinnon, Hartsville, South Carolina.

<sup>3</sup>For an account of the descendants of Robert and his sister, Mary, (Polly), see *McNair, McNear and McNeir Supplement 1955* (Los Angeles, 1955), pp. 164-169. Information about Robert's descendants can be obtained from the family of John Evander McNair, Columbia, Alabama, and about Polly's from Joseph McArthur, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

<sup>4</sup>See "Descendants of John McNair and Jennet Smylie and Catherine Buie McNair, McNear and McNeir *Genealogies* (1923), pp. 113-14 and *Supplement 1955*, pp. 173-82.

<sup>5</sup>See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928*, p. 144; *Supplement 1955*, pp. 164-5. Write to the family of N. H. McGeachy, Fayetteville, North Carolina.



was born in Robeson County, North Carolina. Both are buried in St. Pauls Presbyterian Church, Robeson County.<sup>6</sup>

9. Flora McNair was born September 12, 1813, and died September 21, 1889. She was married March 3, 1837, to John B. McNeill.<sup>7</sup>
10. Catherine McNair was born May 2, 1815 and died October 19, 1889. She was married April 16, 1843, to John C. McCormick.<sup>8</sup>
11. Duncan McNair
12. Nathaniel McNair was born March 8, 1818, and died September 25, 1896. He was married December 23, 1847, to Mary Ann McCallum.
13. Mary Graham McNair was born December 6, 1821, and died April 25, 1893. She was married July 6, 1848, to Duncan Bethune.<sup>9</sup>
14. Malcolm McNair was born September 11, 1823. He died young.
15. Isabella (Bella) McNair was born July 5, 1825, and was married to Archibald Buie.
16. Sara McNair was born April 18, 1827, and died April 3, 1853, unmarried.
17. John Graham McNair was born May 16, 1829, and was killed September 17, 1862, in the battle of Sharpsburg, Virginia.

4. Robert McNair (Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1790 in Robeson County, North Carolina. He was married to Betsy Patterson. They had five children,<sup>10</sup> including:

18. Dougald Patterson McNair

<sup>6</sup>Write to Miss Della McGoogan, St. Pauls, North Carolina, for complete data.

<sup>7</sup>Write to Mrs. N. H. Kirknam, 118 Avondale, Greensboro, North Carolina.

<sup>8</sup>Miss Hortence Rogers of Bennettsville, South Carolina is a descendant of this line.

<sup>9</sup>Inquire about this line from Miss Della McGoogan, St. Pauls, North Carolina.

<sup>10</sup>See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 164.

## THIRD GENERATION

11. Duncan McNair (John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born December 6, 1816, and died September 12, 1897. He was married January 9, 1845, to Bethsheba (Betty) Jane Alford who was born March 14, 1824, and died December 7, 1913. Both are buried in St. Paul's Presbyterian Cemetery, St. Pauls, North Carolina. Their children are:

19. Warren Alford McNair
20. Matthew Henry McNair was born in Robeson County, North Carolina, December 23, 1850, and died very young. He is buried in St. Pauls Presbyterian Cemetery, St. Pauls, North Carolina.
21. John Graham McNair was born April 15, 1853, in Robeson County, North Carolina. He died very young and is buried in St. Pauls Presbyterian Cemetery.
22. Sion McPherson McNair
23. Mortimer Alexander McNair
24. James Preston McNair
25. Sara Catherine McNair
26. Mary Leonora (Nonnie) McNair was born April 18, 1866, and died October 17, 1926, unmarried. She is buried in St. Pauls Presbyterian Cemetery.

18. Dougald Patterson McNair (Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Robeson County, North Carolina and died in August 1893, in Overton, Texas.<sup>11</sup> He was married February 4, 1858, to Clarkie Ann Alford. Their children were:

27. John Evander McNair
28. Wiley Preston McNair
29. Robert McCoy McNair
30. Elizabeth Smithson McNair
31. James Patterson McNair

<sup>11</sup>The information about the descendants of Dougald Patterson McNair was supplied by Joan Aline McNair.

FOURTH GENERATION

19. Warren Alford McNair (Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Robeson County, North Carolina, June 19, 1848, died March 23, 1885, and was buried in Darlington County, South Carolina.

On November 13, 1878, he was married to Flora Christian MacFayden who was born at Little River, North Carolina, March 24, 1852, died March 24, 1938, and was buried at Hartsville, South Carolina. Their children, all born at Clyde, South Carolina, are:

32. Archibald Buie McNair

33. Percy Gleaves McNair

34. Graham A. McNair was born July 18, 1883, died December 24, 1901, and was buried in Hartsville, South Carolina.

35. Warren Alford McNair was born July 18, 1885, died May 30, 1953, and was buried at Hartsville, South Carolina. On October 12, 1915, he was married to Elizabeth Byrum Ingram who was born February 8, 1893.

22. Sion McPherson McNair (Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 6, 1855, in Robeson County, North Carolina. On July 22, 1922, he died in Bladen County and was buried at Tarheel, North Carolina in the Beth Car Presbyterian Church Cemetery. In 1880 he was married to Lena May Willis who was born July 1, 1857, in Bladen County, died April 4, 1885, and was buried at Wilmington, North Carolina. Their children, born at Wilmington, are:

36. James Leslie McNair

37. Charles Owens McNair

Sion McPherson McNair was married secondly to Wilhemenia Moore who was born at Wilmington, North Carolina in 1878. There are no children.

23. Mortimer Alexander McNair (Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born November 29, 1857, in Robe-



son County, North Carolina. He died November 29, 1929, and was buried at Hartsville, South Carolina.

In 1891 he was married to Katie G. McKinnon who was born December 25, 1870, in Robeson County, died May 1, 1940, and was buried at Hartsville. Their children, all born in Darlington County, South Carolina, are:

38. Marguerite McNair was married to her first cousin, James Leslie McNair (36).
39. Kathleen McNair
40. Alexander Mortimer McNair
41. Bessie Duncan McNair
42. Flora Christine McNair
43. Miriam Louise McNair
44. Lilla Murray McNair
45. Lyle Ruth McNair was born February 21, 1907, and died unmarried.
46. Duncan Calvin McNair was born November 17, 1909, and died January 10, 1918.
47. Karl Milton McNair

24. James Preston McNair (Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 14, 1860, in Robeson County, North Carolina, died June 23, 1942, at Aiken, South Carolina, and is buried in Bethany Cemetery. On November 12, 1885, he was married in Aiken County to Cora Kitching, who was born April 19, 1857, died May 4, 1907, at Aiken, and is buried in Bethany Cemetery.<sup>12</sup> Their children are:

48. Norma McNair was born February 24, 1889, and was married to Dr. Marion Hay Wyman. There were no children.
49. Marie McNair
50. Malcolm Prothro McNair
51. Philip Kitching McNair
52. Wallace Duncan McNair
53. James Preston McNair, Jr.

<sup>12</sup>A biography of James P. McNair appears on page 146 of *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies, Supplement 1928*.



On September 15, 1910, James Preston McNair was married to Hattie Roland in Laurens, South Carolina. Child:

54. Elizabeth McNair

25. Sara Catherine (Sally) McNair (Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 22, 1863, died January 5, 1934, and was buried at Bishopville, South Carolina. She was married on April 3, 1889, to John Ervin McLure, M.D., who was born August 17, 1861, in Kershaw County, South Carolina, died December 28, 1934, and was buried at Bishopville. Their children, all born at Bishopville, are:

55. Dr. Harvey McNair McLure was born March 10, 1890, and was married to Harriet Celeste Webber. Children: Jane Webber McLure and Betty Julia McLure.

56. Dennis McLeod McLure was born December 16, 1891, and was married to Martha Walker. Child: Ezelle McLure.

57. Jane Lonnie McLure was born September 12, 1895, and was married to Robert Eugene McLendon. Children: Sara McLure McLendon and Harriett Malinda McLendon.

27. John Evander McNair (Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 24, 1862, in a double log cabin in Smithville, Alabama. The house was built with the idea of farming and teaching. Neither paid much in the years to come and the family moved to Texas where John became a blacksmith. After several years he left Texas for Little Rock, Arkansas, where he joined a flat boat that carried a circus tent on the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers. When the river flooded that Spring and the show went out of business, he left for Shannutown, Illinois, where he met Mr. French, owner of a show boat. He joined the crew and shortly thereafter married Ida Fitch, the adopted daughter of the Frenches, on May 1, 1886, at Port Barron, Louisiana. John became captain of the show boat, *The Frenches' New Sensation*, while Ida did most of the stage managing. Business

was so good that another show boat was put in commission, *The New Era Floating Palace*, and John's brother, Wiley, took over the job of managing and publicity of the boats. When the days of the show boat began to wane, the ships were sold and John bought a plantation, "The Calumet Plantation," outside of Columbia, Alabama, where the family still lives. Wiley became captain of a tanker sailing between Tampico, Mexico, and New Orleans. John died June 14, 1951, at Columbia, Alabama. He was married to Ida Finch. Issue:

58. Lillian Alford French McNair was born in 1889 at Overton, Texas, and was married to Edgar Hammond of Elba, Alabama, on November 19, 1910, at Columbia, Alabama.
59. Clarkie Ann McNair was born January 15, 1891, at Overton, Texas. She never married.
60. John Evander McNair was born September 24, 1902, and died October 16, 1902.

28. Wiley Preston McNair (Dougald Patterson [8]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 10, 1869, in Columbia, Alabama. He was married October 8, 1907, to Leo May Dowd of McArthur, Ohio in Cincinnati, Ohio. Children:

61. Wiley Evander McNair was born October 29, 1908, at Ironton, Ohio.
62. John Alford McNair was born November 16, 1912, at Columbia, Alabama.

29. Robert McCoy McNair (Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 12, 1872, in Smithville, Alabama and died May 5, 1950, at Arcadia, California. He was married to Nancy Looney of Troup, Texas on September 17, 1893, at Troup, Texas. Their children were:

63. Robert Smithson McNair was born April 23, 1896, at Jacksonville, Texas. He never married.
64. Ida Alline McNair was born November 3, 1898, at Jacksonville, Texas and married Richard G. Termine of Springfield,

Missouri April 6, 1915, at Dallas, Texas. They have one child, Ralph Termine.

65. Wiley Evander McNair was born November 27, 1900, at Jacksonville, Texas and married Helen Rinehart of Dallas, Texas on June 14, 1922, at Dallas, Texas.
66. Lawrence Ashley McNair was born July 3, 1902, at Athens, Texas and was married to Mary Ella Byron of Dallas, Texas on May 22, 1928, at Dallas, Texas.
67. Vallie Christine McNair was born November 10, 1904, at Somerville, Texas, and was married to Gordon M. Eslinger of San Diego, California on July 15, 1923, at Dallas, Texas. Their child is Robert Eslinger, who was born in 1929 and died in 1957.

30. Elizabeth Smithson McNair (Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 1, 1874, in Daleville, Alabama and was married to Willie Lane of Jacksonville, Texas, February 5, 1899, at Jacksonville, Texas. He died in 1948 at Beaumont, Texas. Children:

68. Maude May McNair was born at Arp, Texas and died in 1926. She was married to Fayrice L. Lane of Mt. Pleasant, Texas on December 5, 1917, at Beaumont, Texas.
69. Lillian Rowena McNair was born in Conroe, Texas and died July 21, 1959, in Beaumont, Texas. She was married to I. Herbst Ferris of Beaumont, Texas on August 3, 1924, at Beaumont.
70. Ida Irene McNair was born in Ponta, Texas and was married January 22, 1924, at Beaumont, Texas to Burton Wright French of Beaumont.

31. James Patterson (Pat) McNair (Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 7, 1876, at Daleville, Alabama and was married first to Effie Lee Arnold on December 23, 1900, at Troup, Texas. She died in 1920. Children:

71. Clarkie May McNair was born October 4, 1901, at Moulton, Texas and died there August 5, 1905.
72. Jewel Maurine McNair was born October 5, 1903 at Moulton, Texas and died August 1, 1916, at Dallas, Texas.



73. George Alford McNair was born January 27, 1912, at Dallas, Texas.

74. Mabel Lee McNair

James Patterson McNair was married secondly to Lela Bell Stell on March 14, 1923, at Houston, Texas.

#### FIFTH GENERATION

32. Archibald Buie McNair (Warren Alford [18]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born December 6, 1879, at Clyde, South Carolina, died May 22, 1948, and was buried at Wilmington, North Carolina. On April 15, 1903, he was married to Bertha Calwell Swinson who was born in Dublin County, North Carolina, August 23, 1880. Their children are:

75. Dorothy B. McNair was born in 1904 and was married in 1925 to James Madison Tyler.

76. Archibald Graham McNair was born in 1906 and was married firstly in 1930 to Elanor Ward and secondly to Katherine B. Richardson.

77. John Calvin McNair was born in 1908 and in 1934 was married to Florence Foard.

33. Percy Gleaves McNair (Warren Alford [18]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Clyde, South Carolina February 7, 1882, died November 27, 1918, and was buried in Dillon, South Carolina. In 1908 he was married to Miss Ola Stubbs. They have one child.

78. Marion Gleaves McNair, who was born in 1909 at Dillon.

36. James Leslie McNair (Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born February 28, 1881, at Wilmington, North Carolina. He was married July 2, 1919, to Marguerite McNair, his first cousin, who was born April 21, 1892. Their children, all born in Hartsville, South Carolina, are:



79. James Owens McNair was born April 30, 1920.
  80. Margaret Ann McNair was born October 28, 1921.
  81. Mary Leonora McNair was born April 22, 1923. On November 16, 1944, she was married to Donald Gray of Ogdensburg, New York.
  82. Sion McPherson McNair was born October 31, 1927.
37. Charles Owens McNair (Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 12, 1882, at Wilmington, North Carolina. He died December 27, 1943, and is buried at Beth Car Presbyterian Church, Tarheel, North Carolina. On February 29, 1904, he was married to Mary Palmetto Gupton who was born February 9, 1884, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Their children are:
83. Mary Lena McNair
  84. Annie Gupton McNair
  85. Charles Owens McNair, Jr.
  86. William Leslie McNair
  87. Nelle Battle McNair
  88. Jane Alford McNair
  89. Elizabeth Thomas McNair
39. Kathleen McNair (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 6, 1894. She was married March 11, 1915, to Samuel Pressly Coker who was born March 12, 1887, at Society Hill, South Carolina, died October 20, 1953, and is buried in Hartsville, South Carolina. Their children, all born in Hartsville, are:
90. Katie May Coker was born November 28, 1916, and was married December 23, 1941, to Harold W. Marion, Jr. Their children are: Harold William Marion III and Mary Katherine Marion.
  91. Flora Christine Coker was born July 8, 1918, and was married in 1943 to Joseph Nesbitt Berry. They have two daughters: Kathleen McNair Berry and Sarah Palmer Berry.

92. John Wilson Coker was born May 29, 1921, and was married to Hilda Lore Ingram. Their children are: Mary Aneita Coker, Jane Wilson Coker, Mildred Christine Coker, and John Wilson Coker.
93. Jane Wilson Coker was born May 11, 1923, and was married to Charles K. Dunlap. They have four daughters: Martha Slater Dunlap, Katherine Connor Dunlap, Betsy Coker Dunlap and Jane Coker Dunlap.
94. Samuel Pressly Coker was born November 12, 1927, and was married to Virginia King Smith. Their children are: Samuel Pressly Coker III and Andrew Leroy Coker.

40. Alexander Mortimer McNair, Jr. (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 29, 1896. He was married August 21, 1934, to Elizabeth Reaves Coker who was born August 21, 1909, at Rock Hill, South Carolina. Their children, both born in Hartsville, South Carolina, are:

95. Elizabeth Reaves McNair was born November 15, 1937.
96. Flora Christian McNair was born November 6, 1939.

41. Bessie Duncan McNair (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 23, 1898, and was married October 19, 1920, to Warren Dupre Arthur, Jr. He was born January 19, 1894, at Union, South Carolina, died July 26, 1953, and is buried at Hartsville, South Carolina. Their children, both born in Hartsville, are:

97. Warren Dupre Arthur III was born September 1, 1922, and was married January 17, 1947, to Carolyn Daphne Woodham. Their children are: Warren Dupre Arthur IV, Betty McNair Arthur, and Stephen Michael Arthur.
98. Betty McNair was born January 15, 1927, and died May 6, 1939.

42. Flora Christine McNair (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born July 12, 1900, and was married June 16, 1926, to Chalmers M. Butler

who was born August 13, 1901, at Greenwood, South Carolina. Their children, both born in Hartsville, South Carolina are:

- 99. Susanne Butler was born July 11, 1929, and was married December 23, 1950 to Thomas Roland King.
- 100. Chalmers McNair Butler was born July 31, 1935.

43. Miriam Louise McNair (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 15, 1902, and was married October 21, 1925, to Wilson Scarborough McCall. He was born August 24, 1899, and died January 27, 1958. Children:

- 101. Miriam Claire McCall was born May 21, 1929.
- 102. Martha Elizabeth McCall was born May 8, 1938.

44. Lilla Murray McNair, (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 20, 1905, and was married in 1938 to Milburr Cullen Williams who was born March 22, 1909. They have one child:

- 103. Katherine McNair Williams was born in Hartsville, North Carolina, April 14, 1939.

47. Karl Milton McNair (Mortimer Alexander [22]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 2, 1911, and was married in 1939 to Frances M. Geriner, born September 29, 1917. Children:

- 104. Frances Madeline McNair was born November 15, 1939.
- 105. Jean Carole McNair was born March 31, 1943.

49. Marie McNair (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born October 9, 1894, and was married to Elmore Sullivan Henderson. Child:

- 106. Harriet Lee Henderson was born August 29, 1928, and was married to Alan Matthew Tewkesbury III.



50. Malcolm Prothro McNair (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born April 7, 1896, and was married to Vivian Faust Schweers. Child:

107. Nancy McNair was born March 16, 1937.

51. Philip Kitching McNair (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born November 4, 1890, and was married to Ruth Craig. Their children:

108. Philip Kitching McNair, Jr., M.D., was born November 11, 1918, and was married to Jonatha Todd.

109. Craig McNair was born July 5, 1920, and was married to Rene Young.

110. James Malcolm McNair was born January 5, 1924, and was married to Ellen Blair.

52. Wallace Duncan McNair (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 27, 1886, and was married to Mary North Crosland. Children:

111. Wallace Duncan McNair, Jr., M.D., was born August 17, 1914, and was married to Rosa Prothro.

112. Annie McNair was born August 2, 1912, and was married to William Jones Dunbar.

53. James Preston McNair, Jr. (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 6, 1892, died April 7, 1943, at Kitchings Mill, South Carolina and was buried at the Tabernacle Church. He was married to Anna Lucy De Vore. Children:

113. James De Vore McNair was born May 21, 1917, and was married to Lorraine Spates Carlisle.

114. Thomas Theodore McNair was born November 26, 1918, and was married to Martha Frances Allen.

54. Elizabeth McNair (James Preston [23]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 8, 1912, and was married to Charles H. Marvin, Jr. Children:



- 115. James Marvin was born August 26, 1939.
- 116. Charles Marvin was born November 15, 1943.
- 117. Elizabeth Marvin was born April 7, 1944.

65. Wiley Evander McNair (Robert McCoy [29]<sup>4</sup> Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born November 27, 1900, at Jacksonville, Texas, and was married to Helen Rinehart of Dallas, Texas on June 14, 1922, at Dallas. Issue:

- 118. Thomas Rinehart McNair
- 119. Joan Aline McNair was born October 22, 1934, at Pasadena, California. She is at present (1959) an ensign in the nursing corps in the U. S. Navy Reserve.

#### SIXTH GENERATION

83. Mary Lena McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born December 9, 1904, and was married in June 1927 to Floyd Harris Patterson. He was born in 1902, died in 1951, and is probably buried in Texas. Children:

- 120. Mary Lou Patterson
- 121. Floyd Harris Patterson, Jr.
- 122. Patricia Ann Patterson

84. Annie Gupton McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born November 6, 1906, and was married January 10, 1933, to Walter D. Northrop who was born November 4, 1904. Children:

- 123. Charles McNair Northrop
- 124. Betty Ann Northrop

85. Charles Owens McNair, Jr. (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 4, 1909, and was married November 7, 1943,

to Margaret Smith who was born in 1919 and died October 17, 1944. Child:

125. Margaret Smith McNair was born October 17, 1944.

Charles Owens McNair, Jr. was married to Betsy Robeson in 1949 as his second wife. She was born in 1918. Child:

126. Julia B. McNair was born in 1950.

86. William Leslie McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 27, 1914, and was married in Long Beach, California, September 23, 1945, to Marie Gonzales who was born June 9, 1923. Children:

127. Ann Marie McNair was born in 1949.

128. Leslie Zoe McNair was born in 1953.

129. William Leslie McNair, Jr. was born in 1955.

87. Nelle Battle McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 20, 1919, and was married in June 1941 to Murphy Bethune McMillan who was born in Parkton, North Carolina in 1917. Children.

130. Linda Ann McMillan

131. Nancy McMillan

132. Ronald Bethune McMillan

133. Janelle Elizabeth McMillan

88. Jane Alford McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 16, 1921, and was married in 1945 to Le Roy F. Abernathy who was born at Hickory, North Carolina in 1925. Children:

134. David McNair Abernathy

135. Le Roy F. Abernathy, Jr.

136. Cynthia Jane Abernathy

137. Thomas Owens Abernathy

89. Elizabeth Thomas McNair (Charles Owens [31]<sup>5</sup> Sion McPherson [21]<sup>4</sup> Duncan [11]<sup>3</sup> John [2]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 18, 1923, and died August 31, 1955. She was married in 1948 in Bladen County, North Carolina to William Henry Davis who was born in 1922. They have two children.

118. Thomas Rinehart McNair (Wiley Evander [65]<sup>5</sup> Robert McCoy [29]<sup>4</sup> Dougald Patterson [18]<sup>3</sup> Robert [4]<sup>2</sup> Duncan [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born September 21, 1927, at Glendale, California, and was married to Lois Porter of Medford, Oregon on June 22, 1950, at Pasadena, California. Issue:

- 138. Michael Porter McNair was born December 24, 1953, at Pasadena, California.
- 139. Jeffrey Reed McNair was born January 13, 1956, at Pasadena, California.
- 140. Kathleen McNair was born May 8, 1959, at Pasadena, California.





McNAIRS AND McNEARS OF PENNSYLVANIA

*"For whoso reaps renown above the rest  
With heaps of hate shall surely be oppress'd."*

—said in relation to Sir Walter Raleigh in  
1575, Author unknown

*"He, who would free from malice pass his days,  
Must live obscure, and never merit praise."*

—Gay, Epis. iv. Line 81

*"In your professional career, you will receive attacks, personal and critical, just and unjust. Bear them, never reply and, above all, never rush into print to explain or defend yourself."*

—W. E. Gladstone, quoted in Langtry,  
Days I Knew. p. 169

*"When I was young they used to say people  
only threw stones at the tree that was loaded  
with fruit."*

—RACHEL FIELD

All This and Heaven Too. p. 262

*"Our doubts are traitors, And make us  
lose the good we oft might win By fearing to  
attempt."*

—SHAKESPEARE

Measure for Measure, Act I Sc. 4 Line 78

## DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT McNEAR AND AGNES (OR ANNE) ———<sup>1</sup>

1. ROBERT McNEAR was, according to his descendants, of Scotch-Irish descent. Perhaps Robert McNear and Agnes (or Anne) ——— were married in Northern Ireland before they came to America. The marriage record of the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia from 1702 to 1745 does not show their marriage,<sup>2</sup> nor is it to be found in any of the lists of marriages in the *Pennsylvania Archives*.

Neither the date and place of death nor a Will of Robert McNear has been found. The only Will found in Philadelphia that might apply to a Robert McNair or McNear is dated June 2, 1781, and probated in the year 1830, no. 36. This Robert was a native of Scotland and was married to Christiana Young (see page 252 of this book). The Register of Wills for York County, Pa., has no Will of a Robert McNear from 1749 (the date the records start) up to and including 1800. The records of the office of the register of wills for Adams County (Gettysburg, Pa.) go back only to February 1800 when Adams County was formed from York.

<sup>1</sup>All bibliographic references, unless otherwise stated, have been supplied by James B. McNair. Some information was obtained from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43), Mrs. Nellie I. McNair (34), and Mr. and Mrs. Harry McNair (53), and Mr. Robert Johnston McNair (48).

On a visit to Emmitsburg, Maryland, in April 1958 to Mr. and Mrs. Harry McNair (53), James B. McNair and Mr. McNair saw and made notes from McNair gravestones in the Emmitsburg Cemetery.

During April, May, and June 1958, James B. McNair made a trip to England and Scotland and examined the original army records of Sergeant Alexander McNeir in London.

<sup>2</sup>*Pennsylvania Archives*, second series, Vol. VIII, pp. 45-48.

The following children were baptized in the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia.<sup>3</sup>

2. Alexander McNear
3. Mary McNear was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 28, 1730.
4. Robert McNear was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1732.

## SECOND GENERATION

2. ALEXANDER MCNEAR (Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on January 8, 1727. On June 28, 1762, Alexander McNeir (McNair) volunteered for service in the Ninety-Fifth Regiment of Foot of the British Army. This regiment was formed in 1760 by Col. Ralph Burton from independent companies in North America.<sup>4</sup> In 1761 it took part in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians;<sup>5</sup> and after Alexander McNear joined it as an ensign it was instrumental in the capture of the island of Martinique in 1762.<sup>6</sup> In 1763 it was disbanded.<sup>7</sup>

In 1741 Alexander McNair was a resident of the Manor of Maske.<sup>8</sup> The Manor of Maske is a tract of land in what is now Adams County, Pennsylvania. It was laid out for the proprietaries' use and named the Manor of Maske. It comprises about one fifth of the lands of that county and is nearly a

<sup>3</sup>"Register of Baptisms 1701-1746, First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia." *The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, September 1954, Vol. XIX, pp. 291, 295, 296.

<sup>4</sup>*British Officers serving in America 1754-1774*, compiled from the "Army Lists" by W. C. Ford, Boston 1894. Original records in the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London, looked through by James B. McNair, June 1958; War Office 4/62 pp. 632, 646; 4/63 pp. 211, 213, 423, 425.

<sup>5</sup>War Office 34/40, p. 190.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, 1/19, p. 293; 34/6, p. 87; 34/7, p. 221; 34/48, p. 145.

<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, 4/71, pp. 395, 398, 399; 26/26, pp. 117, 119.

<sup>8</sup>"The Principal Lowland Scottish Families: with the Ratio of Frequent Scottish Names to Population," J. N. Eno, *Americana*, Vol. XIX, pp. 174-210, 1925.



perfect oblong, six miles wide and about twelve miles long. Between 1736 and 1740 it was settled by Scotch-Irish who had previously been residing in the lower end of York County.

Alexander McNear was also a private soldier in the War of the Revolution and as such received pay.<sup>9</sup>

The tax records of York county, Pennsylvania, show that Alexander McNare (McNear, McNair) paid taxes on from 260 to 360 acres and four horses and six cattle between 1779 and 1783 in Hamilton Bann Township.<sup>10</sup> When he wrote his last will in 1790, he had 375 acres in Pennsylvania and ten in Maryland adjoining his Pennsylvania land.<sup>11</sup>

Hamilton Bann Township, York County, in 1800 became all or part of Freedom Township, Adams County.

Alexander McNear married Margaret ———. He died on October 14, 1816, and she died on October 8, 1817, aged 85 years. They are both buried, as is their son Samuel, in the cemetery at Emmitsburg, Maryland. Their children are:

5. Samuel McNear
6. Isabella McNear married James Stevenson of Kentucky. Their children were Alexander and Margaret Stevenson.
7. Agnes McNear married Thomas Bigham.
8. Margaret McNear

### THIRD GENERATION

5. SAMUEL MCNEAR (McNair) (Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1764. On November 6, 1776, he was a bombardier in the Arnold Battery of the Pennsylvania Navy commanded by Jeremiah Simmons from December 1, 1776, to January 1, 1777.<sup>12</sup> He paid taxes on cattle in Hamilton

<sup>9</sup>*Pennsylvania Archives*, Fifth series, Vol. IV, p. 218.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, Third series, Vol. XXI, pp. 137, 282, 602, 731.

<sup>11</sup>Last Will and Testament of Alexander McNear, Register's Office for Adams County, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Will Book B, p. 498.

<sup>12</sup>*Pennsylvania Archives*, Fifth series, Vol. I, p. 426.

Bann Township, York County, Pennsylvania, from 1779 to 1782.<sup>13</sup> Under his father's will he fell heir to all his real estate, some 385 acres. Samuel's last will shows that he owned considerable additional land.<sup>14</sup> Samuel McNair aged 64 years and 9 months died June 2, 1828. His wife Livinia ——— born August 29, 1770, died November 30, 1842. Both are buried in Emmitsburg, Pennsylvania, cemetery. Their children are:

9. Elizabeth McNair died in 1817 aged 3 years, buried in Emmitsburg.
10. William McNair, died in 1824 aged 4 years, buried in Emmitsburg.
11. Susan McNair, died in 1826 aged 2 years, buried in Emmitsburg.
12. Margaret McNair married Benjamin Ellis and lived near Lewisburg, York County, Pa.
13. Alexander Hustan McNair graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1834. In 1837 his address is given as 260 Arch Street in the Philadelphia City Directory. In 1838 he was the author of a book, "Suggestions to Parents and Others on the Physical and Medical Treatment of Children, also diseases of females, together with a practical account of all the diseases to which the human body is liable, and more particularly of diseases of the spine, consumption of the lungs, dyspepsy, and nervous affections." V, 6-416 pp. 8° Philadelphia, W. F. Geddes.

This book must have been quite popular, because it was reprinted by the author in 1841 (viii, 8-496 pp. 8° Philadelphia).

On July 28, 1843, he was issued a patent for a Uterine Supporter.

In 1850 his address is given as 260 Mulberry (or Arch) Street in the Philadelphia City Directory.

<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, Third series, Vol. XXI, pp. 137, 282, 603.

<sup>14</sup>Last Will and Testament of Samuel McNair, Register's Office for Adams County, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Will Book D, p. 82.

In the year 1849 he wrote his last will,<sup>15</sup> which begins as follows:

I, Alexander H. McNair of the City of Philadelphia having become disgusted with the profession I have been employed at during seventeen years in consequence of a large majority of those employed as physicians being void of good morals, and destitute of a medical education. This and consequent want of confidence and reluctance which many persons have to compensating their medical attendants has caused me to abandon the profession for a time at least and to seek a livelihood in a distant country and as the voyage is attended with danger, I think it most prudent, to state the way I would have any money that may be collected or realized from the sale of merchandise distributed among my friends . . .

By March 11, 1850, Dr. McNair had died, for on this date his will was registered for probate in the Register's Office of the City and County of Philadelphia. The Department of Public Health of the City of Philadelphia has no record of his death on file prior to July 1, 1860, so it would appear that he died outside Philadelphia. Perhaps he joined the California gold rush.

14. Eugenea (Jane) McNair was married to Samuel Arthur, who resided near Emmitsburg and had died before 1850.
15. Agness McNair was married to William McCalister, who lived near Emmitsburg before 1850.
16. Samuel Scott McNair
17. Levinia McNair was born near Emmitsburg, August 18, 1809 and was married April 19, 1836 to Andrew Eyster. She died in Emmitsburg August 9, 1869 and he died there April 19, 1871. Their descendants include Mrs. Emma S. Eyster Kelly (deceased), formerly of 53 Clayton Ave., Waynesboro, Pa., and Mr. Hall W. Eyster, and Mrs. Zacharias both of Emmitsburg.

<sup>15</sup>Philadelphia County Will Book 24, 1850, Will No. 63, p. 175. Discovered by Mr. B. Hoff Knight in the employ of James B. McNair.



18. Maria McNair was married to Mr. M. Parson and resided near Emmitsburg before 1850.
19. Martha McNair was married to Mr. Toot (?) and resided near Emmitsburg previous to 1850.
20. Susannah McNair

## FOURTH GENERATION

16. SAMUEL SCOTT MCNAIR (Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 21, 1807. He was married to Statira Bigler (niece of Governor Bigler of California). She was born August 1, 1815, and died in Adams County, Pennsylvania, on January 5, 1885. Samuel Scott McNair died in Freedom Township, Adams County, on February 7, 1875. They are both buried in Emmitsburg cemetery. Their children (all born in Emmitsburg) are:

21. Alexander B. McNair
22. Hiram S. McNair
23. Samuel Newton McNair
24. William Burns McNair
25. Watson W. McNair
26. Jane McNair was born May 15, 1847, the twin of Watson W. McNair. She died February 22, 1858.
27. Ellen (Helen) McNair was born September 7, 1851, and lived unmarried in Baltimore, Maryland.<sup>16</sup>
28. Robert McNair was born August 5, 1853, and moved to the West.
29. Harry McNair
30. Margaret McNair was born June 21, 1859, and died April 23, 1908 in Emmitsburg.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>16</sup>The U. S. Census for 1850 on August 30, 1850, shows Samuel McNair to be a farmer in Freedom Township, Adams County, with real estate valued at \$9,000. It also lists the first seven of his children with their ages.

<sup>17</sup>Additional information from Mrs. Mary D. Martin, (43), Harrisburg, Pa., and Mrs. Harry McNair (53), Emmitsburg, Pa.



# FIFTH GENERATION

21. ALEXANDER B. MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Emmitsburg, Maryland, October 12, 1836.

As a farmer of Carroll County, Maryland, he volunteered on August 25, 1862, as a sergeant in Company E of the 15th Regiment of Pennsylvania Cavalry commanded by Captain Clark, and was honorably discharged on June 21, 1865. On September 19, 1865, he was married to Amelia Salina Jacobs at Green Mountain, Pennsylvania. She was born December 9, 1840, and died in Crescent, Oklahoma, July 10, 1921. Mr. McNair died April 26, 1904, at Perth, Summer County, Kansas.<sup>18</sup> Their children are:

31. Harry Jacobs McNair
32. Helen Amanda McNair
33. Grace Statira McNair was a resident of Tulsa, Oklahoma.
34. Samuel G. S. McNair

22. HIRAM S. MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>).

He was born in Adams County, Pennsylvania near the Maryland line in 1838. He was of Scotch-Irish parentage. After attending schools in his native county, he entered Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, from which institution he was graduated.

In 1861 he enlisted in Cole's Maryland Cavalry, in which he served as sergeant and lieutenant until 1864, when he resigned to assist in recruiting a company for the Third Maryland Cavalry. He was made a lieutenant and later became captain of the company. While an officer in the Third Maryland Cavalry, Major McNair served in New Orleans while that city was under the military rule of General Benjamin Butler, and took part in the Banks' expedition on the Red River. When the war closed he was discharged from the army with

<sup>18</sup>Pension application file WC578 455, General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Washington 25, D. C., as well as information from Mrs. S. G. McNair (34), Route 4, Wellington, Kansas.

the rank of major. During the war he received a gun shot wound in the hand and a sabre wound on the head.

On his return from the army the young soldier entered the law office of Henry L. Fisher as a student and subsequently was admitted to the local bar. He built up a large practice. At one time he stood among those foremost in the legal profession in York County.

For a number of years he was editor and publisher of the *York Republican*, a weekly newspaper of considerable merit and power. At one time he with a partner was engaged in the retail dry goods business.

Major McNair was a member of General John Sedgwick post, no. 37, Grand Army of the Republic, and was a member of the pension committee of the post.

Major McNair was married to Nettie T. Hauer of York, Pennsylvania, on June 16, 1868, by the Rev. Dr. Mitchell in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. She died at Spring Forge, York County, Pa. on April 4, 1894, and her husband died on November 3, 1906, at York, Pa. They had two children.

35. Samuel Hauer McNair, born October 15, 1878.

36. Bigler Hoyt McNair, born June 16, 1883, who enlisted in the United States Navy.<sup>19</sup>

23. SAMUEL NEWTON MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>).

Was born in Freedom township, Adams county, Pennsylvania on September 4, 1840. At the age of twenty on August 26, 1861, he enlisted, at its organization, in Company C, Cole's Maryland Cavalry. He was constantly with the company until the fight with Stuart's Cavalry at Leesburg, Virginia, September 2, 1862, in which battle he was severely wounded by a bullet that passed through his left lung. This wound never healed and for almost forty-seven years he patiently endured the suffering that finally caused his death.

The following is taken from an account written by the late Major O. A. Horner, officer in Cole's Cavalry. "At the time he received the

<sup>19</sup>The preceding was taken from the *York Dispatch* of November 5, 1906, and from pension application file No. S.C. 215814, General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Services, Washington, 25, D. C.

wound he was mounted and his horse carried him from the battlefield in the direction of Point of Rocks. Exhausted from the loss of blood and the severity of his wound he fell from his horse and lay prostrate in the road. The enemy found his body there but judging him fatally wounded they passed by. After the Confederate forces fell back his brother, the late H. S. McNair, then a lieutenant, and a few other comrades found him and procured a wagon and conveyed him to the Point of Rocks, where he was placed on board the cars and taken to the hospital at Frederick.

"His wound was considered fatal and his sufferings were intense but the same will that helped him in his last illness stood him in better stead at that time and by December of the same year he was able to walk. He left the barracks one day, walked up to the Dill House where he saw the stage starting for Emmitsburg. The driver at his request allowed him to take passage and he rode to Emmitsburg and was taken to his home the same night.

"The ride was too much for him and he took to his bed to remain there for a long time. The march of the armies Northward roused him and in June 1863 previous to the fight at Gettysburg he felt strong enough to again mount his horse with three comrades from his old company, Gwinn, Wolf and Crooks, he started for Gettysburg on the 29th of June and was the first Union soldier to enter Gettysburg after Ewell's Division moved North toward York.

"He and his companions stopped at the Eagle Hotel and shortly after they arrived citizens told them that a Confederate cavalryman was coming up the street. Young McNair and his friends captured this fellow who afterward proved to be a carrier of despatches from Lee to Ewell. He was lodged in jail.

"McNair and his party returned to the hotel. A little while after a stranger in citizens dress passed by. The soldiers remarked a peculiar military bearing about the stranger that indicated he was a soldier. Although the other members of the party opposed, Mr. McNair started in pursuit and being better mounted gained on the man who was making every effort to get away. Shots were exchanged between the two, the stranger shooting rapidly, McNair just frequently enough to draw the other's fire. When the young Union soldier judged that the other had spent his ammunition he spurred his horse and captured him. The man proved to be a 'Johnie' but when he surrendered said he was a chaplain. McNair replied 'Yes! a fighting chaplain, evidently



from the way in which you are armed and your manner of using your gun.' This prisoner was brought back to Gettysburg and also jailed.

"Hearing that Lee's army was camping West of Gettysburg, towards Cashtown and Bendersville, McNair and his three friends concluded they would make a reconnaissance of the enemy's position. So off they started and when they reached Bream's Tavern they came upon a Rebel artilleryman, who they captured, he having strolled outside the lines to replenish his canteens with whiskey, two freshly filled ones being found upon his person. Finding the rebels were encamped only a short distance beyond this, they returned to the town with their prisoner. When they reached the top of Seminary Ridge they found a regiment of cavalry in their front, who had come in on the Bendersville road during their absence.

"The 'Johnnies' immediately made a dash for our boys, who with their prisoner, beat a hasty retreat across by McMillan's to the Emmitsburg road which they reached in safety, the Rebel cavalry in hot pursuit, chasing them at a rapid rate towards Emmitsburg. Fortunately for the three intrepid soldiers at about the peach orchard, they met the advance of Buford's cavalry, the sight of which caused a sudden halt and 'right about wheel' of their pursuers. The prisoner was safely turned over to General Buford, to whom McNair and his comrades tendered their services as scouts and were retained by the General during the entire battle of Gettysburg.

"It was this little band of Company C, Cole's Cavalry, that captured the first Rebels on the famous battlefield of Gettysburg.

"After rendering General Buford valuable service during the battle, McNair and some of his companions on Saturday night, July 4th, found their way back to Emmitsburg. Stuart's cavalry dashing into the place on Sunday morning captured them with others at Hoffman's Hotel. McNair and Gwinn were taken over the mountain but during the first night, when about Boonsboro, they made their escape and came back to Emmitsburg finding their horses had been saved for them by Harry Hoffman."

Here the account written by Major Horner ends. Enough, though, has been told to gauge the character and fearlessness of this young patriot whose record has just been closed.

In the life of Gen. Philip H. Sheridan by Frank A. Burr and Richard J. Hinton is told the pathetic story of the assistance rendered



by Samuel McNair to the young Confederate who had befriended him. It is recounted in this wise:

On that sultry day in September when the gallant McNair was wounded in the fight at Leesburg, his brother as told above, had found him and four others, and placed them under an apple tree near a house. The twelfth Virginia cavalry was rapidly approaching and Hiram McNair knew that he must get his wounded brother and friends from this place. They were suffering terribly and a wagon must be had. The officer sought the farmer whose name the place bore, Paxton's Crossroads. He found a young man who refused all offers of money for the service he was about to do them. He said that he was a Confederate but he would do to these men as he would wish them to do for him in similar circumstances. He gave them a wagon and saw them safe to the river.

Almost two years afterwards at the battle of Loudoun Heights, Samuel McNair found a young Confederate wounded in the neck unto death. He was covered with blood and unrecognizable. He asked his name and it was the same Paxton who had so nobly assisted him under like circumstances. It is needless to say everything was done for the poor fellow's comfort, and McNair stayed by him as he died.

These are but a few incidents in Mr. McNair's army life which was full of the glory that surrounds a true soldier.

He stayed with his company until he was discharged January 7, 1865, on a surgeon's certificate. His company was mustered out five years later.<sup>20</sup>

He returned to Emmitsburg, where he was postmaster for many years. On February 16, 1871, he was married by Reverend John M. Titzel to Miss Mary Antoinette Moritz. She was born April 16, 1839, and died April 4, 1907. Her husband died June 5, 1909. They are both buried in Mountain View cemetery, Emmitsburg. Their children are:

<sup>20</sup>Obituary account from an Emmitsburg (?) newspaper in the family Bible of Robert Johnston McNair (48). Pension application No. SC97909 at General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Services, Washington 25, D. C. Information from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43), Harrisburg, Pa.

37. Ethel J. McNair, born January 23, 1872, and married to W. S. Speed.
38. Pauline McNair, born March 12, 1873, and married to E. L. Anan.
39. Antoinette McNair, born March 21, 1875, died August 17, 1876.
40. Mary Scott McNair, born October 18, 1877, died unmarried.

24. WILLIAM BURNS MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 14, 1845, in Freedom Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania. On February 2, 1864, he enrolled as a private in Company B of the 21st Regiment of Pennsylvania Cavalry and on July 8, 1865, he was honorably discharged at Lynchburg, Virginia.<sup>21</sup>

He was married March 14, 1876, in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, by Reverend Crawford to Miss Mary Jane Eckenrode, who was born in Harney, Maryland, December 13, 1847. She died December 14, 1914, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and her husband died February 26, 1920, at Emmitsburg, Maryland. Their children are:

41. William Burns McNair, Jr., was born March 5, 1878, and died in March 1931.
42. Scott Hiram McNair was born May 31, 1880, and died in Emmitsburg, Maryland, April 15, 1954.
43. Mary Dula McNair
44. Samuel Sylvester McNair

25. WATSON W. MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 15, 1847, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Watson W. McNair, alias Martin McNair, enlisted as a private March 13, 1865, at Emmitsburg, Maryland, in Company F of the First Regiment Potomac

<sup>21</sup>Pension Application No. SC 213646 in the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Washington 25, D. C. Information also from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43).

Home Brigade, Maryland Volunteer Cavalry, and was honorably discharged July 3, 1865, at Baltimore, Maryland.

He was a farmer when he enlisted, and since leaving the service has resided in Iowa, Wyoming, and from 1897 in Colorado.

In 1875 he was married to Mary Jane Tuttle in Lewis Cass County, Iowa, by S. M. Steward, Justice of the Peace.<sup>22</sup> Their children are:

- 45. Eddie R. McNair, born May 10, 1877.
- 46. Ralph L. McNair, born April 21, 1881.
- 47. Cecil May McNair, born April 30, 1888.

29. HARRY MCNAIR (Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born June 21, 1859, (the twin of his sister Margaret) at Emmitsburg, Maryland. "Although living across the line (in Freedom township, Adams County, Pennsylvania), Emmitsburg claimed him as one of her citizens, and hardly a day passed when Mr. McNair was in full health that he was not to be seen in the community, where he was very popular and much esteemed by all. Mr. McNair conducted a very large and successful business, that of a dealer in livestock, and was widely known not only in Pennsylvania and in Maryland, but throughout Virginia and West Virginia where he dealt extensively."<sup>23</sup>

He was married to Miss Alice Amanda Keilholtz, who was born February 20, 1863, and died February 25, 1919. Mr. McNair died on April 23, 1908, and was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Emmitsburg. Their children are:

<sup>22</sup>Pension application No. SC 866636 at the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Services, Washington 25, D. C. Information also from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43).

<sup>23</sup>Obituary notice in an Emmitsburg (?) newspaper in the family Bible of Robert Johnston McNair (48). Additional information from Mrs. Harry McNair (53).



48. Robert Johnston McNair
49. Ethel Maude McNair was born November 27, 1886, and was married October 29, 1913, to Milford Musselman.
50. Carrie May McNair was born November 18, 1888, and was married August 28, 1908, to Walter C. Plank.
51. Mary Elizabeth McNair was born March 31, 1891, and was married to Philip Deimler of Hummelstown, Pennsylvania.
52. Benjamin Samuel McNair was born February 19, 1893.
53. Harry McNair
54. Charles Alexander McNair was born June 19, 1895 (the twin of Harry), and died March 27, 1955.
55. Alice Scott McNair was born October 16, 1898, and was married to Charles Weigand, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
56. Helen Catherine McNair was born July 1, 1903, and was married to Irum Croney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

#### SIXTH GENERATION

31. HARRY JACOBS MCNAIR (Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born March 14, 1869, at Taneytown, Maryland. He was married at Perth, Kansas, on December 24, 1891, to Cora Jane Slade, who was born at Concord, Tennessee, on May 4, 1871. He died at Neodesha, Kansas, on December 23, 1943, and she died about a year later on October 29, 1944, at Wichita, Kansas.<sup>24</sup> Their children are:

57. Guy Edgar McNair was born March 3, 1895, at Perth, Kansas. On February 20, 1921, he was married to Ruby E. Clay at Kansas City, Missouri, and on September 1923 to Johnny A. Garrett at Kansas City, Missouri. There are no children.
58. Floyd Slade McNair
59. Harry Maurice McNair was born September 9, 1904, and died April 11, 1907, at Wakeeney, Kansas.
60. Warham Samuel McNair

<sup>24</sup>Information from Mrs. S. G. McNair (34), and from Warham S. McNair (60).



32. HELEN AMANDA MCNAIR (Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married to Martin O. Walling now deceased. The family at one time lived at Tonkawa, Oklahoma, and later at Lawrence, Kansas. Mrs. Walling is now (1958) living in San Diego, California.<sup>25</sup> Their children are:

- 61. Dora Walling
- 62. Vie Walling
- 63. Grace Walling
- 64. Beula Walling
- 65. William Walling
- 66. Harry Walling, deceased.

33. GRACE STATIRA MCNAIR (Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was married to Bert J. Herron now deceased. Mrs. Herron resides at 2664 South Trenton, Tulsa 5, Oklahoma.<sup>26</sup> Their children are:

- 67. Chester E. Herron
- 68. Pauline Herron
- 69. Helen Herron
- 70. Florence Herron
- 71. Rosemond Herron
- 72. Romona Herron

34. SAMUEL G. S. MCNAIR (Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 28, 1876, at Taneytown, Maryland. On June 27, 1897, he was married in a Lutheran Church in Perth, Kansas, to Nellie Irene Chance, who was born February 8, 1873, in West Chester, Ohio. On November 29, 1949, Mr. McNair died in Perth, Kansas.<sup>27</sup> Their children are:

<sup>25</sup>Information from Mrs. S. G. McNair (34).

<sup>26</sup>*Idem.*

<sup>27</sup>*Idem.*

- 73. Golda Isabella McNair was married to Mr. Meyerhoff.
- 74. Mary Irene McNair was married to Mr. Edmonds.
- 75. Estella Marie McNair was married to Mr. Kuhn.

43. MARY DULA MCNAIR (William Burns [24]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born January 15, 1882, in Emmitsburg, Maryland. On April 27, 1906, she was married in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to Levi G. Martin, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1882. He died in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on May 6, 1929.<sup>28</sup> Their children are:

- 76. William T. Martin was born July 1, 1909, in Harrisburg, Pa., and died May 15, 1941. He was married and left a son, William Charles Martin, now a member of the US Air Force.
- 77. Levi Henry Martin, was born May 30, 1920, in Harrisburg, Pa. He is married and has two children, Pat and Michael Martin.

44. SAMUEL SYLVESTER MCNAIR (William Burns [24]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>), 805 Broad Street, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, was born December 17, 1884, at Emmitsburg, Maryland. In 1905 he was married in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Minnie Bausman. She was born at New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, and died in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, in November 1926. The children of Samuel Sylvester McNair and Minnie Bausman are:<sup>29</sup>

- 78. Mildred McNair was born in 1905.
- 79. Samuel McNair was born in 1906.
- 80. Gladis McNair was born in 1910.
- 81. William K. McNair
- 82. Carrie McNair was born in 1914.
- 83. Helen McNair was born in 1916.

<sup>28</sup>Information from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43).

<sup>29</sup>*Idem.*

84. Beatrice McNair was born in 1918.

85. Faye McNair was born in 1920.

48. ROBERT JOHNSTON MCNAIR (Harry [29]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in Adams County, Pennsylvania, September 9, 1885. On January 7, 1916, he was married in Fairfield, Pennsylvania, to Eva Grace Stoops, who was born in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. Their children, all born in Freedom Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania, are:<sup>30</sup>

86. Margaret McNair was born October 7, 1919, and was married to James W. Bigham on February 17, 1945.

87. Robert McNair was born May 25, 1923.

88. Samuel McNair was born December 19, 1924, and was married to Jean Carmen Tate on June 11, 1949.

53. HARRY MCNAIR (Harry [29]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born near Fairfield, Adams County, Pennsylvania, June 19, 1895. On June 26, 1917, he was married in Thurmont, Maryland, to Helen Elizabeth Baumgardner, who was born at Emmitsburg, Maryland, September 11, 1895. Their children, all born at Emmitsburg, are:<sup>31</sup>

89. Helen Elizabeth McNair was born October 29, 1920, and was married on June 29, 1942, in Emmitsburg to James U. Neely, Arrtonna, Pennsylvania.

90. Mary Anna McNair was born August 12, 1922, and was married August 1944 in Philadelphia to William Burns, 4561 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, California.

91. Patricia McNair was born June 11, 1924, and was married July 30, 1949, in Baltimore, Maryland, to James Svehla, 1827 Ellinwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland.

<sup>30</sup>Information supplied by Mrs. Harry McNair (53).

<sup>31</sup>*Idem.*



92. Alice Louise McNair was born January 15, 1926, and was married in October 1945 in Emmitsburg, to Claude E. Campbell, 124 North Lake Side Drive, Levittown, Pennsylvania.
93. Rebecca Jane McNair was born August 29, 1927, and was married January 2, 1949, in Emmitsburg to Warren Wisotzley, Littlestown, Pennsylvania, Rural Delivery 2.
94. Harry Thomas McNair was born March 27, 1929, and was married September 26, 1948, in Emmitsburg to Mildred Glass, York, Pennsylvania, Rural Delivery 1.
95. Peninah Morrison McNair was born February 2, 19—, and was married December 25, 1950, in Emmitsburg to Donald P. Smith, Woodsboro, Maryland.
96. Paul David McNair was born November 9, 1934, and was married January 1, 1954, in Emmitsburg to Evelyn Plaine, Taneytown, Maryland.
97. Carolyn Yvonne McNair was born July 6, 1936, and was married July 3, 1955, in Emmitsburg to Calvin Amoss, Taneytown, Maryland.

#### SEVENTH GENERATION

58. FLOYD SLADE MCNAIR (Harry Jacobs [31]<sup>6</sup> Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born May 25, 1899, in Perth, Kansas. On December 24, 1923, he was married to Esther Catherine Everett at Larned, Kansas. Their children are:<sup>32</sup>

98. Mary Catherine McNair, born February 4, 1926, at Neodesha, Kansas, was married to Arch N. Wallace on August 11, 1949, at Minneapolis, Minnesota.
99. Ruth Carol McNair, born February 2, 1935, at Neodesha, Kansas.

60. WARHAM SAMUEL MCNAIR (Harry Jacobs [31]<sup>6</sup> Alexander B. [21]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born August 30, 1909, at Wakeeney, Kansas. He was married May 4, 1933, at Chicago,

<sup>32</sup>Information from Warham S. McNair. 15553 Rose Drive, South Holland, Illinois.



Illinois, to Jennie DeBok Ostenhof. Their children are:<sup>33</sup>

100. Barbara Jean McNair, born September 17, 1934, at Roseland, Illinois, was married to Richard W. Kellenbarger, who was born at Harvey, Illinois.
101. Sandra Joyce McNair, born January 15, 1938, at Roseland, Illinois, was married to Wayne Victor Burton, January 12, 1957, at Harvey, Illinois.
102. Marsha Jane McNair, born December 11, 1945, at Harvey, Illinois.

81. WILLIAM K. MCNAIR (Samuel Sylvester [44]<sup>6</sup> William Burns [24]<sup>5</sup> Samuel Scott [16]<sup>4</sup> Samuel [5]<sup>3</sup> Alexander [2]<sup>2</sup> Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1912. His children are:<sup>34</sup>

103. Almeda McNair was born January 28, 1934.
104. Kathryn McNair was born March 12, 1935.
105. Samuel E. McNair was born May 8, 1937.
106. William K. McNair, Jr., was born April 8, 1938.
107. Josephine R. McNair was born May 7, 1939.
108. Alice Faye McNair was born July 17, 1940.
109. Nancy O. McNair was born March 15, 1943.
110. Leeroy McNair was born September 9, 1941.
111. Mary Ellen McNair was born November 25, 1950.

<sup>33</sup>*Idem.*

<sup>34</sup>Information from Mrs. Mary D. Martin (43).

## DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT McNAIR AND CHRISTIANA YOUNG<sup>1</sup>

1. ROBERT McNAIR, saddler, came to Philadelphia, probably from Glasgow, Scotland, in 1779 or before, because his name is found as a taxpayer of the Middle Ward for that year.<sup>2</sup> The next year, 1780, he is again listed as a taxpayer in the Middle Ward.<sup>3</sup> He evidently sold this property and moved to the South Ward during the same year, as he purchased the premises at 232 Chestnut Street in the year 1780, having taken title to the same by a Deed dated May 5, 1780, and recorded in Deed Book No. 2, page 209.

On May 19, 1781, he was called into actual service as a private in the company of Captain Ezekial Letts, in the Fifth Class, Philadelphia militia.<sup>4</sup>

On June 2, 1781, he signed his will and died later during the same year, as the property in the South Ward is taxed as "For Widow McNair's estate."<sup>5</sup> In his will the following interesting item appears: In case all of his heirs die before his property is distributed he desires that his real estate be sold "for such prices as they can reasonably obtain and dispose of the monies arising from said sale and also the amount of the

<sup>1</sup>Data taken from *G.W.R.*, Vol. XXXI, pp. 388 ff. (Philadelphia) and from the Will of Robert McNair, Book 9, page 462, No. 36 (1830) of wills of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. Both of the foregoing were supplied through the courtesy of Arthur A. Gretz, assistant title officer, the Real Estate-Land Title and Trust Co., Philadelphia. References to the *Pennsylvania Archives* were supplied by James B. McNair.

<sup>2</sup>"Effective Supply Tax of the City of Philadelphia—1779," *Pennsylvania Archives*, Third Series, Vol. XIV, p. 501.

<sup>3</sup>"Effective Supply Tax of the City of Philadelphia 1780," *Ibid.*, Vol. XV, pp. 196, 249.

<sup>4</sup>*Pennsylvania Archives*, Sixth Series, Vol. I, p. 92.

<sup>5</sup>"Effective Supply Tax of the City of Philadelphia 1781," *op. cit.*, Vol. XV, p. 741; Vol. XVI, p. 785.

said principal monies with the interest thereof, if any shall be then due in manner following. That is to say they shall pay one equal moiety thereof to the Contributors of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the use and benefit of that useful and charitable institution and the other moiety thereof they shall remit to the City of Glasgow in Scotland and cause the same to be paid to such person or persons as have the charge of a useful charitable institution there the proper name of which I am not certainly acquainted with but which was commonly called the poor house when I was last there and is situated upon the beach below the Bridge. by whatsoever name the said institution of right is or ought to be called and whether the same be a corporate body or of private constitution for the use and benefit of said institution."

He married Christiana Young, a native of Scotland.  
Children:

2. John McNair died in his minority unmarried and without issue.
3. Margaret D. McNair

#### SECOND GENERATION

3. MARGARET D. MCNAIR (Robert [1]<sup>1</sup>) married ———  
Hawkins and had issue:

4. Christiana McNair Hawkins, who married William Haysett (or Hagsett).
5. Lucy Jane Hawkins, who married William Shannon.



DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS McNAIR  
AND ANN WALLACE AND MARY STRAIN<sup>a</sup>

An examination in 1956 in Genealogical Office (Office of Arms) in Dublin Castle, Dublin, Irish Free State, and of a considerable amount of material at the Public Record Office and the Registry of Deeds did not reveal any information concerning this McNair (McNear) family. There is no McNair pedigree on record in the Genealogical Office, nor is any isolated reference to this family to be found in the records examined. The Index of Grantors, at the Registry of Deeds, was examined under the names Robert McNair, Thomas McNair and William McNair (McNear) for the period 1758 to 1832, but no entry came to light. Again, there is no reference to the name McNair in the Index of Lands, County Donegal, under Belnacor or Ballynacor for the period 1708 to 1832. Searches in records relating specifically to Donegal at the Public Record Office also proved negative. Apart from the reference to the date of the Will of Robert MacNear, 1741, of Magavlen, in the Index of Wills for the Diocese of Raphoe, County Donegal, there is no record of the name. The Will of Robert MacNear was destroyed in 1922 and no copy or abstract appears to have survived or have since been lodged. The *Memorials of the Dead*, Vols. 1-12, were also consulted, but no reference to McNair of Donaghmore parish was found. The only reference to the name is in Easkey Churchyard, County Sligo, where there are tombstones erected to a Samuel McNair, esq., of Seafield, died December 24, 1817, age 61, and to a William McNair who died February 14, 1798, aged 70 (Vol. 12, p. 330). Owing to the destruction of many valuable records at various times, it frequently proves impos-

<sup>a</sup>Additional material to that in *Supplement 1955*, pp. 292-394 and previous volumes.



sible to trace a family which did not own or have a long lease of land or other property.

The following sources were consulted at the Genealogical Office:

- Index to Registered Pedigrees (G.O. 469)
- Index to Unofficial Pedigrees (G.O. 470)
- Index to Prerogative Wills (Vicars)
- Index to Wills at the Genealogical Office (G.O. 429)
- Prerogative Administrations Intestate (G.O. 259)
- Obituary Notices from Newspapers (G.O. 550)
- Memorials of the Dead, Vols. 1-12

The following sources were consulted at the Registry of Deeds:

Index of Grantors, 1758-1832, under Robert MacNair, Thomas MacNair and William MacNair

Index of Lands, County Donegal, 1708-1832, under Belnacor and Ballynacor

The following sources were consulted at the Public Record Office:

- Index to Prerogative Wills, 1811-58
- Index to Wills, Diocese of Raphoe
- Index to Administrations Intestate, Diocese of Raphoe
- Index to Marriage Licenses, Diocese of Raphoe
- Valuation of County Donegal, 1856, edited by Griffith
- Tithe Applotment Book, Donaghmore Parish, *circa* 1820.
- Index to Crosslé Genealogical Collections
- Index to Crosslé Testamentary Collections
- Index to Wills Salved and Presented

On May 15, 1791, Robert McNear wrote a letter to his brother, Thomas. This was dated at Belnacor. Belnacor was probably what is now known as the townland of Ballynacor in the Barony of Raphoe South in the Parish of Donaghmore.

In the Census of Ireland for 1911 it contained a population of 58 and an area of 700 acres.<sup>1</sup>

In 1815 the townland of Ballynacor had a population of approximately 45 persons. Most of these apparently were farmers and raised peas, wheat, oats, barley, meadow, flax, and potatoes. At this time there were in Ballynacor a Robert McAnear and a Thomas McAnear. They had no acreage nor any crops planted. Five other persons besides Robert and Thomas McAnear had no plantings listed. All of these 45 persons were assessed (?) 14 or 15 shillings dues.<sup>2</sup>

In 1761 a John McNear was one of the electors in County Donegal. His residence was in Minimore (probably Money-more in Raphoe North in the Parish of Raymoghly) and his landlord was a Mr. Howard.<sup>3</sup>

Between January 1, 1789, and June 22, 1790, a Robert McNare was a Freeholder in Dooballagh in Raphoe North in the Parish of Leck near Letterkenny. However, between December 1, 1775, and December 1, 1781, no McNairs, nor McAnears, etc. are listed.<sup>4</sup>

1. Thomas McNair, according to his grandson, Thomas Speer McNair, was a Freemason. The nearest Masonic lodge to the residence of Thomas McNair was Perseverance Lodge No. 21, F. & A.M. This lodge held meetings in "Campbell's Brick House" on the Union Deposit Road, near the Paxtang

<sup>1</sup>*Census of Ireland, 1911 Area, Houses, and Population . . . Province of Ulster. Summary Tables.* London, 1912, p. 67. In the Linen Hall Library, Northern Ireland, Belfast.

<sup>2</sup>*The Dews of the South Side of the Parish of Donaghmore for the Reverend Robert Ball.* (Not a Presbyterian minister) *for the Year 1815.* Public Record Office, Class FIN. V. No. 109B. Public Record Office, Law Courts, May Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

<sup>3</sup>*Roll of the Electors of County Donegal 1761-76.* Public Record Office, Belfast, Transcript No. 808-14999.

<sup>4</sup>*Returns of the Irish House of Commons Preserved in the Record Office Dublin. Freeholders Registered in County Donegal 1 January 1789 to 22 June 1790.* Public Record Office, Benfast, Transcript 808, No. 15006.

By-Pass. This is the building in which Lodge 21 was constituted in Revolutionary Days. It has been occupied 35 years (before 1954) by William H. Mader, farmer and member of the Masonic order, who said the interior layout is much the same as it was when the lodge was established, except that it has been modernized and repaired.

"The first Perseverance Lodge charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of London, October 4, 1779. Matthew Smith was the first master, and William Boyd and William McCulloch were the other two principal officers. With two additional officers of the Continental Army, they formed the lodge in the Campbell House November 10, 1779. The Campbell House was a tavern until 1820.

"The original meeting place," then considered far out in the wilds, was described at that time as being "on the Provincial Road, between Harris Ferry and Reading." Sometimes the original lodge met in homes of members and frequently "winter meetings were omitted because of cold weather."

"When the Provincial Grand Lodge became independent of the Grand Lodge of Great Britain, September 25, 1786, the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge took over in this commonwealth and on March 15, 1787, issued a substitute charter to Perseverance. That charter is still in effect. Masonry regards Perseverance as the second oldest lodge in the state.

"Colonel Smith, first Perseverance master, served with the provincial forces in the French and Indian Wars, and was one of two commissioners sent to Philadelphia in 1764 to 'ask the Quaker provincial Assembly for protection against the marauding Indians.'"<sup>5</sup>

William Boyd (1733-1808), a charter member, and the second worshipful master of Lodge 21, had a brother, Joseph

<sup>5</sup>"Perseverance Lodge to Mark 175th Anniversary Nov. 11," *The Evening News*, Harrisburg, Pa., Thursday, November 4, 1954.



Boyd, who married Elizabeth Wallace. Elizabeth Wallace was the sister of Ann-Maria Wallace who married Thomas McNair (1737-1830). Thomas McNair was also one of the executors of the estate of Joseph Boyd.

The existing records of Lodge No. 21 in Harrisburg go back only to 1843 as a result of the anti-Masonic era.<sup>6</sup> A search made by George A. Avery, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, shows that as far back as 1779, Thomas McNair was not a member of Lodge 21 nor of any other lodge in the state of Pennsylvania.<sup>7</sup>

Thomas McNair's son, William, was made a Master Mason of Lodge No. 101, Palmstown (Palmyra), Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, July 28, 1808. (See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 297.)

Thomas McNair was twenty-three years of age when he came to Pennsylvania from Donaghmore Parish, County Donegal, Ireland, and he may have been a member of some lodge in Ireland.

Thomas McNair, besides being a Freemason, may also have been a member of the Coopers Guild. In his will (previous to the one probated) dated February 24, 1768, he states that he is a cooper and in his church certificate from Ireland (dated August 20, 1762) it is stated that he "has industriously followed his business." In his diary, under date of August 20, 1802, he writes that he has made a butter keg and mended a tub for Valentine Balsbaugh.

According to Dr. William H. Egle,<sup>8</sup> Thomas McNair, who was in Timothy Green's Battalion, "was in the Jerseys

<sup>6</sup>Letter dated January 22, 1955 at Harrisburg, Pa., from Wallace H. Alexander, Past Master, to James B. McNair.

<sup>7</sup>Letter from George A. Avery—dated January 26, 1955 at Philadelphia to James B. McNair.

<sup>8</sup>Then Pennsylvania State Librarian, in a letter to Thomas S. McNair, dated Harrisburg, April 20, 1890.



assisting to cover the retreat of Washington, in which all the Associated Battalions of Lancaster County participated and performed most excellent service." "Captain Brown's company was in active service during the campaign around Philadelphia, also at Trenton and Princeton."<sup>9</sup>

After Washington's Army was badly defeated in the battle of Long Island (August 27, 1776), it retreated toward New Jersey, and during November and December streamed across the state toward Philadelphia.

Thomas Paine says, "I shall not now attempt to give all the particulars of our retreat to the Delaware; suffice it for the present to say, that both officers and men, though greatly harassed and fatigued, frequently without rest, covering or provision—the inevitable consequences of a long retreat—bore it with a manly and martial spirit. All their wishes centered in one; which was, that the country would turn out and help them drive the enemy back."<sup>10</sup>

"While our army was collected, Howe dared not risk a battle: and it is no credit to him that he decamped from the White Plains, and waited a mean opportunity to ravage the defenseless Jerseys; but it is great credit to us, that with a handful of men we sustained an orderly retreat for near a hundred miles, brought off our ammunition, all our field-pieces, the greatest part of our stores, and had four rivers to pass. None can say that our retreat was precipitate; for we were near three weeks in performing it, that the country might have time to come in. Twice we marched back to meet the

<sup>9</sup>His exact record of service is given in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1955, p. 294.

<sup>10</sup>T. Paine, *Library of the World's Best Literature*, p. 10980. In August 1776, he joined the Pennsylvania Associators as voluntary secretary to Genl. Roberdeau and on September 19 was appointed aide-de-camp to Genl. Greene who was at Fort Lee in New Jersey.

enemy, and remained out till dark. The sign of fear was not seen in our camp.”<sup>11</sup>

However, “it was a dark hour for the American cause. Morale in the army and on the home front was at its lowest ebb; a feeling prevailed that the enemy was invincible and that the war might as well end now. Naturally, the Tory speakers and newspapers emphasized that there was no hope for America other than in capitulation, and the flight of Congress from Philadelphia to Baltimore made these arguments seem plausible.

“Seated by a campfire near Newark, New Jersey, Paine started work on an appeal to the people in this hour of crisis. When he was finished, he rushed to Philadelphia and published in the *Pennsylvania Journal* of December 19, 1776, his *Crisis I*, and almost immediately it was issued in three pamphlet editions.”<sup>12</sup>

“Washington was planning a surprise attack which would give to American affairs ‘a more pleasant aspect than they now have.’ On Christmas eve, 1776, Washington and his decimated forces were rowed across the Delaware to launch a surprise attack upon the slumbering Hessians who were stationed below Trenton. Before the soldiers embarked to battle the floes, a blizzard, and the swift current of the river, they listened, at Washington’s command, to a reading of Paine’s new pamphlet.

“The opening words alone—‘These are the times that try men’s souls: the summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it NOW, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.’—inspired the ragged Continentals and played

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 10983.

<sup>12</sup>*The Complete Writings of Thomas Paine*. Ed. by P. S. Foner. New York, 1945. Introduction, pp. xv and xvi.

a crucial role in the gaining of the much-needed victory against overwhelming enemy forces at Trenton."<sup>13</sup>

16. Thomas B. (Bartles?) McNair,<sup>14</sup> was born October 23, 1832, in Montgomery County, Ohio. He enrolled at Camp Dennison, Ohio, on July 1, 1861, as a private in company F of the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the service of the United States. From this he received an honorable discharge at Chattanooga, Tennessee on February 11, 1864. He also served in Company G of the Thirty-First Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry from February 13, 1864, to July 20, 1865, when he was mustered out with that regiment at Louisville, Kentucky. At the time of his enlistment he was a farmer, 5 feet 10½ inches tall, with grey eyes and brown hair.

On January 1, 1867, he was married at Columbus, Ohio, to Miss Rachel Overmyer who was born in 1839 and died in 1914. He died November 28, 1908, at Marion, Indiana. They are both buried in the I.O.O.F. cemetery.

They had one child:

Fannie B. McNair, who was born April 13, 1869. She was employed up to 1923, at least, by the Union Traction Company, Anderson, Indiana. Later she lived for a while at Long Beach, California. She probably died unmarried, at a place and date unknown to the writer.

17. John McNair<sup>15</sup> was born August 25, 1835, in Montgomery County, Ohio. He enrolled at Piqua, Ohio on October 11, 1861, for three years as a private in Captain Shipley's Company, 6th Regiment of Ohio Cavalry (subsequently be-

<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, Ed. by P. S. Foner. New York, 1945, p. 49.

<sup>14</sup>From his Company's Muster Rolls, Descriptive Book, and Pension Certificate No. 404618 in the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, the National Archives Building, Washington 25, D. C.

<sup>15</sup>From his Company's Muster Roll and Descriptive Book in the General Service Administration, National Archives and Record Service, The National Archives Building, Washington 25, D. C.



came Company A, of the 11th Regiment of Ohio Cavalry). He was appointed 2nd Corporal, November 21, 1861, and promoted to 1st Corporal, September, 1864. During part of 1864 he was on extra or daily duty at Fort Laramie. He was a farmer, 6 feet tall, with dark complexion, gray eyes and sandy hair.

18. William McNair, Jr.,<sup>16</sup> was born May 17, 1838, near Dayton in Montgomery County, Ohio. He enlisted at Piqua, Ohio, May 2, 1864, as a private in Company C of the 147th Regiment of Ohio National Guard Infantry in the service of the United States in the Civil War. From this he received an honorable discharge July 4, 1864, at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. At the time of his enlistment he was an artist, 5 feet 6 inches tall, with fair complexion, blue eyes, and light hair. After leaving the service he resided in Piqua and Troy, Ohio to 1908.

He was first married to Anna Landon from whom he was divorced at Terra Haute, Indiana in 1880. There was one child by his first wife:

37. Robert McNair, born April 1, 1867.

He was married January 16, 1890, in Piqua, Ohio to Mrs. Thomas B. Eperingham (née Mary Amelia Craig), a widow with three children, two of whom were living, March 27, 1915, viz.: Albert Everingham and Lary Everingham.

On May 6, 1921, he died at the Veterans Administration Facility, Kecoughtan, Virginia.

<sup>16</sup>From his Declaration for Pension No. 1, 209, 334 and his Pension Certificate No. 981079 in the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, The National Archives Building, Washington 25, D. C.



20. James W. McNair,<sup>17</sup> was born May 27, 1841, in Montgomery County, Ohio. He enrolled in Camp Piqua, Ohio on August 7, 1862, for three years as 4th Sergeant in Captain Alexander's Company (subsequently company A), 110th Regiment of Ohio Infantry. On April 20, 1864, he was promoted to 1st Sergeant per Regimental Order No.—dated Headquarters 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was killed in the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 19, 1864. At the time of his enlistment he was a farmer, 5 feet 6¼ inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes and light hair.

21. Thomas Jefferson McNair, according to a search made by the National Archives and Records Service of the General Services Administration, Washington, D. C., had no record as a member of either the military service of the United States nor Confederate volunteer organizations. In 1870 St. Louis was the third largest city in the United States.

27. Thomas Speer McNair. A description of T. S. McNair's Inclined Standard Mining Transit appears in the Seventeenth Edition of Young and Sons Catalogue<sup>18</sup> as follows: "The principal novelty of this mining transit is in the arrangement of the *Inclined Standards* by which the Engineer is enabled to range the telescope to a vertical line. The result is obtained without any *additional* telescope, while the line of collimation remains on a line passing through the centre of the instrument, consequently all measured horizontal angles have their vertices over a centre point, and *no correction*

<sup>17</sup>From his Company's Muster Roll and Descriptive Book in the General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, The National Archives Building, Washington 25, D. C.

<sup>18</sup>*Price List of Engineering, Mining and Surveying Instruments, Manufactured by Young and Sons, Established 1820, Inventors and Introducers of Engineers Transit*, No. 43 North Seventh Street, Philadelphia, including an account of invention and introduction of engineers transit, Seventeenth Edition, July 1, 1901, pp. 5, and 50.

for offset is necessary, avoiding the inconvenience and liability of error of double telescope.

"By means of longer centres, a light counterpoise and arrangement of details the overbalance of telescope is entirely destroyed.

"The No. 4 Mining Transit is the widely known *Inclined Standard*, standing alone as the only instrument of its kind that has stood the test of time, in which the telescope can be ranged in a *Vertical Line*.

"At the World's Fair in Chicago (1893), they were the only house awarded medal and diploma for 'uniform excellence in Design and Workmanship and Accuracy of Graduation.' "

On November 21, 1866, he was examined for a Penn Mutual Life Insurance policy. At this time he was 5 feet 10½ inches tall, 135 pounds in weight and with a chest of 34 inches and florid complexion.

59. James Birtley McNair. The following is a biography as it appears in *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*. Current Volume E 1937-38, pp. 352-3 with portrait. New York, 1938. James T. White and Co.

"His grandfather was a canal builder and iron founder and his father was a civil and mining engineer and one of the founders of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. Mr. McNair became interested in botany as a child and while still a small boy he made a small herbarium of some of the common flowers of Pennsylvania and took photographs of some of the wild flowers in their native habitats. (Stimulated no doubt by Miss Annie Martz, who lived across the street, and taught children from 6 to 12 years of age in Mrs. S. C. Jack's School.) In 1902 he went to Glendora, California, where from 1904 to 1912 he worked as a drug clerk (in his brother's pharmacy after school hours) and

later managed a citrus fruit ranch which his father, then deceased, had purchased in 1894. After he removed to California his interest in botany was increased through trips to the neighborhood mountains and through living on the orange and lemon ranch. In 1913, after a year at Pomona College (at Claremont, California), he entered the University of California (at Berkeley) where he received the degrees of A.B. in 1916 and A.M. in 1917. While there he served as laboratory assistant in zymology, 1915-16, and in biological chemistry, 1917. During the latter part of 1917 he was assistant research chemist at the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, making an extensive research on stock poisoning plants, especially the plant known as the death cama. In January, 1918, he entered the medical school of the University of Pennsylvania and later enlisted in the U. S. Army Medical Reserve Corps, serving until April, 1919. Subsequently he was commissioned a first lieutenant in the chemical warfare service (now the Chemical Corps), officers' reserve corps, and in 1928 attained the rank of major. Since 1935 he has held the reserve corps assignment of chief of the information intelligence section, general office, office of the chief, chemical warfare service. After the war he was, successfully, assistant chemist in citrus by-products investigations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in Los Angeles (1919), making an investigation to determine a standard of ripeness for cantaloupes; chemist-in-charge at the Chemical Economy Co., of Los Angeles, a waste-silver recovering enterprise (1920), and junior biological chemist, dairy division, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. (1920-21). His work in the last-mentioned position was the analysis of the products formed by the action of streptococci on milk and synthetic media, including the identification and quantitative measurement of the various volatile and non-volatile



acids, alcohols and esters formed, the object being to obtain means for identification of the streptococci involved. In 1921-22, he was assistant in the fisheries food laboratory, U. S. bureau of fisheries, investigating the cause of discoloration in frozen fish, and in the summer of 1922 he was assistant biological chemist with the Bureau of Internal Revenue, U. S. Treasury Department in Chicago, his duties including the analysis of narcotics, the analysis of beer, wine and distilled liquors for alcoholic content and the quantitative determinatives of water in butter. During 1922-25 he was a graduate student in biological chemistry at the University of Chicago. Subsequently he was associate in economic botany (1925-26) and assistant curator of economic botany in charge of the exhibits in two halls (1926-32) at the Field Museum of Natural History (now the Chicago Natural History Museum) in Chicago. Since leaving the Field Museum he has been engaged in research work in botany and in organic and biological chemistry. In 1934 he attended the University of Southern California, where he studied plant taxonomy and education. Two attacks of poison oak, for which no satisfactory remedies were available, caused him to become interested early in his career in research on that subject, on which he has since published a series of papers and a book, *Rhus Dermatitis* (1923), which the *Journal of the American Medical Association* characterized as "by far the most comprehensive and authoritative exposition of the subject that has appeared." In addition he has written "Citrus Products" (1926-27) and contributed a number of papers to scientific and medical journals, dealing chiefly with economic botany, analysis of acids, interrelation between chemical substances in plants, and taxonomic and climatic distribution of chemical products in relation to plant and animal evolution. The loss of his father when he was a boy (of 12 years of age) led him to become interested in

the history of the McNair family and that research resulted in two books, *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (1923) and its Supplement (1929). Mr. McNair is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the American Chemical Society, American Botanical Society, Sons of the Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, Masonic Order (32nd degree), Torrey Botanical Club and Sigma Xi. In religion he is a Presbyterian."

For additional biographical information see: *Who's Who in America*, Vol. 13, 1924-25 and subsequent volumes; also in *American Men of Science*, third edition, 1921, and subsequent editions; as well as in *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement*, 1955, pp. 376-86.

The Journal of the American Medical Association for August 25, 1923, Vol. 8, p. 683, reviews his book *Rhus Dermatitis*. "... It is refreshing, therefore, to come upon a work by an investigator who has made deep researches into this puzzling subject and who has contributed perhaps more than any other toward the settlement of its baffling problems. The book consists of reprints of papers published by McNair in botanic, chemical and medical journals, a chapter not previously published, and an appendix containing case histories and a comprehensive bibliography. . . . The subject is considered from the standpoints of anatomy and morphology, region and occurrence of the poison, its transmission from plant to person, the chemistry of the poisonous principle, the pathology of rhus dermatitis, individual immunity, remedies, and chemotherapy and treatment. . . . Practitioners, toxicologists and the general reader would do well to consult this book, as it is by far the most comprehensive and authoritative exposition of the subject that has appeared."

Another of his books is reviewed in *The Florida Grower* for September 4, 1926, p. 15. "A most important contribution

to current citrus literature is a book on *Citrus Products*, by James B. McNair, . . . the author gives a thorough account of the technology and economics of citrus products, . . .”

A review of his book, *The Analysis of Fermentation Acids*, appears in *Analytical Chemistry*, April, 1948, page 384.

“. . . The literature of the field has been so thoroughly searched that it seems doubtful to the reviewer whether any worth-while analytical method concerning fermentation acids has escaped notice. . . . The book should be in every laboratory where analyses of fermentation acids are required.”

The book appears on *The Selected List of American Agricultural Books, Library List No. 1, Revised*, U. S. Department of Agriculture, February, 1952.

In regard to his *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1955*, the following review appears in *The Genealogical Quarterly*, Spring 1956, 52 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London W.C. 2. “This important and careful compilation consists of . . . Few families can claim to have been treated genealogically in so competent and comprehensive a manner as the McNairs, and Mr. James B. McNair's volumes are classic examples of genealogical scholarship and presentation.”



McNEERS OF WEST VIRGINIA

*"Youth is a blunder, Manhood a struggle,  
Old age a regret . . ."*—DISRAELI.

*"I shall pass through this world but once. If  
therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or  
any good thing I can do, let me do it now; let me  
not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this  
way again."*—ETIENNE DE GRELLET

(DE MABILLIER) (1773-1885)

*"Those who bring sunshine into the lives of  
others cannot keep it from themselves."*

—JAMES M. BARRIE.

*"God gave His children memory that in life's  
garden there might be June roses in December."*

—GEOFFREY ANKETELL STUDDERT-KENNEDY

(1883-1929)

## DESCENDANTS OF CALVIN McNAIR OF PAISLEY, SCOTLAND<sup>1</sup>

1. Calvin McNair is reputed to have been Earl of Aberdeen. This has not been verified. He is said to have been deposed, and later exiled by King George I, 1715-1716 for hostility to the crown. He, his wife, three sons and two brothers, (1) James and (2) Nathan, came to America from Paisley, Scotland, and settled presumably near Oxford, Maryland, later near Annapolis, Maryland. He died in Maryland. His children were:

4. Octavius McNair who went with his Uncle Nathan McNair to the tidewater section of North Carolina. He later settled in Robinson County, North Carolina where he died.
5. John McNair went with his Uncle James McNair to the tidewater section of Virginia and died there.
6. William McNair

### SECOND GENERATION

6. William McNair married and had at least one child:
  7. David McNair

<sup>1</sup>Additional material to that contained in James B. McNair, *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies Supplement* 1928, pp. 309-10. Chicago, 1929. This additional material was supplied by Mrs. Ashlan F. Harlan, 1342 Montague Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., in 1956. Bibliographic references supplied by James B. McNair.

"There is nothing at all exciting about the family so far as I know. None of us seems to have been fired with an overpowering ambition. We seem to have been content with modest success—content to live in ease and comfort and let others exhaust themselves trying to run the country, by engaging in politics, becoming generals, admirals, etc. Perhaps we are a philosophical people and realize that our time on this earth is quite short at best and should be enjoyed, avoiding the stress and strain that comes with too much responsibility." From a letter of Selden S. McNeer to Mrs. Ethel C. D. B. Harlan dated June 14, 1955.



## THIRD GENERATION

7. David McNair went to Rockingham County, Virginia, then known as the District of Columbia (?). He married and died in Monroe County, West Virginia. He had at least one child:

8. James McNair

## FOURTH GENERATION

8. James McNair was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He changed his name from McNair to McNeer and went to that part of Augusta County, Virginia which is now Monroe County, West Virginia. James McNair came to that portion of the county in the vicinity of Greenville not later than 1785 as his son Richard was born there in 1786. In 1799 he is listed as a resident and owned personal property. (O.F.M. *op. cit.*). He was married to Elizabeth Busby. Their children were (none but Richard remained in Monroe County. The rest moved to Indiana);<sup>2</sup>

- 9. Richard McNeer
- 10. Valentine C. McNeer
- 11. Kisler McNeer was married to Ballinger (?)
- 12. Kate McNeer was married to C. Harper Walker, January 26, 1825. He was the son of George Walker who lived on Indian Creek where B. F. Neal lived later.
- 13. Lucy McNeer was married to Smith (?)
- 14. Margaret (Peggy) McNeer was married to Bartley Powell.
- 15. Andrew McNeer was married to Roach (?)

<sup>2</sup>Some information about the children of James McNeer (8), Richard McNeer (9), Anderson McNeer (16), James McNeer (18), Richard T. McNeer (22), Caperton McNeer (24), Rev. John McNeer (19) was obtained from Oren F. Morton, *A History of Monroe County, West Virginia*, Ruebush-Elkins Co., Publ. Dayton, Virginia, 1916. This is quite similar to the account in the *History of Summers County (West Virginia)* by James H. Miller, Hinton, West Virginia, 1908.

## FIFTH GENERATION

9. Richard McNeer settled on Hand's Creek at Sulphur Springs, where William Miller lived in 1908. (J. H. M. *op. cit.*). Richard McNeer was born July 26, 1786 and died on August 17, 1853. On April 12, 1810 he was married to Elizabeth Maddy, the daughter of John Maddy and Anna Barbara Miller (Muller). She was born March 19, 1789 and died July 11, 1864. John Maddy was the son of John (?) or James (?) Maddy and Annie (Nancy) Morris. This last named John (?) or James (?) Maddy was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He was drowned in the Shenandoah River. For the ancestry of Nancy Morris see page 425 of Miller's *History of Summers County, West Virginia*. Anna Barbara Miller (Muller) was the daughter of Jacob Mueller, Jr. and Elizabeth Fudge, daughter of John Fudge and Katherine ——. Jacob Mueller, Jr. was the son of Jacob Mueller who came to Philadelphia from Germany in 1715. The children of Richard McNeer and Elizabeth Maddy were:

16. Anderson McNeer
17. Mary (Polly) McNeer
18. James McNeer
19. John McNeer
20. William Busby McNear
21. Augustus B. McNeer
22. Richard Tucker McNeer
23. Sarah Barbara McNeer
24. Caperton McNeer
25. Jacob (Charles) McNeer was born March 3, 1832, died young.

10. Valentine C. McNeir, Senior died December 18, 1876 in Tuscola, Douglas County, Illinois intestate. He left a personal estate valued at \$3,000 and was survived by his widow,

the former Elizabeth Ballinger (?). Their children were:<sup>3</sup>

26. Catherine McNeir was married to — Jones.
27. Sarah McNeir
28. Cassel K. McNeir
29. Valentine C. McNeir, Jr.
30. A. Dow McNeir
31. Oliver H. P. McNeir
32. Isabel McNeir was married to — Thin (?)

#### SIXTH GENERATION

16. Anderson McNeir (Major) was born February 6, 1811 and died March 1, 1885 at Greenville, West Virginia. His first wife was Eveline Ellis whom he married in 1833. Their children were:

33. Richard Ellis McNeir was born April 10, 1835 (?) and was killed September 19, 1864 in the Second Battle of Winchester. He was a second lieutenant in Vawter's Company.<sup>4</sup>
34. John Caperton McNeer was born April 15, 1837 and died in December, 1861. He was a Methodist minister and died from tuberculosis as did his mother and his Uncle James McNeer and his wife who was an Ellis.
35. Sarah Elizabeth McNeer was married to John Shrader.

Anderson McNeer married secondly Cynthia Hinchman. They were married April 25, 1844. She died at the birth of her first child who was:

36. Mary Anne McNeer

Anderson McNeer married thirdly Mary Anne Miller of Lick Creek, Virginia on January 15, 1846. Mary Anne Miller was the sister of Margaret Miller who married William Busby McNeer and William Erskine Miller who married Sarah Bar-

<sup>3</sup>Information from the petition for letters of Administration of the estate of Valentine C. McNeir, Senior obtained by James B. McNair.

<sup>4</sup>Oren F. Marton, *A History of Monroe County, West Virginia*, 1916. p. 448.



bara McNeer. Mary Anne Miller was the daughter of John Miller, the granddaughter of Patrick Miller (a soldier in the War of the Revolution), and great granddaughter of Robert (?) Miller who came from the North of Ireland about 1732 with the John Lewis settlers for Augusta County, Virginia.<sup>5</sup> She died November 21, 1876 at Fairview, Calders Peak, near Union, West Virginia and was buried at Greenville, Monroe County, West Virginia. Anderson McNeer signed a petition to the Virginia legislature in 1852 and was elected justice in 1860. (O.F.M. *op. cit.* pp. 490, 466). The children of Anderson McNeer and Mary Anne Miller were:

- 37. James William McNeer
- 38. Anderson Alexander McNeer
- 39. Eliza Jane Ellen McNeer
- 40. Rebecca Agnes McNeer was still born July 3, 1868.

Anderson McNeer married fourthly Mrs Mary Dotson in November 1875. She was the daughter of Archibald Lewis and his wife nee Bunger or Burgess. In 1912 she died and was buried at Agnes Chapel, Greenbrier County. The child of Anderson McNeer and Mrs. Mary Dotson was:

- 41. Marvin McNeer. He used to live in Hinton from which place he moved. He and his wife died several years ago (before 1956).

17. Mary (Polly) McNeer was born February 6, 1813. She was married to George (?) Rhyne or Ryan. (William Ryan ?). They lived in Greenville which at that time was known as Centerville, Monroe County, Virginia. He was a widower and had several children. He was a blacksmith and local Methodist preacher. Mary McNeer and George (?) Rhyne had no children.

<sup>5</sup>Chalkley's *Abstracts of Augusta County, Virginia*, Vol. 3, page 189; vol. 5, page 330.

18. James McNeer was born August 12, 1815. On December 17, 1836 he was married to Jeannie Ellis, a sister of Evaline Ellis the first wife of Anderson McNeer. Both James McNeer and his wife died from tuberculosis and their children were raised by the brothers and sisters. Their children were:

- 42. Richard McNeer was married to ——— Miner. Richard McNeer was a member of Lowry's Battery in the Confederate forces, (*O. F. M. op. cit. p. 448*).
- 43. Charles Caperton McNeer died in 1864.
- 44. Lizzie McNeer
- 45. Mary Jane McNeer was married to Major J. W. Goddard.
- 46. Sarah Anne McNeer was never married, she lived at the mouth of Greenbrier.
- 47. John McNeer
- 48. James McNeer
- 49. Evaline McNeer

19. John McNeer, a minister, was born January 5, 1818 and died in 1897. He was married to Elizabeth (Betsy) Arnott, a daughter of William J. Arnott and Lucinda Handley. She was born September 25, 1820 and died in April 1907 and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery at Greenville, West Virginia. Their children were:

- 50. William Richard McNeer
- 51. John Wesley McNeer
- 52. Andrew Hemphill McNeer lived in Anderson
- 53. Elizabeth McNeer
- 54. James Alexander McNeer died young.
- 55. May Belle McNeer (called Maybelle) died when about twelve years old.
- 56. Alfred (Mayberry) Goheen McNeer lived in Anderson, was married to ——— Smith.
- 57. Lucius Edmond McNeer
- 58. Tullius Ambrose McNeer

20. William Busby McNeer was born May 14, 1820 and died about 1868. He was married on December 14, 1848 to Margaret Elizabeth Miller, a daughter of John Miller and Jean Hodge. Margaret Elizabeth Miller was a sister of Mary Anne Miller who was married to Anderson McNeer (16).

They settled on Lick Creek and died about 1868 on the William H. Ford land. Their children were:

59. John Caperton McNeer was born on November 3, 1844 and was married on December 31, 1873 to Lucy Ann Duncan. Resided in Summers County and later at Oakhill Fayette County.

60. James William McNeer, died in infancy.

61. Elizabeth Jane McNeer (called Lizzie Jane) was born in August 1849 and became the first wife of Harrison Gwinn in 1867 who was born June 26, 1840. They had at least one child, William Ephraim Gwinn.

62. Angeline McNeer drowned when fourteen months old.

63. William Newton McNeer was born December 25, 1857 and was married to Dora Fellows. They lived in Charleston, West Virginia and had at least two children; Ora Irene McNeer and Lillian Ashton McNeer.

64. Agnes McNeer died when eighteen months old.

21. Augustus B. McNeer was born on September 17, 1822 and was married to Sarah Arnott, daughter of Jesse Arnott, on December 25, 1843. She died in April 1912 and is buried at Tillydale, West Virginia. Their children were:

65. Ashbury Caperton McNeer

66. Mary Elizabeth McNeer was married to William Fuller.

67. Margaret Anne McNeer was married to ——— Pence.

68. Ellen McNeer was married to Mike Murphy.

69. Virginia (Jinnie) McNeer was married to Henry Ballard.

70. Alice McNeer was married to George W. Smith.

71. Jesse Lee McNeer may have lived in Ronceverte.

72. Josephine McNeer was married to ——— Kountz.

73. Eldridge Waugh McNeer was married to Effie Bennett.



22. Richard Tucker McNeer<sup>6</sup> was born April 16, 1825 and died March 3, 1891. He resided near Salt Sulphur Spring and was buried at Greenville. On January 27, 1848 he was married to Amanda J. Pence who was born September 6, 1830 and died November 23, 1879. She was the daughter of Henry Pence and Nancy Stodghill whose mother was a daughter of Joel Stodghill and Elizabeth Graham (a prisoner of Indians for eight years) and daughter of Colonel James Graham (1777). The children of Richard T. McNeer and Amanda J. Pence were:

74. Nancy E. McNeer was born April 4, 1849 and died in infancy.
75. Henry Pence McNeer was born June 4, 1850 and died in 1889. He was married to Eliza C. Hunter on November 28, 1871.
76. Ellen Victoria McNeer
77. Lewis Caperton McNeer was born October 22, 1853. He raised cattle at Union, West Virginia and never married.
78. Virginia Campbell McNeer
79. R. Buhrman McNeer was born June 19, 1858 and died in infancy.
80. Harriet McKendree McNeer
81. Headley Vickers McNeer, a physician, was born April 8, 1863, and died in 1903; on November 17, 1892 was married to Nannie Gaver.
82. Robert Lee McNeer was born December 31, 1866 and died May 12, 1900, unmarried. He served in Cuba in the Spanish-American War.
83. Florence May McNeer
84. Richard Langley McNeer, a physician, was born September 14, 1871 and was married November 8, 1903 to Effie Bennett. They lived in Baltimore, Maryland.

<sup>6</sup>Additional information to that in *McNair, McNear, McNeir Genealogies Supplement 1928* (Chicago, 1929), pp. 309-10.

Richard Tucker McNeer married secondly on October 24, 1882, Mrs. Hannah Beard. She was the daughter of Wolfen Barger of Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Their children were:

85. Bertha McNeer was born in August 1883 and died in October, 1885.

86. Amanda McNeer was born November 29, 1885 (?) and died June 4, 1907.

23. Sarah Barbara McNeer was born May 10, 1827 and died February 6, 1896. On February 8, 1849 she was married to William Erskine Miller, the son of John Miller and Jean Hodge. He was born August 15, 1825 and died February 5, 1900. After his marriage he lived first at Liick Creek and later at what is now Bellepoint, near Hinton. The children of William E. Miller and Sarah B. McNeer were :

87. Mary Benson Miller was born December 21, 1849 and is buried in the Miller Mausoleum, Miller Memorial Church, Bellepoint, West Virginia.

88. Charles Lewis Miller was born May 13, 1852 and is buried in the Mausoleum. He never married.

89. James Henry Miller was born December 29, 1856. He was judge of the circuit court for many years. He married his cousin Jane Tompkins Miller and had four children.

90. Anderson Embury Miller was born October 1, 1859. On June 22, 1887 he married Jennie Hutchinson and had five children.

24. Caperton McNeer was born September 17, 1829 and married Rebecca Stodghill, daughter of Elizabeth Graham who was a daughter of Colonel James Graham. She was captured by Indians and held eight years. She married Joel Stodghill in 1792.<sup>7</sup> Caperton McNeer was in the Confederate Army

<sup>7</sup>See: James H. Miller's *History of Summers County, West Virginia*, pp. 43-44.

as a member of Thurmond's Rangers. (O. F. M. *op. cit.* p. 448). The children of Caperton McNeer and Rebecca Stodghill were:

- 91. William Stodghill McNeer was married to Ellen Alderson Ballard.
- 92. Harriet McNeer was married to S. Y. Symms.
- 93. Josephine McNeer was married to John Duncan.  
Son?  
Daughter?

29. Valentine Clem McNeer, Jr. was reputed to be one of the wealthiest men in Douglas County, Illinois. He dropped dead about 1890 while making out a check in a bank in Danville, Illinois.<sup>8</sup> He had two sons who died before 1890 and a daughter:

- 94. Angelina McNeer who married ——— Dillon and they had a daughter named Isabel Burton.

30. A. (Alexander ?) Dow McNeer was postmaster at Blue Hill, Webster County, Nebraska, and was prominent in Masonic affairs and politics, He was a 32nd degree mason. He died about 1917 in Blue Hill. Children (all died without issue previous to 1857):

- 95. Wallie McNeer
- 96. Ollie McNeer
- 97. Charles McNeer
- 98. Lawrence McNeer<sup>9</sup>

31. Oliver Hazard Perry McNeer from Indiana died in 1884. He was married to Georgia Maddox from Kentucky. Children:

- 99. John McNeer
- 100. Herbert McNeer

<sup>8</sup>Letter of Walter S. McNear, 37 Sunnyslope Ave., San Jose, California to James B. McNair dated June 12, 1957.

<sup>9</sup>Letters from Walter S. McNear, 37 Sunnyslope Ave., San Jose California



101. Walter S. McNear was born in 1879 and died in San Jose, California about 1957.

102. Mattie Belle McNeer<sup>10</sup>

#### EIGHTH GENERATION

35. Sarah Elizabeth McNeer was born September 13, 1839 and died December 10, 1908. She is buried in Union Cemetery. On August 29, 1865 she was married to John Henry Shrader who lived in Pickaway, West Virginia. He was the son of ——— Shrader and Elizabeth Burgess. Children:

103. Mary Eliza Shrader was born May 24, 1867 and died November 1, 1891. She was married to William Drago of West Monroe, Louisiana. They had a daughter, Mary Shrader Drago, born October 17, 1897.

104. Anderson McNeer

105. James Wesley Shrader

106. Effie Burgess Shrader was born December 16, 1878 and died July 8, 1903.

36. Mary Anne McNeer was born March 17, ———. In February 1865 she was married to Dr. Charles Tolifero Lilliard of Salem, Virginia. Children:

107. Charles Talma Lilliard who was married to ——— Lemon.

108. William Alexander Lilliard who was kicked to death by a horse when 18 years old.

37. James William McNeer was born October 4, 1847 and died April 10, 1906. On December 29, 1868 he was married to Carrie Marshall Brown who was the daughter of Edwin Brown and Caroline Virginia Marshall. Miss Brown was a neice of Chief Justice John Marshall. James William McNeer was in the Confederate Army as 4th Corporal in Thurmond's Rangers. (O.F.M. *op. cit.* p. 448). Children:

109. Edwin Selden McNeer

110. Hampton Chilton McNeer

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*

- 111. Carrie Miller (Pearl) McNeer was born May 8, 1874 and was married to Frederick Reinhard of Columbus, Ohio.
- 112. Izzie Emma McNeer was born March 3, 1876 and was married September 4, 1893 to Albert Sydney Johnson, editor of the *Monroe Watchman*.
- 113. James Heiskell McNeer
- 114. Horace Alexander McNeer
- 115. Richard Mason McNeer

38. Anderson Alexander McNeer was born March 4, 1850 and died July 19, 1917. On October 16, 1877 he was married to Ann Eliza Lipps from the vicinity of Lewisburg, daughter of Andrew Lipps. Child.

- 116. Anna Lillian McNeer was born November 18, 1878.

39. Eliza Jane Ellen McNeer was born September 1, 1855 and died September 9, 1919 and is buried at Catlett, Fauquier County, Virginia. On March 1, 1877 she was married to Oscar Franklin Burgess, a Methodist preacher of Fauquier, who was born September 15, 1847. Children:

- 117. Ethel Coe Burgess born November 3, 1878 in Fairfield, Rockbridge, Co., Virginia was married January 5, 1904 to Ashlan Fleetwood Harlan.
- 118. Aubrey Ashton Burgess born June 1880, died in January 1891.
- 119. Oscar McNeer Burgess born in 1882 died the same year.
- 120. Norman Whitmore Burgess born October 30, 1885 died November 12, 1950. He was married June 23, 1920 to Jeanette Elma Parkhill.
- 121. Helen Peyton Burgess born September 14, 1893 died December 3, 1893.

50. William Richard McNeer born June 29, 1841 was married to Laura Cornelia Anderson who was born June 22, 1846 at Faircastle, Virginia. He was in the Confederate Army

as a member of Chapman's Battery. (O.F.M. *op. cit.* p. 448).  
Children:

122. Elizabeth (Betsy) Arnott McNeer was born June 29, 1841.

123. Ruby McNeer

51. John Wesley McNeer was married August 29, 1865  
to Mattie Ellis. Children:

124. Laura McNeer who married George Dunn.

125. Edwin McNeer who married Pink Lively. About 1898 he  
lived in Pickaway. Later he went to Kansas.

John Wesley McNeer married secondly Ellen Humphries,  
daughter of Decatur Humphries of Greenville. Children:

126. Ada McNeer who married Thomas Shanklin.

127. Lillian McNeer who also married Thomas Shanklin.

128. Edith McNeer who married Frank Ralston.

129. Bertha McNeer who married T. H. Bonham.

130. Marguerite McNeer who married Richard Shanklin.

131. Roscoe McNeer who married Bessie Lively.

132. Gladys McNeer who married D. H. Bonham.

57. Lucius Edmond McNeer born June 1851 moved to  
backson County, Ohio and died February 4, 1918. He was  
married to Lily Morgan, the sister of Mrs. Shelton Clark.  
Children (all of whom moved to Jackson County):

133. Clarence McNeer

134. Harry McNeer

135. John McNeer

136. Bernard McNeer

58. Tullius Ambrose McNeer was married to Ada Broyles  
of Linside. Children (who went to Oklahoma with their  
parents).

137. Grace McNeer

138. Mabel McNeer



139. Theodore McNeer

140. Lucile McNeer

141. Horace McNeer

65. Ashbury Caperton McNeer was born January 2, 1845. He was married to Marietta Deisher who died October 5, 1881. They had one child.

142. Ida Pearle McNair who was born June 13, 1881 and died July 5, 1888.

Ashbury Caperton McNeer married secondly Frances Rubana Circle. They had three children:

143. Ella Loula McNeer who was born September 27, 1884, married Maxwell Galbraith Pangle from Tennessee. They live at Brevard, North Carolina and have no children.

144. Rembert Durbin McNeer was minister of Monterey Charge, Methodist Episcopal Church, South Monterey, Virginia in 1921.

145. Emerald Baxter McNeer who was born July 3, 1889, married Marietta Walkup of Gala, Virginia in June 1916. They had one son, Emerald Baxter McNeer, Jr., born in 1918. He was killed in an air battle over China during World War II. Marietta died in 1947, and in 1951 Emerald married Mrs. Ruby Good Iddings. They live in Athens, West Virginia.

Ashbury Caperton McNeer, after the death of Mrs. Frances Circle McNeer on May 8, 1898, married thirdly in October 1899, Mattie Horn Nutty of Rockbridge Baths, Virginia. They had five children:

146. Ashbury Augustus McNeer was minister of the Highland Springs Methodist Church, Highland Springs, Virginia in 1955.

147. Marietta McNeer was born at Collierstown, Virginia, September 2, 1902 and died in 1906.

148. Mattie Shipley McNeer

149. William Paul McNeer

150. Mary McKendree McNeer was born November 15, 1909. She never married and lives in Washington, D. C.

73. Eldridge Maugh McNeer, married Maude A. Carden. She did not live long and he afterwards married Effie C. Fisher by whom he had twelve children. His wife still lives (1959) at Salt Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Children:

151. Maude Constance McNeer, born December 13, 1899, married Gordon Blaker and had eight children. She died in 1957.  
152. Myrtle Ruth McNeer, born August 3, 1901, married Herman Copeland and had four children. She died in 1952.  
153. Grace Hildreth McNeer, born September 4, 1903, married Luther Johnson and had one child.  
154. Eldredge Harlan McNeer, born April 4, 1906, married Effie Steele.  
155. Franklin Pierce McNeer, born October 27, 1908, married Beulah Cook and has one child—James Franklin McNeer.  
156. Richard Augustus McNeer, born June 4, 1911, never married.  
157. James Lee McNeer, born January 13, 1914, never married.  
158. Marshall Fabrian McNeer, born January 19, 1916, married Elaine Eangle and has three children.  
159. Eva Mae McNeer, born May 14, 1918, never married.  
160. Albert Selden McNeer, born March 19, 1920, married Julia O'Dell. They have two children: Susan Diane McNeer, and Cinthia Jayne McNeer.  
161. Jean Elizabeth McNeer, born January 23, 1922, married Clyde T. Wooten. They have three children.  
162. Orville Appleton McNeer, born September 11, 1924, married Maysel Truman and they have one child.

76. Ellen Victoria McNeer born, December 20, 1851, was married to John Park Shanklin, December 3, 1872. Children:

163. Richard Shanklin  
164. James Shanklin  
165. Ellen Shanklin married Dr. Perin and had a daughter, Ellen Louise Perin.

78. Virginia Campbell McNeer, born January 5, 1856, was married to Dr. C. W. Spangler January 13, 1885. Child:

166. Louise Spangler married John M. Tully and lived at one time in Sprigg, West Virginia.

80. Harriet McKendree (Mac) McNeer, born June 18, 1860, was married in 1895 to Theodore Dulaney of Peters-town. Children:

167. Mary Ethel Dulaney who married Henry Charlton and had two sons: James and Ronald.

168. William Richard Dulaney was married to Ruth Fudge of Covington, Virginia and had two sons: William and Robert Fudge.

83. Florence May McNeer, born July 31, 1869, married September 16, 1891, Dr. G. A. Flournoy of West Monroe, Louisiana. He died January 16, 1892. They had no children. She married secondly, William M. Jennings on October 11, 1894. Children:

169. Marshall Jennings

170. Flournoy Jennings

171. Frederick Jennings

99. John McNeer was married and had the following children all living in April 1957:<sup>11</sup>

172. Horace McNeer

173. Walter McNeer

174. Maie McNeer

175. Georgia McNeer

176. Nita McNeer

179. Horace Alexander McNeer, Jr.

180. William McNeer

181. James Edward McNeer

<sup>11</sup>Letter from Walter S. McNear, 37 Sunnyslope Ave., San Jose, California to James B. McNair dated April 9, 1957.



NINTH GENERATION

104. Anderson McNeer Shrader, born July 18, 1869, was married to Eugenie (Jennie) Gross of Hot Springs, Virginia. Children:

- 182. Franklin Anderson Shrader born October 16, 1896 married Virginia Vanstravern, October 8, 1924.
- 183. William Henry Shrader born July 20, 1900 married firstly Lydia Vass and secondly Della Meadows.
- 184. Eugenia Shrader born July 29, 1902 married John T. Johnson January 11, 1941 and died in 1955.
- 185. James Brown Shrader born September 25, 1906 married Agnes Mustain February 12, 1938.
- 186. Mary Jane Shrader born November 6, 1902 married Dallas C. Kidd.

105. James Wesley Shrader, born November 3, 1873, died August 19, 1946 and is buried in Lebanon Cemetery near Pickaway, Monroe County, West Virginia. On May 11, 1921 he was married to Minnie Mae Burwell who was born September 22, 1892. Child:

- 187. Hazel Gay Shrader born August 24, 1922 is unmarried.

109. Edwin Selden McNeer was born October 11, 1869 and died September 3, 1950. On June 20, 1893 he was married to Nora Spessard, daughter of Jacob Peters Spessard and Elvira Eakin. She was born August 26, 1868 and died February 10, 1948. Children:

- 188. Selden Spessard McNair
- 189. James Brown McNeer born January 21, 1896 is unmarried.
- 190. Francis Holland McNeer born September 6, 1899 died August 27, 1937. He was married to Alice Wells. No children.
- 191. Eleanor Eakin McNeer born October 28, 1903 was married to Richard Park Beard in January 1924. One son: Richard Park Beard, Jr., born September 1926.

110. Hampton Chilton McNeer was born in Union, West Virginia, April 28, 1872 and died June 9, 1905. He was a graduate of Washington and Lee University and a lawyer. He was married to Belle Weedon. They had two children.

192. May McNeer

193. James Weedon McNeer, Colonel United States Army, retired, resides at 912 South Freemont Ave., Tampa, Florida.

112. Izzie Emma McNeer was born March 3, 1876. On September 4, 1893 she married Albert Sidney Johnston the son of Charles Johnston and Virginia McCormick. He was born April 2, 1862 and died November 15, 1925. Children:

194. Albert Sidney Johnston, Jr. born June 27, 1895 married September 14, 1922, Ella Wren who was born July 31, 1898. He died May 4, 1936. There were no children.

195. James Malcolm Johnston born October 9, 1896 is unmarried.

196. Marion Stuart Johnston born August 3, 1898 was married October 14, 1924 to William Alexander Steele who was born January 1, 1900.

197. Charles Marshall Johnston born November 21, 1899 was married June 7, 1924 to Julia Elizabeth Leigh. Three children.

198. Caroline Virginia Johnston born January 7, 1903 died February 16, 1936. On November 28, 1927 she married Ross Irle (?).

199. Duncan McNeer Johnston born September 26, 1906 married August 22, 1935 Julia Wilson Altizer. They have a son.

200. Elizabeth Johnston born April 26, 1909 is unmarried.

201. Dorothy Isabel Johnstone born January 13, 1911 married December 5, 1941 Paul Milburn Ryan. They have a son.

202. Izzie Johnston was born October 15, 1913.

203. Stephen McCormick Johnston born July 21, 1917 married March 7, 1947 Jean Crosier.

113. James Heiskell McNeer born May 22, 1878 died January 18, 1937. On June 15, 1899 he was married in Fern Cottage, Union, West Virginia to Edith Peyton Wheelwright.

She was born December 6, 1881, the daughter of Frederick D. Wheelwright and Margaret Elizabeth Alexander. Children:

- 204. Elizabeth Brown McNeer born October 9, 1900 married November 19, 1921 Robert Burwell Richardson.
- 205. James Heiskell McNeer, Jr. born January 10, 1902 died December 2, 1944. On May 18, 1927 he married Helen Baylor.
- 206. William Frederick McNeer
- 207. Elsie Charlene McNeer
- 208. Edwin Alexander McNeer
- 209. Ruth Mason McNeer
- 210. Edith Peyton McNeer born October 19, 1911 is unmarried.

114. Horace Alexander McNeer, born October 23, 1880, was married to Doris Starks April 3, 1913. Children:

- 211. Helen Marshall McNeer
- 212. Horace Alexander McNeer, Jr.
- 213. William Stark McNeer
- 214. James Edwin McNeer

115. Richard Mason McNeer was married to Bertie May Sparks at Welch, West Virginia on November 19, 1919. She was born September 20, 1895 at Squire, West Virginia. Children:

- 215. Richard Mason McNeer, Jr.
- 216. James William McNeer
- 217. Charles Selden McNeer

123. Ruby McNeer, born November 28, 1867 at McDowell, Virginia married William Patterson Dillon who was born November 27, 1862 in Lynchburg, Virginia. Children:

- 218. Ruby Mae Dillon born December 20, 1888.
- 219. Elsie Mae Dillon born January 31, 1890.
- 220. William Patterson Dillon, Jr. born November 10, 1891.
- 221. Percy McNeer Dillon born October 9, 1893.



- 222. Fairfax Kirkwood Dillon born April 16, 1895.
- 223. Ruth Garland Dillon born December 1898.
- 224. Randolph Anderson Dillon born December 29, 1899.
- 225. Eula Bella Gordon Dillon born September 12, 1902 died May 10, 1905 in Greensboro, North Carolina and buried in Lynchburg, Virginia.
- 226. Dorothy Brooks Dillon born October 22, 1906.

144. Rembert Durbin McNeer was born 24, 1886 and married Mattie Pearle Deisher, September 4, 1912. They have three children:

- 227. Rembert Durbin McNeer, Jr.
- 228. Frances Deisher McNeer was born June 15, 1921 and married Lamar Chappell Toomer of Portsmouth, Virginia, January 30, 1954. They have one daughter, Martha Kennedy Toomer, born December 31, 1956.
- 229. Martha Pearle McNeer

#### TENTH GENERATION

188. Selden Spessard McNeer, born March 31, 1894, married December 27, 1919 Jean Alexander Gregory, the daughter of Alphonso Linwood Gregory and Jean Alexander.<sup>12</sup> Children:

- 230. Jean Gregory McNeer
- 231. Selden Spessard McNeer, Jr.
- 232. Anne Alexander McNeer
- 233. Richard Gregory McNeer born May 27, 1934 is unmarried.

<sup>12</sup>Selden S. McNeer in a letter to Mrs. Ethel C. B. Harlan dated June 14, 1955 states that, "I have never wanted to be anything except a good lawyer. But in spite of my lack of ambition. I have been elected to membership in various legal organizations, such as the American Judicative Society, American Law Institute, etc. Also, by virtue of appointment by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, I had to serve many years as a member of the Board of Law Examiners of West Virginia, Also, I was elected President of the West Virginia Bar Association."

The vital statistics of the family tree of Selden S. McNeer were mailed to James B. McNair, June 14, 1955. They begin with James William McNeer (37) and follow a direct line of descent.

192. May McNeer was born in Tampa, Florida in 1902. During her childhood the family traveled widely and lived at different times in Tennessee, Alabama, North and South Carolina, Cuba, Washington, D. C., and Baltimore. She attended public schools in Tampa and other parts of the south.

After graduating from Tampa High School she was Society Editor and reporter for the *Tampa Daily Times* and the *Tampa Morning Tribune* for one year and during her college vacations.

She attended the University of Georgia and was the first girl on the staff of the college paper *The Red and Black*. She then transferred to the Pulitzer School of Journalism, Columbia University, graduating from there in 1926.

Since 1928 she has written twenty-one books for children of all age groups, ranging from picture books for the pre-school to non-fiction for high school, including biographies, regional books, stories of historical events, and historical fiction. She often collaborates with Lynd Ward on books.

She is a member of the Author's Guild, P.E.N., Women's National Book Association, Phi Mu Sorority and is an honorary member of the Mark Twain Society.

Her home is in Leonia, New Jersey, a suburb of New York City. Her summer home is a cabin in the Canadian woods near Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. At different times she has lived in France, Germany, Canada and Mexico.

May McNeer was married to Lynd Ward in 1926. They have two daughters:

Nanda Ward Haynes, now a writer and married to Robert Haynes, an artist.

Robin Ward.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup>Information from a personal letter to James B. McNair dated January 14, 1955. *The Junior Book of Authors*, 2nd ed., revised ed. by S. J. Kunitz and H. Haycraft. New York, 1951.

204. Elizabeth Brown McNeer born October 9, 1900 was married November 19, 1921 to Robert Burwell Richardson. Children:

- 234. Elizabeth Richardson born September 5, 1923 married November 3, 1946 Marcus T. Meachum.
- 235. Robert Burwell Richardson, Jr. born September 7, 1925 married July 5, 1947 Norma Jean Hall.
- 236. Nancy Richardson born July 21, 1928.
- 237. Thomas Garnett Richardson born January 27, 1934.

206. William Frederick McNeer, born April 27, 1903, married October 15, 1924 Lura Wade. Children:

- 238. William Frederick McNeer, Jr. born December 22, 1926 married April 15, 1950 Frances Anita Harris.
- 239. Margot Anne McNeer born April 11, 1929 married January 19, 1952 James Ellsworth Raley, Jr.
- 240. Charles Joe McNeer born December 13, 1931.
- 241. Claude Edwin McNeer born February 5, 1934.

207. Elsie Charlene McNeer, born July 26, 1906, married June 15, 1926 John Walton Fuqua. Children:

- 242. John Walton Fuqua, Jr. born May 20, 1928 married May 20, 1950 Joe Anne Farley.
- 243. Richard Peyton Fuqua born February 28, 1930.
- 244. Joanne Fuqua born January 2, 1933.
- 245. James Edwin Fuqua born January 18, 1936.

208. Edwin Alexander McNeer born October 12, 1908 married January 3, 1937 Anne Elizabeth Osborne. Children:

- 246. Thomas Alexander McNeer born February 25, 1940.
- 247. Linda Anne McNeer born February 10, 1942.
- 248. Marcia Elizabeth McNeer born July , 1947.

209. Ruth Mason McNeer born May 9, 1910 married August 5, 1933 Cabel Briscoe Carlan. Children:



249. Susan Wheelwright Carlan born December 23, 1941.

250. Cabel Briscoe Carlan, Jr. born July 18, 1945.

251. Sally Snow Carlan born July 19, 1954.

211. Helen Marshall McNeer born April 15, 1914 married November 30, 1935 Noel Garth Gunnoe. Children (two daughters):

252. Noel Gunnoe born May 7, 1943.

253. Mary Marshall Gunnoe born November 6, 1945.

212. Horace Alexander McNeer, Jr., born July 17, 1916, married August 11, 1936 Elizabeth Wagner. Children:

254. Richard Selden McNeer born July 3, 1937.

255. Carolyn Elizabeth McNeer born May 1, 1940.

213. William Stark McNeer born April 23, 1919 married April 25, 1942 Anelu Tweedy. Children:

256. Joseph Tweedy McNeer born April 25, 1942.

257. Joanne Stark McNeer born January 23, 1944.

258. Charles Alexander McNeer born October 11, 1952.

214. James Edwin McNeer born May 17, 1924 married August 22, 1946 Hilda Geordon. Children:

259. Carol Beth McNeer born August 12, 1950.

260. Ann Alexander McNeer born May 1, 1952.

261. Jane Marshall McNeer born October 1953.

215. Richard Mason McNeer, Jr., born January 16, 1923 at Williamson, West Virginia, married September 1, 1946 at Logan, West Virginia Lenore Lee Whitman who was born May 16, 1922 at Stollings, West Virginia. Children:

262. Richard Mason McNeer born May 16, 1948 at Chicago, Illinois.

263. Craig Selden McNeer born May 26, 1949 at Chicago, Illinois.

216. James William McNeer, born August 30, 1924 at Williamson, West Virginia, married March 23, 1944 at Wil-

liamson, Clara May Maynard who was born March 4, 1926 at Delbarton West Virginia. Children:

- 264. James Frederick McNeer born August 19, 1947 at Berea, Kentucky.
- 265. Robert William McNeer born April 25, 1950 at Williamson, West Virginia.

217. Charles Selden McNeer, born April 8, 1926 at Gilbert, West Virginia, married March 20, 1949 at Berea, Kentucky, Ann Campbell Bishop who was born June 3, 1928 at Eliizabethton, Tennessee. Children:

- 266. Charles William McNeer born February 16, 1950 at Evanston, Illinois.
- 267. Suzanne McNeer born June 9, 1953 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

#### ELEVENTH GENERATION

230. Jean Gregory McNear, born February 27, 1921, married firstly Theodore Hundley, Jr. October 13, 1938. Child:

- 268. Theodore Hundley III born September 28, 1940.

Jean Gregory McNeer Hundley married secondly John Raymond Cummings. Their children:

- 269. Katherine Anne Cummings born September 12, 1948.
- 270. Nancy McNeer Cummings born November 16, 1949.

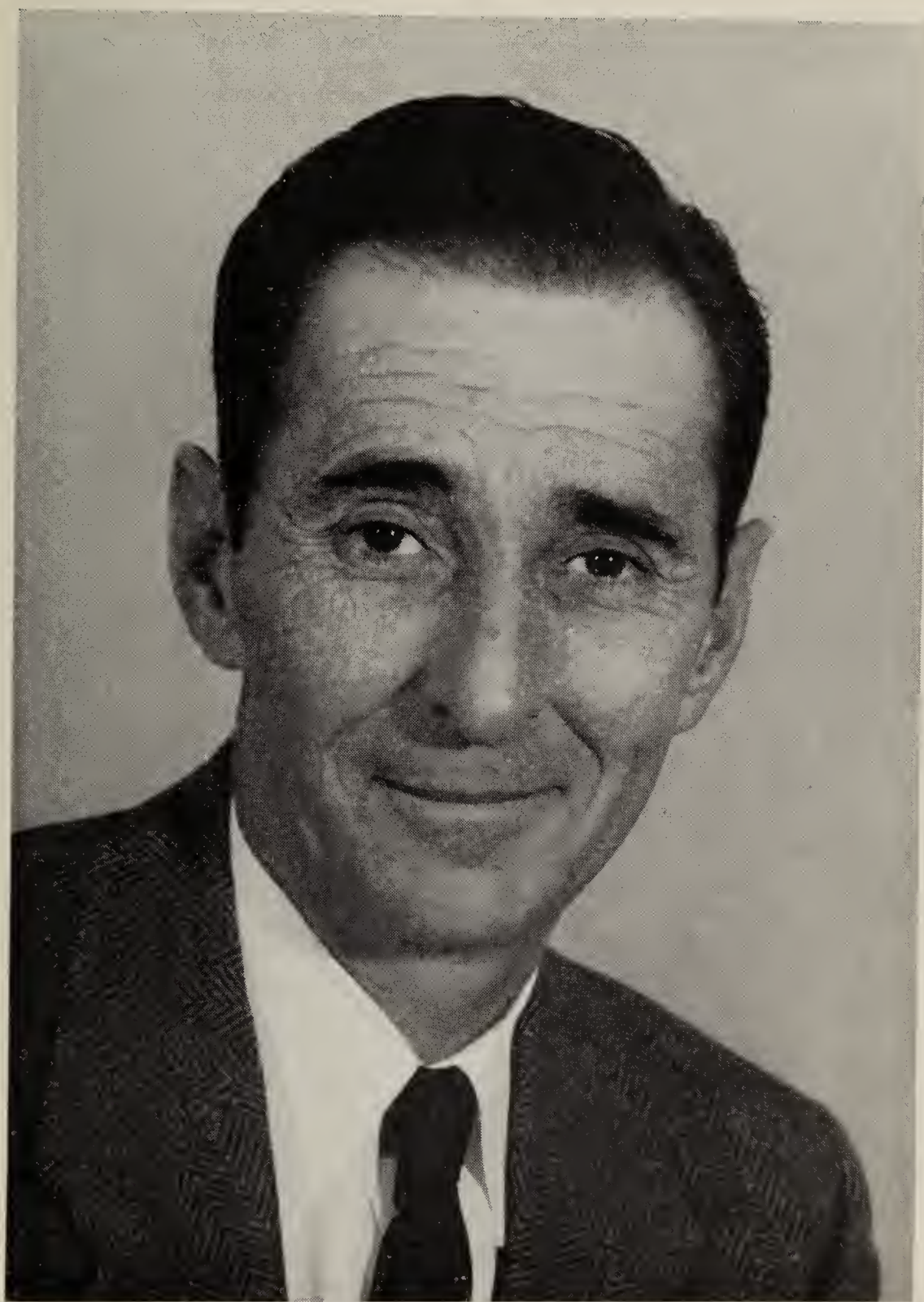
231. Selden Spessard McNeer, Jr. born January 8, 1924 married September 6, 1947 Julianne Shinn. Children:

- 271. Selden Spessard McNeer III born June 3, 1949.
- 272. Gregory Alexander McNeer born June 10, 1953.

232. Anne Alexander McNeer born November 27, 1928 married April 15, 1952 Edward Joseph Blanken. Child:

- 273. Jean Gregory Blanken born April 17, 1955.





ANDREW HAMILTON McNAIR (1909—)  
Geologist  
(See *Supplement* 1955, pp. 122-4)





ERIC ARCHIBALD McNAIR (1894-1918)  
Captain, British Army, Victoria Cross





ANDREW ARCHIBALD MacNAIR (1902—)  
Physician and Surgeon





DUNCAN SCOTT MACNAIR (1861-1937)  
Chemist





(Epler)

ANTOINE REIHLE McNAIR (1842-1923)

Commander, United States Navy

(See *Supplement* 1955, p. 241)

*Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs*

C. Reynolds. 1911, pp. 344-45





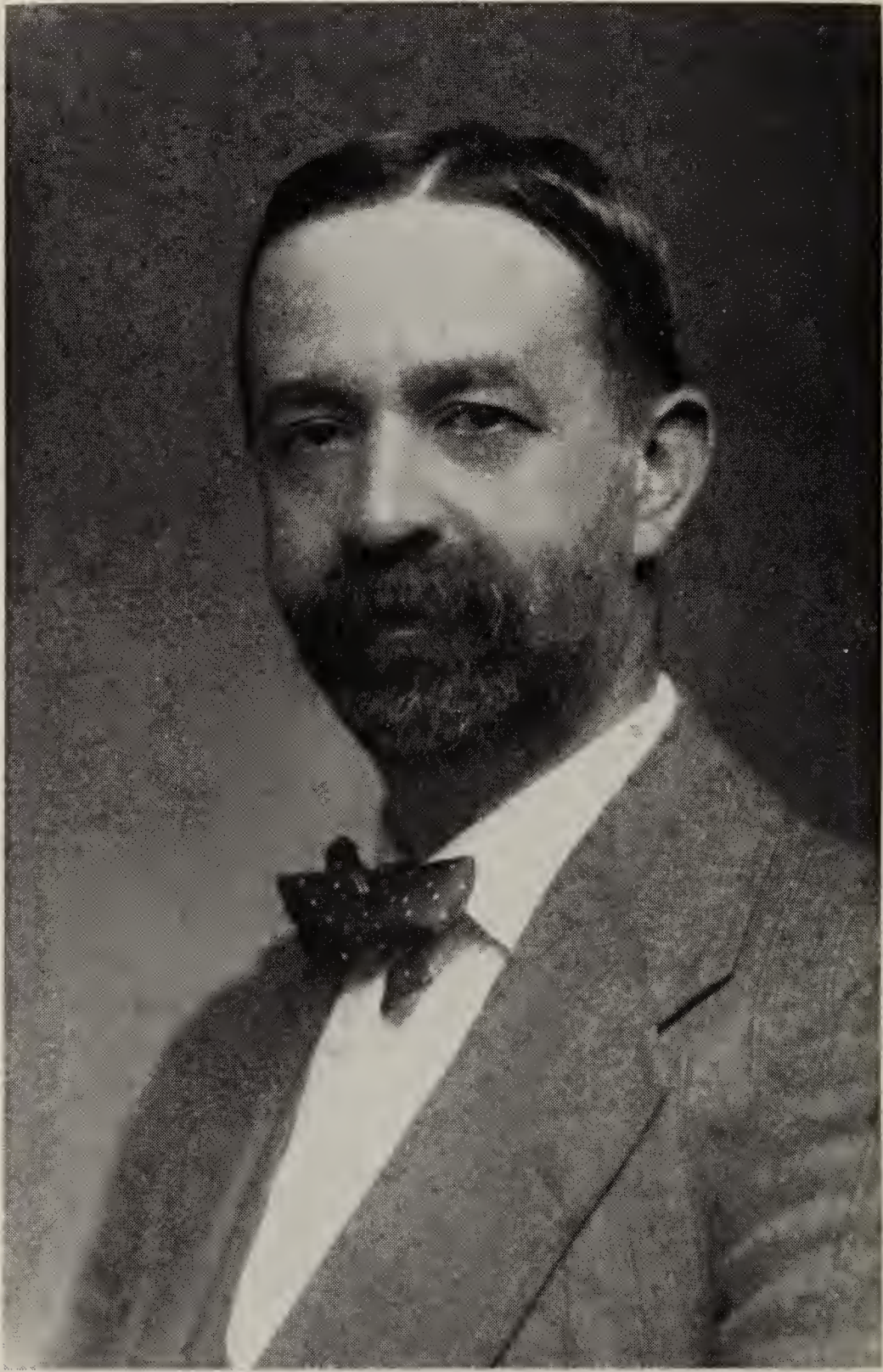
SIR (GEORGE) DOUGLAS McNAIR (1887—)  
Judge





EDWARD JOHN McNAIR (1838-1921)  
Lieutenant General, Bengal Infantry





PETER MACNAIR (1867-1929)  
Geologist



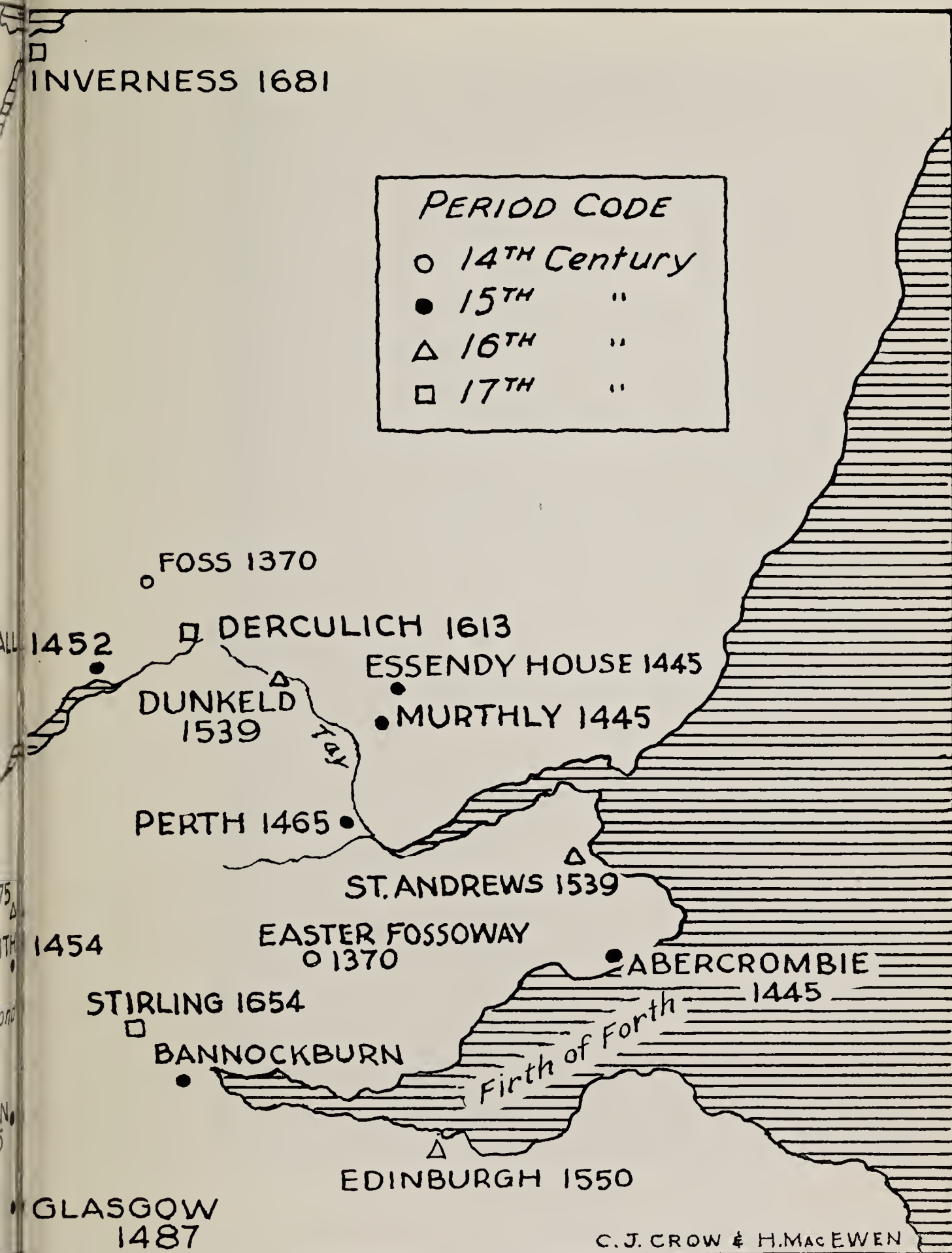
*(Witzel, Los Angeles) (September 14, 1932)*

JAMES BIRTLEY McNAIR (1889—)  
Chemist, Botanist, Genealogist







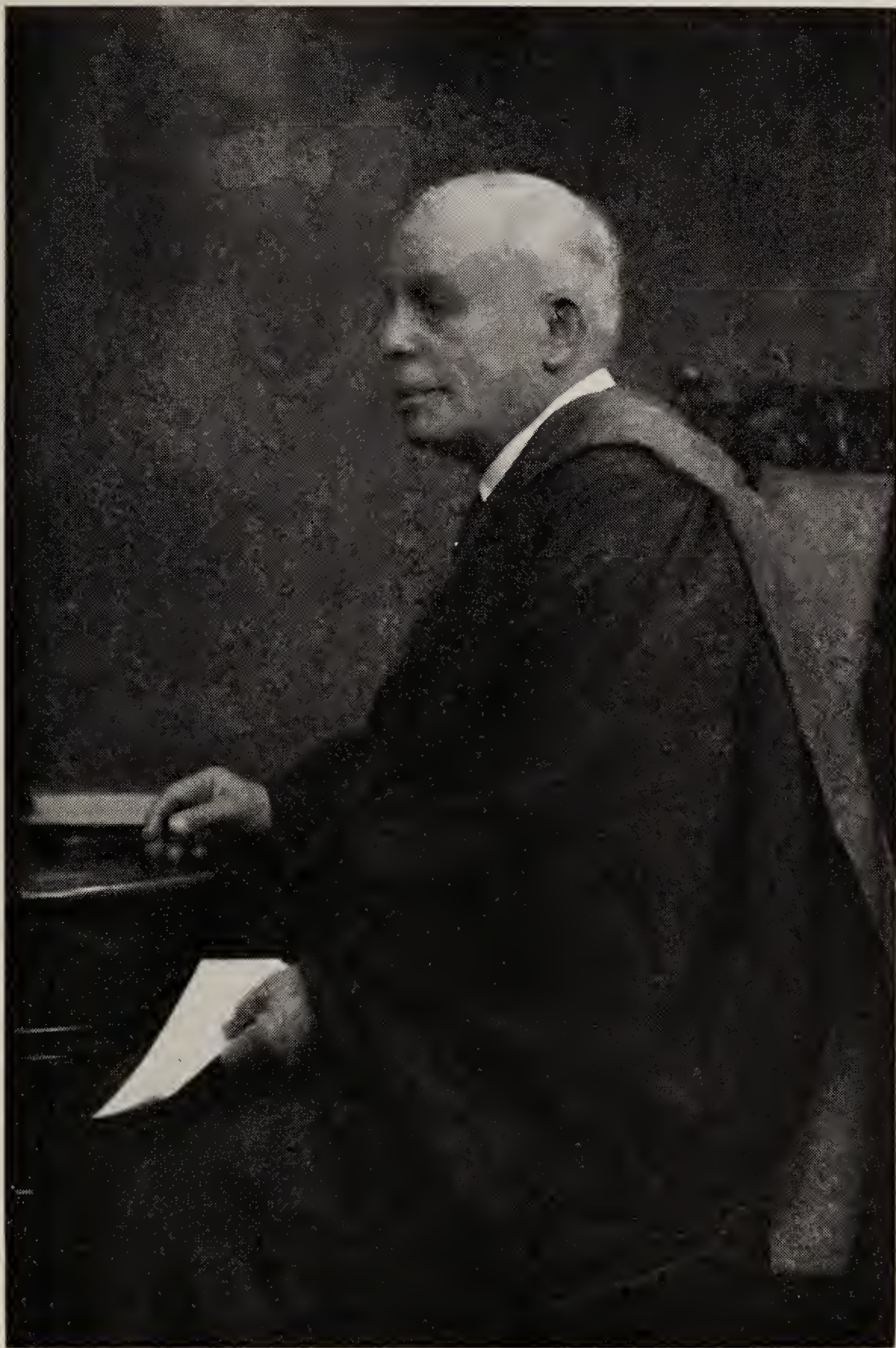


OF McNAIRS IN SCOTLAND (1370-1689)



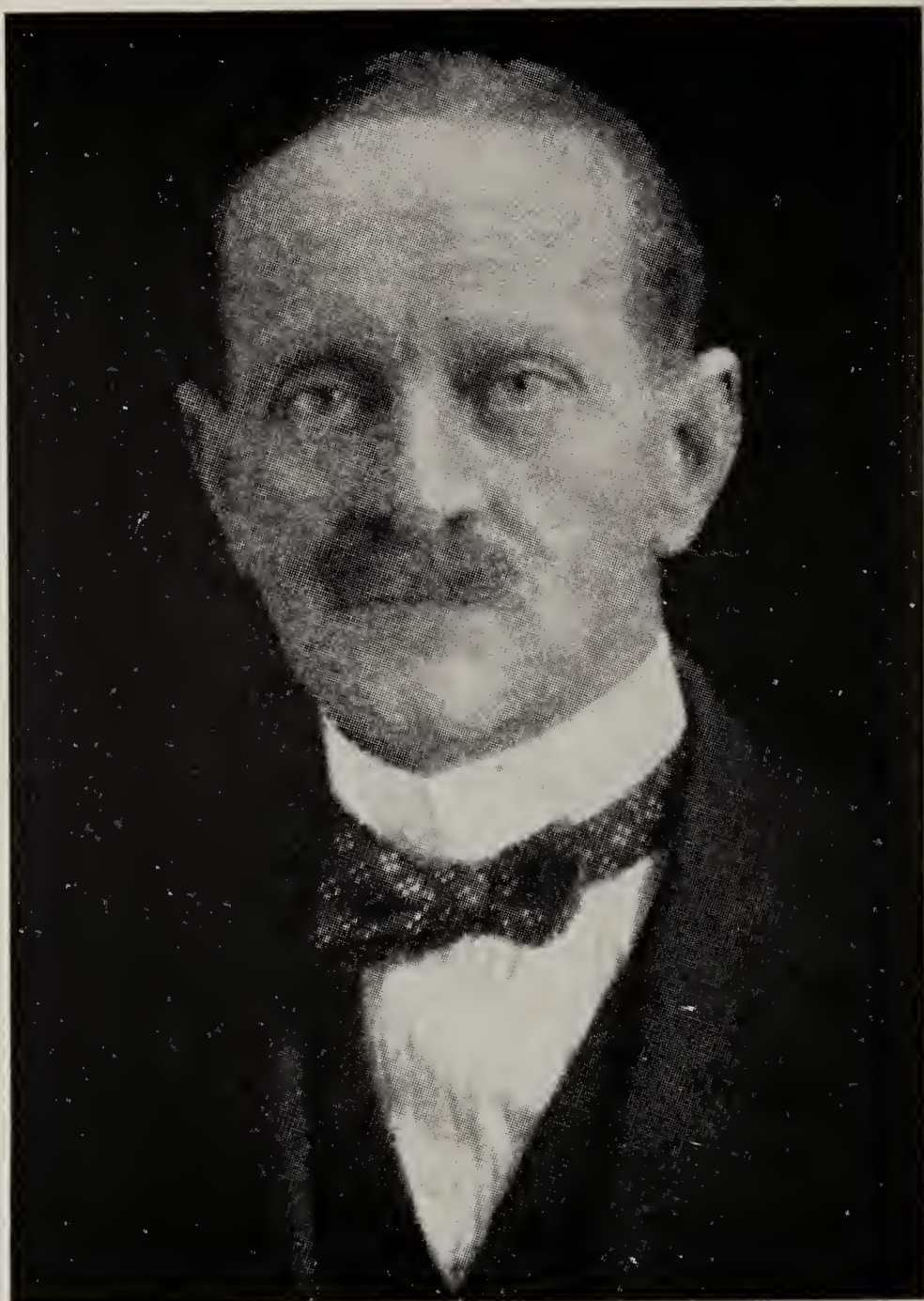
ROBERT MACNAIR (1790-1851)  
Minister





JAMES IRVINE MACNAIR (1869-1955)  
Minister





RODERICK JAMES McNAIR (1870-1944)  
Olympic Athlete





JAMES LEWIS PUGH MACNAIR (1892—)  
Brigadier, British Army





WILLIAM WATTS McNAIR (1849-89)

Explorer

(See *McNair, McNear and McNeir Genealogies* (1923), pp. 36-9)





SIR ROBERT HILL MACNAIR (1877-1959)  
*Judicial Commissioner*  
(See *Supplement* 1955, p. 93)





SIR WILLIAM LENNOX McNAIR (1892—)  
Judge of the King's Bench Division  
High Court of Justice  
(See *Supplement* 1955, pp. 75-6)





JOHN KIRKLAND McNAIR (1893—)  
Brigadier, British Army





WILLIAM NISSLEY McNAIR (1880-1948)

*Mayor of Pittsburg*

*(See Supplement 1928, p. 293)*

*Who's Who in Amer.* Vol. 18, 1934-35

## INDEX

*"Once more within the Potter's house alone  
I stood, surrounded by the Shapes of Clay.*

*"Shapes of all Sorts and Sizes, great and small,  
That stood along the floor and by the wall:  
And some loquacious Vessels were: and some  
Listened, perhaps, but never talked at all.*

*"Said one among them—'Surely not in vain  
My substance of the common Earth was ta'en  
And to this Figure molded, to be broke,  
Or trampled back to shapeless Earth again.'*

*"Then said a Second—'Ne'er a peevish Boy  
Would break the Bowl from which he drank in joy;  
And He that with his hand the Vessel made  
Will surely not in after Wrath destroy.'*

*"After a momentary silence spake  
Some Vessel of a more ungainly Make:—  
'They sneer at me for leaning all awry:  
What! did the Hand of the Potter shake?' "*

—OMAR KHAYYAM (see also Romans, IX, 13-21)



## INDEX

EXPLANATORY NOTE—The following index is in three divisions: first, McNairs; second, McNeers; and third, all other surnames. The numbers in parentheses, following the names, refer to numbers given the names of the person in the text, and the numbers not in parentheses following the names refer to pages in the book on which the name of the individual may be found.

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THE HAND OF GOD

By C. J. Crow, after the sculpture of A. Rodin















