

GEORGE ANDERSON

Banff, December 21, 1829.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS, AND SALE OF WATCHMAKER'S STOCK.

GEORGE ANDERSON, Watchmaker in Alford, having appointed Trustees for behoof of his Creditors, a Meeting of his Creditors will be held within the House of William Milne, Vintner in Alford, on Tuesday the 29th instant, at 5 o'clock P.M. to take into consideration the state of his affairs, when it is requested that all those interested will attend, and produce a state of their claims, properly vouched.

And on Wednesday the 30th December, the whole Effects belonging to the said George Anderson, will be Sold by public roup, at his Dwelling House, consisting of Eight Day Clocks and other Stock in Trade, Household Furniture, a Milch Cow, Corn, Fodder, &c. &c.

The Roup to begin at 11 o'clock forenoon.

Press and Journal 23rd Dec 1829 p.3

WILSON LITTLEJOHN

THE RIGHT HON. LORD FORBES AND HIS TENANTRY.

DINNER AND BALL AT CASTLE FORBES.

IN the beginning of last year, the tenantry on the extensive and flourishing estates of the Right Hon. Lord Forbes—embracing a large portion of the finest land in the fertile Vale of Alford—entertained his Lordship—then the Master of Forbes—to dinner to celebrate his majority. The large

Hay, merchant, Alford; Robertson, merchant, Whitehouse; Stephen, banker, Alford; Ironside, Brindie; Mitchell, Auchnagathle; Norris, station master, Whitehouse; Gordon, Townmill; Benton, Crookmore; Brown, Knockollochy; Milne, Kebbaly; Lawson, Park of Banley; Emslie, Little Endovie; Stephen, Tillymair; Thomson, Banley; Reid, Jr., Greystone; Littlejohn, watchmaker, Alford; Smith, Overtown, Monymusk; Thomson, Nethertown, Monymusk, &c., &c.

Aberdeen Journal 4th August 1869 p.3

ABERDEEN GRADUATE.

HEAD OF LARGE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE.

In the "Melbourne Herald," in a series entitled "Who are Our Giants?" appears an article on Mr William Still Littlejohn, M.A., the head of Scotch College, Melbourne, one of the largest colleges of its kind in the Empire. Mr Littlejohn was the son of Mr Wilson Littlejohn, at one time watchmaker at Alford and Peterhead, who emigrated 40 years ago to Wellington, New Zealand, and there founded the well-known firm of Littlejohn and Son. Mr W. S. Littlejohn went out in the year he graduated at Aberdeen University, intending to return and study for the ministry; but Nelson College (N.Z.) having at the moment a vacancy on its staff he was appointed temporary master and later a permanent member of the staff. He became head of the College,

Aberdeen Press and Journal 10th December 1923 p.8

Letters to the Editor

More Old Clocks.

Sir.—I own a grandfather clock which bears the maker's name of "Hugh Gordon, Aberdeen." This clock has been in the possession of my family at Arndilly, and shifted to Delfur Lodge and Auchroisk, where my grand-uncle was factor for the Earl of Seafield, and in my possession for fifty years.

Can you please tell me the probable age of this clock?—Yours, etc.,

D. C. M.

E'gin.

W. Littlejohn, Alford.

Sir.—I own a grandfather clock which bears the name of "W. Littlejohn, Alford." This clock has been in the possession of my family for 60 years or longer. Can you please tell me the probable age of the clock?—Yours, etc.,

WILLIAM SHAND.

Quarry, Keig.

Three Hugh Gordons.

We are indebted to Mr R. Murdoch Lawrance, F.S.A. (Scot.), Aberdeen, for replying.

There have been three makers of the name Hugh Gordon, in Aberdeen, and I am inclined to ascribe "D. C. M.'s" specimen to Hugh Gordon, watchmaker, first laird of Manar, near Inverurie, a son of James Gordon in Oldmeldrum, by his second wife, Jean Gordon, of the Newseat family. He was born in 1766, and died at Manar on July 11, 1834, aged 68 years.

In a copy of Hugh and John M'Callum's "Ossian," printed at Montrose in 1816, which originally belonged to my worthy great-great-grandfather, Thomas Lawrance, farmer, Cairnehina, Lonmay (1744-1823), the name of Hugh Gordon appears as a subscriber to that extraordinary work. The clock in the possession of this correspondent is over a century old.

A Problem.

This is the first time a grandfather clock has come under my notice with "W. Littlejohn, Alford," on dial. It is possible Littlejohn was a maker in the parish before James M'Gillivray in 1843, but evidence is not forthcoming. The clock in the possession of Mr William Shand is upwards of eighty years old.

In 1921 Mr James Gauld, Willow Cottage, Stirling Brae, Boddam, reported to me having seen a grandfather clock carrying on dial the name Littlejohn, Peterhead. Was he a relation of his Alford namesake?

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

A Great Turriff Teacher in Australia.

"This is not a formal biography. Rather is it the narrative of one with a deeply religious nature, with a character strong and simple, one in whom manly vigour was combined with tender sympathy and high educational attainments, and the possessor of a personality that marked him out as a real teacher and a great leader."

Thus writes Sir Arthur Robinson, K.C.M.G., President of the Old Scotch Collegians' Association, in a prologue to "The Life of Dr W. S. Littlejohn" (Melbourne: The Lothian Publishing Company, 15s), a volume which is of special interest to Aberdeenshire, for Dr Littlejohn was a native of Turriff, and a graduate of Aberdeen University, which conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D.

Mr Alec Einar Pratt, the author of the book, was particularly well qualified for the task; for he was a student at the Scotch College in Melbourne, one of the largest Public Schools in the Empire, of which, for thirty years, Dr Littlejohn was Principal, and as vice-captain and a member of the Council of the Old Scotch Collegians' Association, enjoyed the great headmaster's confidence in a remarkable degree. And he has provided us with a singularly detailed and admirable account of the life and work of one who may be regarded as one of Aberdeenshire's most notable sons.

"Hamewith's" Playmate.

Dr Littlejohn was a son of William Sgill Littlejohn, watchmaker and jeweller, Turriff, and was born there in 1859. The father removed first to Alford (where Dr Charles Murray, "Hamewith," was one of the boy's playmates), then to Peterhead, and it was at these places that young Littlejohn received his early schooling. Although they could ill afford it, his parents, who had thoughts of his "waggin' his held in a poopit," sent their son to the Aberdeen Grammar School, from which he ultimately passed to the University, where he graduated in Arts.

On arriving at Wellington, his father having preceded him to the Antipodes, Littlejohn lost no time in calling on the Principal of the College there, Mr Joseph Mackay, who was also an Arts graduate of Aberdeen University, through whose instrumentality he received an appointment as teacher at Nelson College for boys. There he had a wonderfully successful career, ultimately becoming Principal. One of his students was the present Lord Rutherford, the great scientist, from whom there is a fine appreciation of his old master.

Principal.

Ultimately, Littlejohn was appointed Principal of the Presbyterian Scotch College at Melbourne. When he assumed control the number of boys on the roll was 240, of whom twenty-seven were boarders; within twenty years the number of boys had grown to 1200, of whom 160 were boarders.

In the Diamond Jubilee year Littlejohn, for health reasons, due to excessive overwork, paid a visit to the old country. He visited the school at Alford; and at Aberdeen Grammar School, where he was received with much ceremony, he was presented with a huge Union Jack with "A.G.S." embroidered on it in gold letters. It hangs in the memorial hall of the Scotch College; and in the assembly hall at the Grammar School can be seen the Scotch College flag.

His Old School.

To the Scotch College Magazine, which he founded, he sent several letters during his life, in one of which he says:—

Aberdeen as a city is as near perfection as can be. How it has grown, too! Of course I went and gazed at my old school. I was more than satisfied. It is so stately and academic-looking. The grounds have been much improved. Marischal College is a wonderful piece of architecture, the handsomest exterior in Europe.

Among Scotch College former pupils who served in the Great War were a host of officers, including General Sir John Monash, the Commander-in-Chief of the Australian Forces.

Littlejohn is acknowledged as having been one of the greatest educational leaders in Australia, and before he laid aside his cap and gown he was unanimously elevated to the chairmanship of the Conference of Headmasters of Public Schools in the Commonwealth.

Great was Australia's loss when he passed to his final rest on October 7, 1933, but as a teacher and character-builder he left behind him a precious heritage, which will have an abiding influence.

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Principal.

JAMES GAULD

West of Birse Ploughing Association annual match

Robert Gilbert, 2 William Ritchie, 3 John McDonald, 4 Peter Johnstone, 5 John Leonard. Decorations—1 Peter Johnstone, 2 Robert Gilbert. Silver medals were given by the Highland Society; Mr Strachan, Wester Fowls; Mr Dunn, Balvaris; and Mr Gauld, watchmaker, Alford. There was also a large number of other contributors to the prize fund. Mr Hunter, Muggurthaugh, supplied visitors with

Aberdeen Journal 3rd January 1898 p7

WATCHMAKER.—Journeyman Wanted.—Apply, with reference, to Gauld, Alford.

WANTED, a Smart MESSAGE BOY.—Apply W.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 11th January 1899 p.1

Those Left Behind – “Journal” and “Express” Fund

ALFORD PARISH.	
Proceeds of house-to-house collection, per Mr William Hay, postmaster:—	
Per Mr Robert Knowles, Village	£1 11 9
„ Peter Murray, Muir	17 6 3
„ George F. Barron, M. Endovie	3 0 6
„ J. M. Brewster, postman	4 0 0
Messrs W. Coultas and Sons	0 6 0
North of Scotland Bank, per Mr Stephen, agent	1 17 0
W. Hay and Sons	4 5 0
Town and County Bank, Limited, per Mr Robertson, accountant	2 9 0
Proceeds of kinderspiel by children at Village School, Alford, per Mr Nicholson and Miss Anderson, teachers	
James Marnoch, Village	5 5 0
Wm. Craigmile, postman	3 3 6
Wm. Craigmile, postman	4 16 0
Total	£48 0 0
(Collected by Mr William Craigmile, postman.)	
Subscribers:—James Gauld, watchmaker, 2s 6d; Alex. Roub, 6d; “Sympathiser,” 6d; Wm. Smith, 6d; Miss Reid, 1s 6d; F. Hill, 6d; “Friend,” 2s; W. Sinclair, 6d; Mrs W. Milne, 1s; Mrs G. Milne, 6d; “Friend,” 6d; Geo. Simpson, 1s; W. M’Connachie, 1s; John Brown, 1s; Alex. Mavor, 1s; Helen Greig, 6d; Agnes Far-	

Aberdeen Journal 23rd November 1899 p.4

ALFORD.

—Presentation at Alford.—An interesting function took place in the Houghton Arms Hotel, Alford, on Friday evening, when Mr and Mrs Milne, who are leaving the hotel at the coming term, were presented with a parting gift from their staff of employees. Mr John Matthews, waiter, who acted as emcee, made the presentation, and by a few choice remarks referred to the pleasant matters which had arisen between Mr and Mrs Milne and their employees, and asked their acceptance of a handsome silver salver bearing the following inscription:—“Presented to Mr and Mrs Milne by their employees on their leaving the Houghton Arms Hotel, Alford, Nov. 1901.” Mr Milne's feelings replied, “The salver, which is a handsome one, was compiled by Mr James Gauld, watchmaker, Alford. Facing Market. — They was a very

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 22nd May 1901 p.10

WANTED, BOY or GIRL for Watchmaking Trade;
 five years' Apprenticeship. Apply James Gauld,
 Alford.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 10th February 1903 p.1

PRESENTATION TO HEADMASTER OF TULLYNESSELE.

On Thursday evening a number of friends and well-wishers met in the school of Chalmers and presented Mr Simpson, who has been teacher there for the last fourteen years, with a handsome gold albert chain and pendant, on the occasion of his leaving the district to become headmaster of Tullynessele Public School. Mrs Simpson was at the same time presented with a beautiful easy chair. Rev. Mr Grassick made the presentation on behalf of the subscribers, and, in doing so, referred not only to the very satisfactory way in which Mr Simpson had discharged the duties of a teacher, whose pupils could look back with fond recollections to the happy days they had spent at Chalmers School, but also to the active part he and Mrs Simpson had taken in everything connected with the good of the parish. Mr Simpson, on behalf of himself and Mrs Simpson, warmly thanked his friends in Chalmers, not only for the very valuable presents he and his wife had received, but also for the kind remarks of their benefactors. Mr Gauld, watchmaker, Alford, supplied the gold albert chain, and Mr Wright, merchant, Alford, the easy chair.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 18th February 1903

M'Kenzie, Bucksburn

WATCHMAKER Wanted to Take Charge of Branch Shop (Kemnay); good wages to suitable man. Gauld, Watchmaker, Alford.

WANTED, smart YOUNG MAN to Learn Fish Trade; one from country preferred. Apply

Aberdeen Daily Journal 22nd May 1907

The annual sale of work of the Alford Women's Guild was held in the Church Hall on Wednesday afternoon. Notwithstanding the stormy weather, there was a good attendance throughout the day, and the result of the sale was highly satisfactory, the drawings amounting to £54. Among those present were Mrs M'Lean and Miss M'Lean and party, Breda; Mrs Farquharson of Whitehouse; Rev. J. Grant Forbes and Mrs Forbes, the Manse, Tullynessle; Rev. James Stewart, Keig; Mr and Mrs Innes, Village Schoolhouse, Alford; Mrs Clark, Bank House, Alford; Mr and Mrs Cook, Waterside; Mrs John Reid, Donview; Mrs Simpson, Forbes Cottage; Miss Janet Stewart, Wellfield; Mr James Gauld, watchmaker; Mr Russell, Croblair; Mr Christie, Knowehead; Mr Paterson, Aldersyde; Mr and Miss M'Creadie, Gallowhill School; Mr M'Donald, Woodend; Mrs Nicol, Fairlea; Mrs

Aberdeen Daily Journal 2nd August 1907

Corgarff Ploughing Match – subscribers to prizes

Ballater; Anderson, baker, Ballater; Troup, butcher, Ballater; Knowles, watchmaker, Ballater; Robb, watchmaker, Ballater; Willox, cycle agent, Ballater; Mitchell, saddler, Ballater; Smith, saddler, Ballater; Harper and Son, Ballater; Mr G. Stewart, Edinburgh; Mr Boyd, Huntly; Messrs J. Stuart, baker; Hay and Sons, merchant; Bisset, watchmaker; Gauld, watchmaker; Simpson, cycle agent—all of Alford; Messrs Wattie and Sons, Bellabeg; Robertson, Heugh-head; Hosie, tailor, Heugh-head; George, clothier, Bridgeview; M'Intosh.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 7th April 1908

APPRENTICE WATCHMAKER Wanted. Apply James Gauld, Watchmaker, Alford.
ATLANTIC LINERS.—All desiring to become

Aberdeen Daily Journal 8th February 1910

cut blooms (2s 6d)—J. A. Johnston.
EXTRA PRIZES—CUT FLOWERS (Open)—Mr Gault, watchmaker, gave a piece of plate for the most successful competitor amongst cut blooms; extra prizes not to count; when only one entry to count one point—1 J. A. Johnston, 63 points; 2 Jas. Comfoot, 56 points.
EXTRA PRIZES—CUT FLOWERS (Farm Cottars)—

Alford Flower Show

Aberdeen Daily Journal 1st September 1913

WATCHMAKER—APPRENTICE Wanted. Apply James Gault, Watchmaker, Alford.
WANTED, BOY, about 16, to go Messages. Apply

Aberdeen Daily Journal 16th May 1914

BOY or GIRL Wanted as Apprentice to Watchmaking. Apply James Gault, Alford.
BOY, Smart and Well Educated, Wanted by Dental

Aberdeen Daily Journal 5th July 1915 p.1

MR JOHN GAULD, ALFORD.
The death took place on Saturday last of Mr John Gault, Alford, a well-known figure in the community. Mr Gault, who had reached the advanced age of 86 years, spent the greater portion of his life in the neighbouring parish of Tullynessle. At one time he carried on a carpenter's business at Whitefield, Forbes, but ultimately secured a lease of the farm of Cairness, Tullynessle, where he remained for 19 years.
On retiring from farming he went to reside in Alford, and took a deep interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the village. He was at one time a member of the Village Council, and was a director of the Alford Public Hall Company. He was predeceased by his wife—a daughter of the late Mr Kennedy, Muckle Endovie—many years ago, and is survived by his son, Mr James Gault, watchmaker, Alford, and a daughter—wife of Mr Imlach, corn agent, Alford.
The funeral took place yesterday afternoon to the churchyard of Forbes, and was very largely attended. The service was conducted at the house by the Rev. J. Grant, Forbes, Tullynessle, and the Rev. T. Alexander, U.F. Church, Alford; and the chief mourners were Mr James Gault (son), Mr A. Imlach, Alford (son-in-law), and Master John Imlach (grandson).

Aberdeen Daily Journal 2nd December 1915 p.2

WILLIAM DAWSON ELLIS, farmer, Collebhar, Alford, nominated by James Gauld, watchmaker, Ashfield, Alford, and Wm. Stewart, blacksmith, Lonanwell, Alford.
Additional—William A. Ronald, farmer, Cevidly, Keig, and Charles F. Spence, hotelkeeper, Forbes Arms Hotel, Alford; Wm. MacDonald, miller and grain merchant, The Knoll, Montgarnie, Alford, and James Baird, saddler, Gladstone, Alford.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 18th March 1922 p.7

ALFORD BLAZE.
WATCHMAKER'S PREMISES DESTROYED.
A fire broke out in the business premises of Mr James Gauld, watchmaker, Alford, on Saturday morning, when the shop was completely destroyed, despite the strenuous efforts of the fire brigade and other willing helpers. The brigade was early on the scene, and the water hose was soon in operation, but the fire had got too firm a hold, and efforts were made to save the dwelling-house adjoining, and in this they were successful.
The amount of damage is unknown.

COST

Aberdeen Press and Journal 4th December 1922 p.6

419 Union Street, Aberdeen.

SALE OF FURNITURE AT ALFORD.

On SATURDAY, 26th MAY.

There will be Sold, by Public Roup, the following EFFECTS belonging to Mrs Coutts and Mr James Gould, viz.—Dining-Room Suite, Red Plush, 9 pieces; Handsome Oak 3 Bevelled Mirror Sideboard, Valuable Grandfather Clock in Mahogany, Chest of Drawers, 6 Chairs, Mahogany Couch, Oak Couch, Large Mirror, Bed with Mattresses, Iron Bed, Mirror-Back Dressing Table with 4 Drawers, Mirror-Back Dressing Table, Dressing Table, Coal Box, 2 Arm Chairs, Marble-Topped Table, 3 Small Tables, 2 Kitchen Tables, Large Dresser, Brass Kerb and Fire-Irons, 2 Brass Jelly Pans, Lawn Mower, Mangle, Garden Seat, Sidmore Fire and Burglar Proof Safe, Choice Electro-Plated Ware, Jewellery, Clocks and Watches, Grocery Cart (complete), Sledge, Corn Chest, Gardening Tools, Joiner's Tools, Watchmaker's Tools, Iron Railings and Gate, Linoleum, Brussels Carpet, Rugs, Crocker, Kitchen Utensils, and varied selection of useful Household Effects, nice selection of Framed Pictures, Lamps, an assortment of good Lamps, Perfection Cooking Stove, Stuffed Heads and Horns.

Sale to Commence at 2 o'clock.

JOHN WALKER, Auctioneer.

Aberdeen Press and Journal 5th May 1923 p.1

MACKENZIE, LUMSDEN

Opening Announcement

PETER MACKENZIE, WATCHMAKER AND
JEWELLER, having accepted the position of the Deceased
JAMES MACKENZIE, Watchmaker, Lumsden, begs to announce to
the Public that he will carry on the said business at all his
branches, and trusts that his special attention to business will
ensure a continuance of the liberal support accorded to his
late predecessor.

A suitable collection will be made up to and including the
REDUCTION PERIOD, and to insure a speedy sale.

Aberdeen, October, 1877.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 17 Oct 1877 p.1

LEOCHEL-CUSHNIE.

PRESENTATION.—On Wednesday evening the members of the senior Bible class, which is conducted by the Rev. G. H. Grassick, M.A., minister of the parish, to show their respect for him as pastor and teacher, met at the manse and presented him with a library cuckoo timepiece bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. George H. Grassick by the members of his senior Bible class, as a token both of their esteem for him as minister and teacher, and of their appreciation of the kindness and attention he has displayed towards them." The presentation was made, on behalf of the class, by Mr Alex. Dunn, and was feelingly and suitably acknowledged by Mr Grassick. The timepiece is in beautifully carved oak, and was supplied by Mr Lumsden, watchmaker, Alford. After the presentation the members of the class were handsomely entertained by Mr and Mrs Grassick, and an agreeable evening was spent.

Aberdeen Press and Journal 3rd September 1880 p.3

AGRICULTURE.

TULLYNESSLE AND FORBES ANNUAL PLOUGHING MATCH.—The parish association held their competition this year in a field kindly granted by Mr John Reid, Culhay. The field was an excellent one, and the weather very fine. Eight ploughs entered the competition, and the work was on a par with that of former years. The judges for ploughing were Messrs Leonard, Farmton; Laing, P. Innoties; and Patterson, New Farm, whose awards are as follows:—
 Ploughing—1 James Reid, Culhay; 2 Al. Stewart, Whitehouse; 3 Wm. Walker, jun., Bithnie; 4 Wm. Dawson, Balquharn; 5 George Reid, Culhay; 6 Wm. Mitchell, Lethenty; 7 Wm. Troup, Nether Balfour; 8 Arthur Haig, Scotsmill; 9 James M'Kenzie, Wardhead. Mr John Reid, Benta, was judge for harness, &c., whose awards are as follows:—
 harness—1 Al. Peavy, Greystone; 2 Wm. Troup, Nether Balfour; 3 Wm. Troup, Bithnie; 4 John Forbes, Dubston. Grooming—1 Wm. Troup, Bithnie; 2 Wm. Troup, Nether Balfour; 3 Jas. M'Combie, Lethenty. Decoration—Wm. Troup, Bithnie. Extras—Best mids, Al. Stewart, Whitehouse; do. feering, James Reid, Culhay; nearest ends, William Walker, Bithnie; youngest ploughman with a prize, George Reid, Culhay; ploughman with largest family, John Forbes, Dubston. Among the prizes given were, by Mr A. Thomson, saddler, Alford, a nicely-mounted whip; by Mr Lumsden, watchmaker, a pipe; and Mr W. Smith, saddler, also a whip. Mrs Reid, Culhay, deserves great credit for her kindness and attention to the comforts of the ploughmen and others during the day. In the evening a large company partook of dinner within the Forbes Arms—Mr Strath, Greystone, in the chair, and Mr Walker, Bithnie, croupier. The time passed amid mirth and glee, toasts, songs, and speeches, which were highly enjoyed, and the company parted after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

Aberdeen Journal 29th December 1885

At Bridge of Allan, on the 14th inst., the Rev. JOHN MENNIE, of Free Church, Methlick, in the 61st year of his age. Friends will please accept of this intimation.

At Alford, on the 14th inst., very suddenly, WILLIAM LUMSDEN, watchmaker. Friends please accept this intimation.

At Rio de Janeiro (by telegram received 2nd December).

Aberdeen Journal 15th December 1886 p.4

ALFORD—FUNERAL OF MR LUMSDEN, WATCHMAKER.—On Thursday Mr Lumsden's remains were interred in the churchyard of Alford. Notwithstanding the stormy nature of the weather there was a very large number present. The company of the Ancient Order of Foresters, in full uniform, carried the coffin shoulder high to the grave. The whole of the shops and places of business were closed, and the cortege had a very imposing effect. Mr Lumsden has been in Alford for nearly 20 years, and was well known and respected. His genial manner was appreciated by all who knew him, and his sudden death caused much regret in the district. He leaves a widow, for whom much sympathy is felt.

Aberdeen Journal 18th December 1886 p7

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

All those having CLAIMS against the Estate of the Late WILLIAM LUMSDEN, Watchmaker, Alford, are requested to Lodge a Note of their Claims with Mr FRANCIS STRACHAN, Bank Agent, Alford, within Fourteen Days from this date.

Alford, 6th January, 1887.

Aberdeen Journal 5th January 1887 p.1

SCOTCH BANKRUPTS.

(FROM THURSDAY NIGHT'S HIGHLAND GAZETTE.)

WILLIAM LUMSDEN, watchmaker, Alford. Creditors meet in the Palace Hotel, Aberdeen, on 25th June, at twelve o'clock. A. Ledingham, solicitor, Aberdeen, agent.

Thomas Walker, builder, Inverness. Creditors meet in the Procurator's Rooms, Inverness, on 2nd July, at twelve o'clock. A. M. Macdonald, solicitor, Inverness, agent.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 25th June 1887

Businesses for Sale.

EXCELLENT OPENING FOR A WATCHMAKER.

THE WATCHMAKING and JEWELLERY BUSINESS in the Village of Alford, successfully carried on for many years by the late Mr William Lumsden, is for Sale by private bargain. The Stock is of good quality, and in first-rate order. Apply to Messrs KEMLO & LEDINGHAM, Advocates, 9 Union Terrace, Aberdeen.

Aberdeen Journal 5th July 1887 p.1

JOHN WATT – continues Lumsdens business

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.
JOHN WATT, WATCHMAKER and JEWELLER,
begs to intimate to the inhabitants of the Village of Alford and surrounding district that he has succeeded to the Business of the late Mr WILLIAM LUMSDEN, and trusts by Good Workmanship and strict attention to business to merit a continuance of the support so long enjoyed by his predecessor.

Aberdeen Journal 27th July 1887 p.1

DEATHS. At Whiterashes, Turriff on the 9th inst David Beattie, infant son of John Watt, Watchmaker, Alford, aged 14 months. Deeply regretted.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 13th Nov 1889 p.4

for Parcels sent.
SECOND-HAND Safety Bicycle Wanted; must be strong machine, in good condition, and cheap.—John Watt, Watchmaker, Alford.

Aberdeen Journal 2nd May 1892 p.1

Wt. weight : 28, a bargain. 715 Express Office.
TRICYCLE for Sale, in excellent condition, suitable for lady or gentleman, easy to drive. JOHN WATT, Watchmaker, Alford.

Aberdeen Journal 19th April 1894 p.2

F.R. COUTTS

WANTED, an APPRENTICE WATCHMAKER; one who has been some time at the trade preferred. Apply F. R. Coutts, Watchmaker, Alford.
WANTED, JOURNEYMEN WIREWORKERS; good

Aberdeen Journal 20th June 1898 p.1

ALFORD.
Mr Gellie, who has just received the road maps of the Alford district, was the other day made the recipient of a handsome contribution check, £100, and thereupon, while Mrs Gellie at the same time was presented with a silver service.
These were subscribed for by the road foremen and men in Mr Gellie's district, and were supplied by Mr F. R. Coutts, watchmaker, Alford.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 17th May 1899 p.11

inst., the wife of Alfred Aitken, of a son.
COUTTS.—At Westfield Cottage, Alford, on the 15th inst., the wife of Francis R. Coutts, watchmaker, of a daughter.
ETTLES.—At 133 Union Grove, Aberdeen, on the 16th, the wife of J. Ettles, of a son.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 18th July 1900

A.COUTTS

Rev. John M. E. Ross, Free Church, Alford; Mr John Alcock, factor to Colonel Leslie of Kininvie, Mr William Munro, gardener, Kininvie; Mr Alexander Mackie, Baird Cottage, Oldmeldrum; Mr Alexander Dow, Stoneyley, Whitehouse; Mr Thomas Cook, Dorsel; Mr William Hay, Alford; Mr Alexander Coutts, merchant, Alford; Mr A. Coutts, watchmaker, Alford; Mr Charles Milne, Haughton, Alford; Mr Francis Stephen, North of Scotland Bank, Alford; Mr James Margetts, Town and County Bank, Alford; Mr Charles Birse, Mayfield, Whitehouse; Mr J. Reid, Balquharn; Mr John Reid, Cairnballoch; Mr James H. Stewart, baker, Alford; Mr Patrick Leitch, Alford.

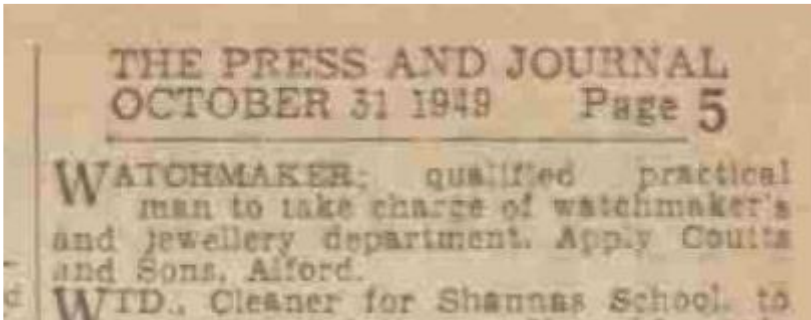
Funeral of Geo. Farquharson of Whitehouse

Aberdeen Journal 13th June 1899 p.7

ALFORD. — The annual competition amongst tradesmen and others who have not been regular ploughmen for some years came off last Saturday on a field kindly granted by Mr Reid, Greystone. The sea was in good condition for the match. There were 16 entries, and these were divided into two groups. The first group consisted of those who had formerly taken premium prizes, in which there were four entries. The second group consisted of twelve entries. Messrs Yood, Gilnoleg; Taylor, Greenhill; and Low, Monymusk, were judges; and evidently bestowed great care in making the awards, which were as follows:—1st group—1 James Angus, Station; 2 Peter Forbes, Gallowhill; 3 John Clark, Haughton Arms; 4 John Mortimer, Haughton Arms. 2nd group—1 F. Smith, miller; 2 Alex. Grant, gamekeeper; 3 John Mitchell, coachman; 4 James Smith, storekeeper; 5 Alex. McKay, quarrier; 6 Henry Murray, miller; 7 H. Ogden, gardener, Haughton; 8 John Stuars, gardener, Manse; 9 David Ross, dancing master; 10 William Knowles, postboy; 11 George Watson, carpenter; 12 Alexander Nicol, blacksmith. Extra prizes:—By Messrs Reid & Donald, blacksmiths, for best tearing and finish combined—J. Angus; nearest vote—Wm. Knowles; best tearing in 1st group—J. Clark. By Mr Birse, tailor, for neatest ends—Do. By Mrs Milne, Haughton Arms, for straightest furrows—F. Smith. By J. Clark, for best ploughed rig—J. Angus. By Mr Gillan, Manse, price to blacksmith whose plough was highest in prize list—John Reid, blacksmith, White Field. By Mr Philip, exciseman, for neatest dressed ploughman—Jas. Angus. By Mr Rust, for longest service—Wm. Knowles. By Mr Skene, shoemaker, for first off the ground with a prize—G. Watson. By Mr Smith, saddler, to youngest ploughman, 2nd group—Henry Murray. By Mr Thomson, saddler, for do., 1st group—J. Clark. By Mr Berry, shoemaker, for best tearing in 2nd group—F. Smith. By Messrs Hay & Sons, do., in 1st group—Jas. Angus. By Mrs Leys, Asloun, for ploughman with largest family—J. Smith. By Mr McCombie, butcher—J. Angus. By Mr Philip, butcher—F. Smith. By Pro. Stewart, to oldest ploughman—1 John Stewart, Manse (68); 2 (by Constable Coutts)—J. Angus. By Mr Watt, watchmaker, for second best finish—J. Mortimer. By Mr Coutts, merchant, for second off ground—Geo Watson. Ploughman having most daughters—James Smith. Ploughman having most sons—J. Smith. Second best tearing—F. Smith.

Aberdeen Journal 7th Feb 1893 p.7

COUTTS AND SONS



JAMES HERD

ALFORD.

BICYCLE RACE.—A bicycle race was run here under the auspices of the Alford Bicycle Club on Thursday evening. The distance was six miles—from Alford to Whitehouse Station and back. The village was crowded with spectators, and judging from the number present a keen interest was taken in the race. Six competitors entered, and after a good start Hay went off to the front, but was passed by Ross and Taggart, who kept their respective places to the finish. The distance was covered in 24 minutes. Owing to a deal of rain having fallen in the afternoon the roads were very stiff. The winners were—1 Robert Ross, 2 James Taggart, 3 Alex. Hay, and 4 Peter Charles. Mr James Herd, watchmaker, acted as starter, Mr Alex. Coutts, merchant, as umpire, and Mr Wm. Coutts as referee. Another race is expected to come off next week open to all comers. A sad accident, which appeared to be rather serious, occurred in connection with the race to Robert Garden, Bandley, who, immediately after the start, fell from his bicycle with great force, and lay quite insensible. He was carried to the house of Mr Wm. Smith, saddler, where he received every attention. Dr Simpson soon attended to the injuries. Garden was able to be driven home on Friday morning, but still lies in a dangerous condition.

Aberdeen Press and Journal 20th August 1881 p.7

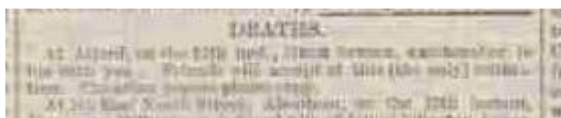
ALFORD.

FAREWELL SUPPER AND PRESENTATION.—A select company met in the Banchion Arms Hotel on Friday evening to entertain Mr Michie to a supper previous to his departure for South Africa. Captain Reid, Denton, occupied the chair. Lieutenant Strachan and Mr Stewart, Calfuck, were co-speakers. The following gentlemen were also present, viz:—Rev. Jas Gillan, the Manse, Alford; Mr W. R. Hall, advocate, Aberdeen; Mr M'Intosh, of Fyfe; Mr Michie, em. Manse of Alford; Dr Simpson, Forbes Cottage; Messrs Wilkin, Waterside; Cook, Adams; Stephen, bank agent, Alford; Salmon, Schoolhouse, Craigievar; Reid, Banchion; Wm. and Alex. Hay, merchants, Alford; Coutts, merchant, Alford; Dingwall, Newbigging; Michie, Coal of Ness, Strathdee; Murray, coachbuilder, Alford; Berry, shoemaker, do.; Thomson, saddler, do.; Deane, accountant, do.; Morrison, druggist, do.; Herd, watchmaker, do.; A. E. Stuart, Waterside Cottage; Sims, Mackintosh, Muir; Reid, blacksmith, Whitefield; Millison, Anstruther; Benton and Cochrane, Aberdeen Chemical Co.; John and James Martin, Aberdeen Lime Co.; Gray and Becho, Northern Agricultural Co.; Peter and John Murray, Midmill; Robert Stuart, Waterside Cottage; J. Clerk, Alford; P. Johnston, do.; Wilson, Waterside; Murray, Midmill; Nellie, Gallowhill; Reid, North Banchion; Cass, Knocknabuchan; Gair, Anstruther; Hillier, Thipskirk; Gilbert, Hill; Young, timber merchant, Alford; Reid,

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 1st October 1881 p.6

HUGH SPENCE

There is an entry in the 1853-54 Cornwallis New Aberdeen Directory for Hugh Spence, Watchmaker, Village, Alford



At Alford on the 12th inst. Hugh Spence, watchmaker, in his 88th year.

.... Canadian papers please copy.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 21st July 1883

JOHN GORDON

Alford.
D COMPANY, 4TH V.B.G.H.—PRESENTATION.
—A most successful smoking concert was held in the Armoury last week. Captain Cook presided, and was supported by Major Sirschan. There was a large turn-out of volunteers and friends. An interesting feature of the programme was the presentation of a handsome silver-mounted flask and travelling rug to Corporal Henry Murray, on his leaving for South Africa. Captain Cook, in a neat speech, made the presentation, and wished Mr Murray every success in his new sphere. Mr Murray replied in feeling terms. The flask, which was supplied by Mr John Gordon, watchmaker, bore the following inscription—"Presented to Mr Henry Murray, by friends in Alford.—20th November, 1896. 'For Auld Lang Syne.'" Mr George Wilken, Waterside of Forbes, intimated his intention of presenting a cup to the Alford company, to be competed for on certain conditions. Captain Cook thanked

Aberdeen Journal 24th November 1896 p.4

NOTICE.
JOHN GORDON, WATCHMAKER, Alford,
having disposed of his business to JAMES GUILD,
requests all CLAIMS against him, to be sent to JAMES
MARRICK, Town and County Bank, Limited, Alford.
17th December, 1896.

Aberdeen Journal 17th December 1896 p.1

heartily cheers for Mr and Mrs Patrie.
PRESENTATION TO MR JOHN GORDON.—On Hogmanay night a deputation from subscribers met in the Haughton Arms Hotel and presented Mr John Gordon, watchmaker, with a testimonial on the occasion of his leaving Alford. Mr William Hay, merchant, in an appropriate speech, made the presentation, and referred to Mr Gordon's long connection with the volunteers, Oddfellows, and the Young Men's Guild, and to the many services he had freely rendered to these bodies and also the district at large.
ABERDOUR.

Aberdeen Weekly Journal 6th January 1897 p.7

W. BISSET

THE MARRIAGE OF MR FARQUHAR- SON OF WHITEHOUSE.

GIFT TO THE BRIDE

The tenants and servants on the estate of Whitehouse have, through the hands of a committee of their number, forwarded to Miss Sharp, who is to be married to Mr W. S. Farquharson of Whitehouse, a very handsomely-chased silver flower bowl, in view of her approaching nuptials. On one side of the bowl there is a monogram, and on the other the following inscription—
"Presented to Miss Sharp, on the occasion of her marriage to W. S. Farquharson, Esq. of Whitehouse, by his tenantry and servants. 1901." The bowl was supplied by Mr W. Bisset, watchmaker, Alford. The committee in charge of the presentation were Messrs. Chas. Birse, farmer, Mayfield; James Michie, overseer; and John Davidson, merchant.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 2nd November 1901 p.5

was spent.

ALFORD.

PRESENTATION.—On Wednesday evening Mr Andrew Robertson, railway guard, who has acted in this capacity on the Alford line for a number of years, was, on the occasion of his departure to Aberdeen, made the recipient of a valuable parting gift from his fellow employees and a large circle of friends in the district. Mr William Hay, merchant, in a felicitious speech, made the presentation, and referred to the amiable and obliging manner in which Mr Robertson had done his work, and also to the general regret expressed by the travelling public and the general community at his departure. In name of a large number of subscribers, Mr Hay asked Mr Robertson to accept of a handsome marble clock for himself and a valuable silver teapot for Mrs Robertson, and in doing so wished him good luck in his new sphere of labour. Mr Robertson feelingly replied. The clock bore the following inscription—"Presented to Mr and Mrs Robertson as a token of regard on the occasion of their leaving Alford." The gifts were supplied by Mr Bisset, watchmaker.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 29th May 1903 p.7

ALFORD.

PRESENTATION.—A very interesting ceremony took place in the Oddfellows' Hall on Wednesday evening, when Mr Fred Calder, Aberdeen Commercial Company, was made the recipient of a handsome gift from the members of the Vale of Alford Friendly Societies Games Committee, in recognition of his valuable services as secretary. Mr Lewis Cowie, secretary, Court Haughton A.O.F., presided, and paid very fitting tribute to the valuable and onerous work done by Mr Calder. Mr Cowie then called on Mr C. P. Moir, secretary, Vale of Alford Lodge, N.I.O.F., to make the presentation. Mr Moir, after endorsing the remarks of the chairman, congratulated the committee on having secured the services of Mr Calder. In asking him to accept a handsome solid gold albert and pendant, he trusted that Mr Calder would be long spared to continue the work, which, although often very trying, was nevertheless to his liking. (Applause.) Mr Calder suitably replied, and thanked the committee for their valuable gift, which would ever be prized by him as a token of their goodwill. The pendant bore the inscription—"Presented to Mr Fred. Calder by Vale of Alford Friendly Societies Games Committee, 1914," and was supplied by Mr William Bassett, watchmaker, Alford.

ALFORD MARATHON RACE.

Under the auspices of the Vale of Alford Gymnastic Club, a Marathon race was held on Wednesday evening. The race was open to the surrounding parishes of Keig, Tough, Tullynessie and Forbes, and Cushnie. Alford brought forward five competitors, and Keig and Tough one representative each, while the others failed to find a champion. The route selected was by way of Farquharson Fountain round by Montgarrie, Keig, and Whitehouse. A large gathering of onlookers was present, and great interest was evinced in the event. Mr E. A. Coutts, Laurel Villa, was timekeeper, while Mr James Milne, stationer, was starter. The runners set off at an easy pace and for some miles kept well together. Messrs Snowie and Milne throughout ran an almost neck and neck race. At one time it looked as if there would be a close finish, but when the last couple of miles were reached Snowie took a spurt, and soon left his companion behind. Snowie reached the winning post amid loud cheers, having covered the distance in 1 hour 9 minutes 5 seconds. Milne's time was 1 hour 9 minutes 15 seconds. The third to arrive was L. Birnie, who also ran a good race, in 1 hour 11 minutes 12 seconds. The following is the prize-list:—
1 William Snowie, Alford, 1 hour 9 min. 5 sec. (£1 and medal); 2 J. Milne, Tough, 1 hour 9 min. 15 sec. (15s); L. Birnie, Alford, 1 hour 11 min. 12 sec. (10s); W. Simpson, Alford, 1 hour 12 min. 10 sec. (5s); C. Adam, Tough, 1 hour 15 min. 50 sec. (medal); F. Knowles, Alford, 1 hour 17 min. 2 sec. (medal); J. M'Combie, Keig, 1 hour 24 min. 40 sec. (medal). The medals were supplied by Mr Bisset, watchmaker, Alford.

Aberdeen Daily Journal 4th June 1909

p.m. All friends respectfully invited.
BISSET.—At Rose Cottage, Alford, on 23rd December, 1939, Jane M'Combie, beloved wife of William Bisset, watchmaker, and only daughter of the late Alexander M'Combie, cattle dealer, Lethenty, Tullynessie. Funeral on Wednesday, 27th inst. at 2 p.m., to Alford Cemetery. This is the only intimation and invitation.
CAMPBELL.—At Winnipeg, Canada, on

Aberdeen Press and Journal 27th December 1939 p.5

of Aberdeen,
EXECUTRY NOTICE. — All Parties
having **CLAIMS** against the late Mr
WILLIAM BISSET, Watchmaker and
Jeweller, Alford, are requested to lodge
same forthwith with Messrs **MACKENZIE**
and **WILSON**, Advocates, 77 Crown
Street, Aberdeen. Agents for Deceased's
Executors.
J. JOHN CROMAR, Mid-Cune, Finzean,

The Press and Journal 29th April 1948 p.5

J. McCOMBIE

Products. Write for Price List.
J. McCOMBIE, Watchmaker and
Jeweller, 1 **MONTGARRIE ROAD**,
ALFORD. Wedding Gifts, Birthday
Presents, Presentations. Attractive
variety and value.
JOIN OUR XMAS CLUB.—Model Doll

Press and Journal 28th October 1949

GENERAL ARTICLES

NOTES ON THE OLD CLOCKMAKERS.

No. XXXIV.

(By Robert Murdoch Lawrance.)

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

Clockmakers and watchmakers have always been noted for their superior intelligence, and, in the majority of instances, men of high culture and strong individuality. It will be remembered by the majority of our readers that it was a Saxon clockmaker, called Konig, who could find no Continental printers to take up the subject of the improved printing press, so he came to London with his plans about the year 1804. He found the presses then throwing off two hundred and fifty single impressions in an hour, and setting steadily to work in the face of many difficulties, he persevered until he had constructed a printing machine capable of being worked by steam.

James M'Gillivray, Alford.

We are not sure that this many-sided genius was a watchmaker, but he certainly made clocks. He had, it is said, at one time a general merchant's shop at Alford, but left the parish in 1843, and qualified as a veterinary surgeon. He started business in Huntly, and had a shoeing forge as well as a veterinary practice. In the sixties he practised at Bonnyton, Rayne, and was in the habit of giving lectures on such subjects as astronomy illustrated by a magic lantern, and a Donside minister of our acquaintance heard him several times in his itinerant prelections. Mr M'Gillivray was a M.R.C.V.S. of London and Edinburgh, and he privately published and had printed by the "Banffshire Journal" Office, Banff, his well-known "Manual of Veterinary Science and Practice," the preface being dated Rayne, 28th February, 1857. Some of his prescriptions for cattle are still in use. The late John Fearnside, chemist, 49 Green, Aberdeen, used to advertise his remedies, and they had a very steady sale amongst farmers.

A chemist at Alford had a very good specimen of M'Gillivray's clocks, not of the common eight-day type. A few years ago a lady descendant of M'Gillivray's was very anxious to buy this clock. The title page of his "Manual" already mentioned shows he was also an author of three prize essays, viz.:—(1) On the "Management of Farm Horses," (2) on "Red Water in the Cow," and (3) on the "Application of Chemistry to the Veterinary Art." In the "Aberdeen Journal" of date 13th September, 1921, a contributor who signs his article "F. N." mentions that Mr James Grant of Highland Home, Ontario, a writer of books on Scottish life and character which are eagerly sought after, wrote a fine sketch of M'Gillivray, the noted veterinary surgeon and author of Rayne. M'Gillivray ended his days in the Cowcaddens, Glasgow, and died probably in the seventies or early eighties. He had a son a veterinary surgeon in Banff, we think

William Robertson, Ellon.

The Rev. John W. Gammack, Glen Cove, Long Island, New York, has a grandfather clock with Robertson's name on the dial, and through the courtesy of an Ellon reader we are enabled to give the subjoined particulars concerning him:— "The said William Robertson was never in business as a watch and clockmaker in

Ellon as such. He was the son of John Robertson, a slater in Ellon, and served his apprenticeship with George Mutch, watchmaker in Bridge Street, Ellon, mentioned in article No. VII. William, after serving his apprenticeship with George Mutch, was for some time in the employment of George Shepherd, watch and clockmaker, Bridge Street, Ellon, who is still in the same business there. William Robertson is now in business in Leven, Fifeshire, or was quite recently. He has a sister in America, but I do not know whether in the United States or Canada."

Hugh Spence, Alford.

The son of David Spence, auctioneer, and his wife, Helen Stewart, he was born and learned his trade as a watch and clockmaker in Huntly, and for a short time carried on business there. An old acquaintance of his, happily still to the fore, relates that in one of his conversations with him he described his adventures over his first order there—a grandfather clock. After conveying it to its new home he had to deepen the floor of the room to enable it to stand upright. Having received the price of it he started for home, but on his way he was set upon by two men: robbery he supposed to be their motive. He, however, gave them both a good thrashing, and left them lying at the roadside. Hugh, after serving his apprenticeship, thought seriously of emigrating, but having heard his two elder brothers planning the same thing for themselves, and to leave him in charge of the old folks, he decided, therefore, to remain in the country. It is not now known when he commenced business in Alford, but it was apparently very early in life. His name is found in Cornwall's New Aberdeen Directory, 1853-4, as a watchmaker in the parish named. He carried on his business near the entrance to Alford Cemetery and within about one hundred yards of the War Memorial, and continued at it, after a mild fashion, long after he was quite past work. A big, powerful man, he took no little pride in his strength and his gruff voice. In one of his visits from Alford to his native place, on reaching the top of the Souie Hill he thought he would try how loud he could roar. Taking a look round after his performance he espied a man taking through the heather down the hill as fast as his legs could carry him. He is remembered as an honest, upright, and jovial man, and the soul of enthusiasm. He died at Hollybank, Alford, and was buried in Alford Parish Graveyard, where a tombstone is inscribed "In Memory of Hugh Spence, watchmaker, Alford, who died July 15th, 1883, aged 88 years." In the registrar's book of the parish his age is recorded as being 87 years of age.

Tarland Lodge Clock.

This turret clock, erected in the stable buildings there, is inscribed "John Black, Aberdeen, 1833"; and the bell—two feet in diameter—bears: "John Blaikie and Son, Aberdeen, 1832, Fecht." the bell mentioned having been removed from Haddo House years ago. Tarland Lodge was formerly known as Indego, the residence of Dr Andrew Robertson (1799-1881), Commissioner to Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales, who afterwards ascended the Throne as Edward the Seventh. A daughter of Dr Robertson, Patricia, afterwards Mrs Lindsay, was the author of "Recollections of a Royal Parish," published by John Murray, London, 1902, and the copy in our own private library is inscribed "To E. J. Warrack, with the author's love, March 15th, 1905."

NOTES ON THE OLD CLOCKMAKERS.

No. XLIX.

(By Robert Murdoch Lawrence.)

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

In an English newspaper of date January 13 there is a letter to the editor by Mr. R. Webster on the "World's Oldest Watchmakers," replying to a correspondent who stated he was the fifth generation and the proud possessor of a gold watch by George Graham, with the hall-mark dated 1729-1730. Mr. R. Webster, 23 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, wrote the undernoted reply, which is of considerable value to the trade generally in this country:

"The firm of Messrs R. Webster, Limited, of which I have the honour of being head, has been continually making watches since 1711; the founder being an apprentice to Thomas Tompion, a contemporary of George Graham, both of which are buried in Westminster Abbey. We claim to be the oldest established watch and clock makers in the world, and frequently handle watches made by the firm upwards of 22 years ago. At the moment of writing we have in our possession a watch which we made in 1737; this we sell in great order and keeping reasonable time. Further, we have in our possession lodges dated back to 1723 as well as some of the finest specimens of work turned out by the highly-skilled workmen of the period."

Alexander Andrew, Portsoy.

His shop was situated in South High Street, Portsoy, close to the Square, and a number of grandfather clocks of his make are still to be seen. A schoolmaster at Tullymore has a specimen with brass dial, strike and silent arrangement, minute and second hands, ornamented with engraved roses, and roses in the corners.

A gentleman at Cullin owns a silver watch made by Davis, London, with a repairing label inside the case engraved "Alexander Andrew, watch and clockmaker, Portsoy, 27th May, 1802; 17th April 1804." It is conjectured that he was a son of William Andrew, sometime in Little Craigherb, who died 30th March, 1807, aged 54 years, whose memorial stone is in Boryndia Churchyard. An old man in Portsoy now 80 years of age could give no information of Alexander Andrew, but there is no doubt that he was dead before 1840. His name is not found in the Aberdeen Directory of 1846-7 and 1847-8.

W. Burnett, Aberchirder.

He is probably the man whom we described as in New Byth (Article 12), as anterior to 1840. The registrar of Aberchirder states he is before his time, i.e., 1st January, 1858; and no one alive remembers about him. Attempts to collect any information have proved fruitless.

Alexander Duncan, Elgin.

A correspondent at Cullen has a silver watch made by Davis, London, with a repairing label inside the case bearing—"Alexander Duncan, watch and clockmaker, Elgin, May, 1729." The Town Council Minutes of Elgin refer to him in this direction—"November 21st, 1755: Alexander Duncan is appointed keeper of the clocks for five years at a yearly salary of £3 10/- to keep the same in repair except timber work and ropes, also he is to furnish for the High Church a tin-plate on payment of £2 10/- sterling, and admission as a Freeman Burgess of this Burgh."

Robert Fraser, Edinburgh.

Born in 1736, this watchmaker was buried in St Peter's Churchyard, Aberdeen, 20th August, 1829, aged 93 years.

John Mackie, Strichen.

We have ascertained that Mackie (1725-1824) came from Elgin, of which place he was a native, but the date of his coming to Strichen has not been established. He sided carrying on his trade as a clockmaker he was also a turner, and his wife, Bathia Wallace, came from Whitehill. Mackie bought a house in Strichen from the Laird of Auchmurry, and this property, No. 56 and 58 High Street, is now owned by Mr Alexander Thomson, late of Greens, Strichen. A grandson of the clockmaker, also named John, lived in the house 71 High Street, and died on the 16th January, 1923, in the 90th year of his age. The following is the inscription on the gravestone in Strichen Churchyard—"In memory of John Mackie, Joiner, in Strichen, born 11th December, 1750; died 22nd May, 1824. Bathia Wallace, his wife, born 15th August, 1761; died 6th March, 1848 (and their family). The stone was erected in 1823 by the youngest and last survivor of the family, Bathia Mackie, who died 26th January, 1890, aged 80 years."

There is a specimen of a Mackie grandfather clock at Raiben, and a lady at Mund has another with "Jno. Mackie, Strichen" on the dial. It has a painted representation of a bunch of grapes on the top, and roses in the corners, and the clock was made to the order of Thomas Findlay, whose name is also on the dial, before 1821.

John Park, Inverurie.

It is definitely asserted that Park was in trade after James Mitchell, Inverurie, who made grandfather clocks in 1808 and later. It has been hinted he was a close relative of James Park, Inverurie (Article 22)—probably a brother—who was making clocks in the parish in 1840, and said to be deceased anterior to 1850. Mr John Smith, Edinburgh, in a recent work, cites him as a maker prior to 1840. Besides we learn, from a correspondent in the district, there is no memorial to him in Inverurie Churchyard.

A gentleman at Balfour, Abernethy, has a grandfather clock with "Jn. Park, Inverurie" on the dial, and which family tradition asserts as being as old as the second and day hands, on each corner of the dial there is representation of fruit, either pines or cherries; and on the top there are painted three sailing ships and also a fort. The clock is an excellent time-keeper, despite the fact that the woodwork is very much decayed.

James Sim, Cullen.

At Cullen there is to be seen a silver watch made by Davis, London, with a repairing label inside the case engraved "James Sim, watch and clockmaker, Cullen 27th May, 1802." It was out of business by 1850, and there is no memorial to him in Cullen Churchyard.

Hugh Spence, Huntly.

He was an apprentice with George Smith (1788-1856), Huntly, afterwards of Inverurie. A lady residing at Culls, near Aberdeen, possesses a grandfather clock with the above name on the dial. Spence commenced his trade in Gordon Street, Huntly, subsequently migrating to Alford early in life. Particulars of him were furnished in Article 34.

High Spence, Huntly.

He was an apprentice with George Smith (1788-1856), Huntly, afterwards of Inverurie. A lady residing at Culls, near Aberdeen, possesses a grandfather clock with the above name on the dial. Spence commenced his trade in Gordon Street, Huntly, subsequently migrating to Alford early in life. Particulars of him were furnished in Article 34.

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