



Portrait of Lt. Valentine Chisholm, 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt., c. 1777

Picture Source: The National Museums of Scotland.

## **Appendix A:**

### **Biographies of the Officers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment During the American War for Independence, 1775-1783**

#### **Introduction:**

One hundred and six officers, warrants and staff served in the twelve companies of 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment (including two Additional Companies in Scotland), between the departure of the regiment from Ireland on July 24, 1775 and when the regiment embarked to sail from New York to Halifax, Nova Scotia at the end of the American war on October 5, 1783.

As described in the introduction to this volume, the officers entered the regiment from a number of sources. Ten had previous service as surgeon's mates or sergeants in the army. After the American war began, fifteen were appointed from Half-Pay and nineteen joined the regiment during the war from other regiments. During the war, ten officers died, two from battle wounds and eight from illness or accidents. Twenty-seven left the regiment to join other regiment, mostly for promotions. Eight of the officers joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. raised in Scotland under Lt. Col. Normand MacLeod of Macleod in 1779-80. Most of these officers were transferred when the two previous Additional Companies were absorbed by the new battalion.

Although there a number of accounts suggesting slow promotion in the Highland regiments, 38 of the 106 officers eventually achieved field grade rank and ten of those went on to become general officers.

In the biographies below, a large number of the officers are shown with rank "*in the army.*" This rank could be different from regimental rank if the officer previously served in another regiment before his assignment to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. His prior date of rank would be listed in the annual Army List as his rank "*in the army.*" For senior captains and field grade officers (Majors, Lt. Colonels and Colonels), the War Office would periodically publish promotions to the next rank "*in the army.*" These are often called Brevet promotions. The "*in the army*" commission date established seniority when officers were serving on detachments or Court-martial Boards away from their regiments. The best example of rank "*in the Army*" for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. is Brevet-Lt. Col. Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson. Because of his prior service as a Captain in the Seven-Years War, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was a Major "*in the army*" with a date of rank of July 1772 when he joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. When he was commissioned in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. his date of rank in the regiment was Aug. 1775, and thus he was one of the junior captains in the regiment. After M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's promotion to Lt. Colonel "*in the Army*" he was still junior in the regiment to Maj. Charles Graham who took command of the regiment when Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling was selected to be a Brevet-Brig. General in 1779.

A number of officers are listed initially as Volunteers. These prospective officers, sometimes called "*cadets,*" served in the ranks at their own expense, as they waited for vacancies to arise.

The name and date of rank conventions used in the biographies below are explained in detail in the introduction to this volume.

### **Acknowledgements:**

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### **General Sources:**

The listed documents were used throughout the following officer biographies.

WO 12/5478	United Kingdom, The National Archives (hereafter TNA), <i>War Office, Commissary General of Musters Office, 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot, 1759 - 1776</i>
WO 12/5479	TNA, <i>War Office, Commissary General of Musters Office, 42nd Foot 1st Battalion 1777 – 1786</i>
WO 27/35	TNA, War Office, " <i>Major General Cuninghames Observations on the Fortysecond Or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot reviewed By Him at Waterford on the 30<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1775.</i> "

WO 27/52 TNA, War Office, “*Report of a General Review of His Majesty's Forces that compose the Garrison of Halifax by Major General Campbell commanding all His Majesty's Troops in Nova Scotia &c &c on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1784 Consisting of a Detachment of the Royal Artillery the 17<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> & 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiments.*”

WO 25/31-39 TNA, War Office: Commission Books, Series I, 1767-1789

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WO 25/112-116 TNA, War Office: Commission Books, Series 2, General, by regiments, 1760-1805

WO 25/209-11 TNA, War Office, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Succession Books 1757--1779

WO 25/212 TNA, War Office, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Succession Book 1780 – 1787.

WO 25/213 TNA, War Office, Succession Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. 1780-1786, “*Altered to 73<sup>d</sup> Foot*” 1786-1787.

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Baule, Steven M., and Stephen Gilbert; *British Officers Who Served in the American Revolution 1775-1783*; Heritage Books, Westminster (MD), 2004.

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Murray, Gen. Lord John, Papers; *Bagshawe Family Muniments* at GB 0133 BAG; John Rylands University Library of Manchester; Manchester; UK.

Orderly Book Brigade of Guards, *George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress, 1741-1799*: Series 6. Military Papers. 1755-1798 Captured British Army Orderly Book, January 29-August 9, 1778.

Peebles, John, Notebooks Containing Journal of Lt. John Peebles of the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment during the War of Independence at GD 21, *Cunningham of Thortoun Papers*, 1746-1782, 1876-1883, National Records of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK, including Orderly Book, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Grenadiers, June 30, 1776 – Oct. 17, 1786.

Stewart, Col. David, *Sketches of the Character, Manners, and Present State of the Highlanders of Scotland with Details of the Military Service by the Highland Regiments*, second edition, Vol. 1, Printed for Archibald Constable and Co. Edinburgh, 1822.

Unless otherwise noted, copies of officer signatures are taken from company muster reports, TNA, *War Office, Commissary General of Musters Office*, 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot, 1759 - 1776 at WO 12/5478 and 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 1777 – 1786 at WO 12/5479.

Reproduction regimental button illustrations are curtesy of Roy and Debra Najecki's *American Revolutionary War Reproductions* at [www.najecki.com](http://www.najecki.com).

### Officer Biographies:

*James Alston Ensor*

**Alston**, Lt. James. Born in 1763, Alston was descended from the family of James Alston of Natherley (merchant in Edinburgh, 1642 - 1715). He was serving as a Volunteer when commissioned on Apr. 18, 1780 into Gen. Lord Murray's Company in place of Ens. Alexander Grant who had been promoted. Alston served at the siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780 and the 1781 relief attempt for Lord Cornwallis' army in Virginia. He obtained his Lieutenancy in May 1782 when Lt. George Stewart was promoted into the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt.

At the end of the war in 1783, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt was significantly reduced in size and a number of Lieutenants went out on Half-pay. The muster of Capt. Rutherford's Company taken at Halifax, Nova Scotia on Jan. 17, 1784 records Alston as "Gone to Britain upon Half pay 24<sup>th</sup> October."

Commander-in-Chief Gen. Sir Guy Carleton's letter to the War Office on Oct. 22, 1783 included a listing of 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. officers returning to Britain with the discharged troops of the regiments who were to be stationed in Nova Scotia. Carleton wrote "*I enclose an embarkation return of the detachment of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment, and of the men discharged from the British Regiments gone to Nova Scotia, together with lists of the last mentioned men's names, and of the Officers that have charge of them...42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment ...[Lieut] Alston...*" The War Office awarded Alston and two other Officers additional full-pay until the Dec. 12, 1783 because they "...were detained on Service abroad so they could not arrive in England until the 12<sup>th</sup> December..."



Detail from *Pacification with the maroon negroes in the island of Jamaica*.  
Engraving by Scott of painting by Augustin Brunias (c.1730-1796)

Picture Source: *An Historical Survey of Saint Domingo, Together with an Account of the Maroon Negroes in the Island of Jamaica*, B. Edwards, London, 1801, facing p. 311.

In Jan. 1788, Alston transferred from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Half-pay list to a Lieutenancy in the 63<sup>rd</sup> or West Suffolk Regt. in Ireland. He later served in the Maroon War in Jamaica as recognized in an Aug. 1795 letter from Maj. Gen. Alexander, Earl Balcarres to the Duke of Portland. Balcarres (a former Capt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) wrote, "*I owe much to the able assistance I have received from Lieutenant Alston, 63<sup>rd</sup> regiment, Deputy Quartermaster General...*" Alston was gazetted to Captain in that regiment in Sept. 1795 and was promoted to Major in Sept. 1798. He served as Secretary to Lord Balcarres, who was Lt. Gov. and Commander in Chief in Jamaica until 1801. The former surgeon of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Dr. William Robertson, noted Alston's return to Britain to former Capt. John Peebles on Apr. 9, 1801, writing "...P.S: *Alston a rich man, coming home from Jamaica with Lord Balcarres whose Secretary he has been.*"

The War Office announced Maj. Alston's retirement from the 63<sup>rd</sup> Regt. on June 28, 1803. However, he soon obtained a Company in the "3d, (or Atholl) Battalion of Royal Perthshire Volunteer Brigade" under Lt. Col. Butler, in September the same year.

On Nov. 11, 1803 Alston married Charlotte Stewart, (daughter of Capt. James Stewart of Urrard, late of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., who had been wounded at Ticonderoga). On Mrs. Alston's succeeding to one-third of the lands of Urrard and later acquiring by purchase the house and principal third of the estate, the Alston family assumed the name of Stewart, in addition to that of Alston. The Alston Stewarts had five sons and six daughters.



Isle of Arran's northern hills, 2012, by Colin

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Maj. Alston Stewart owned the estate of Auchenard, on the Isle of Arran (at the mouth of the Firth of Clyde) and was elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh on Jan. 26, 1818. In May 12, 1818, he was listed in the *Edinburgh Magazine* as living "at Dublin Street, Edinburgh" where a son was born, but two of his daughters born respectively in 1821 and 1822 were noted as being born "At Auchenard."

Alston Stewart was admitted to the Speculative Society of Edinburgh (a debating society) in 1785 and wrote the essay "*The Slave trade. Public Spirit.*" He is listed on the "*Roll of Freeholders and Principal Officers of the Different Counties of Scotland*" for Perthshire in 1827 as "*Maj. J. Alston of Cluniemore*" (an estate just west of Pitlochry on the Firth of Faskally, about 27 miles north of Perth). He was also admitted to the Highland Society of Scotland that year and listed as "*Alston, Major James, of Cluniemore.*"

Alston Stewart died in 1833. His grandson, Lt. Col. William H. Dick, Gordon Highlanders, was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1879 for service in Afghanistan.

Commissions: Volunteer; Ens. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Aug. 24, 1779; Lt. May 4, 1782; Half-pay Oct. 24, 1783; Lt. Jan. 31, 1788 (63<sup>rd</sup> or West Suffolk Regt.); Capt. Sept. 2, 1795 (63<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Sept. 13, 1798 (63<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Retired June 28, 1803 (63<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Sept. 17, 1803 (3<sup>rd</sup> or Atholl Battalion of Royal Perthshire Volunteer Brigade).

**References:** General Orders, William's House, South Carolina, Apr. 18, 1780 and New York, May 4, 1782; Muster of Capt. Rutherford's Co., Halifax, Jan. 17, 1784 at WO 12/5479 ff. 131-138; Sir Guy Carleton to Richard Fitz Patrick, Oct. 22, 1783 at WO1/13 f. 314; George Yonge to Alexander Anderson, Oct. 19, 1784 at WO4/127, p. 90; "The Alstons of Muirburn" in *The Old Country Houses of the old Glasgow Gentry*, by John G. Smith and John O. Mitchell, James Maclehose & Sons, Glasgow, 1878; *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol. IV, by John Burke, Esq., Henry Colburn, Publishers, London, 1838, Google Books, pp. 40-41; *History of the Speculative Society in Edinburgh from its Institution in M.DCC.LXIV*, Printed for the Society, Edinburgh, 1845, Google Books, p. 176; *A Military History of Perthshire 1899-1902*, Ed. Marchioness of Tullibardine, R. A. & J. Hay, Glasgow, 1908, Google Books, p. 92; *Lives of the Lindsays, or a Memoir of the Houses of Crawford and Balcarres*, Vol. III, by Lord Lindsay, John Murray, London, 1849, Google Books, p. 58-59; *Lady Nugent's Journal of Her Residence in Jamaica from 1801 to 1805*, Ed. by Philip Wright, University of the West Indies Press, Barbados, 2002, p.286; *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh*, Vol. XII, Pub. by Charles Tait, Edinburgh, 1834, Google Books, p. 567; *Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. III, July – December, Archibald Constable and Co., 1818, Google Books, p. 587; Blackwood's *Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. IX, April – August, 1821, William Blackwood, Edinburgh, 1821, Google



Books, p. 121 and Vol. XII, July– Dec., 1822, William Blackwood, Edinburgh, 1822, Google Books, p. 801; *London Gazette* for July 13, 1782, and Mar. 1-4, 1788, p. 1; p. 3, Sept. 8-12, 1795, pp. 5, 7, Sept. 15, 1798, p. 2, June 25-28 1803, pp. 3-4, Sept. 24, 1803, pp. 1-2; NRS, “Letters from Doctor William Robertson to Major John Peebles at Irvine,” *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thorntoun* at GD21/401/5; “Roll of Freeholders and Principal Officers of the Different Counties of Scotland” in *The Edinburgh Almanack or Universal Scots and Imperial Register for 1828*, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, 1827, Google Books, p. 181, 225-226; “List of Members of the Highland Society of Scotland at 31<sup>st</sup> July 1829” in *Prize-Essays and Transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland*, Vol. VII, William Blackwell, Edinburgh, 1829, Google Books, p. 410.

*David Anstruther*  
*Capt. 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.*

**Anstruther**, Capt. David. Born on Feb. 17, 1754, Anstruther was the youngest son of Capt. Philip Anstruther of Inverkeithing (the only son of Sir Phillip Anstruther of Anstrutherfield and grandson of Sir Phillip Anstruther of Anstruther) and his wife, Elizabeth Landale. Inverkeithing is in Western Fife on a hill overlooking the Inner Bay of Inverkeithing Bay, an inlet of the Firth of Forth.



Reproduction 26<sup>th</sup> Regt. Button

Anstruther was initially commissioned Ensign in the 11<sup>th</sup> or Additional Company of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regt. in England on Aug. 15, 1775 under Capt. Richard Drakeford. Most of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regt. was captured at Fort Ticonderoga in May 1775 and St. John's near Montreal in Nov. 1775. Another 150 men were captured with Maj. Gen. Prescott as they attempted to retreat down the St. Lawrence River. The 26<sup>th</sup> Regt. was, however, exchanged in July 1776, and the regiment joined the New York Campaign under Gen. Sir William Howe. During the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777, the 26<sup>th</sup> Regt. was assigned to the defense of New York under Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton. Anstruther was promoted to Lieutenant by General Orders dated at Philadelphia on Dec. 4, 1777. It is not known when Anstruther left the Additional Company in England to join the regiment, but he served in America as Adjutant of the regiment from Apr. 1778 until he left the regiment.

Anstruther was promoted to Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Jan. 2, 1779 to replace Capt. Archibald Erskine, who had been promoted to Major of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regt. After joining the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Anstruther served with a line battalion in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in 1779 and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779.

On March 22-23, 1780, Brevet-Lt. Col. Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson (Breakachy) of the Royal Highlanders led a detachment of 300 men from the 42<sup>nd</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup> and several Hessian Regiments to raid the village of Hackensack, New Jersey and Capt. Anstruther commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. detachment. Ens. George Eld of the Coldstream Guards described the latter part of the action writing “*I volunteered the duty and promised [Capt. and Lt.] Colonel [John] Howard [1<sup>st</sup> Foot Guards] to destroy the bridge... I now called the light infantry [of the Guards], which composed the rear guard, to assist me; but so great was the panic, that only FOUR remained. Captain [Francis] Dundass [1<sup>st</sup> Foot Guards], hearing my voice, joined me, as did Captains Anstruther and [Ens. George] Dennis [43<sup>rd</sup> Regt.], with one private of the 43d, and two privates of the 42d regiment. The Hessian detachment, perceiving our intentions, formed on a small*

*rise and covered our attempt. Under a very heavy fire, we effected our design, by dislodging the planks, which effectually prevented the horse and field-pieces from following our line of march. As this was done in the full view of the whole army, my vanity once more got ascendancy over my reason, inducing me to remain the last on the bridge. In our retreating from the bridge, three of the light infantry were killed, one of the 42d and 43d. Captain A. was wounded; Lieutenant Dennis slightly; Dundass and myself escaped...”*

Anstruther’s brother, in a June 1790 letter, wrote that “...*he was severely wounded...*” Likely because of his wound, Anstruther did not sail with the regiment two weeks later on Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> for the siege of Charlestown. However, by May 9<sup>th</sup> Anstruther had recovered sufficiently to embark at New York on *HMS Retaliation*, commanding a mixed detachment of 45 officers and men sailing to join their regiments at Charleston.

Anstruther participated in the relief attempt for Cornwallis’ army in 1781. When Capt. John Peebles retired from command of the Grenadier Company on Feb. 2, 1782, the company passed to newly promoted Capt. William Dickson of Kilbucho. Twelve days later, the more senior Anstruther and Dickson exchanged companies, and about six months later, on Aug. 9, 1782, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company, like most of the flank companies, was returned to the regiment from the 1<sup>st</sup> British Grenadier Battalion.

The muster of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company conducted at Paulus Hook, New Jersey on July 28, 1783 listed Capt. Anstruther as “*Absent by the Comm’ in Chiefs leave in Europe...*” The return prepared by the regiment for the June 9, 1784 regimental review listed Anstruther on leave beginning July 12 1783. A War Office listing of Leaves of Absences from about late 1783 showed “*Leaves of Absences...Capt<sup>n</sup> Anstruther } 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> { 12 M<sup>o</sup> from 6 Feb<sup>y</sup> 84 D<sup>o</sup> [for his Health].*” Anstruther was granted a continuation of his leave while the regiment served in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton in a War Office listing dated Jan. 7, 1789 that included “... *Leaves of Absence Cap<sup>t</sup>. Anstruther [and] Johnston 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> } 6 Mon<sup>s</sup>. each from 4<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1788, on } their private affairs...*” Anstruther did not likely return to the regiment before it embarked in Nova Scotia in Aug. 1789 to return to Britain as a hunting certificate was issued by “... *the Sherrieff-clerk of Fife, from the 1st day of July, to the 30th day of September, 1789, inclusive...*” to “... *Anstruther, Capt. David, of the 42d regiment of foot, residing at Airdit...*” Airdit House (also Airdit Castle) was an estate in Leuchars, Fife.

In 1790 Anstruther was still Captain of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company and stationed at Glasgow when Col. William Wemyss, forwarded a recommendation to the Army from Anstruther’s brother John. The June 11, 1790 letter stated “*I am just now informed that, Several New Battalions are immediately to be raised May I sollicit your good office for procuring a Majority in one of them to my Brother? He has now been twelve Year a Captain Led the Grenadier company of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> during the whole American war where he had an opportunity of seeing as many broken Bones as any officer on that Service and where he was severely wounded himself; before his purchase into the 42<sup>d</sup> he was Sir W<sup>m</sup> Erskine’s Adjutant in the 26<sup>th</sup>, who I believe will be very ready to Vouch for his Spirit and ability as an officer; He is now at Glasgow with the grenadier Company of the 42<sup>d</sup> so can be got on a few hours notice at any time – To say anything of my own opinion of him would be improper as a Brother who had the Honor to be with Sincere Regard.*” Anstruther’s brother was, of course, incorrect about Capt. Anstruther commanding the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company during the entire American war and unfortunately for Capt. Anstruther, the recommendation was not acted on.

An Aug. 5, 1793 deserter advertisement in the *Caledonian Mercury* in Edinburgh for a 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. musician noted that a reward could be obtained from “...*Captain Anstruther, now recruiting in Edinburgh.*”

Soon after the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. returned from the Island of Guernsey (located just west of the Cherbourg peninsula of France), the War Office announced on April 12, 1794 Anstruther's exchange to Captain of an Independent Company of Foot replacing Capt. James Muter, who took Anstruther's Company in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. The War Office, however, issued a notice to "*Independent and Unattached Officers*" on Nov. 4, 1794, that "*His Majesty is pleased to order, that all the Officers of Independent Companies...shall be reduced to Half-Pay on the 25th Day of this Month...*" and Anstruther likely went out on half-pay at that time. It should be noted however, that the Annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1795, published Jan. 1, 1795, shows Anstruther still as the commander of an Independent Company.



Detail from "The Chapel Royal at Holyrood Abbey in the reign of James VII of Scotland" by William S. Daniel, 1852

Picture Source: *History of the Abbey and Palace of Holyrood*.  
Roger Griffith, Duncan Anderson, Edinburgh, pp. 123 – 124.

Anstruther's death that same month on Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> was recorded in *The Gentleman's Magazine for February 1795*, which wrote "*At Edinburgh, David Anstruther, esq. late captain in the 42d regiment of foot.*" The burial record at Holyroodhouse reads "*29 Jan 1795.--David Anstruther, Esquire, Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot, youngest son of Philip Anstruther, Esquire, of Inverkeithing, died at Edinburgh on Saturday, the 24<sup>th</sup>, and buried in the Chapel Royal of Holyroodhouse, the 29 Jan 1795, at one o'clock afternoon. The grave is within two feet on the south side of his sister, Euphemia Anstruther, who was buried in 1782 [about nine feet from the west door].*"

Commissions: Ens. Aug. 15, 1775 (Additional Co., 26<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Dec. 2, 1777 (26<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Adj. Apr. 23 – Aug. 1, 1778 (26<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. Jan. 2, 1779 – effective Dec. 6, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Feb. 14, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Capt. Apr. 4, 1794 (Independent Company of Foot); Capt. Half-pay Nov. 25, 1794 (Independent Company of Foot).

References: Birth record from LDS Church records at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org); *The Scottish Antiquary, or, Northern Notes & Queries*, edited by John Horne Stevenson, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., Vol. XV, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1901, Google Books, pp. 214, 218; TNA, *War Office: Printed Annual Army Lists*, 1775 at WO65/25, f. 72; *Scots Magazine*, June 1776, pp. 342-343; *Royal Gazette*, Jan. 17, 1778; *The London Gazette* for June 3- July 4, 1778, p. 1, Mar. 16-20, 1779 p. 1 and Apr. 8-12, 1794, pp. 1-2; *Historical Record of the Twenty-Sixth or Cameronian Regiment*,



Ed. by Thomas Carter, W. O. Mitchell, London, 1867, Google Books, pp. 83-92; *Royal Gazette* (New York), Jan. 17, 1778; General Orders, Philadelphia, Dec. 4, 1777 and Apr. 28, 1778 and New York, Jan. 2, 29 and 31 and Sept. 23, 1779; *Scots Magazine*, Apr. 1779, p. 223; "Diary of Lt. Col. George Eld, Coldstream Guards" in *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, Vol. XVIII, Mass. Hist. Society, Boston, 1881, Google Books, p. 77; Embarkation Return, *HMS Retaliation*, May 9, 1780 in the *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 97:21; TNA, *Sec. at War, Out-letters* 1780-1784 at WO 4/275, p. 343; TNA, *Sec. at War, Out-letters*, 1784-1790 at WO 4/276, p. 271 (f. 136); *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 23-27, 1789, p. 18; Letter from Col W. Wemyss in NRS, GD51/6/8/1-2, *Papers of the Dundas Family of Melville, Viscounts Melville (Melville Castle Papers)* Requests made to Henry Dundas and Robert Dundas, 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Viscounts Melville and their successors, for Commissions and favours, 1780-1882; *Peebles' Journal* entry dated May 28, 1780; Muster report for Capt. Anstruther's Company taken at Halifax, Jan. 17, 1784 at WO 12/5479; TNA, *Office of the Commander-in-Chief and War Office: Adjutant General and Army Council, Inspection Returns, Foreign*, 1783-1784 at WO 27/52, 75124; *Caledonian Mercury* (Edinburgh), Aug. 5, 1793; TNA, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. "Muster Roll Book Commencing 25<sup>th</sup>. December 1793" at WO 25/380, f.2 and *Commencing 25<sup>th</sup>. December 1793*" at WO 25/380, f.8; *London Gazette*, 18 Nov. 18, 1794, p. 4; *Gentleman's Magazine for February, 1795*, Second Number, Vol. LVX, Part I; "Burials in the Abbey of Holyroodhouse," in *The Scottish Antiquary or Northern Notes & Queries*, Vol. XV, Ed. by J. H. Stevenson, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1901, Google Books, pp. 214-215, 218; Burials in the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, Midlothian: Edinburgh - Register of Burials, Chapel Royal or Abbey of Holyroodhouse, 1706-1900.

**Anstruther**, Ens. William. Born in Scotland around 1766, 17-year old Anstruther was commissioned Ensign in August 1783 in place of Ens. William Fraser, Sr., who was promoted. Anstruther, however, had not joined the regiment by the time of the regimental review at Halifax, Nova Scotia on June 9, 1784, and accordingly did not serve with the regiment during the American War. The exact date of his commission is unclear as the Commission Ledger lists July 21, 1783 while the Annual Army List and the 1784 review at Halifax report use July 27.

Anstruther's joining of the regiment was delayed further by a series of leaves of absence. The return prepared by the regiment for the review on June 9, 1784 listed Anstruther as "*Not joined since appointed.*" A Nov. 3, 1784 War Office listing approved by the King included "*Leaves of Absence...Ens<sup>n</sup>. Anstruther } 42<sup>d</sup>. Regt 1<sup>st</sup>. Batt<sup>n</sup>. } 6 [Months] from 12<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>. D<sup>o</sup> [for his Health]...*" His leave was extended "*6 Mo<sup>s</sup>. from 12 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 85. [Priv. Aff<sup>rs</sup>.]...*" and again by War Office letter dated Jan. 4, 1786 which included "*Leaves of absence...Ens<sup>n</sup>. Anstruther } of 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> B<sup>n</sup>: 6 Months from 3<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>: 1785 P[ri]vate]. A[ff]airs.*"

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders embarked in Nova Scotia in Aug. 1789 to return to Britain, landing at Portsmouth, England in Oct. Ens. Anstruther died about a year later as documented in a War Office notice dated Aug. 28, 1790, which announced "*42d (or Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot, Patrick McLeod, Gent. to be Ensign, vice William Anstruther, deceased.*"

Commission: Ens. Aug. 1 – effective July 27, 1783; Died Aug. 25, 1790.

References: Notes to Paul Pace from Dr. John Houlding; General Orders, New York, Aug. 1, 1783; *The Edinburgh Advertiser* September \_\_, 1783; *London Gazette*, Sept. 23, 1783, p. 1 and Aug. 24-28, 1790, p. 3; TNA, *Office of the Commander-in-Chief and War Office: Adjutant General and Army Council, Inspection Returns, Foreign*, 1783-1784 at WO 27/52, 75124; TNA, George Yonge to John Campbell, Nov. 3, 1784 in *Sec. at War, Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 20 and 48; TNA, George Yonge to Off. Commanding, Nova Scotia, Jan 4, 1786, *Sec. at War, Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 94-95 (f. 48).



Col. Commandant Alexander Lindsay, 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Balcarres, 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt., 1782, Unknown Artist

Portrait Source: Bruce Venter comment dated Mar. 13, 2017 to "Benedict Arnold's Phantom Duel," by John Knight, Mar. 7, 2017, *All Things Liberty* website

Signature Source: TNA, *War Office In-letter*, Dec. 23, 1782 at WO 1/1014, p. 287.

**Balcarres**, Capt. Alexander Lindsay, 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of. Alexander Lindsay was born on Jan. 18, 1752 at Kilconquhar, Fife (about eleven miles south of St. Andrews). He was the eldest son of James Lindsay, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Balcarres, and Ann Dalrymple, daughter of Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castletown. The 5<sup>th</sup> Earl had received a pardon for his service in the Jacobite cavalry in the rebellion of 1715 and later served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or Royal North British Dragoons. Alexander Lindsay was commissioned Ensign, under the name "*Alexander, Lord Cumberland*," in July 1767 at age 15 in the 53<sup>rd</sup> Regt. which he joined at Gibraltar. He later obtained two years leave of absence to attend the University of Göttingen, Germany.

Ens. Lindsay became 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Balcarres on the death of his father in 1768. As a Peer, Lord Balcarres had the right as to skip the rank of Lieutenant and at age 19 he purchased a company in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Jan. 28, 1771, replacing retiring Capt. John Graham. because the regiment was stationed in Ireland at the

time, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland made the recommendation for Balcarres, without any knowledge of the colonel of the regiment, Gen. Lord John Murray who wrote to William Montgomery, the regimental agent on Mar. 30, 1771 that he “... was Surprized to hear [former Ens. Alexander] Lord Belcarras [53<sup>rd</sup> Regt.] name was inserted in the last Return from Belfast as Cap<sup>t</sup>. in my Reg<sup>t</sup> wither it's in Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Graham's place or not I know not but I can't help Saying that I think it's Extraordinary you never Acquaint me with Any Changes in my Reg<sup>t</sup>. and many have happened of late...”

Lord Balcarres served with the regiment in Ireland and was Captain of the Grenadier Company when he returned to Scotland with the regiment in July 1775. He wrote the Secretary at War, Lord Barrington, for promotion a few months after arriving in Scotland, on Oct. 31, 1775. Balcarres wrote from Fifehire “... When I had the Honour of waiting upon your Lordship in London offering my Services to raise some Highlanders for the American Service, your Lordship gave me some Hopes if that Plan was adopted by Government, that I might expect your Lordships good Offices and Wishes – As I now understand [Maj.] Gen<sup>l</sup>. [Simon] Fraser is to raise a Regiment to serve in America, I take the Liberty again to solicit your Lordship upon the same Subject, & beg your good Offices in recommending me to his Majesty to be apointed [sic] Major to that Regiment...”

Lord Balcarres did not get the Majority in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders, but he was promoted to Major in his previous regiment, the 53<sup>rd</sup>, effective Dec. 9, 1775 and Lt. Charles Grant purchased his company in the Royal Highlanders. Shortly before his promotion, Lord Balcarres, a Mason, was appointed Grand Master Elect of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.



Reproduction 53<sup>rd</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Lord Balcarres sailed on the transport *Woodcock* from Cork, Ireland with the 53<sup>rd</sup> Regt. on Apr. 5, 1776, as part of the force destined to be under the command of Maj. Gen. John Burgoyne for the relief of Quebec. Lt. William Digby, 53<sup>rd</sup> Regt. sailed with Lord Balcarres and documented their arrival in Canada writing “Sailed in the *Woodcock*, transport of 250 tons burthen, accompanied by 43 sail of ships full of troops, and convoyed by the *Caresford* and *Pearl*, ships of war, supposed to be destined for Quebec in Canada. We had on board two companies of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Major Earl of Balcarres, and the Grenadiers, to whom I had the honor to belong... About 11 at night [May 7, 1776] our captain seemed very uneasy at not hearing a signal from the men-of-war; it blew fresh, and the night dark and hazy. Our grog being out, we prepared for rest, when he came and told us if the signal was not made (two guns from the *Caresford*) by 12 o'clock he would put the ship about, as by his reckoning we must be very near Cape Ray, no pleasing circumstance at that time of night. He had scarce spoke, when the sailors on deck cried out; we were most on shore, and we could easily perceive the breakers at a small distance; on which the vessel was put about with the greatest despatch and all our guns fired for the rest of the fleet to keep off. Some we saw much nearer land, and feared they would be lost; in short, it was a scene of the greatest confusion.”

After reaching Quebec on May 30<sup>th</sup>, Balcarres and his company continued up river on the *Woodcock* until they disembarked at Portnef on June 1<sup>st</sup>. From there they marched to Trois Rivières and were engaged by the rebel forces on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The rebels were repulsed with considerable loss.

The next year Lord Balcarres played a key role in Maj. Gen. John Burgoyne's expedition in 1777 to invade the rebel colonies from the north. He commanded the combined Lt. Infantry Battalion in Brig. Gen. Fraser's Advance Corps. On July 6, 1777 Brig. Gen. Simon Fraser (Balnain), with about 800-900 troops of his Advance Corp, attacked retreating rebels near Hubbardton, Vermont. Lord Balcarres played a conspicuous part in the battle and was slightly wounded in the left thigh. He had 13 musket balls pass through his clothing, the lock of his fusil was shot off and "*the barrel doubled together.*" The casualty list for the engagement included. "*Wounded. Light Infantry. Major Lord Balcarres, 53<sup>d</sup> Reg't...*"

Lord Balcarres also took an active part in the Battle of Freeman's Farm, New York, on Sept. 18 and of Bemis Heights on Oct. 7. His actions at Bemis Heights were described by Lord Lindsay in the *Lives of the Lindsays* who wrote: "*The army being in a most dangerous situation, he fortified his battalion without any orders in a very strong manner, giving injunctions to his men that, in great probability, their lives would depend upon their diligence in completing that small work [the Balcarres Redoubt]. The very day it was finished the army marched to attack the enemy's works, and were most completely defeated. General Frazer, at the head of six battalions, was killed, and the redoubt was repeatedly stormed, and all the neighbouring works taken, they had the good fortune to repulse them finally and by this success the British army was saved on that day. But a few more days decided the fate of that army, which was forced to surrender, in consequence of Burgoyne's convention with Gates at Saratoga on the 13th of October.*" On the death of Brig. Gen. Fraser, Lord Balcarres was promoted to Lt. Colonel of the 24<sup>th</sup> Regt. effective Oct. 8, 1777.



Surrender of Gen. Burgoyne at Saratoga by John Trumbull

Picture Source: Architect of the Capitol by Wikimedia Commons

After the Convention of Saratoga, Lord Balcarres initially went to New York on parole but returned to join his regiment at Cambridge, Mass. writing his sisters that "*My regiment is my family, – you can all do without me. The rebels give me leave to go home if I please, but I will not accept a favour in which all my officers cannot equally benefit, so I will remain with them.*" Under a controversial charge that all British

cartridge boxes had not been properly surrendered, the rebel Congress refused to allow the Convention troops to return to Britain as called for in the Convention. The troops were later marched to the back country of Virginia as prisoners of war.

The Earl's views on accepting parole apparently changed as documented in a letter from Elias Boudinot, Rebel Commissary General of Prisoners, to Joshua Mersereau dated May 6, 1778 and read *"Being again in this City on an Exchange of Prisoners, I am to require you in Consequence of some Exchanges I have made here, to Send in to Rhode Island without delay, the following Prisoners of War... Lord Balcarras... The first five are to come out on Parole, agreeable to the form sent you some time since, & will come on to N York..."* After his release on parole, Lord Balcarres returned to Britain in Feb. 1779 and while he was in London he was elected to the Highland Society of London on Jan. 20, 1780.

On June 1, 1780, Lord Balcarres married his cousin, Elizabeth Dalrymple daughter of Charles Dalrymple of North Berwick and through that marriage obtained the estate of Haigh Hall, near Wigan and about 25 miles northwest of Manchester. The couple would have six children, two girls and four boys.

Following the death of Lt. Gen. Simon Fraser in 1782, the remains of the two battalions of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. were split into two separate regiments. A letter from Commander-in-Chief Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst on Feb. 13, 1782 gave command of one to the Earl indicating *"My Lord, I have the honour to acquaint Your Lordship, in addition to my Letter of the 5<sup>th</sup>. of last Month, in answer to Your Lordships Letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>. December past, in wherein Your Lordship acquaints me that you are ready to raise to Reg<sup>t</sup>. for the King's Service; that on the occasion of the Death of L<sup>t</sup>: General Fraser, I have again, this day, laid your Lordship's offer before The King, and that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of your Lordship to be L<sup>t</sup>: Colonel Commandant of the 2<sup>d</sup>. B<sup>n</sup>. of the 71<sup>st</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot, which is to be Formed into a Separate Regt, and to be called the 2<sup>d</sup>. 71<sup>st</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot..."*

General Orders issued at New York on Aug. 12, 1782 explained the split of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. directing *"71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. Col. Thomas Sterling from 42<sup>d</sup> Foot to be Col. vice Simon Fraser deceased 13<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 82. Lieut<sup>t</sup>. Col. Alex<sup>r</sup> Earl Balcarras of 24<sup>th</sup> Foot to be Lieut<sup>t</sup> Col Commandant of the 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> of the same Regiment to be formed into a separate Regiment and call'd 2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot 13<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 82."* Maj. Gen Stirling's regiment consisted of all the men in America (including the two additional companies in Newfoundland) about half the officers. Earl Balcarres' regiment included the men of the two 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. additional companies in Scotland and about half of the officers in America. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. was in poor shape when Earl Balcarres assumed command as he later made a claim (1788) against Lt. Gen. Simon Fraser's estate and the regimental agents writing *"...That your Memorialist understood that he was justly intitled to a complete set of Accoutrements to be made good to him from the representatives of Lieutenant General Fraser. That no Accoutrements of any kind were delivered with his Battalion for ten Companies serving in America and very few good for the two Companies in Britain that he accordingly made such demand; That the Representative declared that they would governed by such an Opinion as would be given by the Agents of General Fraser who were Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Ross and Ogilvie. That Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Ross and Ogilvie refused the Claim. That your Memorialist said to them that he would apply for justice to a Board of General Officers..."* Lord Balcarres' regiment was disbanded on Apr. 5, 1783 and he went out on Half-pay.

Lord Balcarres left Half-pay on Aug. 27, 1789 to become Colonel of the 63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt. and like a number of other senior officer, entered English political life as a representative peer for Scotland in 1784.

Balcarres' 1825 obituary detailed his career after the American war. It read *"Earl Balcarres received the rank of Colonel and a special commission to command in Jersey, Nov. 20, 1782; and was charged for one*

year with the correspondence and communications with the armies of la Vendee and les Chuan. He was first elected one of the sixteen Peers for Scotland in 1784, and had been re-chosen for every parliament since that time except that which sat between 1796 and 1802. His Lordship was promoted Aug. 29, 1789, to the Colonelcy of the 63d foot, which he retained till his death; and received the rank of Major-General, Oct. 12, 1793. He continued on the Staff at Jersey till removed to command the forces in Jamaica in 1794, when he was also placed at the head of the civil administration as Lieutenant Governor. He held also a general military superintendence over the St. Domingo districts nearest to Jamaica. He resided in that island during the whole of the Maroon war, which commenced in 1795; on its conclusion the assembly voted Lord Balcarres 700 guineas for the purchase of a sword. During his residence he purchased some plantation property. The rank of Lieut.-General was conferred on his Lordship Jan. 1, 1798. The period of his continuance on the staff in the West Indies was six years and nine months; and he was advanced to the rank of General Sept. 25, 1803.”

Lord Balcarres’ command in the West Indies was his last active professional duty, as an accident, by which he was lamed for life, incapacitated him from further active military service. *The St. James’s Chronicle* of Apr. 7-9, 1789, did however indicate Lord Balcarres was a candidate for the Colonelcy of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders (formerly the 73<sup>rd</sup> – MacLeod’s) after the death of Lord Macleod. The regiment however was awarded to the Maj. Gen. Hon. William Gordon.

Balcarres took up the manuscript begun by his father, “*Memoirs of the Lindsays*,” and completed it. Although it has long been rumored he also produced an autobiographical manuscript titled “*Anecdotes of a Soldier’s Life*,” the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres indicated in 1997 that the manuscript was actually never written.

The Earl of Balcarres died at Haigh Hall on March 27, 1825. He summed up his own life with the words “*The efforts of my life, both in my public and private pursuits, have been successful; we have once more reared our heads; a handsome competence has again fallen to our lots, – and praised be the Author of all good for it!*” He was buried in the Crawford Chapel at All Saints Church, Wigan, beside his wife, who had died on August 10, 1816. A Memorial in the Crawford Chapel reads “*Alexander VIth Earl of Balcarres Lord Lindsay and Balneill born 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 1750 general in the Army and Governor of Jersey and Jamaica during the revolutionary [Napoleonic] War succeeded as XXIIIth Earl of Crawford in 1808 died 25<sup>th</sup> March 1825 and lies buried in this chapel...*”

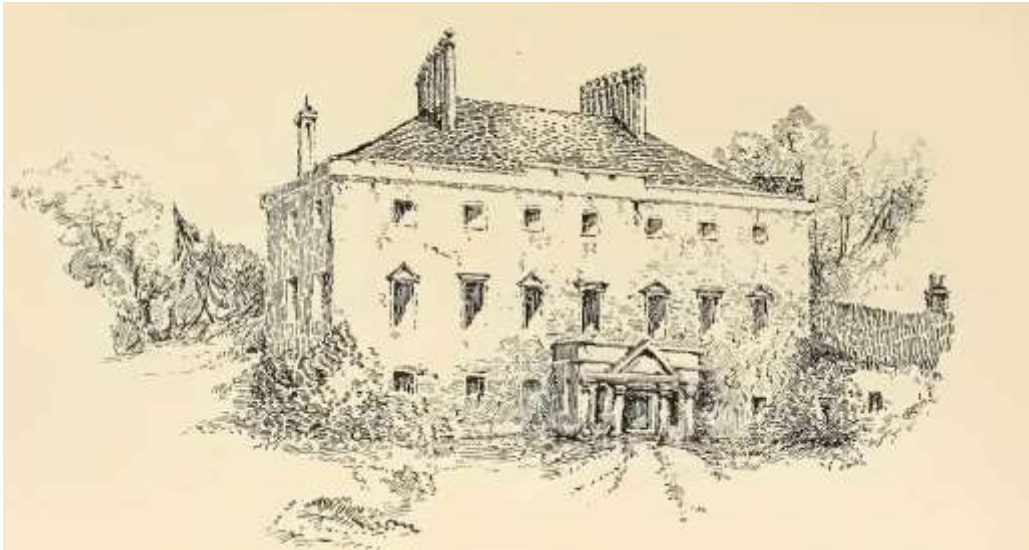
Earl Balcarres’ obituary in the *Gentleman’s Magazine* for June 1825 began “*EARL OF BALCARRES, March 27. At his seat, Haigh Hall, Lancashire, aged 73, the Right. Hon. Alexander Lindsay, sixth Earl of Balcarres, co. Fife, seventh Lord Lindsay of Cummernald, one of the sixteen Representative Peers of Scotland, a General, and Colonel of the 63d regiment of foot...*”

Commissions: Ens. July 15, 1767 (53<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Jan. 28, 1771 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. effective Dec. 9, 1775 (53<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. Oct. 8, 1777 (24<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. Commandant Feb. 13, 1782 (Second 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of (Highland) Foot); Lt. Col. Half pay April 5, 1783 (“2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>”); Col. “*in the army*” Nov. 20, 1782; Col. Aug. 27, 1789 (63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt.); Maj. Gen. Oct. 12, 1793; Lt. Governor, Jamaica Oct. 24, 1794; Lt. Gen. Jan. 1, 1798; Gen. Sept. 25, 1803.

**References:** “Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Lindsay, Sixth Earl of Balcarres, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot (Fraser’s Highlanders), circa 1782-83” by Gregory J. W. Urwin, Professor of History, Temple University, *Redcoat Images*, No. 854, Jan. 22, 2008; John Rylands University, Manchester University, *Bagshawe Muniments*, I-XI. Correspondence and Papers, V. Lord John Murray (d. 1787) and his Wife Mary, nee Dalton (d. 1765), 5/1/1-460. Correspondence, 1-408. Bound manuscript volume of copies of private letters, p. 80; TNA, *Commission Books* at WO 25/112, f. 94; British Library Archives and Manuscripts, *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xlii, Oct. 1775-Nov. 1775 at MS 73587, pp. 62-62v and Vol. xliii, Dec. 1775 – Feb. 1776 at MS 73588, p. 32; *The History of Free Masonry and the*



*Grand Lodge of Scotland*, William Alexander Laurie, Seton & Mackenzie, London, 1859, Google Books, p. 126; *A Journal Kept in Canada and Upon Burgoyne's Campaign in 1776 and 1777*, Lt. James M. Hadden, Ed. Brig. Gen. Horatio Rogers, Joel Munsell's Sons, Albany (N.Y.), 1886, Google Books, Footnotes to pp. 88, 333-336.; *Lives of the Lindsays; or a Memoir of the Houses of Crawford and Balcarres*, Vol. II, by Lord Lindsay, John Murray, London, 1849, Google Books, pp. 343- 344; Earl of Crawford and Balcarres to Ed Brumby, Balcarres, Fife, May 21, 1997; Letter to Joshua Mersereau, May 6, 1778 in the *Elias Boudinot Papers*, Vol. I, p. 138, Hist. Society of Pennsylvania; TNA, *Miscellaneous Letters from Lord Amherst* at WO 34/238, p. 220, Transcribed by Todd Braisted; TNA, *War Office, Out-letters*, WO 4/275, pp. 170-172 (ff. 87-88); TNA, *Proceedings of the Board of General Officers* at WO 71/11, pp. 400-406 and Courts Martial proceedings: Papers at WO 71/160; *St. James's Chronicle Or, British Evening Post*, Apr. 7-9, 1789, p. 1; *An Account of the HIGHLAND SOCIETY of LONDON FROM ITS Establishment in May 1773, to the Commencement of the Year 1813*, by Hon. Sir John Sinclair, E. McMillan, London, 1813, Google Books, pp. 36 – 45; *Historical Records of the 53rd (Shropshire) Regiment, Now the 1st Battalion the King's (Shropshire L.I.)*, by Col. W. Rogerson, Simpkin, Marshall, Kent, & Co., London, Google Books, pp. 3, 15; *Gentleman's Magazine*, June 1825, p. 561; General Orders, Aug. 12, 1782; Website of *All Saints Parish Church in the Town of Wigan*, Memorials inside the Church, Crawford Chapel, retrieved Jan. 29, 2016.



Craigforth House

Picture Source: *Ancient Castles and Mansions of Stirling Nobility*  
J. S. Fleming, Alexander Gardner, Paisley and London, 1902, p. 143.

*Mr. Callander Esq.*

**Callander**, Lt. Kenneth. Callander was born around 1749 and was the youngest son of seventeen children of John Callander of Craigforth (in Stirling) and his wife Mary Livingstone (eldest daughter of Sir James Livingston, Bart. of Glentirran and Dalderse). Craigforth House is located about two miles west of Stirling. Callander's oldest brother was Col. Sir James (Callander) Campbell of Ardkinglas who later wrote in his memoirs "*My mother's family were in general devoted partisans of the family of Stuart, while my father was equally firm in his support of the Hanoverian succession.*" Another older brother was the artist Adam Callander. A June 10, 1774 listing in an Apprentice Book shows Callander as apprenticed to John Welsh, Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. During this period a "Writer to the Signet" was a Scottish judicial officer responsible for preparing writs which pass the royal signet, or seal of the secretary of state ordering parties to appear before the Court of Sessions.



Reproduction 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. Uniform Button

The muster of Capt. Sir James Baird's Lt. Infantry Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. dated at Brunswick, New Jersey on Apr. 23, 1777 lists Callander as a Volunteer and "*abs<sup>t</sup>. by leave*" but the reason for this leave is not known. Sir James Baird's Company was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Battalion, which was heavily involved in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777.

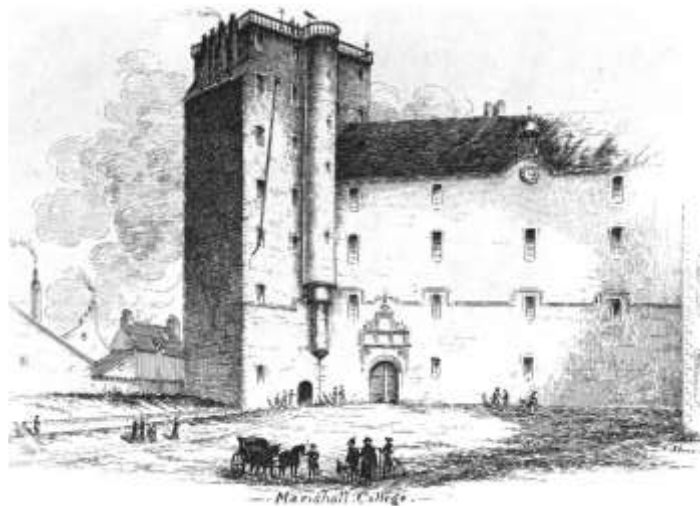
Vol. Callander was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Aug. 15, 1778 (effective Aug. 3), on the promotion of Ens. James Stirling. Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling wrote his brother that month that "*...I have brought in as Ensign M<sup>r</sup> Callendar Craig Forth's son Vol<sup>r</sup> in 71<sup>st</sup>...*" Callander served with a line battalion for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in May, 1779 and the occupation of Stony Point, New York later that year.

On Jan. 21, 1780, Ens. George Eld of the Coldstream Guards described a confrontation with Ens. Callander at a coffeehouse in New York, writing "*At twelve at night, entering the coffee-house, I was accosted by Lieutenant Callendar of the 42d Regiment (with whom I had no acquaintance), who insolently asked me if I would drink some punch. I declined the offer. On this he observed, "Ubi periculum est, ibi est gloria," [When risk is, there is fame] and asked me if I wanted a translation. I told him no, but requested an explanation. On that he drew a small sword; I also drew mine, which was a very short couteau. He perceived the superiority he possessed from the difference of the weapons, which seemed to stimulate his cowardice to the attack, which he began by two lunges, which having parried, with all the fury and vigour I possessed, I returned by cutting at him, without paying any attention to a guard; he now retreated the length of the coffee-house. I had now beat the point of his sword down, and intended to have killed him, but was prevented by Captain Peirce, who seized hold of my wrist and arrested the stroke. I told him his interference was unmanly and ungentlemanlike, as the contest was not finished. By this time some officers had taken Captain Callendar's sword from him. I declared if any person presumed to touch my sword, I would run him through the body. Captains Peirce and Callendar next morning asked my pardon. I was afterwards informed that Captain C., being an uncommon good swordsman, often insulted strangers in a similar manner. The disgrace he experienced from the contest in some measure cured him*".

About a month after the coffee-house incident, on Feb. 28, Callander wrote Adj. Gen. John Andre for leave to travel to Scotland to join 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Callander wrote "*Brigadier General [Thomas] Stirling and Major [Charles] Graham of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment having received Advice by the last Pacquet from Europe that [Gen.] Lord John Murray has appointed me eldest Ensign to the second Battalion of the Said Reg<sup>t</sup>. now raising at Home; and has wrote for me accordingly; I therefore take the Liberty of requesting the favor of your application to His Excellency the Commander in Chief for leave to join the said Battalion the first opportunity, as my delay in America may prove very detrimental to my Promotion.*" Callander added the PS that: "*It is by Order of General Stirling that I write this Letter – KC.*" Despite this request Callander stayed with the line battalion for the Siege of Charleston in 1780.

Back in Scotland Gen. Lord Murray had intended for Ens. Callander to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. provided he raised “...his Quota of men for a Lieutenancy.” However, in Jan 1781, Callander was transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company in America, and was promoted to Lieutenant in Feb. 1781, effective Dec. 31, 1780, in place of Lt. Robert Potts. Callander may have participated in the early portion of the Light Infantry’s Virginia Campaign of 1781 before retiring on July 25, 1781.

Callander married Harriet Bradford at St. Cuthbert’s, Edinburgh on Apr. 9, 1785 and had three daughters, Emily Bradford Callander (born Oct. 24, 1793 married Sir Charles Hardinge), Caroline Johnson Callander (married Maj. Gen. Richard Hardinge) and Harriet Callander. Although not the eldest son, Kenneth Callander is frequently referred to in period documents as “*Callander of Craigforth*,” indicating he later obtained the Craigforth estate. This honor is likely incorrect as the *Edinburgh Annual Register* for 1816 refers to him in his daughter wedding announcement as “... the late Kenneth Callander, younger of *Craigforth*” indicating he was not the laird of the estate at the time of his death.



Marischal College, Aberdeen

Picture Source: *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae*, Vol. II, Ed. Peter John Anderson, The Spalding Club, Aberdeen, 1898, Google Books, frontispiece.

After his military service Callander took up a career in medicine as noted by his brother, Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglas who wrote in his memoirs “*One of my brothers, Kenneth, was a physician...*” Callander was granted a Doctor of Medicine degree from Marischal College (later Univ. of Aberdeen) in 1786. The next year, 1787, Dr. Callander submitted a thesis on quinine at the Aberdeen University & King’s College with two other doctors entitled *On Use of Peruvian Bark*.

Dr. Callander’s death in 1802 was noted in *The Edinburgh Magazine* as “*Feb...2. Kenneth Callander, M.D. youngest son of the late John Callander, Esq. of Craigforth.*”

Commissions/Appointments: Volunteer prior to Apr. 23, 1777 (Lt. Infantry Co., 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Ens. Aug. 15 – effective Aug. 3, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Feb. 8, 1781 – effective Dec. 31, 1780; Retired July 25, 1781.

**References:** *Burke's Peerage and Baronetage*, 107th edition, volume 2, Charles Mosley, p. 1775; TNA, *Inland Revenue, Board of Stamps, Apprentice Books*, Apr. 1, 1774 – Nov. 30, 1776 at IR 1/59, p. 49; *Edinburgh Annual Register for 1816*, Vol. Ninth, Archibald Constable and Co., Edinburgh, 1820, p. 8; *Memoirs of Sir James Campbell, of Ardkinglas*, Vol. I, James Campbell, Henry Colburn and Richard Bentley, London, 1832, p. 9; James Callander

Pedigree prepared by Medieval Families Unit, Church of Latter Day Saints, Salt Lake City, March 1995; *Massachusetts Historical Society Proceedings*, Volume 18 (May 1880): p. 76; *Monthly Review from May to August Inclusive 1832*, Vol. II, G. Henderson, London, 1832, Google Books, p. 148; Muster of Capt. George Munro's Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Regt., Brunswick, Apr. 23, 1777 at WO 12/ 7847; General Orders, Aug. 15, 1778; Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling to Sir William Stirling, Bedford Camp, Long Island, Aug 20, 1778 at NRS, GD 24/1/458/11; *Baule and Gilbert* p. 27 and 58; Biography of Adam Callander 1750–1817, *National Maritime Museum* website; Company Muster for 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. Light Infantry Company, Return of 25 April–24 December 1776, taken at Brunswick, NJ, 23 April 1777 at WO 12/7847; General Orders, New York, Feb. 8, 1781 and July 26–27, 1781; *London Gazette*, July 3, 1781 pp. 2–3; *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Part I, Fourth Edition, Harrison, London, 1862 p. 199–200, Google Books; Callander letter dated Feb. 28, 1780 in *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 87: 11, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; Lord Murray to Lord Amherst, St. James, May 15, 1780 at WO 34/163; *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae*, Vol. II, Ed. Peter John Anderson, The Spalding Club, Aberdeen, 1898, Google Books, p. 131; *Officers and Graduated of University & King's College Aberdeen MVD-MDCCCLX*, Ed. Peter John Anderson, M.A., LL.B., printed for the New Spalding Club, Aberdeen, 1893, Google Books, p. 137; Copy of original manuscript of *Land Tax Liberty of Westminster*, 1788 in author's possession; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany*, Vol. XIX, New Series, J. Ruthven & Sons, Edinburgh, 1802, Google Books, p. 160; *Edinburgh Annual Register* for 1816, Vol. 9, Archibald Constable & Co., Edinburgh, 1820, Google Books, p. ccccxiii.

**Cameron**, Lt. James. Cameron's first commission was annotated as a Lieutenant in the War Office copy of the annual Army list for 1761 in a newly raised Independent Company under the command of Capt. Ludovic Grant. Cameron's date of rank was Oct. 28, 1760, the same date as Capt. Grant. However, when Capt. Grant's company was consolidated with four other independent companies to form the 101<sup>st</sup> Regt. (under command of Maj. James Johnstone) on June 12, 1761, Cameron was listed in the printed Annual Army List for Nov. 1761 as an Ensign with a date of rank of Nov. 6, 1760. The annotated War Office copy of the 1763 Annual Army list for 1763 (WO65/12) shows an annotation that Cameron was promoted to Lieutenant in Johnstone's Highlanders in Sept. 3, 1762 without reference to his prior Lieutenancy in Grant's Independent Company. However the hand-written Commission Ledger page for the "101 Battalion of Foot" (WO25/112) lists "*James Cameron Lieutenant 3 September 1761.*" Because this entry is posted in the ledger after a number of promotions in the regiment for 1762, it may represent some accommodation for Cameron's former rank in Grant's Independent Company. Cameron went on Half-pay Mar. 9, 1763 when the regiment was disbanded at the end of the Seven Years War.

On Dec. 16, 1775 the Secretary at War wrote Lord John Murray regarding a replacement for Lt. Norman McLeod who resigned for health reasons. As a result of a recommendation from Lord Murray, Viscount Barrington wrote "...to acquaint you that Lieu<sup>t</sup> James Cameron of the late 101<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> is appointed a Lieutenant in the 42<sup>d</sup>. (or Royal Highland) Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot under your Lordship's Command, in the room of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Norman McLeod." Cameron's date of rank as Lieutenant in the regiment was set at Aug. 28, 1775.

However, it was War Office policy to appoint half-pay officers to active service only if they specifically requested it and Cameron wrote Lord Murray requesting to be put back on half-pay. Lord Murray described Cameron's request writing "...Lieu<sup>t</sup>. James Cameron, having wrote me desiring I would apply for his returning on half pay, I wrote him in answer to inform me, on what ground he desired it if from Age, bad health, or other Reasons, & should then make application to your Lordship, but as I rec<sup>d</sup> no answer Supposed he had none." Lord Murray claimed he did not know the War Office policy when he provided Cameron's name to the War Office for a Commission in hopes of improving his recruiting of Camerons for the regiment. Murray wrote Lord Barrington on Feb. 21, 1776 that he was "...much obliged for communicating to me, that it is not at present His Majestys Intention to Appoint Officers to full pay, who do not desire it themselves, My not being certain of it, occasioned the Mistake of proposing Lieut. James Cameron, without his desire, but as I had no Officer of that Name, imagined he would be of Service in getting Recruits, having had a great many formerly in the Regiment of his name, very brave fellows, and at present two Serjeants.

To correct his involuntary call-up, Cameron was returned to half-pay by exchanging with Lt. William Rose of the 87<sup>th</sup> Regt. effective Jan. 23, 1776. Accordingly, Cameron did not serve with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. during the American war. He was still shown on the Half-pay list of the 87<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. in the 1822 Army List, but was missing from the 1823 list indicating he likely died that year.

Commissions: Ens. Nov. 6, 1760 (Capt. Ludovic Grant's Ind. Company); Lt. Oct. 28, 1760 (Capt. Ludovic Grant's Ind. Company – Amalgamated into 101<sup>st</sup> Regt. - Johnstone's Highlanders in June 1761); Ens. Nov. 6, 1760 (101<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 3, 1762 (101<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half-pay Mar. 9, 1763 (101<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 28, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half-pay Jan. 23, 1776 (87<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** Early commission history provided by Dr. John Houlding to Paul Pace; TNA, *Printed Annual Army Lists, 1761* at WO 65/9, p. 166 and WO 65/10, p. 167 and for 1763 at WO 65/12, p. 167; Commission Book at WO 25/112; Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 13 and 21, 1776 at WO 1/993; Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Dec. 16, 1775 at WO 4/95, p. 221 (f.111); Half-pay lists of 87<sup>th</sup> Regt. in the 1822 Army List at WO 65/77, p. 587 and the 1823 list at WO 65/78, p. 593.



Lt. Dugald Campbell of Craignish, circa 1775-1777

Picture Source: Family photograph of miniature, courtesy of Mr. Duine Campbell

**Campbell of Craignish, Lt. Dugald.** Campbell was likely born at Craignish Castle, a 500-year old square tower on the coast of Loch Craignish, Argyllshire in 1740 and matriculated at University of Glasgow in 1756. He was the eldest son and heir to James Campbell of Craignish (1719 – 1776) and his wife Jean Campbell (daughter of Duncan and Margaret Campbell of Argyllshire).



Campbell wrote of his family in a draft memorial in 1801 that “...*His Grandfather Dugald Campbell of Craignish was long in the Army and saw very hard service in Flanders, being Appointed first to a Lieutenancy in [Capt. Simon] Lord Lovats [Highland] independent Company in April 1725, and to A Company in the Earl of Crawford's [43<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.] in October 1739 – His two Sons James, your Memorialists father, and Lachlan were Lieutenant and Ensign in the same Regiment, the latter killed carrying the Colours at the Battle of Fontenoy...*”



Craignish Castle

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

Campbell of Barcaldine's notes on Campbell Officers donated to the Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh show Dougal Campbell as initially being commissioned Ensign on July 21, 1759 in the “*Regiment of Fencible Men of Argyllshire*” raised by the Duke of Argyle. This regiment consisted of about 37 officers and 1000 men. Twenty-two of the officers were named Campbell. Dougal Campbell was promoted to Lieutenant in the Argyll Fencibles on Jan. 7, 1760 before being commissioned Lieutenant in the 105<sup>th</sup>, or the Queen's Own Royal Regt. of Highlanders in Nov. 1761 at the raising of the regiment by Col. David Græme of Gorthy. Campbell likely served with the regiment in Ireland until it was disbanded in 1763 at the end of the Seven Years War. Campbell was placed on Irish Half-pay of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion when the battalion was disbanded in 1763.

On Dec. 24, 1773, Campbell married his first wife, Isabella (also Isobel) Campbell and they had one child, James, born in 1774. Isabella was the daughter of Angus Campbell of Dunstaffnage and his wife, Margaret, daughter of Dugald Campbell, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Ederline. Isabella Campbell died from the effects of childbirth ten days after birth of their James on Nov. 3, 1774.

As part of the augmentation of the Royal Highlanders for the American war an additional Lieutenant was added to each of the large companies in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. The Secretary at War notified Lord John Murray on Aug. 15, 1775 to announce some of the newly assigned Lieutenant writing “*I have the honor to acquaint you that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Officers mentioned in the annexed List to be Lieutenants and Ensigns in the 42<sup>d</sup>/or Royal Highland/ Regiment of Foot under your Command in consequence of the intended augmentation. – The notification will not be issued 'till the additional Lieutenants are named when the Dates of the several Commissions respectively will be arranged; In the mean time these Officers may be employed on the recruiting Duty...Lieut' Dougal Campbell, from Half Pay, to be Lieutenant...*” Campbell's date of rank was established as Aug. 30, 1775. Lord Barrington included Campbell in another list of newly appointed officers on Oct. 11, 1775 listing him as “*To be Lieutenants. Dougal Campbell from Half Pay 105<sup>th</sup> Foot...*”



Campbell's younger half-brother, Smollett Campbell, was a Lieutenant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> (Fraser's) Highland Regt. and his youngest half-brother, George Campbell, joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as Volunteer in June 1777 and was commissioned Ensign in Oct. 1777.

Lt. Campbell was initially assigned to one of the line companies of the regiment, however Lord John Murray wrote to the Secretary at War from Glasgow on Apr. 2, 1776 that "*As Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Dougal Campbell of the Battalion, is Extremely ill at Edinburgh, and not fit to Serve abroad at present, have moved him to the Additional in place of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Norman Macleod.*" Lt. Campbell is listed in the July 4, 1776 muster of Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company in Glasgow as "*Recruiting.*"



Arms of Campbell of Craignish

Picture Source: *The Heraldry of the Campbells*, Vol. II,  
G. Harvey Johnson, Edinburgh, 1921, Plate VI.

On March 12, 1777, ten months after Dugald's father's death, Archibald Campbell of Succoth, having power from John, Duke of Argyll, invested Lt. Campbell in the Lands of Craignish as the nearest male relative of James Campbell of Craignish, his father. Two days later on Mar. 14, Campbell married his second wife, Helenor Campbell, daughter of Farquhard and Margaret Campbell of Lagganlochan.

Campbell was transferred on paper from the Additional to Capt. Charles Grant's Company as of May 22, 1777 and joined the regiment in America as recorded by Lt. John Peebles who wrote in his journal on July 6, 1777 that "*...our additional Comp<sup>ys</sup> arrived 2 l<sup>ts</sup> & 170...*" As part of Capt. Grant's company, Campbell participated in the 1777 Philadelphia campaign including the Battle of Brandywine (where the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. served as the Commander-in-Chief's guard and reserve) and at the seizure of the Fort at Billingsport, on the Delaware River on Oct. 2, 1777.

Soon after the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. returned to the main Army from Billingsport, General Orders issued at Philadelphia on Oct. 31, 1777 announced Campbell's retirement writing "*The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following Promotions... 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment... Ensign Lord William Murray to be Lieutenant by purchase vice Dougal Campbell retired} 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1777.*" Campbell sailed for Great Britain in late Nov. 1777 as recorded in Lt. John Peebles' journal, where he noted on Nov. 16, 1777, "*...wrote my F<sup>r</sup> [Father] by M<sup>r</sup> Dug<sup>l</sup> Campbell.*"

In Feb. 1793 the French Republic declared war on Great Britain and a number of Fencible Regiment were authorized to protect the British homeland. The Argyllshire Regiment of Fencibles were raised beginning in March, 1793 and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was authorized in Oct. 1794. The Inveraray Burgh Records documented the recruiting efforts noting "*Inveraray, 7<sup>th</sup> February, 1795.—The Magistrates and Town Council of this burgh, being convened in Council, from their desire of promoting His Majesty's service and from their particular attachment to Colonel Henry Mordaunt Clavering, commanding the Second Battalion of the Argyllshire Regiment of Fencibles, they hereby offer a bounty of two guineas, over and*

*above all other bountys, to each of the first twenty men, natives of Argyllshire, who shall enlist with them, from this date to the tenth day of April next, for the said Second Battalion of the Argyllshire Fencibles. To be paid upon their joining and being approved of at the headquarters of the regiment, and they appoint intimation hereof to be made by advertisement."*

Eighteen years after Dugald Campbell left the Royal Highlanders, on Aug. 22, 1795, the War Office announced the formation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 5<sup>th</sup> or Argyllshire Regiment of Fencibles under the command of Col. Henry M. Clavering and former Lt. Campbell of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was listed with a company in the battalion with a date of rank of Oct. 25, 1794. After Col. Clavering's battalion was embodied at Inveraray, it marched to Dumbarton Castle for initial training.

About Oct. 1801, Capt. Campbell prepared a draft memorial from Glasgow to Field Marshall Prince Frederick, Duke of York for a Royal Bounty. Campbell wrote "*...that he Entered His Majesty's Service at a very early period of life: He obtained a Lieutenancy in the Queens Highlanders (105<sup>th</sup> Regt.) the War before last: and on the reduction of that Corps continued on half-pay untill the late American War when he was Appointed to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highlanders and had the honour of serving in that distinguished Regiment untill called home by urgent family business nearly at the Conclusion of the War [Nov. 1777]... When the Fencible Corps were raised in the different Counties of Scotland in the years 1794-5 your Memorialist immediately Applied to be employed and was nominated a Captain in the [2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion] 5<sup>th</sup> or Argyleshire Fencible Regiment in which he Still remains...*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was one of several Fencible Regiments that had agreed to serve outside Britain, and accordingly was ordered to Ireland in the spring of 1798 to suppress the Irish Rebellion. Initially they took part in a number of actions near Limerick, about 125 miles southwest of Dublin.

The battalion returned to Inveraray in Aug. 1798 camping near Maltland Barracks until Oct 8, when Col. Clavering learned that a nine-ship French fleet was cruising off the coast of the Kintyre Peninsula and that some landings had occurred. Clavering ordered the Fencibles to march through the night, 38 miles southwest to West Loch Tarbert. While the main body of the battalion marched to Dun Ban, one of the companies engaged a French ship off Carradale but no attempt to land was made. On the 12<sup>th</sup> the men were posted along the shore as a British squadron under Sir John Warren defeated the French, taking seven of the nine French ships. After the French defeat, the Argyllshire Fencibles returned to Inveraray.

According to the Monthly Officer Lists for February and September 1799, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was stationed in Newry, Ireland, straddling counties Armagh and Down.

The *Edinburgh Advertiser* of Oct. 1, 1802, reported the disbanding of the Fencibles in Dublin writing "*DUBLIN, Sept. 25. "Yesterday the ARGYLLSHIRE FENCIBLE Regiment was disbanded here, when the Officers of the Regiment presented to Colonel [Henry M.] CLAVERING two handsome Pieces of Plate, with inscriptions on them, expressive of their respect and esteem for him, during seven years service under his command, and in like manner the Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the Regiment present to Colonel CLAVERING an elegant Sword.*

Campbell sold the Craignish estate to Archibald Campbell of Jura on Aug. 5, 1801 and in October of that year drafted a memorial to the Duke of York for financial assistance. Campbell wrote from Glasgow "*... Your Memorialist has now to look forward to Your Royal Highness as the only means through which his Majestys most gracious and Royal bounty can reach him, and tho he would not Venture to urge further grounds in Support of his [illeg.], he, with due deference, maintains that half-pay as Captain, a place of Barrack-master or any Similar [torn] would render more Comfortable the remainder of a life [torn] [word blocked by seal] and cheerfully devote every day of to his King and Country..."*

*Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* of May 1828 carried an announcement of Lt. Campbell's death writing "Deaths...Feb...15. At Slateford House, Dougall Campbell, Esq. late of Craignish, and representative of the Campbells of the Argyle family." Helenor Campbell died just a few months later, at age 80, on May 9 at Gorgie Park, Edinburgh.

Commissions: Ens. July 21, 1759 (Fencible Men of Argyllshire); Lt. Jan. 7, 1760 (Fencible Men of Argyllshire); Lt. Nov. 1, 1761 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup>, or the Queen's Own Royal Regt. of Highlanders); Lt. Irish Half-Pay 1763 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 30, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Apr. 2, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Additional Company); Transferred from Additional Company to Capt. Grant's Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on May 22, 1777; Retired Oct. 27, 1777 – changed in orders to Sept. 27, 1777; Capt. Oct. 25, 1794 (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> or Argyllshire Regiment of Fencibles); 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> or Argyllshire Regiment of Fencibles Disbanded - Sept. 24, 1802.

**References:** Campbell of Barcaldine, *MS notes on Campbell Officers*, Lyon Office, H.M. Register House, Edinburgh, p. 12; Irish half pay list, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt., Army List 1767; "Campbell Family Tree" by Mr. Duine Campbell, Ancestry.com; Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Aug. 15, 1775 at WO 4/94, p. 136 and Oct. 11, 1775 at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 2 and 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; "Queen's Highlanders, &c" in *Stewart's Sketches* Vol. II, 1822, Google Books, pp. 331-332; "House of Craignish" in *House of Argyll and the Collateral Branches of the Clan Campbell from the Year 420 to the Present Time*, Published by John Tweed, Glasgow, 1871, pp. 123-124; *North British Intelligencer or Constitutional Miscellany* (Edinburgh), May 8, 1776, p. 192; Muster of Capt. Charles Grant's Company and Maj. William Murray's Company for the period Dec. 25, 1776 through June 24, 1777 at WO 12/5478; "Precept of Clare Constat by Archibald Campbell of Succoth, having power from John, Duke of Argyll, for investing Dugald Campbell now of Craignish as nearest heir male of deceased James Campbell of Craignish, his father, 12 Mar 1777 in the lands of Craignish" in the *Campbell of Jura Papers*, Writs Etc. Relating to the Lands of Craignish at NRS, GD64/1/4/7; *Campbell of Jura Papers* at NRS GD64/1/4/5, 12 and 21; *Sketches of the Coasts and Islands of Scotland and of the Isle of Man*, Vol. II, Lord Teignmouth, John W. Parker, London, 1836, Google Books, p. 354; Dougal Campbell Pedigree from Medieval Families Unit, Church of Latter Day Saints, Salt Lake City, March 1995 at <http://www.familysearch.org>; *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Colonial Gentry*, Vol. I. by Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Harrison & Sons, London, 1891, Google Books, p. 270; *The Matriculation Albums of the University of Glasgow*, University of Glasgow, Maclehose, 1913, pp. 54 and 157; *Peebles' Journal* entry dated July 6, 1777 and Nov. 16, 1777 (Notes: There is some confusion on Campbell's retirement date. It was initially published in General Orders as Oct. 27, 1777, but the Commission of Lord William Murray, who took Campbell position was later back dated to Sept. 27, 1777, see the British Orders dated at Philadelphia Oct. 31, 1777 and May 13, 1778. The Regimental Succession Book dates the retirement as Sept. 27, 1777.); *London Gazette*, Aug. 18-22, 1795, pp. 860-861; *List of the Officers of the Several Regiments and Corps of Fencible Cavalry and Infantry; of the Officers of the Militia; of the Corps and Troops of Gentlemen and Yeomanry and of the Corps and Companies of Volunteer Infantry*, War-Office, 22d June 1797, p. 48; *National Library of Scotland*, ACC6223/10 Bundle 1 item 19; *Monthly Army List, Corrected to the First of February, 1799*, p. 40 and the *First of September, 1799*, p. 40; *Odd Incidents of Olden Times, or Ancient Records of Inveraray*, Peter MacIntyre, Aird & Goghill, Glasgow, pp. 31, 53-59; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 1, 1802, p. 19.

**Campbell, Lt. Dugald.** Campbell was commissioned Mar. 1, 1778 in place of Ens. John Campbell, who was promoted, effective May 1777. Ens. Dugald Campbell served in one of the Additional Companies of 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and in April 1778 sailed with that company and two Additional Companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. (Fraser's) to St. John's, Newfoundland to reinforce the garrison.



St. Johns, Newfoundland in 1798, Showing Fort Townsend

Source: *A History of Newfoundland*, by D.W. Prowse, Macmillan and Co., London, 1895, Google Books, p. 374.

While serving in Newfoundland, Ens. Campbell was promoted to Lieutenant in Orders dated Nov. 3, 1778 replacing Lt. Harry Gilchrist who had died of his wounds in the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey. The Regimental Agent, Alexander Anderson, referred to Campbell in a letter to Lord Murray in 1779 regarding who should command the Newfoundland detachment indicating “...*L<sup>t</sup> Dougald Campbell a very young officer to Command so large a Detachment.*”

In March 1780 the Additional Companies of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. were absorbed into the newly raised 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the regiment in Scotland. After Lt. John Grant took half the company from Newfoundland to New York as replacements for the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in Sept. 1781, Lt. Campbell took command of the remaining troops in Newfoundland. A return dated Sept. 1781 showed the strength of Campbell's detachment to be one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and 45 rank and file.

On Oct. 31, 1781, Campbell was included in “*List of the Officers of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battallion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot absent from Duty*” where a note indicated “*NB. Lieutenants John Grant & Dugald Campbell who were with the Detachment at Newfoundland are expected home as soon as they have disposed of the Privates in the first Battallion at New York*”

In Nov. 1782 Rear Adm. John Campbell, Gov. of Newfoundland, wrote that he “...*sent the remainder of the Detachment of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Foot from Newfoundland to Halifax in the Thorn Sloop of War, to be conveyed from thence to New York in order to join the first Battalion of that Regiment, and directed Lieutenant Dougal Campbell who attended them thither to make the best of his way to England and join the Second Battalion to which he belongs.*” On Nov. 13, 1782, Maj. Gen. James Paterson in Halifax wrote to Commander in Chief Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, that a detachment of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. consisting of one subaltern [Campbell], one sergeant and forty privates arrived there a few days ago from St. John's Newfoundland in order to join their regiment. They were ordered on board the *Berwick* navy store ship and the ordnance ship *Lady Amherst*. On arrival in New York, the soldiers of Lt. Campbell's detachment joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the regiment, and he returned to Britain to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., then in India.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was designated the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. in Apr. 1786 and that same month Campbell was promoted to Captain in place of Æneas Fraser, who had died. Capt. Campbell died in 1787 while serving with the new 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. in India. The announcement of his death by the War Office on April 5, 1788 read “73d Regiment of Foot, Captain James Campbell, from the Half-Pay of the late 71st Regiment, to be Captain of a Company, vice Dugald Campbell, deceased.” This transaction is also consistent with the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. Succession Book which shows James Campbell’s commission date of 6<sup>th</sup> June 1787 vice “Campbell did [died].”

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 1, 1778 – effective May 31, 1777 (Additional Company); Lt. Nov. 3, 1778 – effective Aug. 26, 1778 (Additional Company); Lt. March 1780 with date of rank of Aug. 26, 1778 (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Apr. 1786 - with date of rank of Aug. 26, 1778 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Apr. 26, 1786 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Died June 6, 1787 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.).

**References:** General Orders, Philadelphia, Mar. 1, 1778 and New York, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3, 1778; Alexander Anderson to Lord Murray, May 15, 1779, *Lord Murray Papers*; *London Gazette*, Mar. 6-9, 1779, pp. 1-2; June 27-July 1, 1786, p. 2 and Apr. 1-5, 1788, pp. 1-2; *General State of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> (or Royal Highland) Regiment Foot*, at Perth the 21<sup>st</sup> March, & at Fort George the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1780; Mathew Lewis to Knox, Mar. 25, 1778 at CO 5/170; Rear Adm. John Campbell to the Earl of Shelburne, *HMS Portland* at Spithead, Nov. 23, 1782 at CO 195/35, f. 77961; Embarkation Return of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Portsmouth, Jan. 20-22, 1781 at WO 34/171, f. 397; *List of Officers of the 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot absent from Duty 31 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1781* at WO 34/189, f. 218; Maj. Gen. James Paterson to Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Halifax, Nov. 13, 1782 as described in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. III, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London, 1907, Google Books, pp. 217-218; *Blackwood’s Edinburgh Magazine*, May 1828, p. 665; 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. Succession book, 1788-193 at WO 25/213.



Dugald Campbell  
Esq. 42<sup>nd</sup> or R. H. Regt

**Campbell, Lt. Dugald.** Campbell was born around 1758 in Scotland and was a relative of Capt. Lord William Campbell of the Royal Navy (youngest son of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Argyle and Gov. of Nova Scotia 1766-1773). Dugald Campbell was also known to be the nephew of Patrick Campbell of Auch. *The Scots Magazine* of June 1770 listed the same Patrick Campbell as “Lieut. Patrick Campbell in Tromchrecher, forester of Mamlorn...”

Dugald Campbell was a Volunteer serving in the ranks when he was commissioned as Ensign on Nov. 5, 1778 (effective Oct. 1778) in place of Ens. George Campbell who had been promoted. A Volunteer of the same name in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. had been captured on the transport *George* at the beginning of the war and held prisoner in the town of Menden, Massachusetts. This prisoner was the nephew of “Pat Campbell Esq at Ardsheel” of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders and was exchanged about the same time Vol. Campbell was commissioned in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and may possibly be the same individual. Patrick Campbell “at Ardsheel,” however, is not the uncle that was the “forester of Mamlorn...” that visited Campbell in New Brunswick after the war.

Dugald Campbell served with the line battalion in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in 1779, the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, and the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780. He was promoted to Lieutenant on April 5, 1781 (effective Jan. 1, 1781) in place of Lt. Allan MacLean, who was recorded as drowned when his ship went down on the way to Britain.

Although Campbell was transferred on paper to Capt. Peebles' Grenadier Company effective on Jan. 2, 1781, Peebles' makes no mention of him in his detailed journal of the war. Accordingly, Campbell may not have actually served with the Grenadier Company. He was transferred back to the Line battalion on Feb. 14, 1782.

Campbell was appointed an Assistant Engineer in General Orders dated March 27, 1782 and served under Capt. Abraham D'Aubant, the Commanding Engineer. A *"Return of the Engineers, Assistant Engineers, Draughtsmen, Storekeepers & Clerks, Artificers, Labourers, Vessels, Waggon & Horses employ'd in the Engineer Department"* dated May 13, 1782 listed *"Assistant Engineers...Lieut Campbell 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt..."*

At the end of the war, Capt. Grant's company was mustered at Paulus Hook, New Jersey on Oct. 6, 1783. That muster recorded Campbell's status as *"Reduced on half pay 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>. 83 going to Nova Scotia by Comm<sup>r</sup> in Chiefs Leave."*

Campbell married Jacobina (MacGregor) Drummond (daughter of Donald MacGregor, alias Drummond, younger of Balhaldie, and Ann Grosbeck of New York) in New York and had three sons, Alexander, Patrick and Ludlow and two daughters, Jacobina and Ann.

At the end of the American war, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was reduced in size and the discharged soldiers were offered land in Nova Scotia in lieu of returning to Scotland. A group of Highlanders decided to take their discharges and settle on the St. John's River of what is now New Brunswick, Canada. Led by Half-pay Lt. Dugald Campbell, 120 Men, women and children embarked on Sept. 26, 1783 on the transports *Neptune*, *Mercury* and *Jason*. The discharged men were all assigned to the Nova Scotia Militia based on their transports with the men of on board the *Neptune* assigned to Capt Thomas Fairchild's Company, the men on the *Mercury* to Capt. Samuel Dickinson's Company and the men on the *Jason* to Capt. Thomas Spragg's Company.

The discharged highlanders built log houses on their lots on the south side of Union St. in Parr Town (now Saint John, NB) but the following summer their homes were destroyed in a major fire. Instead of rebuilding the Highlanders moved to the Nashwaak River settlement, in the Parish of St. Mary's, where they settled together in 185 lots. Former engineer Campbell surveyed the new settlement and took Lot No. 1, containing 580 acres at the mouth of the Tay River, which he called Taymouth Farm. Lt. Campbell had also drawn two lots in Carleton on the opposite side of the river and one lot in Parr Town, on the south side of King Street (near King's Square). On Sept. 11, 1802, he sold that lot to Cornelius Harbell for *"fifty shillings lawful money of the Province of New Brunswick."*

A pay receipt for Lt. Campbell as Assistant Engineer at Saint Anne's Point, New Brunswick dated Aug. 25, 1785 read *"...To Lieut Dugald Campbell for his pay as Assistant Engineer employed in the district of Saint Johns river New Brunswick under the direction of Lieut James Glenie Engineer, commencing the 25<sup>th</sup>. June and Ending the 24<sup>th</sup>. August 1785 inclusive, amounting in the whole to the sum of twenty four pounds ten shillings and two pence Halifax Curr<sup>y</sup>..."* The village of St. Anne's Point was renamed to Fredericton in 1785.

Dugald's uncle, Patrick Campbell, visited him in Sept. 1791 and wrote *"September 4. Upon enquiry I was informed that my relation lieutenant Dugald Campbell, assistant engineer, who resided within five miles of Frederick Town, had passed through it two days ago to visit his farm on the Nashwaak river, about eighteen miles from hence; and was expected to return that day by the same route."*

On May 29, 1791 Asst. Engineer Campbell wrote to Lt. Gov. and Brig. Gen. Thomas Carleton, regarding the name for a new fort he was building on the Saint John River at the current location of Grand Falls,



New Brunswick. Campbell wrote “... *I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that I arrived at Presqu'isle the 20<sup>th</sup>. and at this Post on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May, having been much delayed by the height of the [St. John] River. Before I proceed further I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to do me the honor of permitting this Place to be in future called Fort Carleton as a mark of respect and in testimony of the gratitude I feel for the kindness you have honored me with. The Warmest Zeal for His Majestys Service and for the honor of Your Excellencys Government has emboldened me to lay the above before you...*” The fort was built to secure the lines of communication between Halifax and Quebec up the Saint John River Valley and consisted originally of six log buildings by the portage separating the upper and lower basins of the river.

In 1793 Campbell was appointed a Lieutenant in the King's New Brunswick Regt., a unit recruited for local defense during the war with France and he was promoted to one of the regiment's three Companies in July 1794. In 1797 he was in command of the light infantry company and was posted at a one cannon block house about six yards square erected in the Lower Cove on the Saint Johns River. In the fall of that year Campbell's company moved to Fredericton. Campbell was appointed in 1799 to act as a surveyor to open military roads on the upper St. John River. The War Office disbanded the King's New Brunswick Regt. in 1802, and Campbell returned to Half-pay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

On Feb. 24, 1804 Campbell wrote to Hon. Edward Winslow near Fredericton after a lengthy journey through the snow to Quebec that “...*I arrived here on the 21<sup>st</sup> Instant very much fatigued from the uncommon badness of the way which I was under a necessity of paving with Dollars to render it passable I took off my Snow Shoes at the Riviere du Caps without any regret after having wore them about three hundred miles... I do not at present foresee any thing that may prevent my return in the Spring to New Brunswick...*”

On Sept. 15, 1804 the War Office posted Capt. Campbell's return to active service announcing “38<sup>th</sup> [Regiment of Foot] ... *Lieutenant Dugald Campbell, from Half-Pay of the 42<sup>d</sup> Foot, to be Lieutenant.*” The War Office copy of the Annual Army List for 1804 shows Campbell struck off the Half-pay list of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. with the annotation “38 F [Foot].” Campbell is not, however, shown added to the 38<sup>th</sup> (or the 1<sup>st</sup> Staffordshire) Regt. page. This omission is likely because Campbell never joined the 38<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Ireland as ten days after the 38<sup>th</sup> Regt. announcement, on Sept. 25, 1804, the War Office announced “*New Brunswick Fencible Infantry...Lieutenant Dugald Campbell, from the 38<sup>th</sup> Foot, to be Captain of a Company.*” Campbell spent the rest of his life on regimental duty at Fredericton and Saint John before dying in Fredericton on Apr. 12, 1810. Campbell was buried in the Old Burying Grounds in that town, as was his wife Jacobina.

Capt. Campbell can be easily confused with Capt. Dugald Campbell of the Canadian Regt. of Fencible Infantry, who was commissioned Captain in 1803. This officer was known to be serving in the Canadian Fencibles as late as 1812, well after the death of the above officer who served in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Commissions: Ens. Nov. 5, 1778 – effective Oct. 18, 1778; Lt. Apr. 5, 1781 – effective Jan. 1, 1781 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Lt. Feb. 14, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Assistant Engineer Mar. 27, 1782; Lt. Half-pay Aug. 24, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. 1793 (King's New Brunswick Regt.); Capt. July 19, 1794 (King's New Brunswick Regt.); Disbanded 1802 (King's New Brunswick Regt.); Lt. Half-pay Dec. 1802 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 7, 1804 (38<sup>th</sup> or the 1<sup>st</sup> Staffordshire Regt.); Capt. Sept. 19, 1804 (New Brunswick Regt. of Fencible Infantry); Died Apr. 12, 1810 (New Brunswick Regt. of Fencible Infantry).

**References:** “Dugald Campbell's Map” by Jonas Howe in *New Brunswick Magazine*, Vol. II, May, 1899, No. 5, Ed. and Pub. William Kilby Reynolds, Saint John, NB, 1899, Google Books, pp. 234-237; NRS, *Letters concerning Capt. Angus McIntosh, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt., Kyllachy Papers* at GD128/48/11/20; *Travels in the Interior Parts of North America in the*

*Years 1791 and 1792*, Patrick Campbell, printed for the Author, Edinburgh, 1793; *Scots Magazine*, June 1770, p. 330; *London Gazette*, Mar. 6-9, 1779, pp. 1-2; General Orders, New York, Nov. 5, 1778, April 5, 1781 and March 27, 1782; Alexander Anderson to Lord Murray, Mar. 9, 1779; General Muster Books and Pay Lists, 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1777-1786 at WO 12/5479 ff. 121-130; *Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness*, Volume XXIV, 1899-1901, Inverness, 1904, Google Books, pp. 425-6; *The Saint John River and Its Tributaries*, Esther Clark Wright, Wolkville, NS, 1966; *The 42<sup>nd</sup> Royal Highland Regiment, The Black Watch (Nashwaak)*, Margaret Pugh; *Where One Scot Comes, Others Soon Follow: The 42nd Royal Highland Regiment (Black Watch) and the Settlement Of The Nashwaak River Valley, 1783-1823*, Craig Maskill, Masters of Arts Dissertation, Univ. of New Brunswick, 1999, p. 25; Campbell of Barcaldine, MS notes on Campbell Officers, Lyon Office, National Records of Scotland, Edinburgh, p. 18; "The King's New Brunswick Regiment, 1793-1802," Jonas Howe, *Collections of the New Brunswick Historical Society*, Vol. I, The Daily Telegraph Steam Book, Saint John, N.B., 1894, pp. 13-62; *The Winslow Papers A. D. 1776 – 1826*, Part 2, Ed. Rev. W. O. Raymond, New Brunswick Historical Society, St. John (NB), 1901, Google Books, p. 412; Pay Receipt for Lt. Dugald Campbell, Aug. 25, 1785 at No. 16, New Brunswick Accounts 29, *Winslow Family Papers*, Univ. of New Brunswick; Dugald Campbell to Thomas Carleton, May 29, 1791 in the *Winslow Family Papers*; Dugald Campbell to Edward Winslow, Feb. 29, 1804 in the *Winslow Family Papers*; "Campbell, Dugald" in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. V, 1801-1820, George W. Brown, David M. Hayne, Frances G. Halpenny and Ramsay Cook, Univ. of Toronto Press, 1966, Google Books, pp. 135-137; *The New Brunswick Magazine*, Vol. II, June 1899, No. 6, p. 305; "The One Hundred and Fourth," James Hannay, in the *New Brunswick Magazine*, Vol. I, No. 6, W.K. Reynolds, St. John (NB), Dec. 1898, published in *New Brunswick Magazine*, Vol. 1, July-Dec., Ed. and Pub. by William Kilby Reynolds, Saint John, 1898, Google Books, pp. 306-307; *London Gazette* for Sept. 11-14, 1804, pp. 1-2, Sept. 22-25, 1804, pp. 1, 3 and Aug. 21-25, 1810, p. 3, TNA, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester Papers* at PRO 30/55/40, p. 4595(1) 2.



**Campbell, Lt. George.** Born about 1761, George Campbell was the youngest son of James Campbell of Craignish and his second wife, Mary Campbell of the Campbells of Barbeck. George was the half-brother to Lt. Dugald Campbell of Craignish of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and brother to Lt. Smollett Campbell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.

Ens. Campbell began his service with the regiment as a Volunteer in Capt. Charles Grant's Company in June 1777 and was commissioned Ensign in General Orders dated Oct. 31, 1777 in place of Ens. Lord William Murray who was promoted. On May 6, 1778, Gen. Sir William Howe forwarded a memorial to the War Office from Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling to correct the dates of commissions in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Stirling wrote on May 6 that "... on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September last year, your Memorialist recommended the Sale of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Dougal Campbell's Commission of said Regiment, and that Ensign Lord William Murray & Volunteer George Campbell might be appointed in the Succession by Purchase. That soon after a vacancy having happened in the Regiment by the Promotion of Major Murray, your Memorialist recommended Ensign Gavin Drummond to be Lieutenant and Volunteer William M<sup>c</sup>Donald to be Ensign in that Succession, both which your Excellency was pleased to agree to, and their Commissions have come out accordingly; But by some Mistake Lieu<sup>t</sup> Lord William Murray's Commission and Ensign George Campbell, the first recommended, are dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 1777, and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Drummond & Ensign M<sup>c</sup>Donald's Commissions are dated the 5<sup>th</sup> October, by which means the latter Officers take Rank of the former, who were first recommended, and senior to them." Gen. Howe added that "...I have rectified by recalling the Commissions first given to those Gentlemen and granting others bearing Date the 27<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> 1777 presuming upon His Majestys Approbation." The Succession Book shows Campbell's commission as Ensign was issued three times to correct errors in the date. It was initially dated Oct. 27, 1777, then Sept. 27, 1777 and finally Sept. 27, 1778, an obvious error.

Campbell served with a line battalion in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778 and was promoted to Lieutenant on Nov. 5, 1778 in place of Lt. Alexander Munro who left the regiment. Campbell remained with a line battalion for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in 1779, the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780, and the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781. On the retirement of Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh in Sept. 1779, Campbell, the senior Lieutenant in the company, was likely the acting company commander since the new company commander, Capt. Hay Macdowal, never joined the regiment in America. Campbell would have been replaced as acting commander in July 1780 when Lt. Alexander Macgregor, who was senior by two months, joined the company.

In March 1780 New York tavern keeper James Weir charged Campbell with “*bad conduct*” in a Memorial to the Commandant of New York. This charge was countered by Campbell and resulted instead in a court-martial for Weir that concluded “...*that Lieut. Campbell had received very improper treatment from the complainant Wier and his wife therefore recommend that the License granted to Weir should be withdrawn.*” Campbell had the results published in *The Royal Gazette* “...*that my character may be cleaned up in the eyes of the Garrison.*”

At the end of the war Campbell moved with the regiment to Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783 and retired on Feb. 13, 1786.

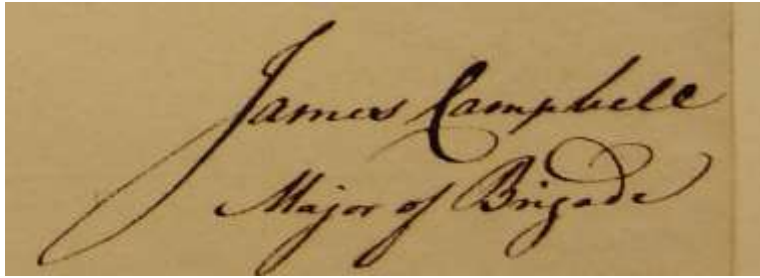
Commissions: Volunteer June 24, 1777; Ens. Oct. 31 – effective Sept. 27, 1777; Lt. Nov. 5, 1778 – effective Oct. 18, 1778; Retired Feb. 13, 1786.

**References:** “House of Craignish” in *House of Argyll and the Collateral Branches of the Clan Campbell from the Year 420 to the Present Time*, Published by John Tweed, Glasgow, 1871, pp. 123-124; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1777 and May 13, 1778 and New York, Nov. 5, 1778; TNA, Sir William Howe to Viscount Barrington with Memorial of Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling, May 6, 1778, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester Papers* at PRO 30/55/10 f. 10700; *Royal Gazette* (New York), Mar. 4, 1780; *London Gazette*, Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2, Mar. 6-9, 1779, pp. 1-2, Feb. 14, 1786, p. 2.



Miniature of Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. (back labeled “Major Ja<sup>s</sup> Campbell H. M. 42 Reg<sup>t</sup>”)

Picture Source: Courtesy of *Historical Antique Arms*

A handwritten signature in cursive script on aged paper. The signature reads "James Campbell" on the top line and "Major of Brigade" on the bottom line.

Signature source: James Campbell to Lord Rawdon, Pensacola, Mar. 28, 1780 in the *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 90:11, W. L. Clements Lib., Univ. of Mich.

**Campbell, Capt. James.** Campbell was the son of Mungo Campbell of Crigans (Balquhidder Parish) and his second wife, Elizabeth Campbell (Kinput). About 1745 the family moved to Mulrogie, Perthshire. James was the nephew of Lt. Col. John Campbell of Strachur of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. and was initially commissioned Ensign in his uncle's regiment on Apr. 25, 1762 and was promoted to Lieutenant in that regiment in May 1769, while the regiment was stationed in Ireland.



Reproduction 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

In late 1775 the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. was ordered to take part in the expedition under Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton to seize Charleston, South Carolina. Sailing from Cork, Ireland on Feb. 12, 1776, the fleet arrived at Charleston near the end of May 1776, but the troops were unable to cross from their landing point at Long Island, and the Navy was stalled by the strong defense of Fort Moultrie. Disappointed, Clinton embarked for New York arriving at Staten Island July 31, 1776. After joining Gen. Sir William Howe's army, the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. took part in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776 and 1777.

On July 4, 1777 Lt. Col. John Campbell of Strachur was appointed "*Brigadier General in America*" and ordered "...to take the Command of the Troops that remain on Staten Island.... under the overall command of Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton in New York. Five days later, on July 9, 1777, Lt. James Campbell, was appointed "*Major of Brigade*" to Campbell's brigade. The "*Major of Brigade*" served as the primary staff officer assisting a brigade commander. Soon after the departure of Gen. Howe's expedition to the Chesapeake in July 1777, the rebel army probed Clinton's defense of the New York area with attacks at Long Island, Kingsbridge and Staten Island, where Brig. Gen. Campbell's brigade was successful in repelling Maj. Gen. John Sullivan's attack on Aug. 22, 1777.

Major of Brigade Campbell purchased a Company in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Sept. 17 (effective Aug. 18), 1778 on the promotion of Capt. Hon. George Mackenzie, but did not join the regiment due to his duties in Brig. Gen. Campbell's brigade. Capt. John Peebles resented Campbell's promotion over his friend Lt. John Rutherford writing "*...a long string of promotions in Gen<sup>l</sup> orders in which appointed Cap<sup>t</sup> 18 Aug<sup>t</sup> – one Campbell from 57<sup>th</sup> put in on us, with I think great injustice to Rutherford who has only got the Capt. L<sup>ty</sup>...*"



Restored Portion of Fort George, Pensacola by Ebyabe,

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

In Nov. 1778, Brig. Gen. John Campbell, Major of Brigade Campbell and about 1200 men sailed to reinforce the garrison of West Florida at Fort George in Pensacola and, after spending a month at Jamaica, landed in Florida at the end of Jan. 1779. James Campbell became ill during his time in Jamaica as he mentioned in a letter to Adj. Gen. Lord Rawdon from Pensacola on July 18, 1779. Campbell wrote *“My Lord Having in some Degree recovered from a Fit of Sickness I brought with me hither from Jamaica...”*

Within six weeks of his arrival Brig. Gen. Campbell requested to be relieved of his command at Pensacola, writing Sir Henry Clinton that he had a great aversion to the command and that he found himself unequal to the fatigue and trouble of it. He added that the illness of Brigade Major Campbell greatly added to his misfortune. Gen. Clinton did not, however, approve of Brig. Gen. Campbell's request.

In April 1779 Brig. Gen. Campbell appointed Brigade Major Campbell to the additional duty of paymaster for the command; a position worth 10 shillings a day to Campbell. This position, however, required the approval of Sir Henry Clinton in New York and was denied despite Brig. Gen. Campbell's Dec. 15, 1779 letter informing him of the efficient conduct of Brigade Major Campbell as paymaster to the staff.



Detail of Portrait of Spanish Gen. Bernardo de Gálvez

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

In March 1781 a Spanish force of “...seven thousand eight hundred men, besides seamen and marines, to which being added the consideration of 15 ships of the line and six frigates...” under Gen. Bernardo de Galvez arrived at Pensacola to place the British fort under siege. Reinforced by over seven hundred French troops in April, Galvez’ siege was successful after the fort’s powder magazine exploded, killing a number of soldiers and destroying a section of the earthworks. Maj. Gen. Campbell had no choice but to surrender on May 9, 1781. As Major of Brigade and Secretary to Maj. Gen. Campbell, James Campbell carried the proposed articles of capitulation to Gen. Galvez and stayed in the Spanish camp to document the final articles. Despite Campbell’s capitulation, the siege was seen as a successful operation by the British headquarters for tying up a large number Spanish and French troops for so long.

Maj. Gen. Campbell had high praise for Capt. Campbell’s conduct during the siege, writing to Lord George Germain on May, 12, 1781 that “...But the infinite obligations I am under to Brigade-Major Campbell for his good conduct, indefatigable zeal, and strict attention to his duty, on this last as well as on every other occasion under my command, I cannot sufficiently express; I therefore most earnestly recommend him through your lordship to His Majesty’s notice as an officer whose merit, faithful services, and abilities justly claim any mark of royal favour that can be conferred upon him...”

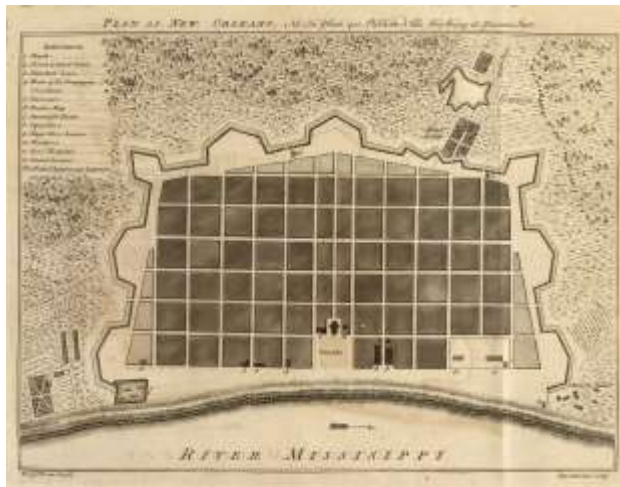
Unlike the other officers of the garrison who were returned to New York with all the troops on parole, Spanish Gen. Galvez held Brigade Major Campbell as a hostage in retaliation for an attempted rebellion in the Natchez District, which fell under the control of West Florida. Gen. Galvez explained his justification for the detention of Campbell in a letter to Sir Henry Clinton, dated Dec. 1781. He wrote that because the Pensacola capitulation included Natchez, the commissions issued by Maj. Gen Campbell in May 1781 to Capt. Blomart and others involved in the insurrection at Natchez gave Galvez sufficient authorization for reprisals against the entire Pensacola Garrison. He concluded he was authorized to detain Major of Brigade Campbell and the senior naval officer, Capt. Robert Deans, *HMS Mentor*.

Maj. Gen. John Campbell, in his letter to Lord George Germain on July 21, 1781 requesting assistance for these officers, wrote “The attack of the fort at the Natchez being the principal reason assigned by General Galvez for the detention of Captain Deans of the Royal Navy and Major Campbell, my secretary, who since the commencement of my command in West Florida has had the adjusting of all public accounts and papers; and as his detention will prevent the final settlement of my accounts, I beg leave to request your Lordship’s interference in demanding



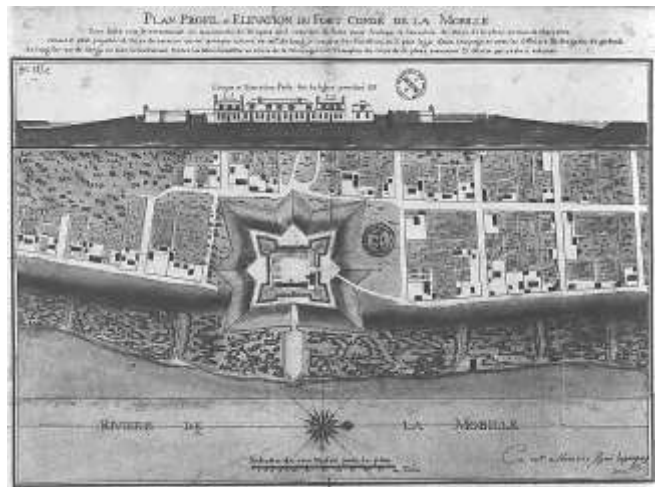
*the immediate releasement of these gentlemen, in particular Major Campbell to whom I am much indebted for his abilities and unremitted attention to the good of His Majesty's service...*" Gen. Sir Henry Clinton included Capt. Campbell's plight in his July 25, 1781 letter to Lord George Germain writing *"It may be, however proper to observe, that I think Major of Brigade Campbell has been very improperly detained as a Hostage by the Spanish General Galvez: And as General Campbell has mentioned to me, that he is exceedingly anxious to be joined by that Officer, without whose Assistance he cannot adjust his Papers and Accounts, being Secretary to himself and Paymaster to the troops in West Florida. I beg leave to request Your Lordship will endeavor to procure his Releasement and Exchange as soon as possible..."* General Orders on Aug. 21, 1781 mentioned Campbell's continued detention ordering *"Captain Thompson of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment, is appointed to act as Major of Brigade to the Troops arrived from Pensacola, under the Command of Lieutenant General Campbell, 'till the Return of Brigade Major Campbell..."*

The story of Brigade Major Campbell at the Siege of Pensacola and his long captivity as a hostage of the Spanish Army is described in detail in *Appendix E, Capt. James Campbell, Hostage of the Spanish Army* of this volume and is not further discussed in this biography.



Map of New Orleans, by Capt. Phillip Pittman, 1770

Map Source: Lib. of Congress



Plan View of Fort Conde in Mobile circa 1725

Map Source: Wikimedia Commons

Following his lengthy captivity by the Spanish Army in Havana, Mobile and New Orleans, Campbell was finally released around Dec. 1783, after the end of hostilities between Britain and Spain.

Gov. Archibald Campbell of Jamaica (former Lt. Col., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.) mentioned Campbell's release in a letter to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, on Jan. 18, 1784. Gov. Campbell wrote *"...By Cap<sup>t</sup>: James Campbell of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>. I am happy to have it in my power to forward the enclosed information... Cap<sup>t</sup>: Campbell will inform you, of his release from the illiberal treatment of Don Bernardo de Galvez; being detained as an hostage to satisfy the caprice of that General, for upwards of two years and a half; contrary to the Capitulation of Pensacola. By this misfortune he was secluded from every military exertion; suffered much in rank, and greatly in his private fortune. – I am however in hopes that an officer who has discharged his duty for 22 years with Zeal and fidelity, will not pass unnoticed in the herd of Officers, aspiring to the Rank of Major..."* As Gov. Campbell was writing to Sir Henry in London, Capt. Campbell sailed to Britain with Gov. Campbell's letter.

James Campbell did not immediately rejoin the regiment from London. A Nov. 3, 1784 letter from the Sec. at War, George Yonge, to Maj. Gen. John Campbell at Halifax provided a list of approved leaves and included “*Capt<sup>n</sup>. Campbell* } 42<sup>d</sup>. Regt 1<sup>st</sup>. Batt<sup>n</sup>. {6 [Months] from 1<sup>st</sup>. Oct<sup>r</sup>. on Private Affairs...” While Campbell was on leave in Britain, Parliament approved an Aug. 28, 1784 pay warrant “...*To Captain James Campbell, for the Expenses he incurred by having been detained as a Hostage by Spain after the Surrender of Pensacola* 793[£] 9[s]...”

Campbell joined the regiment in Halifax sometime before Oct. 16, 1785. By that date, however, he was again working for his uncle, Maj. Gen. John Campbell as Military Secretary and Major of Brigade. When the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders departed Halifax on June 4, 1786 to garrison Cape Breton and St. Johns Island (now Prince Edwards Island) Campbell remained in Halifax with his uncle, contrary to army policy which required Majors of Brigade to be from a regiment assigned to that command.

About six weeks after the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. moved to Cape Breton, a July 13, 1786 letter from the Sec. at War, George Yonge, approved Campbell’s and his uncle’s return to Britain. Yonge wrote “...*as Captain James Campbell of the 42d Regiment, who at present acts as Major of Brigade under your Command, is to accompany you to Europe, His Majesty has thought this the most favourable Opportunity to provide for M<sup>r</sup>. [Thomas] Moncrieffe, by restoring him to his original Appointment. It is accordingly His Majesty’s Pleasure that M<sup>r</sup>. Moncrieffe be considered as Major of Brigade to the Forces under your Command, upon his Arrival in Nova Scotia (wither he will be ordered immediately to repair) or upon Captain Campbell’s quitting that Province, which ever shall first happen. But in case Major Moncrieffe’s again leaving America, his Appointment of Major of Brigade is to cease, and, agreeably to the Rule laid down by my Predecessor’s Letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> June 1783, the Employment is thereafter to be held only by Officers belonging to the Regiments on the Spot.*” Based on a published address dated May 29, 1787 from a number of gentlemen from Halifax to Maj. Gen. Campbell on the occasion of his departure Maj. of Brigade Campbell and his uncle departed for Britain soon after that date

Back in Scotland, Capt. Campbell was granted freedom of the city of Glasgow in Aug. 1787 and was listed as a witness in the Register of Marriages, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Glasgow for Gen. John Campbell of Strachur’s wedding at Park, Renfrewshire on Nov. 1, 1787 and for the wedding of the daughter of Colin Campbell of Park on July 1, 1788.

James Campbell’s 1788 marriage was posted in *The Edinburgh Magazine*, and read: “*Sept... 16... Lately at Glasgow, Brevet Major James Campbell of the 42d regiment, to Miss Jeany Houston, daughter of the deceased Alexander Houston, Esq; of Jordanhill.*” Campbell and his wife had at least one son, Alexander Campbell of Walton Park who became a Major in the East India Company army.

*The Scots Magazine* for November 1790 recorded Campbell’s death writing “*Lately, at Glasgow, Brigade-Major James Campbell, of 42d or royal Highland regiment of foot.*” Jean Campbell’s 1791 widow’s pension application documents that her husband died on Nov. 14, 1790.

In Feb. 1796, *The Edinburgh Magazine* announced the marriage of Campbell’s widow writing “*Marriages. Lately at Glasgow, George Buchanan of Auchintorlie, Esq. to Mrs Jean Houston, widow of Major James Campbell of the Royals.*”

Commissions/Appointments: Ens. Apr. 25, 1762 (57<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. May 13, 1769 (57<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Maj. of Brigade July 9, 1777; Capt. Sept. 17 – effective Aug. 18, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Died Nov. 14, 1790.

**References:** *The Scottish Nation or the Surnames, Families, Literature, Honours and Biographical History of the People of Scotland*, Vol. III, MAC-ZET, William Anderson, A. Fullerton & Co., Edinburgh, 1863, Google Books, p.

695; Army List 1767, 57<sup>th</sup> Regt.; 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. Succession Book for 1778 at WO 25/211; *Historical Records of the Fifty-seventh or West Middlesex Regiment of Foot, Compiled from Official and Private Sources from the Date of its Formation in 1755, to the Present Time, 1878*, Ed. Lieut. – Gen. H. J. Warre, C.B., W. Mitchell & Co., London, 1878, Google Books, pp. 30-45; General Orders, New York, July 4 and 9, 1777 and Aug. 21, 1781; *Peebles' Journal* entry for Sept. 18, 1778; *London Gazette*, Nov. 14-17, 1778, pp. 1-2; James Campbell to Lord Rawdon, Pensacola, July 18, 1779 in the *Sir Henry Clinton Papers*, 63:18, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; TNA, *War Office, Sec. at War: Out-letters* at WO 4/276, p. 20; *The American Rebellion*, Sir Henry Clinton, Ed. William B. Willcox, Yale University Press, New Haven (CT), 1954, p. 68; Archibald Campbell to Sir Henry Clinton, Jamaica, Jan. 18, 1784 in the *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 199: 3, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; *Journals of the House of Commons, From May the 18th, 1784, In the Twenty-fourth Year of the Reign of King George the Third, to December the 1st, 1785*, Reprinted by Order of the House of Commons, 1803, Google Books, p. 789; Rev. Mather Byles to Edward Winslow, Halifax, Oct. 16, 1784 in the *Edward Winslow Letters*, Vol.3, p. 130, Atlantic Canada Virtual Archives, Univ. of New Brunswick; George Yonge to Maj. Gen. John Campbell, London, July 23, 1786 in *A Statement Submitted by Colonel Desbarres for Consideration*, Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions Microfiche Series (Monographs), note to p. 89; James Campbell to Edward Winslow, Halifax, Mar. 29, 1787 in *The Edward Winslow Letters*, Vol. 6, p. 13, Atlantic Canada Virtual Archives, Univ. of New Brunswick; "Letter from Halifax, May 29" in the *Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser*, Aug. 16, 1787, p. 2; *Caledonian Mercury* (Edinburgh), Aug. 23, 1787, p. 3; "Roll of Honorary Burgesses and Guild Brethren", Campbell, Brigade-Major James, of the 42<sup>nd</sup> regiment of foot 17 Aug 1787, from Lanarkshire: Glasgow - Burgesses and Guild Brethren, 1751-1846 and 1840-1846 at ancestry.com; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany* for September 1788, p. 136 and Feb. 1796, p. 159; *Scots Magazine*, Nov. 1790, p. 570; TNA, Pension Application for Jean Campbell, Widow of Capt. James Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Glasgow, Aug. 25, 1791 at *War Office: Widows' Pensions and Bounty, Application Papers*, WO 25/3092/2, item. 14.



Balcardine Castle

Photo Courtesy of Sir Roderick Campbell



Balcardine House

Photo Courtesy of www.scotphoto.com

*James Campbell, Esq.*

**Campbell**, Lt. James. Born about 1753, "Jamie" Campbell was the son of Duncan Campbell of Glenure (later of Balcardine) and his wife, Mary Macpherson. Campbell had a number of close relations in the army. His uncle was Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and his older brother was Maj. Patrick Campbell later of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders). James' younger brother, Colin Campbell, was a lieutenant in the 36<sup>th</sup> Regt. and later a Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. His younger brother Hugh became a Lieutenant in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. and his youngest brother William was later commissioned an Ensign in the 77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.

Campbell's uncle, Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote to Campbell's father on May 4, 1774 to discuss Jamie's initial commission saying "I am this day favoured w<sup>th</sup> yours from which I find that you are at liberty to

*make James a Royall Highlander I expect his Commission will be over in a few weeks... I dont despair of Jamie doing well I expect he will turn out a cliver fellow and that youl have credit of him – as to geting leave of absence for Ja<sup>s</sup> I can tell you nothing of it I shall write to the Col<sup>l</sup> about it Its my own opinion that the Col<sup>l</sup> will want him to join immediately as the Reg<sup>t</sup> will be to gather this year in Waterford which will be an advantage to him in the way of his duty which he can have very little opportunity in knowing any thing of his duty next year as we are to be scattered up & down in cantoonments in the North of Ireland however, I shall use my endeavours to procure him leave and if I don't Succeed I shall make the best of it by recommending him in the Strongest manner to the Col<sup>l</sup>, Major & two other proper hands to look over his conduct untill such time as I join ...”*

About three weeks later, Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote again to say “*I have a letter this day from Co<sup>l</sup> [Thomas] Stirling informing me that your Sons Commission is come to the Lord Lieu<sup>t</sup> Office in Dublin ... The Col<sup>l</sup> desires that Jamie will join immediately and should not equip himself untill he join the Reg<sup>t</sup>. I shall write to the Col<sup>l</sup> & Major to equip him in what is necessary they are both frugal men & will not put you to any expense that can be avoided he may be asured of the Col<sup>l</sup> & Majors friendship if he behaves himself properly if he does not the loss will be his own...P.S. there is no possibility of getting leave of absence to James there is so many of the Subaltern Officers that has got leave to come home that there is an absolute necessity for Jamies joining I must think it for his advantage that it is so as the Reg<sup>t</sup> is to be all together at Waterford this year where he will have an opportunity of learning his duty & next year he cannot have that opportunity as we are to be scatered in Cantonments & the sooner a young Officer learns his duty the better .”*

As the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was serving in Ireland at the time, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland made officer recommendations to King George III without the knowledge or consent of Gen. Lord John Murray, Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and Campbell was commissioned Ensign on Apr. 28, 1774 in place of Ens. John Stewart who had retired. Campbell wrote his father on Feb. 25, 1775 about his early days in the regiment reporting “*... The only necessities that I have got as yet are two Suits of Regimentalls 14 Shirts and a Bed So shall delay sending you any acc<sup>t</sup> till I have got the whole The operation of guard mountin (I've recknt) a long time ago ... The very first day that I mounted was very near being obliged to turn out the guard and fire upon a mob of Coupers who assembled in order to prevent the exportation of pork without Casks as it hurt their trade and was obliged to send a body to protect the merchants and the pork – We were all very much alarmed lately upon receiving instructions that were meant for the 44 Reg<sup>t</sup> but in mistake Directed for us they are under sailing orders with other 3 Reg<sup>ts</sup> for Boston besides the 4 that are at Cork ready to Embark Colin Corries's reg<sup>t</sup> goes we are amongst the first to go now but we can not be spared out of this Kingdom till we are relieved by other regiment we have been obliged to send [illeg.] men as Drafts to the army at Boston and we are told 6 or 8 men a Company more must be sent so that we shall want about 120 men to Compleat and all hands must go recruit it will bring about one thing that I am very happy at Capt<sup>n</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Pherson will stay at home another year There has been a Step in the reg<sup>t</sup> lately and I hope there will be some more soon as this is an order lately come out that no officer shall sell when the Reg<sup>t</sup> is under Sailing orders for abroad and it is our Turn so soon all that wish to go out must sell soon or run the risk of going first abroad – As I believe we shall be but a very short time in this Kingdom would be glad you would apply to Coll. Stirling for leave of absence to me this year we once thought he would not come over this year but he has changed his mind I had the Worthie major's promise of leave but his coming over may alter the matter every body will be applying to see their friends before we go the major would indulge me full as soon as any officer in the Reg<sup>t</sup> but I am not so well acquainted with the Coll there is no time to Loose ... This is a very genteel place and in this Country in general the people are exceedingly civil to officers – I have met with a great deal of Kindness in the Regiment from my Uncle Allans old friends all of whom have a great regard for him... I hope my mother will be so good as to make a plaid and some kilts as highland plaids are in great respect with the Reg<sup>t</sup> I wish my Dirk could be sent over by the first recruits that Cap<sup>n</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Pherson sends as a man can not (wilt) wear any other arms*

*with the kilt – The duty is pretty severe here just now we are obliged to visit the Sentries every night about 12 o'clock to see that all are alert whether the night be good or bad and it generally rains in this Climate more than in Argyshire this order was (quation sot) by a Sentries being found off his post at the Custom house a very dangerous thing..."*

Campbell's letter of Feb. 25 to his father also contained a self assessment of Campbell's previous conduct and a report of changes he had seen in his own character. He continued his letter writing "*D<sup>r</sup> Father I have long been very foolish and negligent of my self but I really begin to think I shall do some good yet This is the sphere of life that my disposition was out for I wrather I never could make Thought have had jenious enough for it but could not give the requisite application tho application as very necessary in my present profession but it is a pleasure in this for who is he that would not be delighted at setting a whole battalion of fine fellows in motion by his single word even suppose it but Een more It is the custome in this Reg<sup>t</sup> to make the Ensigns exercise the regiment in order to Learn the duty few regiments take that trouble with their young officers I am exceedingly happy and hope yet in spite of what is past to be a credit to you and all my friends I might have had follies but never vices ...*" Campbell signed his letter "*Your reclaimed Son. James Campbell*"

With a number of half-pay lieutenants coming into the regiment in late 1775 to match the increased establishment of the regiment, Ens. Campbell wrote the Secretary at War from Inveraray on Dec. 12, 1775 to complain about the effect this action had on his seniority in the regiment. Campbell wrote "... *near two years ago I laid out my little all in the purchase of an Ensigncy in the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, upon the faith of having no more than the ordinary number of Ensigns and Lieutenants before me; Whereas now, altho, I am Eldest Ensign, and have in appearance been in very good luck, yet in reality I have the mortification to find that I have been going backwards all the time; for, at this moment, there are more officers above me then there was the first day I joined the Reg<sup>t</sup>...*" In the same letter Campbell requested the Quartermastership of the regiment but was unsuccessful.

In parallel with James Campbell's efforts at promotion, his uncle, Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote to Campbell's brother Sandie on Oct. 29, 1775 about a promotion for James indicating "... *I am just now pushing to get a Commission for Jamie...*" M<sup>c</sup>Pherson continued to work for Campbell's promotion and notified Campbell's father on Dec. 5, 1775 writing "*There is now an opportunity (for your son James) of purchasing a Lieut<sup>cy</sup> – Lord Balcarres is to purchase the majority of the 53<sup>d</sup> Jamie is the oldest Ens<sup>g</sup>". I believe Col<sup>l</sup> Stirling wrote to him yesterday to see if he would purchase I dare say you will not alow any to get over his head and that you will at once agree to the purchase .*" Campbell was successful in obtaining the promotion and was promoted to Lieutenant in March 1776 in place of Lt. Charles Grant, who had obtained Lord Balcarres' Company.

Campbell served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776 and 1777 until joining Capt. Graham's Grenadier Company on Apr. 1777 in place of Lt. William Graham. Lt. Campbell served with the Grenadiers in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777.

In late 1777 the government decided to add a number of new regiments including one to be raised by the Duke of Atholl. Officers maneuvered for promotions in the new regiments by agreeing to recruit the needed men. Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote to Campbell's father on Feb. 28, 1778 about the situation noting "... *James is in the Play which will require all your assistance and everybody else that is disposed to serve him – but there is one Difuculty that occurs to me which is – the men that Colin [Campbell] has got may be a bar in the way as it is a question whiter or not Colin can give up his men to James – was James appointed to Col<sup>l</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Donald their might be no dificulty in it but as he is appointed to Col<sup>l</sup> Murrays [77<sup>th</sup> Atholl Highland Regt.] Reg<sup>t</sup> I am apprehensive that Lord M<sup>c</sup>Donald [76<sup>th</sup> MacDonald Highland Regt.] will make a point in having Colins men as they were raised for Col<sup>l</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Donald Corps... Therefore*

would have you employ some person that is intimate w<sup>t</sup> Sir Adolphus [Lt. Gen. James Adolphus Oughton] and ask his private opinion whither or not Colin can w<sup>t</sup> safety make over his Men to James which ought to Determine you how to proceed.”



Colors of the 77<sup>th</sup> (Athol Highland) Regt. preserved at Blair Castle

Picture Source: *A Military History of Perthshire 1660-1902*, The Marchioness of Tullibardine, R. A. & J. Hay, Perth, 1908, Google Books, after p. 74.

A sufficient number of recruits being obtained, Campbell was approved for a Company in the Athol Regiment of Highlanders which would enter the line as the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. With Campbell and several other officers for the regiment still in America, the Secretary of War wrote Gen. Sir William Howe on Mar. 23, 1778 to release them to their new assignments. Lord Barrington wrote “*Lieut. Colonel [James] Murray of the Detachment of Foot Guards, under your Command, Lieut. James Campbell, and Lord Will<sup>m</sup> Murray of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> and 2<sup>d</sup> Lieutenant Charles Cathcart of the 23<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Foot, likewise under your Command, being approved, the former as Commandant, and the three latter as Captains in the Athol Regiment of Highlanders; I have the honor to desire you will be pleased to permit the said Officers to return to Great Britain by the first opportunity if the Service will permit and you shall have no objection.*”

During this period Campbell appears to have contracted a significant illness in 1778 as he was reported as absent due to sickness for three successive musters of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Feb. 9, Mar. 28, and July 27, 1778. Campbell’s illness may have prevented his participation in the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778 while the army was returning overland to New York from Philadelphia.

After arriving back in the New York area, General Orders on July 4, 1778 announced Campbell’s promotion writing “*His Majesty has been pleased to make the following promotions... Athol Highlanders L<sup>t</sup> Colo: James Murray of the Third Reg<sup>t</sup> Guards to be Colonel L<sup>t</sup> James Campbell of 42<sup>nd</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> to be*



*Captain...*” Lt. Col. James Murray was the uncle of the Duke of Atholl and the son of Jacobite Lt. Gen. Lord George Murray.”

Lt. Campbell left the regiment in early August 1778 to return to Britain to join his new regiment, which had sailed for Ireland in June. Campbell served with the Atholl Regiment in Ireland until his death on July 4, 1782 as recorded in family records. His death and replacement by another officer were noted in *The London Gazette* for Aug. 13-17, 1782 which wrote “*Commissions signed by His Majesty for the Army in Ireland...77<sup>th</sup> Foot, Captain-Lieutenant James Murray to be Captain, vice James Campbell, deceased.*”

Commissions: Ens. Apr. 28, 1774; Lt. Mar. 20, 1776; Capt. Aug. 4, 1778 – effective Dec. 27, 1777 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. of Foot, or Atholl Highlanders); Died July 4, 1782 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson to Duncan Campbell of Glenure, May 4, 1774 and 26 at NRS, *Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine*, GD170/1354/27, ff. 157, 160-161, f. 179 and GD170/1354/43 ff. 186-187; British Library Archives and Manuscripts, James Campbell to Viscount Barrington, Dec. 12, 1775 in the *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xliii, Dec. 1775 – Feb. 1776 at MS 73588, pp. 46-47; *Edinburgh Advertiser* April 9, 1776; James Campbell to Duncan Campbell of Glenure, Waterford, Feb. 25, 1775 at NRS, *Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine*, GD170/1127 p. 6; James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson to Alexander Campbell, Younger of Glenure, Oct. 29, 1775 in the NRS, *Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine* at GD170/1969/5; *London Gazette*, Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2 and May 12, 1778, p. 3; *Peebles' Journal* entry dated Apr. 17, 1777; Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, Mar. 23, 1778 at PRO 30/55/9 f. 106926; General Orders, New York, Aug. 4, 1778, Captured British Army Orderly Book, January 29-August 9, 1778 in the *George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress, 1741-1799*: Series 6. Military Papers. 1755-1798; 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co. musters at Philadelphia on Feb. 9 and Mar. 28, 1778 and at Bedford New York on July 27, 1778 at WO 12/5479; 1779 Army List; *Burke's Peerage, Baronetage & Knightage*, 107th edition, Vol. 1, Ed. Charles Mosley, Genealogical Books, Wilmington, Delaware, 2003, p. 669; *Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness*, Vol. XXI, 1896-97, The Gaelic Society of Inverness, Inverness, 1899, Google Books, p. 128; *London Gazette*, Aug. 13-17, 1782, p. 2; Campbell of Barcaldine, MS notes on Campbell Officers, Lyon Office, H.M. Register House, Edinburgh, p. 56; *Chronicles of the Atholl and Tullibardine Families*, Vol. IV, Ed. John, Seventh Duke of Atholl, K. T., Ballantyne, Press, Edinburgh, 1908, p. 93.



Ardslnish Croft, 2005 by Shirley Grant

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons



**Campbell, Lt. John.** John Campbell was the son of Lt. John Campbell of Ardslnish (late of the Earl of Loudoun's Highland Regt.) and his wife Janet Campbell. Ardslnish is a peninsula at the mouth of Loch Sunart, about 120 miles west-northwest of Inveraray Castle. Campbell's grandfather, Alexander Campbell of Ardslnish (brother of Duncan Campbell of Lochnell) was a Jacobite, nicknamed "*the Big Papist*" who fought against the British forces in the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745.

On Aug. 15, 1775 the Secretary at War wrote to Lord John Murray to announce "*I have the honor to acquaint you that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Officers mentioned in the annexed List to be Lieutenants and Ensigns in the 42<sup>d</sup>/or Royal Highland/ Regiment of Foot under your Command in consequence of the intended augmentation...Ensign Alexander Mackenzie, to be Lieutenant John Campbell, Gent<sup>n</sup>. To be Ensign, vice Mackenzie.*" Although Campbell was commissioned initially in place of Ens. Alexander Mackenzie, Mackenzie's promotion was cancelled and Ens. Lyttelton was promoted in his stead. Campbell's commission was listed in the Succession book as Aug. 29, 1775. At this same time there was a document listing recruits obtained for Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser's 71<sup>st</sup> Highland regt. which list recruits raised by "*Ens<sup>n</sup>. Campbell Arslgnish*" which may indicate a brother's or his own connection with that regiment before his commission in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

After the regiment sailed for America in April 1776, the date of Campbell's commission was the subject of a letter from the Secretary at War to Lord John Murray. Lord Murray replied to the letter on June 20 stating "*I am just Returned by way of Blair of Atholl, which prevented my acknowledging the honor of your Lordships letters before in an answer to mine [hidden in binding] and of the 19<sup>th</sup>. of April that Ensign John Campbell had another Commission dated the 10<sup>th</sup>. of August.*" Despite this recognition, no action was apparently made to correct Campbell commission until 1777 when his Ensigncy date of Aug. 29, 1775 was revised as a result of a complaint to the War Office from Campbell's father. A Nov. 19, 1777 letter from the Secretary at War to Sir William Howe explained that "*...I am to acquaint you that M<sup>r</sup> Campbell's Appointment to an Ensigncy having taken place a considerable time before those of the other Ensigns notified on the Augmentation, altho' by some Mistake his Commission was dated later than those of Ensigns [Alexander] M<sup>c</sup>Leod, [Robert] Rollo, Lord W<sup>m</sup> Murray, and [Alexander] Stewart, the King was pleased to direct that he should have his proper Rank given him: which was accordingly done by a New Commission bearing date the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 1775.*"

On the way to America Campbell was captured with Capt. Smith's Company on the transport *Oxford* on May 29, 1776, and "*...carried into Rhode Island by the [rebel brig] Andrew Doria...*" arriving on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The *Providence Gazette* of June 22, 1776, reported "*...Wednesday last [June 19] the Officers taken by Captain. Biddle out of the two Transport Ships from Scotland... arrived here, and have been conducted to a Place of Safety in the Country...*" Campbell and Lt. Harry Munro were held by the rebels until exchanged in early 1777.

An rebel prisoner of war listing recorded Campbell's exchange indicating "*Providence February 1<sup>st</sup> 1777...A List of Officers in his Britannick Majesty's Service sent in the Cardeel Sloop Nancy to Newport under the Direction of M<sup>r</sup> John Innis Clarke Harry Munro Lieutenant of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment John Campbell Ensign of the said Regiment...*"

Ens. Campbell rejoined the regiment from Rhode Island before the muster of Capt. Smith's Company taken at Piscataway, New Jersey on Apr. 30, 1777. Accordingly he would have been present for the

Battle of Piscataway on May 10 where the regiment was heavily engaged by a superior force, and successfully forced the rebel units to withdraw. The next month, Lt. Col. Stirling wrote to the Regimental Agents on June 1 that *"I send you inclosed a Blank Commission for an Ensigncy in the room of John Campbell who has purchased from L<sup>t</sup> Val: [Valentine] Chisolm... I inclose you the Secretarys letter for your conduct in that affair only you will Observe that as Ensign Campbell when he purchased took the whole upon himself, by giving bill upon his father, John Campbell Esq<sup>t</sup> of Aslignish by Inverary for the full price; you will in some measure attend to his consent, in filling up the blank with regard to the money ..."*

General Orders issued at New York New York on May 31, 1777 announced *"The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following Promotions...42<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> Ens<sup>n</sup> John Campbell to be L<sup>t</sup> by purchase vice Chisolm who retires } 31<sup>st</sup> May 1777."* Campbell served with a line battalion for the rest of the New Jersey campaign of 1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778.

Lt. Campbell's father, however, felt that Campbell's had been unfairly treated in this promotion and complained to the Secretary at War writing on Nov. 1, 1777 that *"The Date of my Son's Commission as Ensign was altered by your Lordship from the 29<sup>th</sup> August 1775, to the 10<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, yet by Lord John Murray & Mess<sup>rs</sup> Anderson & Richardson /Agents for the Reg<sup>t</sup> / their neglecting to inform Sir William Howe or L<sup>t</sup> Colo: [Thomas] Stirling who Commands the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. of the date of my Son's Commission, Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Leod who was a younger Ensign by 15 days got a Lieutenancy in the Reg<sup>t</sup>., without purchase, also Ensign Rob<sup>t</sup>. Rollo who was still a younger Ensign than M<sup>c</sup>Leod got a Lieutenancy in the Reg<sup>t</sup>., both over the head of my Son, and now I am obliged to pay £550. Sterling for a Lieutenancy for my Son, to Lieut: Chisholm who has sold out of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. which is a great hardship upon me, and now altho' I do not in the least expect to procure for my Son the Lieutenancy which M<sup>c</sup>Leod got without purchase, yet I flatter myself that your Lordship will be graciously pleased to procure Rank for my Son of Lieut. M<sup>c</sup>Leod, it being his right as an older Ensign in the Reg<sup>t</sup>. than M<sup>c</sup>Leod."*

The Secretary at War forwarded a copy of the letter from Campbell's father to Gen. Sir William Howe at Philadelphia on Nov. 19, 1777 and added that *"I have the honor to enclose the Extract of a letter I received from the father of L<sup>t</sup> John Campbell of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, and beg leave to recommend to your consideration the Matter therein stated – I am to acquaint you that M<sup>r</sup> Campbell's Appointment to an Ensigncy having taken place a considerable time before those of the other Ensigns notified on the Augmentation, altho' by some Mistake his Commission was dated later than those of Ensigns M<sup>c</sup>Leod, Rollo, Lord W<sup>m</sup> Murray, and Stewart, the King was pleased to direct that he should have his proper Rank given him: which was accordingly done by a New Commission bearing date the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 1775."*

Gen. Howe corrected Campbell's promotion to Lieutenant by General Orders on Mar. 29, 1778 that read *"The Commission given to Mr. John Campbell, as Lieutenant in the 42d. Regiment Vice Chisholm, is hereby cancelled; and to reinstate him in his proper Rank, another Commission is to be made out for him as Lieutenant in said Regiment, bearing date the 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1777..."*

In December 1777, King George granted letters of service to John Campbell of Barbreck to raise a regiment of Highlanders in Argyll. Lord Barrington wrote to Gen. Sir William Howe on Apr. 28, 1778 that *"The several officers mentioned in the enclosed List being intended to be promoted in the Regiment raised by Lieut. Colonel Campbell, and that regiment being under order to embark immediately for Halifax in Nova Scotia, I have the honor to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure that you do permit the said Officers to leave the Army under your Command immediately, that they may join the Regiment on its arrival there. ....Captain Lieutenant John Campbell 42<sup>d</sup> ..."*



Reproduction 74<sup>th</sup> (Argyll) Highland Regt. Uniform Button

Although Lt. John Campbell was senior to several Lieutenants being recommended as Captains in the new 74<sup>th</sup> Regt. of (Highland) Foot or Argyle Highlanders, Campbell was recommended only as Capt. Lieutenant. Lt. Col. Commandant John Campbell attempted to reduce this injustice by requesting of the Secretary at War on May 22, 1778 that *“Your Lordship will be pleased to observe that Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Campbell from the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, whom I have recommended to be Captain Lieutenant and Captain to my regiment is an older Lieutenant than Lieu<sup>t</sup> Archibald Campbell 36<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Campbell 40<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Ensign Alexander Campbell 3<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Guards, and Ranald Macdonnel, whom I have recommended to be Captains in my Corps, I therefore humbly request your Lordship will be pleased to do the same Justice to the Captain Lieutenant of my regiment you intend to do to Duncan Captain Lieutenant of Colonel Gordons Regiment, by giving them Rank of those who have been younger Lieutenants, at the time of their being recommended as Captains to his Majesty.”* Lord Barrington replied on May 27 that *“The Captains of Your Regiment are now assigned according to their Seniority, and agreeable to Your Proposition, except that L<sup>t</sup>. Archibald Campbell of the 36<sup>th</sup>. Regiment is Junior in the Army to Lieutenant John Campbell of the 42<sup>d</sup> whom you have recommended to be Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>...”*

Campbell left the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Aug. 1778 and embarked for Halifax, Nova Scotia to join his new regiment, which arrived from Scotland that month. About five months later on Jan. 20, 1779 General Orders in New York announced *“The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions ...74<sup>th</sup> Regiment Captain Lieutenant John Campbell to be Captain by purchase vice Ronald M<sup>c</sup>Donnell who retires} 20<sup>th</sup> ditto [Jan<sup>y</sup> 1779]...”* When Campbell was promoted to Captain his date of rank was effective to his date of rank as a Capt. Lt. of Dec. 23, 1777.



Fort George, Majabigwaduce, Maine

Picture Source: *The Centennial of Castine*, Castine (Maine), 1896, Google Books, after p. 38.

About four months after Campbell's promotion, on May 30, 1779, Brig. Gen. Frances MacLean sailed from Halifax with a force of 700 men, including about 450 men from the battalion companies of the 74<sup>th</sup> Highlanders to establish a post on the Penobscot River in Maine. The troops were landed on the Majabigwaduce Peninsula on June 16 and immediately began to build Fort George on that location. This detachment held off a significant attempt by the rebel army and navy to seize the fort from July 28 to Aug. 13, 1779 until they were relieved by a fleet under the command of Adm. Sir George Collier. Brig. Gen. MacLean returned to Halifax in late June 1781 leaving the 74<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. to garrison the fort.

The 74<sup>th</sup> Regt. remained at this position until withdrawn on Jan. 15, 1784. An “*old parole book*” of the Fort George garrison with the listing of the officers of the 74<sup>th</sup> Regt. at Fort George in 1780 included Captain John Campbell. Although the 1780 Army List includes two Capt. John Campbells in the 74<sup>th</sup> Regt., the Succession Book of the regiment confirms that only the Lt. John Campbell from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. actually joined the regiment and became a Captain. The other Lt. John Campbell, from the 40<sup>th</sup> Regt., actually went to the 55<sup>th</sup> Regt. instead of the 74<sup>th</sup> Regt.

After the evacuation of Fort George, the companies of the 74<sup>th</sup> Regt. were reunited in Halifax and were embarked for England. After landing at Portsmouth the regiment was marched to Stirling and disbanded on May 24, 1784 and Capt. John Campbell went out on Half-pay.

On Oct. 30, 1784 the War Office announced the appointment of “*Captain John Campbell, on Half-Pay in the 74th regiment*” to be a Captain in the 57<sup>th</sup> (or the West Middlesex) Regt. then at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. Campbell may not have joined his new regiment in Nova Scotia as an 1893 history of the regiment indicated Capt. John Campbell commanded a recruiting party in Stirling in 1785.



Photo of Laudale House, Loch Sunart in 2008 by Peter Bond

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

On Jan. 7, 1789 Sec. at War George Yonge sent a letter to the “*Officer Commanding His Majesty’s Forces in Nova Scotia*” listing approved leaves of absence. Campbell was included on the list that read “*Leaves of Absence... 57<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. Captain Campbell 12 Mo<sup>s</sup>. from 5<sup>th</sup> June 1788, for the recovery of his health...*” Campbell apparently did not recover from this illness as he died two months later on Mar. 11, 1789. The “*Register of Testaments 1674 - 1800*” in the “*Commissariat Record of Argyle*” has the following entry for recording a testament or will for Capt. Campbell: “[Campbell] *Captain John of the 57th Regiment of Foot, lately residing at Laudill, at Morven 3 Sept 1790 and 20 Sept 1791.*” Laudale House in Morvern Parish, was built by Capt. Campbell’s father between 1755 and 1790. The house faces north across Loch Sunart and is located about twentyfive miles southeast of Fort William.

Commissions: Ens. Aug. 29 corrected to Aug. 10, 1775, Lt. May 31 – Later Corrected to Apr. 21, 1777; Capt. Lt. Aug. 4, 1778 – effective Dec. 23, 1777 (74<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Jan. 20, 1779 – effective to Dec. 23, 1777 (74<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Half-pay May 24, 1784 (74<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. exchanged from Half-pay Oct. 27, 1784 (57<sup>th</sup> or the West Middlesex Regt.); Died Mar. 11, 1789 (57<sup>th</sup> or the West Middlesex Regt.).



**References:** *Celtic Monthly*, Ed. John Mackay, Glasgow, No. 5, Vol. XII, Feb. 1904, p. 97; Copy of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. recruiting document listing “Ens”. *Campbell Arslegrish*” held by Mr. Ed Brumby, Elgin, Scotland; *Records of Argyle*, Lord Archibald Campbell, William Blackwell and Sons, Edinburgh, 1885, Google Books, p. 448; Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Aug. 15, 1775 at WO 4/94, p. 136; Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, June 20, 1776 at WO 1/993; John Smith to George Washington, Escopus, July 3, 1776 in the *George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress*, 1741-1799: Series 4. General Correspondence, 1697-1799, p. 13 of 1130; Council of War Papers, Exchange of Prisoners and Miscellaneous Papers, 1775-1781, Rhode Island Archives, in *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*, Vol. 7, Ed. William James Morgan, Naval History Div., Dept. of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 1976, pp. 1079-80; *Providence Gazette*, Sat. June 22, 1776, p. 3; Manuscript Subsistence Receipt of the Rebel Army dated Providence, February 1<sup>st</sup> 1777 acknowledging subsistence at the expense of the county and signed by Lt. Munro and Ens. Campbell and other officers. (Unpublished); *Orderly Book of Gen. Sir William Howe, Kept By Major Stephen Kemble, Deputy Adjutant General, 29 January 1777 - 20 June 1777*, New York State Library, Manuscripts and History Library, Accession Number 6744; Thomas Stirling to Anderson & Richardson, June 1, 1777 - *Lord John Murray Papers*; General Orders, New York, May 31, 1777, Aug. 4, 1778 and Jan. 20, 1779 and Philadelphia, Mar. 9 and 29, 1778; Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, Nov. 19, 1777 at WO 4/274, p. 36 (f. 19); Viscount Barrington to John Campbell (Father of Lt. John Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) Nov. 18, 1777 at WO 4/101, p. 41 (f. 21); Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, Apr. 28, 1778 at WO 4/274, f. 45; TNA, *War Office In-Letters from Military Commanders* at WO 1/10, p. 333 (f. 166); Orders, 1778-1782,” *Sir Henry Clinton Papers*, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, Amboy Camp, June 24, 1777, in the *Lord John Murray Papers*; Lord Barrington to Sir William Howe, Apr. 28, 1778, “*List of Officers approved for Colonel Campbell’s Regiment of Highlanders serving in the Army under Sir William Howe*” at PRO 30/55/10 f. 107003; Lt. Col. Commandant John Campbell to Viscount Barrington, May 22, 1778 at WO 1/995, p. 943; Viscount Barrington to Lt. Col. John Campbell, May 27, 1778 at WO 4/103, p. 107; *London Gazette*, July 19-22, 1777, pp. 1-2, May 5, 1778, p. 2 and Oct. 26-30, 1784, p. 1; Explanation of 74<sup>th</sup> Regt. Succession Book in e-mail from Dr. J. A. Houlding to Paul Pace Re: Capt. John Campbells, 74th Regt., Mar. 10, 2011; *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, His Majesty’s Stationery Office, Dublin, 1906, Google Books, p. 292; “The Evacuation of Castine,” *Saint Croix Courier*, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Sept. 7, 1893; *History of the Fifty-Seventh (West Middlesex) Regiment of Foot 1755-1881*, H. H. Woolright, Richard Bentley and Son, London, 1893, Google Books, p. 92; TNA, *Sec. at War: Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 20 and 271 (f. 136); *The Commissariat Record of Argyle, Register of Testaments 1674-1800*, Ed. by Francis J. Grant, W. S., Scottish Record Society, Edinburgh, 1902, Google Books, p. 9; *Western Seaboard: An Illustrated Architectural Guide*, by Mary Miers, Rutland Press, 2008.



Detail of Portrait of Lt. Valentine Chisholm, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., c. 1777

Picture Source: Courtesy of the National Museums of Scotland



**Chisholm**, Lt. Valentine. Born in Scotland about 1731, Chisholm was first commissioned in Oct. 1761 as the senior Ensign in the 114<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Royal Highland Volunteers) raised by Maj. Commandant Allan MacLean. Chisholm was appointed Adjutant in April 1762, which implies he may have been a former sergeant. He was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1762 as part of an augmentation of the regiment. The 114<sup>th</sup> Regt. did not see active service in the Seven Years War, and was used to supply recruits to other Highland regiments. The regiment was reduced at the end of the Seven Years War and Chisholm went out on half pay on Mar. 9, 1763.

Chisholm joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when he exchanged from half-pay with Lt. George Grant in Dec. 1768 while the regiment was in Ireland. Travelling to America with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1776, Chisholm served in Maj. William Grant's 2<sup>nd</sup> (Provisional) Battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776 – 1777.

Chisholm became ill during the campaign and Lt. John Peebles, a former Surgeon's Mate, discussed his medical condition on Feb. 9, 1777 writing "*Chisholm better of his cough but has now got a fistulo in anno poor fellow...*" and in March 1777 Lt. Col. Stirling wrote Lord John Murray that "*L<sup>t</sup> Chisholm is very ill...*" Chisholm did not recover sufficiently to continue service in the regiment.

At the time Chisholm decided to retire, he was the senior Lieutenant in the regiment, and would have had the claim on the Captain Lieutenancy, should the current holder, Capt. Lt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, get promoted or retire. This change must have seemed likely at this time as described by Lt. John Peebles in his journal entry for May 21, 1777 which read "*...Walk'd over to the Reg<sup>t</sup>. & spoke to Colo: [Thomas] Stirling about a Message he sent me to know if I wo<sup>d</sup> give £50 to Chisholm in case I got the Cap<sup>t</sup>. L<sup>ty</sup>. in consequence of his going out, I thought it was too much & am of Opinion that M<sup>r</sup>. Chisholm should either sell or serve, that as he was no longer able to serve he could not expect promotion, & if he sold the regulation price was as much as he could expect in the present situation of Affairs, however to facilitate the matter & make it as well for poor Chisholm as we could, I agreed to give the £50, 20 of which L<sup>ts</sup>. [John] Rutherford & [Robert] Potts agreed to make up equally betwixt them on the above conditions & Ens<sup>n</sup>. [Gavin] Drummond gives £30, which with the regulation price from En<sup>s</sup> [John] Campbell make up 600 guineas to Chisholm if I succeed to this Cap L<sup>y</sup>. "*

M<sup>c</sup>Intosh did not leave the Capt. Lieutenancy until October of that year, but the sale of Chisholm's Lieutenancy was approved earlier. General Orders at New York on May 31, 1777 announced his retirement indicating "*The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following Promotions...42<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> Ens<sup>n</sup> John Campbell to be L<sup>t</sup> by purchase vice Chisolm who retires} 31<sup>st</sup> May 1777...*" Lt. Col. Stirling wrote Lord Murray in June 1777 that "*...L<sup>t</sup> Chisholm...was obliged to Sell on Acc<sup>t</sup> of his bad health...*"

A portrait of Lt. Chisholm (incorrectly titled "*Capt. Valentine Chisholm*") is held by the National Museums of Scotland. Chisholm is sometimes confused with a Major of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Royals) with the same name who died in India in 1815. This cannot be the same person as the officer who served in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. would have been 84 years old in 1815 and too old for active service. Further, Lt. Chisholm of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. is the only officer of that name in the annual Army List of 1777, the year of his retirement and due to his retirement, the Army List of 1778 shows no officers of the same name.

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 17, 1761 (114<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Royal Highland Volunteers); Adj. Apr. 29 – Sept. 22, 1762 (114<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. July 23, 1762 (114<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Half-pay Mar. 9, 1763 (114<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half-Pay Dec. 10, 1768 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired May 31, 1777.

**References and Note:** 114<sup>th</sup> Regt commission history from Dr. John Houlding in e-mail dated June 12, 2010; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, March 13, 1777, *Lord John Murray Papers*; *Peebles' Journal* entries Feb. 9 and May 21, 1777; *London Gazette*, July 19-22, 1777, pp. 1-2; General Orders, New York, May 31, 1777. A “*Fistula-in-Ano*” is an abnormal connection between the anal canal and the skin surrounding the anus, caused by infection, Crohn’s Disease or Cancer.



Portrait of Karl Friedrich, Margrave of Baden, by Johann Ludwig Kisling, circa 1803

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Cramond**, Lt. James. Born around 1755, Cramond was a Lieutenant in the service of the Margrave of Baden (in southwestern Germany) before joining the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Secretary at War Lord Barrington wrote Lord John Murray on Oct. 11, 1775 to approve officers recommended by Lord Murray. The Secretary wrote “*I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship’s Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Instant, with an annexed List of Officers of the Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under your Command. I herewith to answer to your Lordships a List of Notifications for your Regiment which have been issued from this Office... To be Lieutenants... James Cramond, Gent...*” Although announced in October, Cramond’s commission was dated Sept. 5, 1775.

Lord John Murray wrote to the Secretary at War about Lt. Cramond on Mar. 4, 1776 from Glasgow indicating “*... Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Cramond dined with me on Saturday he seems a very pretty Gentleman & am much obliged for his being appointed in the Regiment, and wish I had the opportunity of Recommending him to His Majesty thro your Lordship, for further preferment...*”

On Apr. 15, 1776 Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War to offer to raise a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and included a list of proposed the officers for the battalion. As the junior Captain on the list Lord Murray proposed “*William Finlayson Lieu<sup>t</sup>. on half pay from 89 R. or James Cramond Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in 42<sup>d</sup>. From Foreign Service*” and included the offer that “*... Each of these Officers will give any Security Required,*

*to raise by themselves or Friends, during their Absence, Fifty good Men for their Appointment of Captain in four Months after receiving their Beating orders, with the levy money of Five Guineas.*” Lord Murray’s proposal was not accepted at that time, although a second battalion was raised later in the war.

Cramond sailed to America with one of the line companies, but on arrival in America he was assigned to be an Assistant in the Army Adjutant General’s Department in Orders dated Aug. 10, 1776. He was listed as wounded at the Battle of Long Island on Aug. 27, 1776 and was listed on *“Commander in Chief’s Leave”* in the muster report dated Apr. 30, 1777 indicating he may have still been recovering from his wound. Cramond remained in the Adjutant General’s office in New York during the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777-1778 and likely because of his prior service with the Margrave of Baden, orders were issued on June 19, 1778 that: *“...Lieut Cramond Ass<sup>t</sup> Adj<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> is to remain with the Ansbach troops till further Orders...”*

The two Ansbach battalions embarked on July 9, 1778 and sailed to Rhode Island. It is not known if Lt. Cramond sailed with them from New York, but on Feb. 4, 1779, he was appointed *“Supernumerary Aide-de-Camp”* to Hessian Lt. Gen. Wilhelm Von Knyphausen in New York.

A year later, Cramond was charged by William Maxwell of New York with *“...bringing dissolute women into his quarters, and retaining them there all night,”* and that *“Lieutenant Cramond permitted his servant to treat Mrs. Maxwell with opp----lous speech, and threaten to kick her.”* Based on Cramond’s response to the charge to the authorities, Mr. Maxwell was himself court-martialed and required to apologize to Cramond, which was posted in the *Royal Gazette* on Feb. 9, 1780 saying: *“Agreeable to the above sentence of the Court martial, and in order to do every justice to the character of Lieutenant Cramond, as an officer and a gentleman; I DO, in every particular, in which the Court has found me culpable, acknowledge the offence, and beg Lieutenant Cramond’s pardon. WM. MAXWELL.”*

In 1781, Karl Friedrich, Margrave of Baden, wrote to King George III, recommending Lt. Cramond be promoted, but Lt. Cramond died on Aug. 30, 1781, while still serving as Lt. Gen. Knyphausen’s aide-de-camp. Capt. Peebles described his death and funeral writing *“Lieut. Cramond died this Morning at 5 o’clock of a bilious fever, six days ill. & was interr’d at 6 in the even<sup>g</sup>. in S<sup>t</sup>. Pauls Church yard with the usual form, & a very long procession of Officers of the Army. he was a very a very much accomplish’d young man but had a pride a Vanity & a temper that prevent’d his being liked in the Reg<sup>t</sup>. or esteem’d in the army he was Aid de Camp to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Knyphausen eldest Lt in the 42<sup>d</sup> aged 26.”* At the time a *“bilious fever”* referred to an illness which exhibited symptoms of high fever, nausea and diarrhea.

*The Royal Gazette* published an article on his death reporting: *“New York, September 1. Died, early on Thursday morning last, after an illness of eight days. Lieut. James Crammond of His Majesty’s XLII<sup>d</sup> regiment, Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency General Knyphausen. The natural and acquired talents of the Gentleman rendered him an ornament to society and an honor to his profession. His remains were conducted the same evening to St. Paul’s attended by the officers of the Garrison, and interred with Military honors.”*

Commissions/Appointments: Lt. (Margrave of Baden); Lt. Sep. 5, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Asst. Adj. Gen. Aug. 10, 1776; Extraordinary Aid-de-Camp to Hessian Lt. Gen. Wilhelm von Knyphausen Feb. 4, 1779; Died Aug. 30, 1781 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775 at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 4, 1776 and Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; General Orders, Dyker’s Ferry, Staten Island, Aug. 10, 1776 and New York on Feb. 4, 1779; *“Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Following Corps 27<sup>th</sup> August 1776”* in CO 5; Kemble’s *Journal* entry dated June 18, 1778; *Royal Gazette*, Feb. 9, 1780; *Orderly Book of the Three Battalions of Loyalists Commanded by Brigadier-General Oliver De Lancy 1776-*

1778, Ed. William Kelby, New York Historical Society, 1917, Google Books, p. 101; *The Diary of Frederick Mackenzie*, Vol. I, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1930, p. 309; “*Memorials and Recommendations to be attended to*” circa 1781-1782, in the *Frederick Mackenzie Papers*, William L. Clements Library; *Peebles’ Journal* entry, Aug. 30, 1781; *Royal Gazette* (New York), Sept. 1, 1781.



The Crawford Lodging, northwest corner of George Square, Glasgow

Picture Source: *The Regality Club*, James Maclehose and Sons, Glasgow, 1889, Google Books, after p. 106.

*David Crawford Esq*

**Crawford**, Lt. David. Crawford was the brother of Glasgow Merchant and Bailie George Crawford and succeeded to his Estate on the Bailie’s death in 1785. Crawford was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Mar. 1776 on the promotion of Ens. James Campbell in the regiment as part of the promotion succession started by the transfer of Earl Balcarres to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Regt. Crawford served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the beginning of the Philadelphia campaign of 1777. He obtained Lt. William Stewart’s Lieutenancy after Stewart was removed to the Invalids in Mar. 1778.



Original Gilt Officer’s Button of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.

Picture Source: Copyright D. Dorgan-1781 Jersey Militia, with permission.

On July 25, 1778, the War Office announced the formation of the *Royal Glasgow Volunteers* (later the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.) with Lt. Col. George Scott of the 61<sup>st</sup> Regt. as its Colonel and Lt. Crawford as the Captain-Lieutenant. Crawford's brother George had donated £100 toward the founding of the regiment.

Crawford's fellow lieutenant from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Alexander Munro, was made a Captain in the regiment at the same time. Crawford's date of rank was listed as Jan. 24, 1778 in the 1779 Army List.



The Death of Major Peirson, 6 January 1781, by John Singleton Copely shows the Battle of Jersey

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was ordered to proceed to the Channel Islands of Jersey and Guernsey on May 7, 1779 and five companies of the regiment were part of the force that repelled a French invasion of Jersey in Jan. 1781. Because the headquarters of the regiment was located on Jersey, it is likely the Colonel's Company commanded by Crawford took part in that action. The regiment remained on the islands for most of the remainder of the American war.

On Dec. 11, 1782 orders were issued by the Admiralty to bring the regiment to Portsmouth. Just a few weeks later a London newspaper, the *Public Advertiser*, reported news from Edinburgh indicating "Edinburgh, Dec. 28...The 83d Regiment, or Royal Glasgow Volunteers, commanded by General [George] Scott, are under Orders to embark immediately for the East-Indies." Knowing the assignment to India breached their enlistment agreement, the soldiers of the 83<sup>rd</sup> resisted and the assignment to India was cancelled. The *Whitehall Evening Post* of Apr. 1, 1783 reported the assignment change writing "We hear the 83d regiment, or Glasgow Volunteers now at Portsmouth, who have refused going to the East-Indies, having served the time of their enlistment, which was for three years, or to the end of the war, is ordered for Glasgow to be disembodied." The War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1783 has the annotation on the page of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. "Disbanded 8 May 1783."



With his regiment disbanded, Capt. Lt. Crawford went out on Half-pay and obtained the estate of Carronbank (sixteen miles north of Dumfries) becoming known as “*David Crawford of Carronbank.*”

Crawford and his wife, Margaret Steel, resided at Queensferry, near Edinburgh, about 50 miles to the northwest of Carronbank, and had three children. George Crawford, the eldest, died in a boating accident during a storm on the Firth of Forth in 1806. Henry James Crawford, the youngest died in Jamaica in 1803, and their daughter Martha married John Riddell of Kinharvie, Writer to the Signet, in March 1804.

*The Scots Magazine* for January 1788 recorded Crawford’s death writing “*Jan. 1, 1788...At Queensferry, David Crawford, Esq; of Carronbank, Captain-Lieutenant in the late 83d regiment.*” Strangely, he was still listed as a half-pay officer of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. in the Army List of 1798 but was removed by the 1800 edition.

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 20, 1776; Lt. Mar. 18, 1778; Capt. Lt. Jan. 24, 1778 (83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.-Royal Glasgow Volunteers); Capt. Lt. Half-pay May 8, 1783 (83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. - Royal Glasgow Volunteers).

**References:** *The Regality Club*, James Maclehouse and Sons, Glasgow, 1889, Google Books, pp. 106-125; *London Gazette*, Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2; General Orders, Philadelphia, Mar. 19, 1778 and New York, Nov. 5, 1778; *London Gazette*, July 21-15, 1778, p. 2; Yahoo Groups “Revlist” message from Todd Braisted dated Jan. 13, 2009, Subject: 83d Regt in America; *Public Advertiser* (London), Jan. 3, 1783, p. 4; *Whitehall Evening Post*, Apr. 1, 1783, p. 4; TNA, 1783 Army List at WO 65/33, p159 (f. 143); *Glasgow Past and Present*, Vol. III, by Senex, David Robertson and Co., Glasgow, 1884, Google Books, p. 169; *An Ordinary of Arms Contained in the Public Register of all Arms and Bearings in Scotland*, by James Balfour Paul, Lyon King of Arms, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1893, Google Books, p. 92; *Scots Magazine* for Jan. 1788, p. 50 and Sept. 1806, p. 727.



Photograph of Pitulie Castle in 2007 by Des Colhoun

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

*A. Cumine M.D. 1761*

**Cumine**, Lt. Alexander. Born in Pitsligo, Aberdeenshire in 1761, Alexander was the son of William Cumine of Pitullie, (a Jacobite veteran of Lord Pitsligo’s Horse) and his wife Jean Moir, daughter of



William Moir of Lonmay. Cumine's older brother was Capt. Adam Cumine, commander of the *Bengal Indiaman* from 1799 to 1807.



Reproduction 52<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Sixteen-year old Cumine was commissioned Ensign in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Nov. 1775 and was listed in the Army List as Alexander Cumming. The 52<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was part of the Garrison of Boston during the winter of 1775-1776 and traveled with Gen. Sir William Howe to Halifax, Nova Scotia when the Army evacuated Boston in March 1776. The regiment then sailed with Gen. Howe to New York on the transports *Neptune* and *Peggy* in June 1776 and participated in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778.

Ens. Cumine was promoted from the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1778 in place of Lt. George MacKenzie. Cumine served with a line battalion in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780, and the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781. Cumine was transferred to the Grenadier Company on Feb. 8, 1783 and moved with the regiment to Nova Scotia at the end of the American war in Oct. 1783. He was still listed as a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Company in the muster taken at Halifax on Jan. 17, 1784. In 1785 the War Office sent a listing to the Commander in Nova Scotia reading in part "... Leaves of Absence ... *L<sup>t</sup> Cumine } of 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. { 6 Mo<sup>s</sup>. from 4 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 84. Priv. Aff<sup>s</sup> [Private Affairs].* "

Cumine left the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Dec. 1787 to become Captain-Lieutenant in the 75<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Abercromby's Highlanders) raised in the North of Scotland by Col. Robert Abercromby, former commander of the Light Infantry in the American war. The 700-man regiment sailed for India and landed at Bombay (now Mumbai) in Aug. 1788. Cumine was promoted to Captain of a Company in Nov. 1788 (retaining his date of rank as a Capt. Lt. of Dec. 1787) and took part in the successful siege of Seringapatam, capitol of the Kingdom of Mysore, from Feb. –Mar. 1792. After the capitulation of Tippo Sahib, the 75<sup>th</sup> Regt. took up its prior position on the Malabar (western) coast. Capt. Lachlan Macquarie, 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. noted in his journal that Cumine was returning to England in late 1792. Macquarie wrote "*1792...Nov<sup>r</sup>. 26...I forgot to mention in its place that Captain Alexander Cumine of the 75<sup>th</sup>. Regiment came to live with me on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Inst.; he arrived lately from the Coast, and is so far on his way to Europe... Dec<sup>r</sup>. 28. This day sailed for England the Montrose East Indiaman commanded by Capt. Dorin; on her went Passengers Mrs. Capt. French and Capt. Cumine 75<sup>th</sup>. Regt., who I did myself the pleasure to accompany on board....*"

Cumine was promoted to Major in 1795 and was specifically recognized by Bombay Commander in Chief, Lt. Gen. James Stuart, for "...*The soldier-like appearance, steadiness, and discipline of his Majesty's 75th regiment...*" during a regimental review on April 6, 1798. In 1799 Cumine became 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Colonel and led the 75<sup>th</sup> Regt. in the quelling of the rebellion of the chiefs of Malabar and Canara who had seized the fort at Jemalabad from the Sepoy garrison in India. The Duke of Wellington praised his performance in a letter dated Nov. 15, 1800 saying: "*I beg that you will convey to Lieutenant-Colonel Cumine my thanks for his conduct, and assure him that I shall not fail to represent it as it deserves to the Commander in Chief.*"

On March 20, 1804 the War-Office announced "*75th. Ditto, Lieutenant-Colonel James Maitland, from the 1<sup>st</sup> West India Regiment, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Cumine, who exchanges.*" Cumine did not

likely serve with his new regiment and retired Apr. 7, 1804. His death at age 54 was announced in *Scots Magazine* for September 1815, which read “Deaths. July...12 [1815]... At London, Alexander Cumine, Esq. late Lieutenant –Colonel of the 75th regiment.” Lt. Col. Cumine was buried July 17<sup>th</sup> at Holy Innocents Church, Kingsbury in Northeast London.

Commissions: Ens. Nov. 22, 1775 (52<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 17 – effective Aug. 18, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Lt. Dec. 25, 1787 (75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Nov. 7, 1788 – effective Dec. 26, 1787 (75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Maj. “in the Army” May 6, 1795; Maj. Sept. 1, 1795 (75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. Oct. 5, 1799 (75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. Feb. 18, 1804 (1<sup>st</sup> West India Regt.); Retired Apr. 7, 1804 (1<sup>st</sup> West India Regt.).

**References:** Profile of Alexander Cumine in the *Lachlan and Elisabeth Macquarie Archive*, Macquarie University, New South Wales; *The Life of a Regiment: the History of the Gordon Highlanders*, Vol. II, Lt. Col. C. Greenhill Gardyne, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1903, Google Books, pp. 225, 236; TNA, *Sec. of War: Out-letters* at WO 4/276, p. 48; Lachlan and Elisabeth Macquarie Archive, *Journal No. 2: 26 March 1792 - 28 December 1794*, Lachlan Macquarie, Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, ML Ref: A768 pp. 393-396, Microfilm Reel CY299 Frames #207-208, Macquarie University, Australia; *Lists of the Officers of His Majesty's, and the Hon. Company's Troops Serving Under the Presidency of Bombay*, Adjutant General's Office, January 1st, 1798; *Supplementary Despatches and Memoranda of Field Marshal Arthur, Duke of Wellington, K.G., India. 1797-1805*, Vol. 2, Arthur Richard Wellesley (Ed. by his son The Duke of Wellington), Printed by John Murray, London, 1858, Google Books, p. 261; *Scots Magazine and Edinburgh Literary Miscellany* (Edinburgh), Sept. 1815, p. 719; Officers of 75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regiment in *Lists of the Officers of His Majesty's, and the Hon. Company's Troops Serving under the Presidency of Bombay*, Adj. Gen. Office, Jan. 1, 1798, Google Books; General Orders, Halifax, May 18, 1776; *London Gazette* for Nov. 14-17, 1778, pp. 1-2, Jan. 26-29, 1788, pp. 1-2, Sept. 5, 1789, pp. 2-3, May 12, 1795, pp. 2-5, Sept. 29, 1795, Dec. 31, 1799-Jan. 4, 1800, pp. 1-2, Mar. 17, 1804, pp. 4, 6; *The Asiatic Annual Register for the Year 1799*, Printed for J. Debrett, London, 1801, Google Books, p. 123; “Seventy-Fifth (Highland) Regt. of Foot” in the Army List, 1802, p. 296; Ancestry.com. *London, England, Deaths and Burials, 1813-1980*, Provo; London Metropolitan Archives, Holy Innocents, Kingsbury, Register of burials, DRO/045/A/01, Item 006; TNA, Will of Alexander Cumine, Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Aug. 18, 1815, at PROB 11/1571.



Maj. George Dalrymple, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., circa 1791- 1794

Picture Source: The Black Watch Castle & Museum

George Dalrymple  
Capt. 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

**Dalrymple, Capt. George.** Born at “*Brecknol*” (probably Bracknell, Berkshire) on Nov. 13, 1757, Dalrymple was the second son of Lt. Col. Campbell Dalrymple of the 3<sup>rd</sup> or King’s Own Regt. of Dragoons, and his wife Margaret Douglas, the daughter of Gen. James Douglas. Lt. Col. Dalrymple served as Governor of Guadalupe at Basseterre in 1761. After Guadeloupe was returned to the French as a result of the Treaty of Paris of 1763, Col. Dalrymple was listed in a letter to the Board of Trade in Aug. 1763 as “*Commander in Chief of Dominica.*” Col. Dalrymple obtained the estate of Carriden (nineteen miles west of Edinburgh), in 1764 and held it to his death in 1767. Lt. Col. Dalrymple was also the author of *Extracts from a Military Essay, Containing Reflections on the Raising, Arming, Clothing and Discipline of the British Infantry and Cavalry.*



Carriden House

Picture Source: *Borrowstounes and District*, by Thomas James Salmon, William Hodge & Co., Edinburgh, 1913, pp. 163-166

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was serving in Ireland in July 1773 the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland made officer recommendations to King George III without the knowledge or consent of Gen. Lord John Murray, Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. George Dalrymple was commissioned that month as Ensign in place of Ens. Robert Potts who was promoted. After returning to Scotland for the augmentation of the regiment for the American War, Dalrymple was mentioned as part of the garrison of Edinburgh Castle. On Oct. 14, 1775 author James Boswell wrote “*Having heard that the Royal Highland Regiment was to march in today to the Castle, I was eager to meet them... We were disappointed, for there were no more of the Regiment came in than fifty-five men, which were all they had for four companies. There were three officers: Captain Macpherson who commanded them, Lieutenant Graham... and Ensign Dalrymple... There were a great number of people meeting them. The windows in Portsburgh and Edinburgh were crowded. I liked to see them enter the West Port. We saw them fairly enter the Castle...*”

On Oct. 25, 1775, the War Office denied Lord Murray's recommendation for promotion for Ens. Dalrymple over more senior non-Scots Ensigns citing that "*Your recommendation of Ensign Dalrymple cannot be taken into consideration until Ensigns [Robert] Franklin & [Thomas] Lyttleton are appointed to another Corps.*" Dalrymple was, however, soon promoted to Lieutenant in place of Lt. Robert Reid who resigned in Feb. 1776.

Dalrymple served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777. He missed the beginning of the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778 being listed as "... *Lieu<sup>t</sup> Dalrymple is left Sick at New York.*" Dalrymple rejoined the regiment sometime during the campaign and was listed as present at the muster of Lt. Col. Stirling's Company at Philadelphia on Mar. 28, 1778. He remained with a line battalion until he was promoted to Captain in Aug. 1778 in place of Capt. Charles Graham who became Major of the regiment. Because Graham was in the Grenadier Company, Dalrymple was initially moved to that company on paper before switching back to a line battalion. Dalrymple took over Capt. John Smith's Company as Smith transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company. As a company commander in one of the line battalions, Dalrymple served in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779.

Contrary to some published information, Dalrymple was not the defendant in a Sept. 1778 Court martial for stealing rum. Rather, a Lt. Charles Dalrymple of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was the subject of the Court-Martial.

On Dec. 5, 1779, Capt. Dalrymple and Capt. Smith again switched companies and Dalrymple became commander of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company in the composite Light Infantry Battalion. Ten days later on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, the Light Infantry Battalion was again split into two battalions, with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Company assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Infantry Battalion under Lt. Col. Robert Abercromby. Dalrymple commanded his new company in the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780 and on Mar. 20, 1781 his company sailed with Maj. Gen. William Phillips to join the Virginia campaign of 1781 and participated in the Battle of Petersburg, Virginia on Apr. 25, 1781. This campaign ended with the surrender of the company to the rebel and French armies at Yorktown, Virginia in Oct. 1781. Placed on parole, Dalrymple, like most officers, did not go to the prisoner of war camp with the men of his company. He sailed with the rest of the Light Infantry officers toward New York on the transport *Lord Mulgrave*, which was initially thought to be lost, but later turned up in Charleston. Dalrymple and the other officers from the *Lord Mulgrave* eventually returned to New York in mid-December 1781.

Like many of the paroled officers from Yorktown, Dalrymple returned to Great Britain on leave and was still listed as absent on leave in the regimental review conducted by Maj. Gen. John Campbell at Halifax, Nova Scotia on June 9, 1784. Dalrymple rejoined the regiment at Nova Scotia after the war and the Jan. 1786.

*The European Magazine* reported Dalrymple's marriage writing "*MARRIAGES, January 1786... At Mount Denson, in Nova Scotia, Capt. Dalrymple of the 42d regiment, to Miss Martha Willet Miller.*" The Wedding Bond was posted in Halifax on Oct. 15, 1785. Miss Miller was about 18-years old at the time of her marriage to 29-year old Capt. Dalrymple. Mount Denson is about 45 miles northeast of Halifax. Dalrymple and his wife had two sons and four daughters (Alexander Duncan; William Henry Clarence; Margaret; Martha Willett Dalrymple who married North Hamilton Dalrymple, 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Stair; Charlotte Douglas; and Mary Minchin).

In June 1786 the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. left Halifax to exchange with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regt. which had been garrisoning Cape Breton Island and St. Johns Island (now Prince Edward Island). Capt. Dalrymple's company and one other company were assigned to St. John's Island. About fifteen months later, however, Capt. Dalrymple

was shot in his right arm in a duel. *The Pennsylvania Packet* reported that “On the 24th ult. [Sept.] A duel was fought at Halifax between Captain Dalrymple of the 42d regiment and lieutenant [Charles] Roberts of the 57th, when the former was wounded in his right arm.” Lt. William Dyott of the 4<sup>th</sup> Regt. described the duel in his diary writing “Aug. 20. – A duel was fought between Captain Dalrymple of the 42nd and Lieutenant Roberts of the 57th, owing to the former having two years prior to the duel said in a company that Mr. Roberts was not fit for the Grenadiers; at the same time hinting that he had sold some of his brother’s books. Lieutenant Roberts at the time this discourse took place was in Europe, and not meeting with Captain Dalrymple till now, he being quartered at Cape Breton, had not an opportunity of demanding satisfaction. They fired only one pistol each, as Captain Dalrymple was wounded in the right arm, but not dangerously.” A news report from Charlottetown, St. Johns Island corrects Dyott’s account regarding Dalrymple’s posting and follows up on the effect of his wound. The Jan. 1, 1788 the *New-York Moring Post* carried the report that read “CHARLOTTE-TOWN, (St. John’s Island) Sept. 29. On the 9th inst. Captain Robert Potts, of the 42d regiment, arrived here from Sydney [Cape Breton], and took command of the troops, in the room of Captain Dalrymple, who left this island in a bad state of health.

Dalrymple may have returned to Scotland due to his wound as a political survey of Scotland the next year mentions “...George Dalrymple, a Captain in the 42nd, known well to Prince William Henry...”

After the regiment returned to Britain in 1789, Dalrymple was promoted to Major of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Mar. 16, 1791 replacing retiring Maj. Walter Home. In late 1793 Maj. Dalrymple assumed acting command of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when Lt. Col. Charles Graham was assigned to command a brigade. Under Dalrymple’s command the regiment took part in the Flanders campaign under the Earl of Moira (later replaced by Gen. Ralph Abercromby) beginning in 1794.

Dalrymple played a key role in the history of the regiment in Flanders on January 4, 1795. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., 11<sup>th</sup> Dragoons and several other regiments formed the rear guard of a British column retreating through the town of Geldermalsen, near the Waal River, east of Nijmegen. The French cavalry attacked a picket of the dragoons guarding the two cannon supporting the rear guard. The dragoons retreated and the French began to drag off the guns. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was ordered to retake the guns and Maj. Dalrymple ordered a charge and the Highlanders drove off the French and recovered the guns. Numerous sources cite this action as basis for the award of the “red hackle” to the Black Watch, which is still worn as the badge of the battalion.



Reproduction 19<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button of the American War for Independence period.

Just five days after the Battle at Geldermalsen, on Jan. 9, 1795, the War Office announced in the *London Gazette* “19th Ditto [Regiment of Foot], Major George Dalrymple, from the 42d Foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice [James] Coates, promoted to the Command of the 2d Foot...” Dalrymple’s promotion was effective Dec. 31, 1794.

Dalrymple sailed with the 19<sup>th</sup> Regt. for Capetown and India in April 1796 and was promoted to Colonel “in the Army” on Jan. 1, 1801. He led his regiment in the Campaign in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) in 1803 under Maj. Gen. Hay Macdowal, formerly of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

...

*The Asiatic Annual Register*, for 1801 announce an assignment in Ceylon for Dalrymple writing “*Military Promotions, &c. Bengal. In His Majesty’s Regiments...1800...October...By His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon...Lieut. Col. G. Dalrymple, of his Majesty’s 19<sup>th</sup> regiment, is appointed to command the fort and garrison of Pointe de Galle...*” The city of Galle (pronounced “Gaul”) is located on the southern tip of the island of Ceylon.



View of the port of Galle in Ceylon in 1754

Picture Source: Wikipedia Commons

*The London Gazette* erroneously announced Dalrymple’s retirement from the 19<sup>th</sup> (or the 1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire North Riding) Regt. on Feb. 14, 1804. This notice was incorrect as the March 1804 edition of *The Christian Observer*, posted Dalrymple’s January death notice “*Jan. 19. At North Berwick, George*



*Dalrymple, Esq. Lieutenant-colonel of the nineteenth regiment of foot, and Colonel in the Army.*” Col. Dalrymple’s wife died Jan. 26, 1855 at the age of 87 also at North Berwick (located at the mouth of the Firth of Forth, twenty-seven miles north-east of Edinburgh). Dalrymple’s daughter Martha Willet became the Countess of Stair, on her marriage to her cousin North Hamilton Dalrymple, ninth Earl of Stair in 1831.

Commissions/Appointment: Ens. July 12, 1773; Lt. 24 Feb. 1776; Capt. Aug. 25, 1778; Capt. Dec. 5, 1779 (42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company); Maj. Mar. 16, 1791 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. Dec. 31, 1794 (19<sup>th</sup> or the 1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt.); Colonel “*in the Army*” Jan. 1, 1801; Died Jan. 19, 1804 (19<sup>th</sup> or the 1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt.).

**References:** *Borrowstounes and District*, by Thomas James Salmon, William Hodge & Co., Edinburgh, 1913, pp. 163-166, 170; E-mail from Gigi Fulton to Paul Pace dated Nov. 9, 2006; Stirnet family database; William Pitt to Lt. Gov. Melville, Whitehall, Sept. 10, 1760 in *Correspondence of William Pitt: When Secretary of State, with Colonial Governors and Military and Naval Commissioners in America*, Vol. II, Ed. Gertrude Selwyn Kimball, The Macmillan Company, New York, 1906, Google Books, p. 333; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 25, 1775 at WO 4/94, p. 441; *London Gazette* for Mar. 2, 1776, p. 2, Nov. 14-17, 1778, pp. 1-2, Mar. 15, 1791, pp. 1-2, Jan. 6, 1795, p. 2, Jan. 6-10, 1801, pp. 1-2, and Feb. 11-14, 1804, pp. 1-2.; Entry for Oct. 14, 1775 in *Boswell: the Ominous Years, 1774-1776*, James Boswell, Ed. Frederick A. Pottle and Charles Ryskamp, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1963; Lt. John Grant to Lord John Murray, Aug. 27, 1777, *Lord Murray Papers; List of the Officers of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regim<sup>t</sup> of Foot Commanded by the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Lord John Murray*; Muster for 42<sup>nd</sup> LI Company taken at “*Camp near East Chester 17<sup>th</sup> July 1780*” at TNA, WO 12/5479; General Order, New York, Dec. 15, 1779; “*Officers and Servants to go on Board the Lord Mulgrave Transport, Oct. 1781*” No. 31591, U.S. National Archives, Revolutionary War, Miscellaneous Numbered Records; *Peebles’ Journal* entry dated Dec. 18-19, 1781; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. I, pp. 408-409; *Marriage Bond, Halifax County*, Nova Scotia, Registration Year 1785, Book 1700, p. 582; *The European Magazine, and London Review*, January, 1786, Google Books, p. 65; *Pennsylvania Packet*, Philadelphia, Oct. 27, 1787, p. 2; *New-York Morning Post*, Jan. 1, 1788, p. 2; *Dyott’s Diary 1781-1845*, Vol. I, Gen. William Dyott, Ed. Reginald W. Jeffrey, Archibald Constable, London, 1907, Google Books, pp. 32-33; *View of the Political State of Scotland in the Last Century*, Ed. Sir Charles Ephinstone Adam, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, Google Books, p. 163; *Scots Magazine*, March 1791, pp. 155-156; *A History of the Services of the 19th Regiment, Now Alexandria, Princess of Wales’ Own (Yorkshire Regiment): from its formation in 1688 to 1911*, Michael Lloyd Farmer, Eden Fisher & Co., 1911 Google Books Snippet, p. 113; *Asiatic Annual Register...For the Year 1801*, J. DeBrett, London, 1802, Google Books, p. 74; *The New Annual Register or General Repository of History, Politics and Literature for the Year 1801*, Printed for G. and J. Robinson, London, 1802, Google Books, p. 102; *Hardwicke’s Annual Biography for 1856*, by Edward Walford, Robert Hardwicke, London, 1856, Google Books, p. 333; *It’s An Old Scottish Custom*, Francis Drake-Campbell’s, p. 189; *Christian Observer*, Vol. III, Published by John Hatchard, London, 1804, Google Books, p. 191; *The Scots Peerage Founded on Wood’s Edition of Sir Robert Douglas’s Peerage of Scotland*. Vol. VIII, Ed. Sir James Balfour Paul, LL.D, Lord Lyon King of Arms, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1911, pp. 137-138; *A Dictionary of Books Relating to America, from its Discovery to the Present*, Vol. V, by Joseph Sabin, J. Sabin & Sons, New York, 1873, Google Books, p. 184.



Detail of "Colonel Dickson of Kilbucho," circa 1802, by J. Jenkins

Picture Source: National Library of Scotland, from *Edinburgh characters*, J. Jenkins, No. 80. Not for Commercial use.

*Will. Dickson Capt.  
R. H. Regt.*

**Dickson of Kilbucho**, Capt. William. Born on June 3, 1748, Dickson was the eldest son of the Rev. Dr. David Dickson of Kilbucho (an estate about thirty miles southwest of Edinburgh), Minister of Newlands, who died in 1780, and his second wife, Anne (daughter of Alexander Gillon of Wallhouse). The family home was known as Kilbucho Place, a 17<sup>th</sup> century home with 18<sup>th</sup> century additions. A later lawsuit described Dickson's education indicating "*William Dixson possessed an acute natural understanding, has received a liberal education, and had been originally educated to the profession of the law as a writer [of the Signet].*"

Dickson traveled to America in March 1779 to join 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as a Volunteer and about a year later was commissioned Ensign in May 1780 when Ens. John Young was promoted. Dickson served with a line battalion until he was promoted to Lieutenant in the Grenadier Company on May 9, 1781 (effective Apr. 28, 1781) when Lt. John Ritchie was promoted. Dickson joined the Grenadiers on May 26, 1781 and served in the relief attempt for Lord Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781.

In late 1781 the Grenadier Company commander, Capt. John Peebles, desired to retire and believed that Maj. Gen. Thomas Stirling (Lt. Col. of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) would approve of Dickson as his replacement. Accordingly Peebles sent Dickson with a note to Stirling on Nov. 20, 1781 that "*Being desirous to quit the Army & go home for the same reasons I mention<sup>d</sup> to you last year, I hope you will have no objection to Lieut. Dicksons purchasing my Company, he being the only L<sup>t</sup> in the Reg<sup>t</sup> that I know of for purchase...*" The next day, however, Maj. Gen. Stirling told Dickson he did not approve the transaction citing his concern that Lt. Alexander Macgregor of Balhaldie, serving in an Additional Company in Scotland, had the right to the promotion.

Maj. Gen. Stirling, who had been seriously wounded the previous year, left America for England carrying dispatches in early Dec. 1781, and accordingly Maj. Charles Graham assumed responsibility for approving promotions in the regiment. Maj. Graham had no objections to Dickson purchasing Peebles' Company.

Unable to find a dinner companion on Feb. 2, 1782 Capt. Peebles noted in his journal that the unmarried "*Dickson lives w<sup>t</sup> his whore.*" Despite Peebles' derogatory comment the transaction with Dickson to sell his Company was approved that month and Dickson briefly became the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company commander. About two weeks later, however, on Feb. 14, a more senior officer, Capt. David Anstruther, took command of the Grenadiers, and Dickson took command of Anstruther's company in one of the line battalions.

When the regiment lost two companies in the end of the war reduction, Dickson lost his company as the junior Captain. He joined the Light Infantry Company "*En Second*" on Aug. 25, 1783 taking the place of Capt. Dalrymple who had been on leave since his capture at Yorktown in 1781. Capt. Dickson remained with the Lt. Infantry Company when the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. set sail for Halifax on Oct. 22, 1783.

A War Office list of approved leaves of absence received in Halifax in 1785 included "... *Cap<sup>t</sup>. ...Dickson } of 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. {6 Months each from Expiration of their former Leaves...*"

In 1794 Capt. Dickson was on Recruiting duty he was promoted to Major "*in the army*" on Sept. 9, 1794 and when Maj. Dalrymple was promoted into another regiment on Jan. 14, 1795 Brevet-Maj. Dickson was promoted from his recruiting assignment to Major of the regiment. Dickson was further promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Colonel (behind Lt. Col. Graham) on Sept. 1, 1795. With Lt. Col. Graham serving as a Brig. General Dickson commanded five companies of the regiment at Gibraltar in 1796 while the five other companies were in the West Indies under Maj. James Stewart. When Lt. Col. Graham was promoted to command of a West Indies Regt. Nov. 30, 1797, Dickson moved up to 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Colonel.

Lt. Col. Dickson commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. during its stay in Minorca in 1800, prior to the Egyptian campaign. Prior Surg. William Robertson commented on his former comrade in America writing to Maj. Peebles in Apr. 1800 that "... *the Old Corps [42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] at Minorca – Dickson the Command discipline I fear relaxed.*"



Detail of *The Battle of Alexandria, 21 March 1801* by Philip James de Loutherbourg

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Lt. Col. Dickson commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the Egyptian Campaign against Napoleon's Army and was wounded in the Battle of Mandura near Alexandria on March 13, 1801. Following King George III's review of his regiment in 1802, he marched with it to Scotland and was received with acclaim. The Burgh Records of Peebles recorded the regiment's return to Scotland noting *"1802, June 19. – The first Division of the 42d Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel William Dickson of Kilbucko, enter Peebles, and the officers and men are entertained in grand style at the cost of the town, in honour of their distinguished service in Egypt. – B. R."*

Mrs. Anne Grant of Laggan provided a physical of Lt. Col. Dixon in 1802, writing *"...Colonel D., who commands the heroes of the Black Watch, and is therefore not a little interesting, has a face... so fiery, so carbuncled; they must have been Invincibles, indeed, that they could have encountered such a portentous meteor. I was glad to find I was not the only person this face had astonished. The Marquis says, the Prince of Wales asked the Colonel what his face cost him? – The veteran coolly replied, he could not tell till it was finished."* Miss Grant was referring to the so called French *"Invincibles"* defeated by the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Egypt in 1801.

*The London Gazette* for Aug. 7-10, 1802 announced Lt. Col. Dickson's election to Parliament reporting *"MEMBERS returned to serve in the ensuing PARLIAMENT...Burghs of Selkirk, Lanark, Peebles, and Linlithgow William Dickson, Esq; of Kilbucko, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 42d Regiment or Royal Highlanders."* While a Member of Parliament on Oct. 1, 1803 the War-Office announced *"HIS MAJESTY has been pleased to appoint...LIEUTENANT-COLONELS...William Dickson, of the 42d Foot... To be COLONELS in the Army."* Earlier that same year, on Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>, *"Col. William Dickson, 42nd Regiment..."* was elected a member of the Highland Society of London.

John Rutherford wrote to his long-time friend John Peebles about their former comrade in Dec. 1804 remarking that *"General Dickson is our District Brigadier – He looked at us at Kelso but could not be so*

*much with us as he wished owing to a fall he got going from the Mess room one night to his quarters – He speaks of you as if he had not forgot your merits...”*



Gold-covered Statue of King George II, South Mall, Cork

Picture Source: *Ireland Illustrated from Original Drawings*, G. N. Wright, H. Fisher, Son and Jackson, London, 1831, Google Books, after p. 50.

On Mar. 8, 1808 the War Office announced Dickson retirement from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and his next assignment writing “42d Ditto [Regiment of Foot], *Major John Farquharson to be Lieutenant-Colonel, by Purchase, vice Dickson, who retires...GARRISON. Colonel William Dickson, of the 42d Foot, to be Lieutenant-Governor of Cork, vice General [John] Leland, deceased.*”

Seven years later *The Edinburgh Annual Register, for 1815* recorded Dickson’s death writing “May ... 18. At Edinburgh, Brigadier-General W. Dickson, of Kilbucho, lieut.-governor of Cork, late of the 42d regiment.” Dickson’s rank of brigadier general was a local rank only as the Annual Army list for 1815 lists him as “COLONELS... William Dickson 25 Sept. [18]03 Lieut. Gov. of Cork.” Dickson was replaced at Cork by his old comrade in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Maj. Gen. James Stirling.

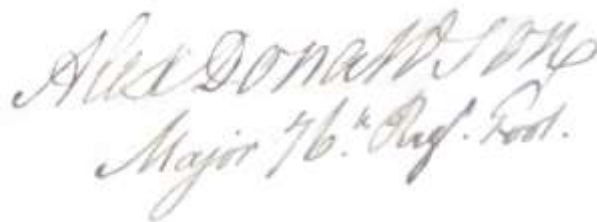
In 1820, after Dickson’s death, a property dispute, between his trustees and his brother, John Dickson of Kilbucho, was the subject of an appeals case before the House of Lords which found in favor of his brother.

Commissions: Ens. May 30 – effective May 15, 1780; Lt. May 9 – effective Apr. 28, 1781; Capt. Feb. 23 – effective Feb. 2, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Capt. Feb. 14, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. “*En Second*” Aug. 25, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Inf. Co.); Maj. “*in the army*” Sept. 9, 1794; Maj. Jan. 24, 1795; Lt. Col. Sept. 1, 1795; Member of Parliament 1802 to 1806; Col. “*in the army*” Sept. 25, 1803; “*District Brigadier*” 1803, Retired Mar. 8, 1808; Lt. Gov. of Cork Mar. 8, 1808.

**Reference:** *History of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol. I, Sir Bernard Burke, Harrison and Sons, London, 1894, Google Books, p. 513; *Biggar and the House of Fleming*, William Paterson, Edinburgh, 1867, Google Books, p. 73; *A History of Peeblesshire*, J. W. Buchan and Rev. H. Paton. Published 1925-7; General Orders, William’s House, May 30, 1780, New York, May 9, 1781, New York, Feb. 23, 1782 and Mortiers House, Aug. 9, 1782; *London Gazette* for July 15, 1780 p. 5, Sept. 29, 1781 p. 1, May 18, 1782 p. 5, Sept. 6-9, 1794, pp. 2-5, Jan. 20-24, 1795, p. 4, Sept. 8-12, 1795, pp. 2, 7, Aug. 7-10, 1802, p. 1, Sept. 27 – Oct. 1, 1803, pp. 5-6, Mar. 5-8, 1808, pp. 2-4 and June 17, 1815, p. 7; TNA, *Sec. of War: Out-letters* at WO 4/276, p. 48; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. I, pp. 416-456;



*Peebles' Journal* entries dated May 26, 1781 Nov. 20-21, 1781 and Feb. 2, 1782; Muster report for Capt. Dalrymple's Company taken at Halifax, Jan. 17, 1784 at WO 12/5479; TNA, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. "*Muster Roll Book Commencing 25<sup>th</sup> December 1793*" at WO 25/380, ff.4, 6-7, 10, 16, 20; *Scots Magazine*, Feb. 1795, p. 135 and Oct. 1795, p. 684; NRS, "Letters from Doctor William Robertson to Major John Peebles at Irvine," Apr. 28, 1800, *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thortoun* at GD21/401/3; "Return of the killed, wounded and missing, of the army under the command of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B. near Alexandria, March 13" in *The New Annual Register or General Repository of History, Politics, and Literature for the Year 1801*, Printed for G. and J. Robinson, London, 1802, Google Books, pp. 32-33; Burgh Records of Peebles in *A History of Peeblesshire*, William Chambers, William and Robert Chambers, Edinburgh, 1864, Google Books, p. 271; *Letters from the Mountains; Being the Correspondence with her Friends Between the Years 1773 and 1803 of Mrs. Grant of Laggan*, Vol. II, Ed. by J. P. Grant (her son), Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, London, 1845, Google Books, pp. 202-203; Leigh Rayment's list of representative peers at <http://www.alba.org.uk>; *Times London*, Aug. 4, 1802; NRS, John Rutherford to John Peebles, "Mossburnford 22 Dec 1804," *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thortoun* at GD21/417 item 9; *Members of Parliament, Scotland...1357-1882*, by Joseph Foster, Hazell, Watson and Viney, London, 1882, Google Books, p. 97; *An Account of the Highland Society of London from its Establishment in May 1773, to the Commencement of the Year 1813*, by Hon. Sir John Sinclair, E. McMillan, London, 1813, Google Books, pp. 36 – 45; *Edinburgh Annual Register for 1808*, Vol. I, John Ballantyne and Co., Edinburgh, 1810, Google Books, p. 249; Appeal from the Court of Session, Hotchkis and Tytler, Trustees of William Dixon vs. John Dickson July 19, 1820 in *The English Reports, House of Lords*, Vol. IV, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1901, Google Books, pp. 343, 355.



Signature Source: TNA, WO 34/154 ff. 582-587

**Donaldson**, Capt. Alexander. Born about 1738, Donaldson was the second son of Robert Donaldson of Arr and his wife Katherine Brodie. Donaldson was commissioned Ensign in July 1758 when seven companies were raised to form the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Ens. Donaldson served with that battalion at Martinique and Guadeloupe. He was appointed Adjutant in March 1759 and in August 1759 orders were issued for Donaldson "... to Act as Deputy Judge Advocate to all such Courts Martial as shall be held ...". He was promoted to Lieutenant May 8, 1760, but following the reduction of the regiment after the war, four Lieutenants, including Donaldson, were offered the option to serve as Ensigns in lieu of going out on Half-pay. Retaining his original date of rank of May 8, 1760, Donaldson was restored to his Lieutenancy by Dec. 13, 1765. Donaldson was promoted to Captain Mar. 31, 1770 and married Anne Graham (daughter of Lt. Col. Gordon Graham, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) in May 1773, becoming the brother-in-law to Capt. Charles Graham and Lt. William Graham.

On Jan. 9, 1776, Donaldson wrote Adj. Gen. Edward Harvey requesting his support for a promotion, but Harvey declined saying those requests had to go to the Secretary at War and that "...I don't in the least doubt, but that L<sup>d</sup> J. Murray [Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] will take care to do you all Justice, & I shall be Extremely glad to hear of your Success." Hearing the rumors that a second battalion was being proposed for the regiment, Capt. Donaldson wrote from Glasgow three weeks later, on Jan. 30, to the Secretary at War requesting to be considered for promotion in the new battalion. He wrote that "*The Eldest Capt*" from long & faithfull Service has reason to expect his Majestys favor; I have the honor of being the Second, & have Served above 19 Years, ten of which as Lieutenant & Adjutant & purchased the Company in 1770 – Had the honor to of Serving at the Reduction of Guadeloupe, Canada, Martinique, & the Havanah, and against the Western Indians of America with Col<sup>o</sup>. Bouquet. – On the Augmentation in Ireland in 1770, and the present One, I inlisted above One Hundred good Men and am now as ready to raise my proportion as any Officer, should I have the good fortune of his Majestys favor." Worried that he might be passed over by junior officers, he added "... I humbly Request your Lordships protection as the



*Guardian of the Service, that I may not have the Mortification of being past over after having devoted myself to the Service & spent the best of my Life in it."*

Gen. Lord John Murray's offer to raise a 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Jan. 20, 1776 included the proposal for "...Cap<sup>t</sup> Alexander Donaldson, who was all the War in America, sometimes at Lieu<sup>t</sup> and Adjutant, and a very distinguished officer and next to Major William Grant, to be Major [in the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn.] in place of Murray..." The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was not raised at that time and Donaldson continued with his Company.

Donaldson ended up in the middle of a disagreement between Lord Murray and Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling over the assignment of the regimental paymaster in Feb. 1776. Lord Murray explained the issue in a letter to the War Office on Feb. 16, writing "Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [John] Mackintosh, desires leave to dispose of his Adjutancy... he has been for Several Years besides these two Commissions, Pay Master, and Quarter Master by Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Stirlings orders. but as I thought four was too much for one Officer, After he was made Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieutenant, I appointed Captain Donaldson pay Master, who was very fit for it, as well as a good Officer and had Recruited 45 Men, but it Seems this displeased my Lieutenant Colonel."

About six weeks before the regiment sailed for America, Lord Murray finalized the list of officers to remain in Scotland in the two additional companies to recruit. Lord Murray forwarded his list to the War Office on Mar. 14, 1776 writing "... I have the honor to inclose the list of Officers for the two additional Companys, as they are now placed, in obedience to your Lordships orders... Names of the officers of the two additional Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot First Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. Alexander Donaldson Lieu<sup>t</sup>. George Mackenzie Lieu<sup>t</sup>. John Gregor Ensign Lord William Murray 2 Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson..."

With knowledge of a large number of extra recruits in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders, Lord Murray again proposed a second battalion to the war Office on Apr. 15, 1776. He recommended Capt. Donaldson as the Major of the new second battalion writing "Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot ...If it Should be His Majestys Pleasure to appoint Major Murray to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Batt. if it should be ordered. Then Major [William] Grant the Eldest Cap<sup>t</sup>. & with the Battalion is prepped to Succeed him as Major & Cap<sup>t</sup>. Donaldson the next Eldest and with the Additional to be Major to 2<sup>d</sup>. Batt..." Once again the War Office did not accept Lord Murray's proposal and Donaldson continued in the Recruiting Service.



Fort Augustus  
A-63

Picture Source: *Sylvans's Pictorial Handbook to the Scenery of the Caledonian Canal*, Thomas and Edward Gilks, John Johnstone, London, 1848, Google Books, p. 62.

On Oct. 31, 1776 Lord Murray informed the War Office about the training of the Additional Companies writing *"As soon as your Lordship orders of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Ins<sup>t</sup>: was transmitted to me by my Agents, Sent what related to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Donaldson at Fort Augustus, and Cap<sup>t</sup>. [James] M<sup>c</sup>Pherson at Glasgow. I had given directions to them Sometime ago, to have their Respective Companies disciplined and to Exchange the recruiting parties in their turns to be Exercised."* Fort Augustus is on the southeast end of Loch Ness about 33 miles from Inverness. Capt. Donaldson and his wife Anne were described at Fort Augustus in a letter from Anne Grant to a Miss Ewing in March 1777 who wrote *"We have a pair who are a great acquisition; Captain Donaldson, of the 42d, an excellent officer and accomplished gentleman, who is also beloved for his worth and good-nature. He is married to daughter of Colonel Gordon Graham, of the same regiment, who, till now, lived always in a gay circle of the first company, but is wonderfully domesticated, and appears to be a good wife and tender mother...."*



Defenses at Fort George

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

In December 1777, letters of service were issued to Lord Alexander MacDonald of Sleat to raise a regiment of Highlanders that would later be numbered the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt. Lord MacDonald chose not to command the regiment himself and Lt. Col. John Macdonnell of Lochgarry was commissioned as Lt. Col. Commandant. The next month, on Jan. 16, 1778, the Secretary at War notified Capt. Donaldson of a promotion in the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt. writing *"[His Majesty] having been pleased to consent that you shou'd be Major to a Corps to be forthwith raised under the Command of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Commandant John M<sup>c</sup>Donnell agreeable to the terms Specified in my letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> last, to the said Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel; I have the honor to acquaint you therewith, that in his Absence you may give the necessary Directions for carrying on that Service without delay."* Donaldson's date of rank was Dec. 19, 1777. He commanded that regiment at Fort George for about a year in the absence of the Lt. Colonel who had been captured at sea while returning from America.



Reproduction 76<sup>th</sup> (MacDonald) Highland Regt. Uniform Button

On March 10, 1779 the 76<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. (MacDonald's) was reviewed at Perth by Maj. Gen. Robert Skene and determined fit for service. After the review the regiment was marched 35 miles south to Burntisland to embark on transports. Soon after their arrival in Burntisland, the troops refused to embark until they received pay and bounty money they thought due. When they did not get a prompt response, they marched away in a body and took possession of a hill above the town. Maj. Donaldson, who was still commanding the regiment, investigated the men's claims and laid out the men's claims for Lord MacDonald, who paid the money that was due. After the payment was made the troops embarked on Mar. 17 as previously ordered.

During this period Donaldson suffered from a large tumor on his back and became quite ill as the Commander-in-Chief for North Britain, Lt. Gen. Sir James Adolphus Oughton, relayed to the War Office on May 1, 1779. Oughton wrote "*I much fear we shall lose poor Major M<sup>c</sup>Donald of the 76<sup>th</sup> who has been dangerously ill since the Operation was performed: I have found him a very excellent Officer; of which he has given evident Proofs in the forming and raising that Regiment without the least Assistance.*" Donaldson became too ill to continue with the regiment as it moved to America and he retired on Aug. 10, 1780.

During his time in the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt. Donaldson sent a lengthy memorial to Commander in Chief Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst complaining that Lord John Murray had unjustly withdrawn an offer to him for the Lt. Colonelcy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Donaldson complained in a letter dated Aug. 27, 1779 that although he had repeatedly notified Lord Murray that he accepted, Lord Murray instead recommended Maj. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod, a relatively inexperienced officer. Donaldson summarized his object in the memorial writing "*The object of this Memorial is to bring under the view of His Excellency Lord Amherst Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces, the particulars of a treaty between the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> General Lord John Murray Colonel of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment and Major Donaldson respecting the Major's appointment to be Lieutenant Colonel to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of said Regiment; but which Treaty has been retracted from by Lord John to accommodate the wishes of another...*" Donaldson was unsuccessful with his request, and Norman MacLeod of MacLeod became the Lt. Colonel of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.



Officers of the Caledonian Band

Picture Source: Print No. CXVI from *A Series of Original Portraits and Character Etchings* by John Kay, Hugh Paton, Carver and Gilder, Edinburgh, 1837, Google Books, after p. 284.

With the threat of a French invasion, several volunteer corps began to organize in the fall of 1782. The talents of recently retired Maj. Donaldson were obviously recognized and *The Scots Magazine* for Sept. 1782 posted the results of the organizational meeting of one of these volunteer corps. The magazine described the meeting writing “*On Thursday, Sept. 5 there was a meeting of several noblemen and Gentlemen at Edinburgh, to Consider of a plan for raising a volunteer corps of ten companies, to serve without pay, (until called out on actual service), on Lord Shelburne’s plan. They are to be clothed in the highland dress, and called the CALEDONIAN BAND. The meeting agreed to associate immediately, and appointed the following officers, viz, the marquis of Graham, colonel; the earl of Buchan, Lieutenant-Colonel; Maj. Alexander Donaldson, late of the 42d regiment, Major... The officers names are to transmitted to Lord Shelburne, for his Majesty’s approbation, with a request of arms and accoutrements. Near 300 have already given in their names to serve in the corps.*” However, before the commissions could be issued the preliminary articles of peace with the French were signed and the government no longer required the volunteers.

While residing in Edinburgh, during the period of Aug. 1786 through Mar. 1787, Donaldson was involved with Robert Donaldson, Sheriff Clerk of Nairn in two legal processes identified as a “*Process of Slander*” and “*Process of Scandal*” against John Innes, Writer to the Signet.



Officer's Silver Shoulder Belt Plate of the West Lowland Fencibles

Picture Source: Courtesy of Toovey's Antique & Fine Art Auctioneers & Valuers

In June 1793 Maj. Donaldson was appointed Major in the West Lowland Fencibles Regt. raised by Col. Hugh Montgomerie to counter French threats and a month later he was promoted to Lt. Colonel in the same regiment. He served as Lt. Colonel in the Fencibles for only about a year as *The Scots Magazine* for 1794 recorded his death writing “Deaths...June...17...At Edinburgh, Lieut. Col. Donaldson, of the West Lowland regiment of fencibles.” His wife, Anne, died the following year at Bankfoot on Aug. 5, 1795. Their son, Alexander Donaldson, was a Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and died of wounds received in the Battle for Alexandria, Egypt, in 1801.

Commissions and Appointments: Ens. July 18, 1758 (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Adj. Mar. 20, 1759 (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. May 8, 1760; Ens. (as Lieutenant) 1763 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Dec. 13, 1765 (date of rank – May 8, 1760); Capt. Mar. 31, 1770; Maj. June 16, 1778 – effective Dec. 19, 1777 (76<sup>th</sup> Regt., MacDonald's Highlanders), Retired Aug. 10, 1780 (76<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Maj. Sept. 5, 1782 (Caledonian Band); Maj. June 15, 1793 (West Lowland Regiment of Fencible Men); Lt. Col. July 27, 1793 (West Lowland Regiment of Fencible Men); Died June 17, 1794 (West Lowland Regiment of Fencible Men).

**Reference:** *Miscellaneous Correspondence, Containing a Variety of Subjects...Vol. II For the Year 1757 and 1758*, Benjamin Martin, W. Owen, London, 1759, Google Books, p. 867; *British Museum*, Add. Mss. 21650, Pt. 2, f. 470 (p. 113) quoted in “*Book I, of Colonel Henry Bouquet's Expedition Against the Ohio Indians, 1764* (Carlisle to Fort Pitt),” Part Two, Ed. Edward G. Williams, Oct. 1973, footnote k, p. 410; *London Gazette* for June 16-20, 1778, p. 3, July 3, 1781 pp. 2-3, June 11, 1793, p. 3, July 23, 1793, p. 3; TNA, Edward Harvey to Alexander Donaldson, Jan. 17, 1776, War Office, *Commander-in-Chief, Out letters* at WO 3/5 and duplicate at WO 3/6 f. 10; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Jan. 20, 1776, War Office, *Commander-in-Chief, In-letters* at WO 1/993; Alexander Donaldson to Viscount Barrington, Jan. 30, 1776, War Office, *Commander-in-Chief, In-letters* at WO 1/991, f. 109; Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 18, Mar. 14, Apr. 15 and Oct. 31, 1776 at WO 1/993; Anne Grant to Miss [Bell] Ewing, Glasgow, Fort Augustus, Mar. 15, 1777 in *Letters from the Mountains: Being the Real Correspondence of a Lady, Between the Years 1773 and 1807*, In Three Volumes, Vol. II, Anne MacVicar Grant, Longman, Hurst, Rees & Orme, London, 1809, pp. 9, 12, Google Books; Viscount Barrington to Alexander Donaldson, Jan. 16, 1778 at War Office, *Out-letters* at WO 4/101 f. 155; James Adolphus Oughton to Lord Amherst, May 1, 1779 at War Office, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander-in-Chief, Papers* at WO 34/151, f. 23; *Scots Magazine* (Edinburgh), June 1778, p. 335, July 1781, p. 391, Sept. 1782, p. 501, June 1793, p. 310, July 1793, p.363, June 1794, p. 374 and Aug. 1795, p. 547; Alexander Donaldson to Lord Jeffrey Amherst, Aug. 27, 1779 at WO 34/154 ff. 582-587; *Stewarts' Sketches*, Vol. 2, pp. 159-160, App. lxxxii-lxxxiii; General Orders, New York, Feb. 9, 1781; *Monthly Magazine or British Register*, Part II for 1801, p. 468; *History of Nairnshire*, George Bain, “Telegraph” Office, Nairn, 1893, pp. 342, 406-408; *An Ordinary*



*of Arms Contained in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland*, James Balfour Paul, Lyon King of Arms, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1893, Google Books, p. 77; *The Consistorial Processes and Decrees*, 1658-1800, Ed. Francis J. Grant, James Skinner & Company, Edinburgh, 1909, (This document last updated: 2 Dec 2004).



Keltie House, Perthshire

Picture Source: *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland from the Twelfth to the Eighteenth Century*, Vol. 2, David MacGibbon and Thomas Ross, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, Google Books, p. 197.

*G. Drummond Secy. 1776*

**Drummond**, Lt. Gavin. Born on Mar. 11, 1751, Drummond was the twelfth child and fifth son of James Drummond, 2<sup>nd</sup> Laird of Keltie and his wife Christian, daughter of William Hally of Kenneder. The mansion house of Keltie was described soon after the death of James Drummond in 1763 as “...About half a mile Southwest from Dunning is the mansion house of John Drummond of Keltie: this is a very strong old fashioned house, of a pretty height and largeness, being without doubt, made use of in the days of old for a fort to the country...” Gavin Drummond’s baptism was recorded at the Parish of Muthill, Perthshire which read “...1751...Mar. 15. Gavin son of James Drummond of Keltie and Christian Haly born March 11.”

Gavin Drummond was commissioned Ensign in Jan. 1776 in place of Ens. James Lees who had resigned. After the commission, Lord Murray had to write the War Office asking on Feb. 17, 1776 “*L<sup>d</sup> John Murray begs to be inform’d where Ensign Gavin Drummond is, when he is inform’d by his Agents is Notified vice James Lees.*”

Drummond served with one of the line battalions in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and was promoted to Lieutenant in late Oct. 1777 in place of Lt. John Peebles as part of the string of promotions set off by the promotion of Lt. Col. William Murray. He continued with a line battalion for the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778, the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779.

On Feb. 9, 1780, Drummond led an expedition across the ice from New York to Staten Island as described by Commissary Jarvis: “...when the Communication for Vessels was entirely cut off by the Ice



*between, Staten Island & New York, and no relief could be afforded to the Troops on that Island then in the Utmost want of Provisions... under the Authority of the Commander in Chief, Impress, and Loaded with Pork & Flour near one hundred two Horse Slays,--from the Kings Stores at New York ...” The Royal Gazette added “...the escort was under the command of Lieut. Drummond of the 42<sup>d</sup> regiment, consisting of 40 British, and 60 of the Loyal Commissariat Volunteers.”*

Drummond continued in a line battalion for the Siege of Charleston in 1780 and the relief attempt for Cornwallis’ army in 1781. Drummond attempted to purchase Capt. Peebles’ Company in Dec. 1781, but although Maj. Graham had no objections, the purchase did not go through. Drummond remained with the regiment when it moved to Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783 and was present for the regimental review conducted at Halifax on June 9, 1784.

A War Office letter dated Jan. 4, 1786 to the Commander of British Forces in Nova Scotia provided approved leaves of absence. Included in the list was “*L<sup>ts</sup> Drummond ...} of 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> B<sup>n</sup>: 6 Months from 3<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>: 1785 P[rivate]. A[ffairs].*”

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was stationed at Cape Breton, Canada, Drummond left the regiment in Jan. 1787 exchanging to half-pay with Lt. John Farquarson of the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Atholl Highlanders). He was still listed on half pay of the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. until struck off in the Army List of 1809.

Drummond was appointed a burghess of Dysart, Fife in Jan. 1793 and in March of that year, Col. Sir John Campbell, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Breadalbane wrote to “*Gavin Drummond of Keltie*” about the raising of a corps of Fencibles and invited him to accept a lieutenancy in his regiment. The War Office announced his commission as Lieutenant in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the “*Perthshire Regiment of Fencible Men*” on June 15, 1793. This three-battalion regiment was also known as the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Fencible Men and as the Breadalbane Regiment of Fencible Infantry. The regiment was involved in a brief mutiny at Glasgow in Dec. 1794 and Drummond served as the president of the court-martial of one of the soldiers (Pvt. Hugh Robertson) whose imprisonment was the source of the mutiny.

Drummond was promoted to Capt. in the same regiment by a War Office announcement dated Apr. 5, 1795. He also served as Paymaster of the regiment until the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions were disbanded in 1799. Soon after the two battalions of the Breadalbane Fencibles were disbanded, Drummond was commissioned Captain in “*The Honorable Colonel [William] Edward’s Fencible Infantry*,” later the Cambrian Rangers. In Dec. 1801 Drummond was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Royal Kilgraston Volunteers and received a Company in the 1<sup>st</sup> (or Strathearn) Battalion, Royal Perthshire [Volunteer] Brigade dated June 20, 1803 under Lt. Col. Sir Patrick Murray of Ochertyre. Drummond was listed as “*Gavin Drummond of Drumaquhance*.”

Drummond married Clementina Graham (daughter of the late David Graham of Duntrune) at Arbroath on June 26, 1794. Gavin and Clementina Drummond had a single daughter also named Clementina who married David, ninth Earl of Airlie, in 1812. Drummonds also had an illegitimate or “*natural*” son, James Drummond.

*The Scots Magazine* for July 1809 recorded Capt. Drummond’s death writing “*Deaths... June ...19. At Kinneddar, Gavin Drummond, Esq.*” Capt. Rutherford also recorded Drummond’s death in a letter to Capt. Peebles in 1809 writing: “*...Some time last year I met with Drummond and we were glad to meet and talk of old acquaintances and the times that are past but when in Edinburgh last July I called on him and was told that he also had taken his departure for that country from whence none return...*” When Graham’s wife, Clementina, died in Paris on Aug. 30, 1824, at the house of the Earl of Arly, she was described as “*Mrs. Clementina Graham, relict of Gavin Drummond, Esq. of Forth Street, Edinburgh.*”



Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh, 2009 by Kim Traynor

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

The 1819 pension application for Drummond's wife includes his burial location. The Record of Burials in the Canongate Burying Ground, Edinburgh states "*Captain Gavin Drummond was Inter'd in the Canongate Burying Ground on the 26 day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and nine.*"

Commissions: Ens. Jan. 31, 1776; Lt. Oct. 31 – effective Oct. 5, 1777; Lt. Half-pay by exchange Jan. 10, 1787 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. Atholl Highlanders); Lt. Mar. 1, 1793 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Breadalbane Regt. of Fencible Infantry); Capt. and Paymaster Apr. 5, 1795 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Breadalbane Regt. of Fencible Infantry); Capt. July 23, 1799 (The Honorable Colonel Edward's Fencible Infantry – later the Cambrian Rangers); 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Dec. 25, 1801 (Royal Kilgraston Volunteers); Capt. Sept. 27, 1803. (1<sup>st</sup> Strathearn Bn., Royal Perthshire Volunteer Brigade).

**References:** *A Genealogical Memoir of the Most Noble and Ancient House of Drummond*, David Malcolm, printed for Mr. Graham Maxwell, Edinburgh, 1808, Google Books, pp. 58-60; Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775 at TNA, *War Office, Sec. at War: Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 17, 1776, TNA, *Sec. at War In-letters* at WO 1/993; *Edinburgh Advertiser* Mar. 1, 1776; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1777; *Peebles Journal* Entries Dec. 21 and 23, 1781; *London Gazette* for Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2, June 11, 1793, p. 3, Apr. 21, 1795, pp. 2-5, July 23, 1799, pp. 2-3 and Sept. 24, 1803, pp. 1-2; TNA, *The Memorial of Samuel Jarvis, a native of North America To the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury &ca &ca &ca*, Audit Office at AO 13/114, ff. 536-539 at *Loyalist Institute*; TNA, Geo. Yonge to Officer Commanding H. M. Forces in Nova Scotia, *War Office, Sec. of War: Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 94-95 (f. 48); *A Military History of Perthshire 1660-1902*, Ed. The Marchioness of Tullibardine, R. A. & J. Hay, Perth, 1908, Google Books, p. 215; "Marriage contract between Gavin Drummond and Clementina Graham," June 26, 1794, Ogilvie, Cowan & Co, Solicitors, Dundee, Archive Services, Univ. of Dundee at MS 57/1/2/13; NRS, Military Commissions in Papers of the Earls of Airliie at GD16/55/12, 13, 16, 17 and 21; *Royal Gazette* (New York), Feb. 9,

1780, p. 3; *Orr and Sable A Book of the Grames and Grahams*, Louisa G. Graeme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, Sketch XXXVIII; "Campbell vs. Campbell" in *The Scots Revised Reports Court of Session Third Series*, Vol. IV, 1865-66, William Green & Sons, Edinburgh, 1903, Google Books, pp. 867 and 876; *Army List, 1798*, p. 556; Officers of the Breadalbane Fencible Infantry in *The Monthly Army List, Corrected to the First of February 1799*, p. 40; *The Peerage of the British Empire as at Present Existing*, Lodge Edmund, Saunders and Otley, London, 1844, Google Books, p. 10; *Mutiny, The Highland Regiments in Revolt 1743-1804*, John Prebble, Penguin Books, 1975, pp. 343-345; "A Description of the Parish of Dunning in 1763", *Geographical Collections Relating to Scotland, made by Walter MacFarlane*, Ed. Sir Arthur Mitchell, Scottish History Society, 1906; *The Marriage, Baptismal, and Burial Registers of the Collegiate Church or Abbey of St. Peter, Westminster*, Ed. Joseph Lemuel Chester, London, 1876, Google Books, p. 416; *The Transcript of the Register of Baptisms Muthill, Perthshire From A.D. 1697 – 1847*, Ed. Rev. A. W. Cornelius Hallen, Neill and Co., Edinburgh, 1887, Google Books, p. 126; *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. XVI, July-December, 1824., William Blackwood, Edinburgh, 1824, Google Books, pp 488-489; NRS, John Rutherford to John Peebles dated at "Jedburgh 9 Oct' 1809," *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thornton at GD21/417* item 3; *Scots Magazine and Edinburgh Literary Miscellany* for July 1809, p. 559; Will of Gavin Drummond, *Edinburgh Commissary Court* at CC8/8/138; TNA, *War Office: Officers' Birth Certificates, Wills and Personal Papers* at WO 42/14, D307, pp. 1- 4.

*Wm Edmondstone Esq.*

**Edmondstone**, Lt. William. Edmonstone was the son of John Edmonstone of Cambuswallace (a moderate estate sometimes called *Doune Lodge*, about one and a half miles northwest of Doune, near Stirling.) A 1778 political report of county voters described Edmonstone's father writing "91. *John Edmonstone of Cambuswallace. Not rich. A family. Will be influenced by Mr. Dundas, or Mr. Graham of Balgowan.*" Edmonstones' grandfather, Capt. William Edmonstone of Cambuswallace, of Blakeney's Foot, was killed at the Battle of Falkirk in Jan. 1746.



Reproduction 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt. Uniform Button

The muster of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Company taken at Long Island on Jan. 31, 1781 records "...Inlisted 24<sup>th</sup> Oct' 80 Sick Will<sup>m</sup> Edmonstone..." indicating Edmondstone had served as a Volunteer in the ranks for a little over three months when he was commissioned Ensign on Feb. 8, 1781, effective Dec. 31, 1780. He took the place of Ens. Kenneth Callander as part of the string of promotions started by Brevet-Lt. Col. Duncan M'Pherson's promotion. Brig. Gen. Thomas Stirling sent a letter to his sister, Mrs. Anne Graham from New York on June 6, 1781 and mentioned Edmonstone's conduct writing "...*William Edmonstone is well but I am afraid he is Idly inclined, I gave him some reprimands for which he has not been near me these three weeks, I got him into a Sober & Oeconomical Mess where he may live upon his pay but I fear he goes too much to punch houses at Night...*"

Edmondstone served with a line battalion in the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781. He was promoted Lieutenant and briefly transferred into the Grenadier Company as part of the transition from Capt. Peebles' to Capt. Dickson's command in Feb. 1782. Capt. Peebles noted the youth of Edmondstone in his journal entry saying: "...*the Boy Edmonstone came & din<sup>d</sup> w<sup>t</sup> me he is recommended to succeed Dickson.*" The Lieutenant, however, soon transferred back to the line battalion on Feb. 14.

The Oct. 6, 1783 muster of Maj. Walter Home's Company at Paulus Hook listed Edmondstone's status as "*Reduced to half pay 24<sup>th</sup> August 1783 gone to Europe.*" Five and a half years later, on Mar. 14, 1789, the War Office announced "*60<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot. Lieutenant William Edmonstone, from Half-pay of the 42d Regiment, to be Lieutenant, vice John Watson, deceased.*" The 1789 Annual Army List shows Edmonstone's date of rank as "*12 Mar. 89*", but the Commission Book lists his Lieutenancy as Jan. 12, 1789. He was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt., which was stationed on the West Indies islands of Antigua, Montserrat and Dominica. Edmondstone remained with the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. for about 20-months until he retired on Nov. 2, 1790.

Edmonstone did not survive long after his retirement. His death notice was published in *The Scots Magazine* for Dec. 1790 and read "[Nov.] 27. *At Kersie house, Mr. William Edmonstone, late Lieutenant 60th foot, and son of John Edmonstone, Esq; of Cambuswallace.*" Kersie House (also called Kersie Mains) overlooks the River Forth near South Alloa, six miles southeast of Stirling.

Commissions and Appointment: Vol. Oct. 24, 1780 (42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Co.); Ens. Feb. 8, 1781 – effective Dec. 31, 1780; Lt. Feb. 23 – effective Feb. 2, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Lt. Feb. 14, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half-pay Aug. 24, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Jan. or Mar. 12, 1789 (3<sup>rd</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> Royal American Regt.); Retired Nov. 2, 1790.

**References:** *Leigh's New Pocket Road-Book of Scotland*, Printed for Samuel Leigh, London, 1829, Google Books, p. 126; *View of the Political State of Scotland in the Last Century, A Confidential Report, Political Opinions, Family Connections, or Personal Circumstances of the 2662 County Voters in 1778*, Sir Charles Elphinstone Adam, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, p. 268; General Orders, New York, Feb. 8, 1781 and Feb. 23, 1782; NRS, Inventory Acc.12290, *Additional papers of the family of Graham of Airth, and other related families, notably (Graham) Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan, and Stirling of Kippendavie*, Box 1, Folder 3: Sir Thomas Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan (5) 1776-1807; *Peebles' Journal* entry dated Jan. 29, 1782; *London Gazette* for July 3, 1781 pp. 2-3, May 18, 1782 p. 5, Mar. 10-14, 1789, p. 124, and Nov. 2, 1790, p. 2; *A Regimental Chronicle and List of Officers of the 60<sup>th</sup>, or the King's Royal Rifle Corps, Formerly the 62<sup>nd</sup>, or the Royal American Regiment of Foot*, Capt. Nesbit Willoughby Wallace, Harrison, London, 1879, Google Books, pp. 116-117; TNA, *Commission Book*, 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. at WO 25/116, part 2, p. 331; Connection to 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. from Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace; *Scots Magazine*, Dec. 1790, p. 620.



Venlaw, built 1782

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Arch Erskine". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a large, sweeping 'A' and a long, trailing 'e'.

**Erskine**, Capt. Archibald. Known to his friends as "*Archie*," Erskine was born in 1748, the fourth son of John Erskine of Carnock (and later Cardross - Member of the Faculty of Advocates, Professor of Law in the University of Edinburgh, and author of *The Institutes of the Law of Scotland*), and his second wife Ann Stirling, daughter of James Stirling of Kerr. Archibald Erskine's older brothers were (half-brother) Rev. John Erskine, James Erskine of Cardross and Sir David Erskine, Writer to the Signet and his sister, Christian, was married to Sir William Stirling of Ardoch, older brother of Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling.

Erskine was initially commissioned as an Ensign in the 13<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Dec. 1766 when the regiment was stationed in England. In Aug. 1768 the regiment moved to Ireland for seven months before sailing for Minorca in Mar. 1769. Erskine was promoted to Lieutenant in the same regiment in Dec. 1770 while it was still in Minorca. About nine months later, in Sept. 1771, Lt. Erskine was promoted to Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when Capt. William Murray was promoted to Major.

Erskine's company traveled to America on the transport *Bowman*, which was the first transport to arrive at Halifax and one of only three transports of the regiment to sail with Gen. Sir William Howe for New York. Upon arriving in America, Erskine was appointed Major of Brigade to Brig. Gen. Sir William Erskine (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.) in General Orders dated Aug. 8, 1776. A "*Major of Brigade*" was the primary staff officer to a brigade commander. Lt. Col. Stirling wrote his sister "*Sir Will<sup>m</sup> Erskine has appointed Archie Brigade Major which is ten Shil<sup>ls</sup> a day to him...*"

Stirling wrote his brother about Erskine again on June 25, 1777 reporting "*All your Acquaintances are well, Archie is B. Major to G [Brig. Gen. Alexander] Leslie...*" This letter was dated just a few days after Leslie was appointed to command a brigade composed of the battalions of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. on June 11, 1777. Rebel Maj. John Clark wrote of meeting Maj. of Brigade Erskine with the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. at the Middle Ferry outside Philadelphia on Nov. 21, 1777. Clark wrote "*Yesterday afternoon I did myself the honour to wait on the enemy with a flag, at the middle ferry. I was politely received by Captain Baum, a Hessian officer, at their advanced sentry, who insisted on my going down to the ferry, where he was quartered, which I accepted. Major Brigade Erskine, met me at the ferry, and I gave him the letter to M<sup>rs</sup> Badden, and some money, which he assured me he would immediately forward her...*"

In May 1778, Lt. Col. William Grant decided to retire and Capt. Erskine was in line to purchase the majority behind two more senior Captains. Capt. Charles Graham, who later received the promotion, wrote of Erskine's interest in a request for money to his fathers' trustees on May 23, 1778. Graham wrote "*About an hour ago L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>l</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Grant Major to the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> sent for me to know if I chose to purchase his Majority and that the price he was determined to take was 3000 pounds Sterl<sup>s</sup> ... Cap<sup>t</sup> Erskine the Cap<sup>t</sup> immediately under me in Reg<sup>t</sup> is both ready and willing to purchase...*"





Reproduction 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Officer's Uniform Button

Disappointed in the promotion in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., about seven months later Erskine was able to find promotion in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and purchased the Majority in Jan. 1779 (effective Dec. 6, 1778). The 22<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was part of the garrison of Rhode Island at the time of his assignment, but the regiment returned to the New York area in Oct. 1779. The regiment was did not participate in the Charleston expedition but was part of the force that fought at Springfield, New Jersey in June 1780 where Brig. Gen. Thomas Stirling was badly wounded. As one of Stirling's friends, Erskine was called in to persuade Stirling to allow the surgeons to remove his badly wounded leg. Erskine informed Stirling's brother on Oct. 9, 1780 about the General's ordeal writing "*...the Surgeons told me yesterday that they think his cure almost impracticable unless he suffers amputation & that he still has strength sufficient for undergoing it, & therefore begd of Maj<sup>r</sup> [John ] Small [84<sup>th</sup> Regt.] & me to speak to him on this head – It was a necessary but trying office, & impossible to be told him in direct terms – we therefore just slightly mentioned to him some surprising instances of recoveries effected by amputation, & begd of him as his cure was so tedious to ask the opinions of the Surgeons who attended him on his own case; but this he would by no means consent to ... I have always looked upon it as a most fortunate event, tho a painful task, that it has been in my power to attend him during his whole illness, & it added to the pain I feel on his account, that I should so often be the person thro' whom such unwelcome news is conveyed to my friends...*"

In July 1780 Gen. Sir Henry Clinton learned that seven French ships of the line and 36 transports had sailed into Rhode Island harbor and Adm. Mariot Arbuthnot and Gen. Clinton agreed to a joint expedition to Rhode Island to attack the French. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was brigaded with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. under Maj. Gen. Edward Mathew for the expedition and embarked on July 23. After learning of rebel reinforcements, a Council of War decided against the attack and the troops were landed on Long Island on Aug. 3. Soon after the landing, Lt. Col. James Stewart of the Guards wrote his father about Erskine on Sept. 23, 1780 saying "*I saw Major Erskine who is in good health and at present Quartered at [New] York.*"

Wanting to return to Britain, on Dec. 21, 1780 Maj. Erskine sailed for England on the *Swift* packet carrying Sir Henry Clinton's dispatches to Lord George Germaine. Included in the dispatches was a letter from Sir Henry to Lord Germain dated Dec. 16 indicating "*...Major Erskine, of the 22<sup>d</sup> Regiment who has requested my permission to return to Europe on his Private Affairs, will have the honor of carrying my Dispatches, I beg leave to recommend him to your Lordship...*" The *Caledonian Mercury* reported his arrival in London writing "*On Thursday morning [Jan. 25] Major Erskine arrived at Lord Geo. Germain's office, with dispatches for his Lordship from his Excellency Sir Henry Clinton; they come down so late as the 23d of December...*"

Erskine did not return to America and retired from the Army on Apr. 30, 1781. About three weeks before he retired, on Apr. 7, 1781, Erskine married Margaret Ogilvy, widow of Charles Ogilvy, Esq., and daughter of Charles Maitland Barclay, (son of 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Lauderdale) and his wife Isabel Barclay, (heiress of Towie). Erskine and his wife had five children; four daughters, Isabella, Christian, Mary-Turner and



Henrietta; and one son, Erskine's heir, John Erskine, Esq., of Venlaw, Peebles. In 1786 Maj. Erskine purchased a house at No. 42, St. George's Square, Edinburgh, which he held until 1799.

In Sept. 1794, a Volunteer Regiment was established by the City of Edinburgh called the Edinburgh Volunteers and "Archibald Erskine. Esq; late Major 22d foot" was appointed a Major by the Lord Provost of the city.

In 1798 Erskine purchased the estate of Venlaw (located 23 miles south of Edinburgh, in the valley of the River Tweed) in Peeblesshire from William Grant. Six years later Erskine died at Venlaw as recorded in *The Scots Magazine* for Aug. 1804, which wrote "Aug. 1...At Venlaw, Peeblesshire, suddenly, Archibald Erskine of Venlaw, Esq. formerly Major of the Edinburgh Volunteers, half brother of the late Rev. Dr. John Erskine, and youngest and last surviving son of John Erskine of Carnock, Esq. advocate, author of the *Institutes of Scots law*." Former 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Captain John Rutherford wrote to John Peebles about Erskine's death saying, "I see by this days papers ... that our old acquaintance & brother soldier Major Erskine has suddenly been taken from this state of existence..." After his death, Erskine's wife, Margaret, married Charles Dundas, Baron Amesbury and died Apr. 21, 1841.

Commissions: Ens. Dec. 2, 1766 (13<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Dec. 26, 1770 (13<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. Sept. 7, 1771 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. of Brigade Aug. 8, 1776; Maj. Jan. 2, 1779 – effective Dec. 6, 1778 (22<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Apr. 30, 1781 (22<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Sept. 26, 1794 (Edinburgh Volunteers).

**References:** *Account of the Life and Writings of John Erskine, D. D.*, Sir Henry Moncreiff Wellwood, Archibald Constable, Edinburgh, 1818, Google Books, pp. 1-11; E-mail from Don N. Hagist to Paul Pace, Dec. 23, 2007 citing information from Dr. John Houlding; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 6-10, 1776; *Debrett's Complete Peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland*, 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Ed. William Courthope, Esq., J. G. & F. Rivington, London, 1839, Google Books, pp. 426-427; *The Peerage and Baronetage of the British Empire*, Edmund Lodge Esq., Late Norroy King of Arms, &c., Hurst and Blackett, London, 1861, Google Books, p. 87; General Orders, Staten Island, Aug. 8, 1776, at New York, Jan. 2, 1779 and July 7, 1781, at Brunswick, June 11, 1777; John Clark to George Washington, Nov. 22, 1777 in "Letters from Major John Clark, Jr., to Gen. Washington" in *Proceedings of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania*, Vol. I., No. 10, March 1847, Google Books, pp. 15-17; Charles Graham to Henry Davidson Esq. of Tulloch, May 23, 1778 at NRS, *Records of Messrs. Haldane, Brown & Company*, Graham of Drynie miscellaneous correspondence and accounts, 1776-1779 at GD255/2/6; *London Gazette*, Mar. 16-20, 1779 p. 1 and Sept. 25-29, 1781 p. 1; Thomas Stirling to Mrs. Anne Graham, Aug. 9, 1776, NLS Inventory Acc. 12290, *Additional papers of the family of Graham of Airth, and other related families, notably (Graham) Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan, and Stirling of Kippendavie*, Box 1, Folder 3: Sir Thomas Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan (5) 1776-1807; James Stewart to Alexander, 10<sup>th</sup> Lord Blantyre, Sept. 23, 1780 in "Letters from America, 1780 and 1781," Kenneth Charles Corsair, in the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Vol. 20, 1941, pp. 131-132; Archibald Erskine to Sir William Stirling, Oct. 9, 1780 at NRS, *Papers of the Ogilvy family, Earls of Seafield (Seafield Papers)* at GD24/1/458; Archibald Robertson, *Lieutenant-General Royal Engineers, His Diaries and Sketches in America*, Ed. Harry Miller Lydenberg, New York Public Library, New York, 1930, p. 242; TNA, Sir Henry Clinton to Lord George Germain, New York, Dec. 16, 1780, *Colonial Office* at CO 5/101 p. 125; *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, Jan. 31, 1781, p. 2; *Scots Magazine*, April 1781, p. 223, Oct. 1794, p. 648 and Aug. 1804, p. 647; *The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*, The Club, Edinburgh, Vol. 26, 1948, Google Books Snippet, pp. 102-103; *A History of Peebleshire*, William Chambers, William and Robert Chambers, Edinburgh, 1864, Google Books, p. 330; "The Gathering of Scottish Clans" Forum at scotland-inverness.co.uk; *List of the Officers of the Several Regiments and Corps of Fencible Cavalry and Infantry...and of the Corps and Companies of Volunteer Infantry*, War Office, May 14, 1794, Google Books, p. 171; NRS, John Rutherford to John Peebles, Mossburnford, Aug. 15 1804, *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thorntoun* at GD21/417 item 11.



**Franklin**, Capt. Lt. Robert. Born in Ireland around 1752, nineteen-year old Franklin was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Dec. 1771 in place of Ens. Charles Grant who had been promoted. As the 42<sup>nd</sup>

Regt. was serving in Ireland at the time, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland made officer recommendations to King George III without the knowledge or consent of Gen. Lord John Murray, Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Franklin was likely from the area of Cork, near the southern coast, where he spent a two year convalescence during the war

This Irish officer's service in a Highland regiment was not without difficulty as he indicated in a 1781 request for promotion where he wrote *"I not a Native of N Britain from which Consideration I have Suffer'd most dreadfull as well as glaring Injustices."* Lord John Murray attempted to get Franklin, the only Irish officer, and Ens. Thomas Lyttleton, the only English officer, out of his regiment in late Aug. 1775. Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War that *"... If Ensign Franklin an Irish Gen<sup>l</sup>. & Ensign Lyttleton of Staffordshire, near Lord Lyttletons, are appointed Lieutenants in any other Additional Companys, which they are desirous of, & can be of much more Service in Recruiting than in an Highland Corps...its believed Ensign Robert Franklin is at Cork in Ireland."*

A War Office letter dated Oct. 11, 1775 mentioned Lord Murray's attempts citing *"M<sup>r</sup> John Dalgleith cannot have an Ensigncy 'till M<sup>r</sup> Franklin is actually removed to another Corps; and M<sup>r</sup> Alexander Fraser must wait 'till Ensign Lyttleton is also removed."* Two weeks later, on Oct. 25, a similar letter to Lord Murray from the Secretary at War listed the same requirement noting *"I have the honor to acknowledge the rec<sup>d</sup>. of your Lordship's letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>. instant. Your recommendation of Ensign Dalrymple cannot be taken into consideration until Ensigns Franklin & Lyttleton are appointed to another Corps."*

Not only was Lord Murray unsuccessful in removing the two officers at this period, he also had to endure their promotions over previously selected (though junior) Scots officers. In the same letter as above, dated Oct. 11, 1775, the Secretary at War notified Lord Murray of several promotions including that *"Lieutenant John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, to be Cap<sup>t</sup> Lieut<sup>t</sup> vice Smith preferred in the 2<sup>d</sup> Additional Company, Ensign Alexander Grant to be Lieutenant vice M<sup>c</sup>Intosh."* Despite this notification, Ens. Grant's promotion was cancelled and Ens. Franklin promoted in his place. Lord Barrington explained the promotion reversal in a letter to Gen. Lord John Murray on Dec. 12, 1775 writing *"... With respect to Ensigns Franklin & Lyttleton I am to observe to your Lordship, that it never was His Majesty's Intention to pass by or supersede them. – Ensigns Patrick Graham, Alex<sup>r</sup>. Grant & Alex<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie had been named for Lieutenancys, upon the Supposition that the two elder Ensigns might be provided for in other Corps; but as there is no prospect of this at present, if your Lordship cannot find Highland Officers willing to exchange with M<sup>r</sup>. Franklin & M<sup>r</sup>. Lyttleton they must certainly be promoted in the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. and preserve the Rank they are entitled to. His Majesty had accordingly directed that the former Notification should be stopped and that Ensigns Franklin & Lyttleton should be appointed Lieutenants in their proper places. I beg leave to add that whenever your Lordship finds two Highland Lieutenants willing to exchange from other Corps into the Royal Highlanders, I shall be very ready to facilitate the Arrangement with the consent of Lieut<sup>t</sup>. Franklin & Lyttleton..."* The issue finally resolved, Franklin's promotion was backdated to Sep. 6, 1775, and he and the rest of the regiment prepared for service in America.



Rendering of *Andrew Doria* © 2006

Picture Source: *Andrew Doria - The First Salute, Inc.* Reproduced with Permission.

On the way to America, Franklin was captured with Capt. John Smith's company on the transport *Oxford* on May 29, 1776 by Capt. Nicholas Biddle's rebel brig *Andrew Doria*. Lt. Franklin and Capt. Smith, along with three officers of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. and two of their wives, were separated from their soldiers and placed on the transport *Crawford*, which had also been taken by the brig. Under control of the rebel prize crew the *Crawford* headed for an American port, but was intercepted by *HMS Cerberus* and freed from the rebels. Unfortunately, the transport was sent off again without protection and was taken for a second time by Capt. George Pond's rebel sloop *Schuyler* off Fire Island on June 19, 1776 and the prisoners were sent to Long Island to Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Greene's headquarters. The party was then forwarded to New York and transported 100 miles up the North (or Hudson) River to Esopus, where they remained on parole for ten weeks. Franklin and the others were then moved to Morristown, New Jersey for seven weeks, before being moved to Brunswick for exchange. The exchange did not occur and the officers and wives were ordered to make a 200-mile overland journey into Pennsylvania. However, one of the officers wrote and requested rebel Gen. George Washington to instead allow the ladies to travel to New York. Washington generously allowed the entire party to go to New York, informally requesting that Gen. Sir William Howe send rebel officers held by the British in exchange. On May 12, 1780 Parliament awarded £48 8s "To Lieutenant Robert Franklin, of the 42d regiment of foot, for losses sustained by being taken by a rebel privateer" in 1776.

Franklin served with a line battalion in the New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 before being approved leave of absence in Britain due to health reasons in April 1778. Capt. Lt. John Peebles wrote in his journal on Apr. 17, 1778 that "*L<sup>ts</sup> Spens & Franklin sail<sup>d</sup> today for Corke the former to join the Additionls & recruit The latter on acco<sup>t</sup> of his health, they went in an arm'd Ship with a fleet for Corke...*" Franklin's leave was reported in Sir Henry Clinton's General Orders dated at James Island on Mar. 25, 1780 "...received from the War Office...Leaves of Absence ...Lieut Robert Franklyn of the 42 Reg<sup>t</sup> 6 months from the recovery of his health which has been certified by his Physician."



Cove Harbor, County Cork, circa 1831

Picture Source: *Ireland Illustrated*, G. N. Wright, G. Petrie, W. H. Bartlett and T. M. Baynes, H. Fisher, Son, and Jackson, London, 1831, Google Books, p. 51.

On Sept. 2, 1780 Gen. Lord John Murray addressed Franklin's lengthy leave in a strong letter to the Secretary at War accusing Franklin of malingering and again trying to remove him from the regiment. Lord Murray wrote *"It is above two years ago, Since Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Robert Franklin had leave from S<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Howe to come to Cork for the recovery of his health, he wrote to me Several times to Apply for further leave from the War Office, which I refused, knowing that he was Sick or Pretended to be so, all the time I was at Dublin, & did no duty there, as he is an intire Stranger in Scotland can be of no use in the recruiting there, and wrote to him Several times to join the Battalion, or to endeavor to Exchange with a Highland Officer, & wrote for S<sup>r</sup>. William Montgomery to the Same Effect. He has found means to get leave from the war Office, without my Applying for it, which I am Assured was out the 12<sup>th</sup>. of last month, I therefore hope it won't be renewed to him..."*

Lord Murray continued his attempts to get rid of Franklin by supporting the officer's own wish to leave in early 1781. Murray wrote the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Amherst, on Jan. 6 that *"Lieutenant Robert Franklyn of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Batt<sup>n</sup> of my Regiment, who is now in Ireland by His Majesty's Leave for the recovery of his Health, is willing to raise an Independent Company upon the Terms allowed to other Officers of the same Rank. Request Your Lordship to lay Lieutenant Franklyn's Offer before the King..."* Leonard Morse of the War Office, however, denied the request writing to Franklin *"...Lord Amherst has not recommended any Officer to the King to raise an Independent Company who belongs to a Regiment abroad /unless he is of the Additi<sup>l</sup> Companies/ or whose Duty requires he should be abroad, By which rule you are not Eligible here; But I would advise you to make Application for one of the Companies which are to be raised in Ireland. Lord John Murray has proposed you to raise a Company and has been informed by Lord Amherst of the objection to your being recommended for one of those to be raised in England."*

Despite the War Office policy, Franklin, who was still at Cork, wrote Lord Amherst on Jan. 20 explaining *"and being at a loss Expecting part of your first letter wherein you mention that I can't come under the*

*description of an Officer to raise an Independent Company in England – I would Request to know in what manner that I may have it Removed (if possible I may say I fancy that Lord John Murray will Recommend me from my Services as well as my not a Native of North Britain will be the Cause for his Lordship wishing to provide for me out of his own regiment, therefore with my Colonel's Recommendation & the Regiment being on Service & I having Served with them until partly disabled, I would hope to Reach the Commander in Chiefs feelings if Represented by you and added to all those, my being in a National Corps & I not a Native of NBritain from which Consideration I have Suffer'd most dreadfull as well as glaring Injustices = with very Sincere & gratefull wishes for your welfare I have the honor to be with great Respect..."*

Franklin and Lord Murray were unsuccessful in obtaining another posting and Franklin likely returned to New York around June 25, 1781 when he was transferred from Capt. Smith's Company to Capt. Hay Macdowal's Company. Since Macdowal had never joined the regiment in America, Franklin would have been the acting commander of the company. He likely remained in this position, as Macdowal was replaced on paper in Sept. 1781 by Capt. James Campbell, who was held hostage by the Spanish Army following the surrender of Pensacola.

As the senior subaltern in the regiment, Franklin served as the prosecutor in the general court martial of Ens. David Sutherland from Sept. 12-19, 1781. As stated in the court martial record *"Ensign David Sutherland of the Forty Second Regiment of Foot, was brought before the Court – Accus'd by the Subaltern Officers of the same Regiment, of having acted in a manner unbecoming the Character of an Officer and a Gentleman."* In the view of the subalterns, who refused to perform duty with him, Sutherland had been insulted by a civilian over a financial matter, and failed to challenge the man to a duel, thus bringing discredit the regiment. While the court found Sutherland not guilty, it also concluded *"...the Subaltern Officers of the Forty second Regiment had receiv'd, respecting Ensign Sutherland, and the steps they took in consequence of such Information, that, they, the Subaltern Officers of the Forty second Regiment, acted, in a manner, highly justifiable and proper."*

Franklin was promoted to Captain Lieutenant in the General's Company on Sept. 27, 1783 in place of Capt. Lt. Robert Potts who had been promoted on the death of Brevet-Maj. John Smith. Franklin died on Aug. 31, 1785 while still serving with the regiment at Nova Scotia.

Commissions: Ens. Dec. 16, 1771; Lt. Sep. 6, 1775; Capt. Lt. July 27, 1783; Died Aug. 31, 1785.

**References:** British Library Archives and Manuscripts, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, dated between Aug. 29 and Sept. 7, 1775, "Letters from Lord John Murray relating to patronage, regimental appointments, etc., 1760-1775" in the *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xii, 1760-1778 at MS 73557, pp. 29-32; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, London, Dec. 12, 1775 at WO 4/95, p. 201 (f. 101); TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 25, 1776 at WO 4/94, p. 441; Lady Mary MacLeod to a friend in Scotland, Dec. 18, 1776 in *Scots Magazine*, Apr. 1777, pp. 189-191; *Peebles' Journal*, Apr. 17, 1778; General Orders, James Island, Mar. 25, 1780 and at New York, July 28, 1783; TNA, Lord Amherst to Lord John Murray, Jan. 8, 1781 and Leonard Morse to Lt. Robert Franklin, Feb. 3, 1781, in the *Amherst Papers* at WO 34/236 ff. 25 and 117; TNA, Lord Murray to Secretary Jenkinson, Sept. 2, 1780, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/1008, p. likely 1877; TNA, Lord Murray to Lord Amherst, Jan. 6, 1781, *Amherst Papers* at WO 34/171, f. 112; TNA, Lt. Robert Franklin to Lord Amherst, Jan. 20, 1781, *Amherst Papers* at WO 34/171, f. 361; TNA, General Court Martial of Ens. David Sutherland, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Sept. 12- 19, 1781, *War Office, Court Martial Proceedings* at WO 71/95 ff. 129 –185; TNA, Muster of Capt. John Smith's Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for the period June 25, 1780 to Dec. 24, 1780, taken at New York on Dec. 28, 1780 at *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479; *The Parliamentary Register; or, History of the Proceedings and Debates of the House of Commons*, Vol. II., Great Britain Parliament, London 1793, p. 130; *London Gazette*, Sept. 23, 1783, p. 1.

**Fraser, Ens. Alexander.** Fraser was born in Scotland around 1762 and commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Aug. 1783, by purchase of a blank commission issued in Feb. 1782 when Ens. Edmondstone



was promoted. According to the records of a regimental review at Halifax, Nova Scotia in June 1784, Fraser had not yet reported to the regiment in America. He died while the regiment was serving in Canada at Cape Breton and St. Johns Island (now Prince Edward Island) on about June 6, 1788, which was the date his replacement was commissioned.

Commission: Ens. Aug. 8, 1783; Died June 6, 1788.

**References:** TNA, *Office of the Commander-in-Chief and War Office*: Adjutant General and Army Council, Inspection Returns, Foreign, 1783-1784 at WO 27/52, 75124; *London Gazette*, June 7-10, 1788, p. 1.



Philorth House

Picture Source: *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland from the Twelfth to the Eighteenth Century*, Vol. 2, David MacGibbon and Thomas Ross, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, Google Books, p. 507.

**Fraser**, Lt. the Hon. George. Born March 29, 1763, Fraser was the fourth son of Marine Lt. George Fraser of Philorth, Fourteenth Lord Saltoun, and his wife Helen Gordon (daughter of John Gordon of Kinellar). Philorth House was located about two miles south of Fraserburgh, a fishing town situated on the northeast Aberdeenshire coast, founded by the Alexander Fraser, 8<sup>th</sup> of Philorth.



Reproduction 44<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Fraser was initially commissioned an Ensign at age 15 in the 44<sup>th</sup> Regt. effective Jan. 27, 1779. Because this appointment was not made by General Orders in America, it is likely Fraser was appointed to the Additional Company of the 44<sup>th</sup> Regt. in England. Eight months later he was promoted to Lieutenant in the 88<sup>th</sup> Regt., which was raised by Lt. Thomas Keating, a former lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., who had served in the French and Indian War. The 88<sup>th</sup> Regt. was raised in England for duty in Jamaica.



Fraser exchanged from the 88<sup>th</sup> Regt. as part of three-way commission deal with Lt. James West and Lt. John Harris and accordingly was commissioned a Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in May 1780. A Whitehall letter to the Admiralty dated Sept. 14, 1781, indicated he was “...being ordered to join his Regiment now in North America...” and requested transportation for Fraser to New York. The muster report at Greenwich, New York, dated Feb. 13, 1782 incorrectly indicated Fraser was received from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Dec. 1781 but that he was “Not Joined.” Fraser joined the regiment sometime during the period between the muster at “Greenwich York Island” on Feb. 13, 1782 and the muster at “Camp Bloomingdale” on July 1, 1782.

Fraser only served with the regiment a little over a year before he was listed in an Oct. 22, 1783 report from Gen. Sir Guy Carleton to the War Office of officers and men returning to Britain at the end of the war. Carleton wrote “I enclose an embarkation return of the detachment of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment, and of the men discharged from the British Regiments gone to Nova Scotia, together with lists of the last mentioned men’s names, and of the Officers that have charge of them...42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment...[Lieut] Hon<sup>ble</sup> G Fraser...” The War Office awarded Fraser and two other Officers additional full-pay until the Dec. 12, 1783 because they “...were detained on Service abroad so they could not arrive in England until the 12<sup>th</sup> December...”

On Oct. 9, 1784 the War Office announced Fraser’s exchange from Half-pay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to a Lieutenancy in the 64<sup>th</sup> (or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Staffordshire) Regt. in place of Lt. James Holden Cowell, who took Fraser’s Half-pay position. A few months later, on Apr. 20, 1785 Fraser was promoted to Captain in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. at Jamaica in place of Capt. James Grandidier.

The War Office posting in the *London Gazette* for Jan. 26, 1788 shows “60<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot... Captain Frederick De Chambault, from the Half-Pay of the 60<sup>th</sup>, to be Captain of a Company, vice Hon. George Fraser...” The Army List of 1778 shows Fraser’s exchange listed on English Half-pay for “OFFICERS of the ELEVENTH COMPANIES, reduced from the 24<sup>th</sup> of December, 1787.”



Aerial photograph of Nevis Island taken from the northeast by Aaron Vos, 2005

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

The War Office again announced Fraser’s return to active service on Dec. 20, 1796 as a Captain in the 59<sup>th</sup> Regt. by exchange with Capt. John Potticary. While stationed in the Leeward Islands, Fraser retired from the 59<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Oct. 1798 and died just three months later on Jan. 8, 1799 on Nevis Island.

*The Scots Magazine* for March 1799 published the notice of Fraser's death writing "At Nevis, in January last, the Hon. George Fraser, son of the late George, Lord Salton." An announcement for claims on his estate was published in the *London Gazette* on Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 1799 saying: "ALL Persons having any Claim or Demand on the Estate of the Honorable Captain George Fraser, late of the 59th Regiment, deceased, are desired forthwith to lodge the same, properly vouched, with James Fraser, Esq; Writer to the Signet, at Edinburgh, or Alexander Fraser, of Lincoln's Inn, Administrator to the Estate, in order to an Arrangement being made as soon as possible for a Settlement of the same, in a due Course of Administration."

Commissions: Ens. Jan. 27, 1779 (44<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Oct. 16, 1779 (88<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. May 31, 1780 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half-pay Oct. 10, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half-Pay Oct. 6, 1784 (64<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Staffordshire Regt.); Capt. Apr. 20, 1785 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt.); Capt. Half-Pay Jan. 26, 1788 (60<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. Dec. 14, 1796 (59<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Retired Oct. 2, 1798 (59<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** *The Frasers of Philorth*, Vol. I, Alexander Fraser, printed for Private Circulation, Edinburgh, 1879, Google Books, pp. 114, 205-206; *Scots Magazine*, Oct. 1779, p. 575 and Mar. 1799, p. 210; General Orders, New York, Sept. 8, 1780; TNA, Muster of Capt. Charles Grant's Co., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. dated Feb. 13, 1782, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479; TNA, B. Thompson to Mr. Stephens, Whitehall, Sep. 14, 1781, *Colonial Office, Secretaries of State* at CO 5/255; TNA, Muster of Capt. Campbell's Co. 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Jan. 17, 1784, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479, f. 135; George Yonge to Alexander Anderson, Oct. 19, 1784 at WO4/127, p. 90; *A Regimental Chronicle and List of Officers of the 60<sup>th</sup> or the King's Royal Rifle Corps, Formerly The 62<sup>nd</sup> or Royal American Regiment of Foot*, Nesbit Willoughby Wallace, Harrison Pall Mall, London, 1879, Google Books, pp. 112-113; *London Gazette*, June 10, 1780 p. 3, Oct. 5-9, 1784, pp. 1-2, Apr. 19, 1785, p. 2, Jan. 26-29, 1788, pp. 1-2, Dec. 17-20, 1796, pp. 2-3, Sept. 29, 1798 p. 4 and Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 1799; TNA, Sir Guy Carleton to Richard Fitz Patrick, Oct. 22, 1783, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/13 f. 314.



Fraserfield, also known as Balgownie Mansion House, Culross

Photo courtesy of Edward McMaihin at [www.geograph.org.uk/profile/4239](http://www.geograph.org.uk/profile/4239)

*Handwritten signature: H D Fraser Lieut. 42<sup>d</sup> Regt.*

**Fraser**, Lt. Henry David. Born Apr. 27, 1762, Fraser was the son of William Fraser of Fraserfield (also known as Balgownie) in Aberdeenshire and his wife, Rachel Kennedy (daughter of the Rev. Hugh Kennedy of Rotterdam). Ens. Fraser was initially commissioned in the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. on Mar. 1, 1778 (effective Sept. 1776) in place of Ens. Lord Viscount Deerhurst and was listed in the Army List of 1778 in the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. as "David Fraser."

Ens. Fraser was promoted into the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Jan. 2, 1779 in place of Lt. James Graham who transferred into the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. Fraser served with a line battalion in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780, and the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781.

The muster of the Lt. Colonel's Company at Paulus Hook on Oct. 6, 1783 listed Fraser as "*Seconded 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>. 83 gone to Europe The Com<sup>r</sup> in Cheifs leave.*" A "Seconded" officer was extra officer beyond the allowed establishment. Lt. Fraser remained absent from the regiment in Canada for several years of approved leave. A War Office letter to Maj. Gen. John Campbell, commanding at Halifax, Nova Scotia, dated Nov. 3, 1784 provided a listing of officers with approved leaves of absence including "*Lieut. H. D. Frazer...}42<sup>d</sup>. Regt 1<sup>st</sup>. Batt<sup>n</sup>. {6 Months from 10<sup>th</sup>. Sept. 84 for his Health.*" A 1785 listing of leaves included "*Lieut<sup>ts</sup> ... Fraser} of 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. {6 Months each from Expiration of their former Leaves.*" This leave was again extended by a War Office letter to Halifax dated Jan. 4, 1786 approving "*L<sup>ts</sup> ... H D Fraser} of 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> B<sup>n</sup>: 6 Months from 3<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>: 1785 P[rivate]. A[ffairs].*"

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. returned from duty in Canada to England in 1789 and Fraser remained with the regiment until Jan. 1791 when he was promoted to Captain of an Independent Company.

The 1791 Independent Companies were part of a scheme by the Secretary at War to rapidly raise men in 100 Independent Companies and then to draft the men into the existing regiments and place the officers immediately on Half -pay. Over 5000 men were quickly raised through the process. Gen. John Burgoyne railed against the process in Parliament saying "*The time given to the Captains for the levy was three months; and upon condition of their respective companies being completed, and approved, within that space, they became entitled to twenty months off-reckonings for cloathing, &c. The heavy contingent expences of the levy accrued at the outset, viz. hiring drummers, fifers, and several other necessary persons of the recruiting trade, and conveying them to their several stations; making up jackets, and other articles of what is called slop-cloathing, &c. all this the Captains undertook, upon the faith of being indemnified by the receipt of the off-reckonings. The recruiting was stopt in one month; and from all present appearances, the loss of preparation in all the companies, not sufficiently advanced in numbers to come within the new regulations for being accepted, will fall upon the Captains...It was a race between crimps, salesmen of flesh, drivers of human cattle, speculators, and jobbers; a disgrace to the army, and a reproach to the state.*"



Reproduction 47<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Fraser soon exchanged his Independent Company with Capt. William Corfield of the 47<sup>th</sup> (or the Lancashire) Regt. as announced by the War Office on Feb. 12, 1791. At the time of the exchange, the 47<sup>th</sup> Regt. was stationed in the Bahama Islands.

Fraser was promoted to Major "*in the army*" Jan. 9, 1798. The next year, on May 21, 1799, while his regiment was still at Bermuda, the War Office announced "*Brevet-Major H. D. Fraser, of the 47th Foot, to be Deputy Adjutant-General to the British Forces serving, in Portugal, with the Rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.*"

Fraser married Christina Mary Forbes (daughter of Gen. John Forbes of Skellater, Field Marshall of the Portuguese Army) on Oct. 6, 1800. Their eldest son, William John Fraser, became a Colonel in the Russian service, the second son, John Henry David Fraser, was appointed by Queen Victoria to be Secretary to Her Majesty's Legation to Florence in 1838. The eldest daughter, Christina Mary Forbes d'Almedia married the Austrian Count de Bombelles and the second and third daughters married in Portugal.

Fraser's father-in-law, Field Marshall Forbes, was likely associated with a partially legible undated note next to Brevet-Lt. Col. Fraser's crossed out name on the War Office copy of the 1803 Annual Army List for the 47<sup>th</sup> Regt. The note indicates he was loaned at this period to the British Foreign Office and is probably when he was appointed a Brigadier General for Portuguese service. Portugal later appointed him Governor of "*Rio de Janeiro*," a position he still held at the time of his death in 1810.

While still seconded to the Portuguese Army, Brevet-Lt. Col. Fraser was promoted to Major of the 47<sup>th</sup> or Lancashire Regt. on July 9, 1803 and retired about nine months later on Apr. 7, 1804.



St. Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen, by Martyn Gorman

Picture Source: Wikipedia.

Brig. Gen. Fraser died in 1810. His epitaph in the Aberdeen Cathedral reads, "*Near this spot are deposited, the remains of Brigadier-General Henry David Fraser, of the Portuguese Service, fourth son of the second William Fraser, Esq, of Fraserfield. He died the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1810, in the 48<sup>th</sup> year of his age. In dutiful remembrance of a much beloved husband, this memorial of his worth is thus inscribed by his affectionate widow, Christina Mary Forbes, 1811.*"

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 1, 1778 – effective Sept. 20, 1776 (64<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Jan. 2, 1779 – effective Nov. 23, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.). Capt. Jan. 24, 1791 (*Independent Company*); Capt. Feb. 9, 1791 (47<sup>th</sup> or the Lancashire Regt.); Maj. "*in the army*" Jan. 1, 1798; Dept. Adj. Gen., British Forces, Portugal and Lt. Col. "*in the army*" May 17, 1799; Brig. Gen. Approx. 1803 (Portuguese Army); Maj. July 9, 1803 (47<sup>th</sup> or Lancashire Regt.); Retires Apr. 7, 1804 (47<sup>th</sup> or Lancashire Regt.).



**References:** General Orders, Philadelphia, Mar. 1, 1778 and at New York, Jan. 2, 1779; Stirnet Family Database at stirnet.com; Muster for 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. dated April 1778; *London Gazette* for Mar. 16-20, 1779 p. 1, Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 1791, pp. 1-3, Feb. 8, 1791, p. 1, Jan. 6, 1798, pp. 2-4, May 18, 1799, pp. 2-3, July 9-12, 1803, pp. 5-6, Apr. 17-21, 1804, pp. 6-7 and Oct. 5, 1838, p. 1; TNA, *Sec. at War Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp.48, 94-95 (f. 48); *The Parliamentary Register or History of the Proceedings and Debated of the House of Commons... During the First Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of Great Britain*, Vol. XXIX, Printed for J. Debrett, London, 1791, Google Books, pp. 20-25; *Scots Magazine*, Feb. 1791, pp. 103-104; *Ian Roy of Skellater, A Scottish Soldier of Fortune*, James Neil, M.D., D. Wyllie and Son, Aberdeen, 1952, pp. 123-125; *Records of Old Aberdeen, MCCCCXCVIII – MCMIII*, Vol. II, Ed. Alexander Macdonald Munro, F. S. A. Scot., *The New Spalding Club*, Aberdeen, 1090, p. 223; *Descendants of Henry David Fraser, s/o Fraserfield*, by Marie Fraser, Clan Fraser Society of Canada.



**Fraser**, Lt. and Adj. Hugh. Born in Scotland about 1736, Hugh Fraser was enlisted as a Private soldier in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1754. He likely served with the regiment in the French and Indian War in America and was promoted through the ranks to Sergeant Major. On Feb. 7, 1776, Lord John Murray recommended Sgt. Maj. Fraser for an Ensigncy that he hoped would be available on the promotion of Ens. Alexander Mackenzie. This promotion did not go through, but Sgt. Maj. Fraser was appointed Adjutant in Mar. 1776 in place of Capt. Lt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh who resigned his additional position as Adjutant.

Fraser married Elizabeth Clark (born 1729) on Feb. 26, 1763 and had a daughter Sally and two sons, William and Simon, who served as officers in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders. A writer who knew the Frasers as a very young man described Lt. and Mrs. Fraser and Sally, writing later that: *"The other members of the gallant veteran's family consisted of his wife, a most amiable matron, and an only daughter, the sweet and bonnie Sally. The motherly kindness of Mrs. Fraser to my companion Benjy Bartlet and myself, when we visited her and bonnie Sally, in the [Edinburgh] castle, I still remember with much gratitude. Their apartments were in the Great Square [in 1791], where, in the olden time, the palace was situate, in one of the apartments of which the unfortunate Queen Mary was born. Mrs. Fraser, while administering with true Highland hospitality to our creature comforts, ... [Lt.] Fraser was in manners and appearance the perfect Highland gentleman, and gallant soldier;..."*

Fraser traveled to America on the transport *Henry and Joseph* along with Quartermaster Colin Smith and a number of men from the different companies of the regiment. After sailing on Apr. 29, 1776 as part of a fleet with the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. under the protection of *HMS Flora*, the ships of the fleet were scattered by a severe storm on May 4<sup>th</sup>. After the storm the *Henry & Joseph* transport was able to link up with four transports carrying troops of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. on the transport *George* assumed command of the five transports and issued general orders for the conduct of the troops on the transports on May 18, 1776. Under those orders each transport was given a flag symbol, that of the *Henry & Joseph* being "...A white Pendant at the top Gall' Mast Head ..." Further Lt. Col. Campbell ordered that *"...In case of an attack, the troops on board the several Transports are to be quartered properly to the small arms, they are to appear in their Regimental coats and vests keep up their fire till they are close alongside the Rebel Vessel at which period they are to throw in their shot and instantly board with sword in hand which I am persuaded will be executed with that spirit and intrepidity that has ever distinguished a chosen corps of Highlanders in the heat of action."*

Upon arrival at Staten Island, New York Fraser served as Adjutant to the first of two provisional battalions made by splitting the large Highland regiment. He served for a portion of the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 but is listed as *"Lord Cornwallis's Leave"* in a muster dated April 30, 1777. Fraser was commissioned Ensign in Dec. 1777 in place of Ens. Alexander Stewart who was

promoted. He continued to serve as Adjutant for the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion for the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 and was promoted to Lieutenant Nov. 3 1778 in place of Lt. David Crawford who was promoted. Fraser remained with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion as Adjutant for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780, and the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781. Fraser's son, William, served in the regiment as a Volunteer until commissioned Ensign in 1780.

Although his company was disbanded during the reduction of the regiment at the end of the war, Fraser and the other company officers were retained, and he was appointed to Capt. Grant's company "*En Second*." He remained with the regiment when it moved to Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783 and was listed as the Adjutant at the Regimental Review at Halifax, Nova Scotia in June 1784.

The War Office annotated copy of the 1790 Army List contains a note tied to the Nov. 24, 1790 commission of another of Adj. Fraser's sons, Simon Fraser, as Ensign in lieu of Donald M<sup>c</sup>Niven. The annotation reads "*Simon Fraser, Gent. to be Ensign on condition that his Father L<sup>t</sup> Fraser shall resign the Adjutancy of the Reg<sup>t</sup> in vice Donald McNiven.*" Despite this condition on his son's commission, Fraser remained in the position of Adjutant until replaced by Lt. John Farquharson on Apr. 6, 1791.

Lt. Hugh Fraser remained with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for two more years before retiring, in favor of his son's advancement. The War Office announcement on July 23, 1793 read "*42d Regiment of Foot, Ensign Simon Fraser to be Lieutenant, by Purchase, vice Fraser, who retires...*"



Fort Charlotte, Lerwick, Shetland, Scotland - South Gate

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, by Otter.

Fraser did not remain retired long for on Sept. 28, 1793 the War Office announced Fraser's commission as Lieutenant and as Adjutant of the "*Orkney and Shetland Battalion of Fencible Men,*" a three-company battalion under the command of Major-Commandant Thomas Balfour. Fraser's commission was dated Apr. 20, 1793. The Orkney Islands are located about 50 miles and the Shetland Islands about 175 miles northeast of the northern tip of mainland Scotland. In Nov. 1794, Balfour, now a Colonel, raised the North Lowland Regiment of Fencible Infantry and Hugh Fraser was appointed as the senior captain and served as Adjutant. This regiment served in Ireland during the 1798 rebellion and was listed in Dungannon in Feb. 1799 and Armagh in Sept. 1799.



Fraser was still serving in the Fencibles when he died at Perth on Feb. 8, 1802. The regiment's late surgeon recorded in his wife's 1802 pension application recorded that *"We do Certify upon honor, that in Our Opinion the late Captain Fraser's general health was impaired, and the immediate cause of his death induced, by the fatigues which he underwent, and the exposures to which he was subjected, in his Military Services in Ireland. –Samuel Hunter late Surgeon. Lowland Fencibles..."*

*The Gentleman's Magazine* for March 1802 recorded his death writing "At Perth, Hugh Fraser, esq. captain and adjutant of the North Lowland fencibles. He was 16 years lieutenant and adjutant of the 42d (or Royal Highland) regiment, and served with that corps during its many and severe campaigns in America." Capt. John Rutherford wrote of Fraser's death in a Feb. 23, 1802 letter to John Peebles saying "... This days paper intimates the death of our old Adjutant..." Fraser's wife, Elizabeth Clark, died at Bervie nine years later on Jan. 8, 1811 at age 86. Fraser also had a daughter Catherine Fraser listed in his Will, which was signed at "Down Patrick in the Kingdom of Ireland this Eight day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one..."

Commissions/Appointments: Private 1754; Corporal, Sergeant, and Sgt. Major before 1776; Adj. March 20, 1776; Ens. Dec. 17, 1777; Lt. Nov. 5, 1778 – effective Oct. 19, 1778; Resigned as Adj. Apr. 6, 1791; Retired July 9, 1793; Lt. and Adj. Apr. 20, 1793 (Orkney and Shetland Battalion of Fencible Infantry); Capt. and Adj. Nov. 15, 1794 (North Lowland Regt. of Fencible Infantry); Died Feb. 8, 1802 (North Lowland Regt. of Fencible Infantry).

**References:** TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Barrington, Feb. 7, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; *Stewart's Sketches* p. 367; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Apr. 9 and Sept. 6-10, 1776; *Scots Magazine*, Apr. 1776, p. 222 and Feb. 1811, p. 158; *A History of the Scottish Highlands, Highland Clans and Highland Regiments*, Vol. II, Ed. John Scott Keltie, A. Fullarton & Co. Edinburgh, 1875, p. 438; NRS, "Orders from Lieu<sup>t</sup> Col. Arch<sup>d</sup> Campbell of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> of His Majesty's 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot on board the George Transport at Sea the 18<sup>th</sup> May 1776" at RH2/8/80 (original in Concord Free Public Library, Mass.) transcribed by P. D. Albertson, Sept. 2009; General Orders, Dec. 17, 1777 in *Royal Gazette* (New York), Jan. 17, 1778; General Orders, New York, Nov. 5, 1778; Maj. Charles Graham to Sir Henry Clinton, Aug. 30, 1780, *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 119:47, W. L. Clements Lib., Univ. of Michigan; *London Gazette* for Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2, Mar. 6-9, 1779, pp. 1-2, Apr. 5, 1791, pp. 2-3, July 20-23, 1793, p. 1; Sept. 24, 1793, pp. 2-3, Feb. 25-28, 1797, pp. 4, 6 and Oct. 24-27, 1795, pp. 5-6; *Reminiscences of a Scottish Gentleman, Commencing in 1787*, Phillip Barrington Ainslie writing as Philo Scotus, Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co., London, 1861, pp. 14-16; *List of the Officers of the Several Regiments and Corps of Fencible Cavalry and Infantry*, War Office, 1797, p. 67; Officer listing for the Lowland (North) Regiment of Fencible Infantry in *Monthly Army List, Corrected to the First of September, 1799*, p. 42; *Stewart's Sketches*, Vol. I, (1825) p. 471; Will of Hugh Fraser, *Edinburgh Commissary Court* at CC8/8/133; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany*, Feb. 1802, p. 160; *Gentleman's Magazine*, Mar. 1802, p. 275; NRS, John Rutherford to John Peebles, "Mossburnford Feb<sup>y</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> 1802," *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thornton* at GD21/417 item 12; TNA, *War Office, Widows' Pensions and Bounty Application Papers* at WO 25/3095/4/82.



**Fraser, Lt. William.** Volunteer Fraser was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in General Orders at Charleston, South Carolina dated Apr. 18, 1780 (effective Aug. 25, 1779) in the place of the promoted Ens. William Frazer and likely served as an Ensign for the Siege of Charleston. He was sometimes listed as Ens. William Fraser, Senior, to differentiate him from the officer listed below. He served with a line battalion for the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia in 1781 and was promoted Lieutenant in July 1783 in place of Lt. Robert Franklin. Fraser did not serve long at his new rank due to the reduction of the regiment at end of the American war. The Muster of Capt. Campbell's Company conducted at Halifax, Nova Scotia on Jan. 17, 1784 lists him as "to Britain upon half pay 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>s</sup> d<sup>o</sup> [1783]."

In 1784 “*William Fraser, Lieut. late in the 42nd Regiment*” was awarded a 500 acre land grant in “...*the county of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia*” near the eastern side of Swan Creek. Because there were two Lt. William Fraser/Frazers who went on Half-Pay at this time, it cannot be determined which Fraser/Frazer was awarded this grant, however, the other officer spelled his name “*Frazer*” giving weight to the subject officer as the recipient of the grant.

Fraser remained on the half-pay list of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. until 1787. The annotated War Office copy of the Annual Army list for that year shows Lt. Fraser’s name crossed out and marked “83d.” which reflects his returned to active service fourteen years after the American war. The War Office announced Fraser’s new assignment on Feb. 28, 1797 stating “83d ... [Regiment of Foot], *Lieutenant William Fraser, from the Half-Pay of the 42d Foot, to be Lieutenant.*” Fraser, whose date of rank in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, did actually not serve in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. as he was promoted about three day later on Feb. 26 to Captain in “*Brigadier-General [John] Whitelock’s Regiment,*” which became the 6<sup>th</sup> West India Regt.



Reproduction 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. Uniform Button of the American War for Independence era

Fraser served with the 6<sup>th</sup> West India Regt. in Jamaica until he exchanged with Capt. Thomas Lidderdale of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. on July 15, 1799. Capt. Fraser served with the 4<sup>th</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. at Jamaica until the battalion moved to Antigua in 1809. Ten days later another William Fraser was promoted to Captain in the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. and one of these two Capt. Frasers was appointed in 1804 to be “...*Major of Brigade to the Forces serving in the Island of Jamaica.*” An 1820 account of the service of the second Capt. Fraser makes no mention of the Major of Brigade posting and the former officer from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. had two years seniority in Army rank. Accordingly it was likely that the Capt. Fraser who had formerly served in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was likely the officer temporarily appointed as Maj. of Brigade.

Capt. Fraser was promoted to Major “*in the army*” Oct. 25, 1809 and retired from the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. on July 12, 1810.

Commissions (Some Company assignments shown to differentiate three officers with similar names):  
 Ens. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Aug. 25, 1779 (General’s Co.); Ens. July 16, 1780 (Capt. Grant’s Co.);  
 Ens. Dec. 29, 1780 (Capt. Anstruther’s Co./Capt. Dickson’s Co. in Feb. 1782); Lt. July 27, 1783 (Capt. Campbell’s Co.); Lt. Half-pay Aug. 24, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half-Pay Feb. 23, 1797 (83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.);  
 Capt. Feb. 26, 1797 (*Brigadier-General Whitelock’s Regiment* – later the 6<sup>th</sup> West Indies Regt.); Capt.  
 July 15, 1799 (4<sup>th</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt.); Major of Brigade Jamaica 1804; Major “*in the army*” Oct. 25, 1809; Retired July 12, 1810 (4<sup>th</sup> Bn., 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt.).

**References:** General Orders, Williams’s House, South Carolina on Apr. 18, 1780 and New York, July 28, 1783; TNA, Muster of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Jan. 17, 1784, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479, f. 135; *Stewart’s Sketches* p. 400; *Edinburgh Advertiser* Sept. \_\_, 1783; TNA, “*General Return of the Names, Country, Age and Service of the Officers Present and Absent of His Majestys 42<sup>nd</sup> / or Royal Highland Regt of Foot Commanded by General Lord John Murray with the dates of their several Commissions.* Reviewed by Major General John Campbell Halifax 9<sup>th</sup> June 1784” *Inspection Returns, Foreign*, at WO 27/52; *Historical Notes: Parrsboro and Vicinity*, D. J. Taylor for *Halifax Herald* and *Parrsboro Leader*, 1900.



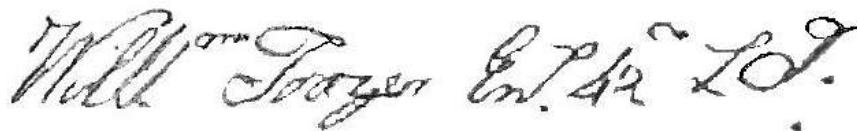
**Fraser, Ens. William.** Likely born in America or Ireland in 1767 and raised in the regiment, William Fraser was the son of then Sergeant (later Lt. and Adj.) Hugh Fraser and his wife Elizabeth. While serving as a Volunteer, 13-year old Fraser was commissioned an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1780 in place of Ens. Alexander Home who retired. He was sometimes listed as Ens. William Fraser, Junior, to differentiate him from the officer listed immediately above with the same name and rank. Fraser was shown listed as absent due to being “sick” for three successive 6-month musters dated at New York on Dec. 28, 1780, at Camp near Greenwich on July 5, 1781 and at Greenwich York Island on Feb. 13, 1782.

After the war, Fraser was promoted to Lieutenant in Feb. 1786 in place of Lt. George Campbell and he is likely the Lt. William Fraser of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. who married Miss Eliza Robertson of Kelso on July 27, 1791. Fraser’s brother, Simon Fraser, joined the regiment as an Ensign in 1790 and lost a hand as a Lieutenant in the Battle of Aboukir, Egypt in 1801.

The War Office announced Fraser’s retirement on Nov. 24, 1792 as “*42d Regiment of Foot, Ensign James Stuart to be Lieutenant, by Purchase, vice William Fraser, who retires.*” Fraser likely died prior to 1807, the date of a legal action where his widow was listed as “*Elizabeth Fraser or Robertson, widow of the deceased Captain William Fraser of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment.*” The rank of Captain in this notice was likely associated with later service in one of the many Fencible or Militia regiments of the period.

Commissions (Company assignments are shown due to three officers with similiar names): Ens. Sept. 13, 1780 (Capt. Macdowal’s Co.); Ens. July 25, 1781 (Capt. Grant’s Co.); Lt. Feb. 13, 1786; Retires Nov. 21, 1792.

References: TNA, Maj. Charles Graham to Sir Henry Clinton, Aug. 30, 1780, *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 119:47, W. L. Clements Lib., Univ. of Michigan; General Orders, New York, Sept. 13, 1780; *London Gazette*, July 15, 1780, p. 5, Jan. 9, 1781 p. 2, Sept. 23, 1783, p. 1, Feb. 14, 1786, p. 2, March 14-18, 1786, p. 2 and Nov. 20-24, 1792, pp. 1-2; *Scots Magazine*, Sept. 1791, p. 466; NRS, *Court of Session, Unextracted processes* at CS228/B/14/28.



**Frazer, Lt. William.** This officer is listed in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Succession Book as “*Vol. William Fraser*” and in the Army List as “*William Fraser.*” Vol. Frazer was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Aug. 15, 1778 (effective Aug. 3) in place of Ens. Allan McLean who had been promoted. Although Ensigns normally did not serve in the flank companies Frazer was listed as doing duty with the Light Infantry Company in a Muster dated Dec. 28, 1778. Many Volunteers served in the Light Infantry Companies, and Frazer may have remained there after commissioning.

About a year after he was commissioned, General Orders for Sept. 7, 1779 announced “*Lieut [Thomas] Barrett of the 23<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> and Ensign Frazer of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> are appointed to act as Assistant Engineers untill further Orders.*” This assignment likely accounts for his being listed as on “duty” during the musters dated near East Chester on July 17, 1780 and at Long Island on Jan. 31, 1781.

While the Army was engaged at the Siege of Charleston South Carolina, General Orders for Apr. 18, 1780 announced “*The Commander in Chief is pleased to make the follow<sup>s</sup> Promotions...42<sup>d</sup> Regiment...*”

*Ens<sup>n</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Frazer to be Lieut vice Lud [Normand M<sup>c</sup>Leod] promoted 25 d<sup>o</sup> [Aug 79.]... W<sup>m</sup> Frazier Volun<sup>r</sup> to be Ens<sup>n</sup> vice W<sup>m</sup> Frazer D<sup>o</sup> 25 d<sup>o</sup>.*” Frazer is listed as being in both the General’s and Major’s companies in the muster reports from July 15, 1780. Both correctly show him being formally assigned to the Light Infantry Company, with the Major’s Company report indicating the date of transfer was April 30, 1780.

About two weeks after Frazer’s promotion, Ens. John Young wrote a Memorial on Apr. 30, to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton complaining of Frazer’s promotion and requesting promotion in another regiment. Young wrote “*That your Excellency having been pleased to promote Ensign William Frazer of the same Regiment to a Lieutenancy, and your Memorialist having always conceived himself an older Ensign than Mr. Frazer begs your Excellency’s Indulgence while he lays before you the Pretensions whereon he founds his Claim to Seniority... his Promotion [to Ens.], it is true, bore the same Date with Ensign Frazer’s, but from the Circumstance of his longer Service [in the Provincials], your memorialist’s Name has always been precedent to Ensign Frazer’s in the Regimental Returns, in the Roster of the Regiment, and in the List of the Army:*” Young’s request for relief was not, however, acted upon.

Because of his Engineer assignment Frazer did not serve with the Light Infantry for the Virginia campaign and the surrender at Yorktown. His absence is consistent with the listing of the Light Infantry Officers returning from Yorktown on the transport *Lord Mulgrave*, which lists Capt. George Dalrymple and Lt. James Stewart, but not Lt. Frazer. Further, the muster of the Light Infantry Company performed at Paulus Hook, on July 28, 1783, after returning from prison camp, shows Capt. Dalrymple and Lt. Stewart on leave in Europe, where most of the paroled officers went after Yorktown, while Lt. Frazer is listed as “*transf<sup>d</sup> to Col<sup>s</sup> Comp<sup>y</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> May 1783.*”

The day after he was assigned to Gen. Lord Murray’s Company, Frazer was again reassigned to the Grenadier Company under Capt. David Anstruther. The muster of the Grenadier Co. on Oct. 6, 1783 at Paulus Hook lists Frazer as “*Reduced upon half pay 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1783 & Abs<sup>t</sup> by the Comm<sup>r</sup> in Chiefs leave in Europe.*”

In 1784 a “*William Fraser, Lieut. late in the 42nd Regiment*” was awarded a 500 acre land grant in “*...the county of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia*” near the eastern side of Swan Creek. Because there were two Lt. William Fraser/Frazers who left the regiment at this time, it cannot be determined which Fraser/Frazer was awarded this grant. However, based on the spelling of the last name of the recipient, it is more likely the grant did not go to the subject officer.

Frazer was still listed on Half-Pay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the Army List of 1787 but was replaced by a Lt. George Fraser on the 1788 list. This type of replacement normally reflects an exchange of officers, but the Army List for that year shows only one “*William Fraser*” in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. that cannot be the subject officer.

Commissions (Some Company are assignments shown to differentiate three officers with similar names): Ens. Aug. 15 – effective Aug. 3, 1778 (General’s Co. but doing duty with Light Infantry Co.); Asst. Engineer Sept. 7, 1779; Lt. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Aug. 25, 1779 (General’s or Major’s Co. on duty with Lt. Infantry Co.); Lt. Apr. 30, 1780 (Lt. Inf. Co.); Lt. May 17, 1783 (Colonel’s Co.); Lt. May 18, 1783 (Grenadier Co.); Lt. Half-pay Aug. 24, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** General Orders, New York, Aug. 15, 1778 and Sept. 7, 1779 and at Williams House, South Carolina, Apr. 18, 1780, *Brooklyn Historical Society*, Manuscript Collection Book 42, folio # 27; *Royal Gazette*, Aug. 19, 1778; John Young to Sir Henry Clinton, Apr. 30, 1780 in the *Sir Clinton Papers* 95:44 as posted on *The Loyalist Institute Website*; TNA, Muster of Capt. Dalrymple’s Company dated at “*Camp near East Chester 17<sup>th</sup> July 1780*” and Muster of Maj. Graham’s Company dated at “*Valentines hill 15 July 80*”, War Office, *General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479; London

*Gazette*, July 15, 1780 p. 5, Feb. 25, 1797, pp. 2, 4, May 2-6, 1797, pp. 3-4, Sept. 7-10, 1799, pp. 1-2 and June 12-16, 1804, p. 1-2; "Officers and Servants to go on Board the Lord Mulgrave Transport, Oct. 1781" No. 31591, U.S. National Archives, *Revolutionary War, Miscellaneous Numbered Records*; TNA, Muster of Capt. Anstruther's Co., Paulus Hook, Oct. 6, War Office, *General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479, f. 124; *Historical Notes: Parrsboro and Vicinity*, D. J. Taylor for Halifax Herald and Parrsboro Leader, 1900.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harry Gilchrist". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some flourishes at the end.

**Gilchrist**, Lt. Harry. Gilchrist was commissioned an Ensign in Oct. 1759 on the raising of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Morris' Highlanders) under Lt. Col. Commandant Staats Long Morris. Gilchrist was in the second division of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. and sailed to India under Maj. Hector Munro, departing about May 1760 and landing in western India (Bombay Presidency) in Jan 1761. Gilchrist was probably promoted to Lieutenant in India on Apr. 26, 1764 when Lt. William Baillie resigned to join the East India Company's Service, but his date of rank was likely adjusted to Jan. 23, 1763 when the remains of the regiment got back to Britain with full information of deaths and resignations. It is likely that Gilchrist was in the small detachment of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. under Maj. Munro which was sent from Bombay to Bengal and took part in Munro's famous victory at Buxar on Oct. 22, 1764. Lt. Gilchrist returned to Britain with Munro, embarking at Bengal in Mar 1765.

*The Gentlemen and London Magazine* for Jan. 1766 recorded the return of the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. noting "Wed. Jan. 1. The Bute Indiaman, Capt. Maitland, from Bengal, put into Crookhaven [Ireland], having on board Major Monro, with a detachment of the 89th Regiment of Foot, who have been long in that service." Lt. Gilchrist went out on Half-pay on his return to Britain.

On March 8, 1776, just six weeks before the regiment sailed for America, Secretary at War Viscount Barrington wrote to Lord John Murray at Glasgow that he "has the honor to inform his Lordship that Lieut. Harry Gilchrist from the Half Pay of the late 89<sup>th</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup> is appointed Lieut. in the Royal Highland Regim<sup>t</sup> of Foot, in the room of Lieut. John Grant who is to be placed on L<sup>t</sup>. Gilchrist's Half Pay." Lord Murray responded on the 14<sup>th</sup> of that month that he "...was yesterday honor'd with your Lordships Commands of the 8<sup>th</sup>. Ins<sup>t</sup>; Lieut. Harry Gilchrist from half pay of the 89 is given out in Regimental orders, But I don't know where to write to him to join the Regiment."

After joining the regiment, Lt. Gilchrist sailed with the Highland fleet for America in Apr. 1776. He was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company in Regimental Orders dated Aug. 8, 1776 and served as a grenadier officer in the New York campaign of 1776 and the Rhode Island campaign in 1776-1777. Lt. John Peebles attempted to get him removed from the Grenadier Company in March 1777 and was apparently successful after April 30, as the Muster for Capt. Erskine's Company covering the period Dec. 25 1776 through June 24, 1777 shows Gilchrist assigned to that company. Coincidentally on Oct. 5, 1777, the day Lt. Peebles was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant and left the Grenadiers, Lt. Gilchrist was reassigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company and served in the Philadelphia campaign under Capt. Charles Graham.



Tennent Parsonage, circa 1850. Center of British Grenadier Action at Battle of Monmouth.

Picture Source: *Harper's Magazine*, June 1878, p. 40.

While serving in the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Grenadier Battalion Gilchrist was badly wounded and captured in the heavy fighting at the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse, New Jersey on June 28, 1778. He died of his wounds in the custody of the rebel army on Aug. 26, 1778. Gilchrist was married at the time of his death and the regimental agents sent a letter to Gen. Lord Murray saying “*P.S. Your Lordship has inclosed a Certificate to M<sup>rs</sup> Gilchrist widow of the Late Lieu<sup>t</sup> Harry Gilchrist in Your Lordships Regiment for you to Sign which we shall also on its being return’d to entitle her to receive the Pension.*” On Jan. 15, 1781 Parliament granted £85 3s 4d “*To Mrs. Margaret Gilchrist, in consideration of her husband being killed in North America, the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1778.*” His wife was living at Peterhead, North of Aberdeen, when she remarried on May 24, 1796.

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 20, 1759 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Morris’ Highlanders); Lt. Jan. 23, 1763 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half Pay 1766 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half-pay March 6, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 8, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company); Lt. Approx. Apr. 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Oct. 5, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company); Died of wounds Aug. 26, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company).

**References:** *London Gazette*, Apr. 8-12, 1760, p. 1; *Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland during 1759-1814*, John Malcolm Bulloch, Printed for the University, Aberdeen, 1914, pp. 1-9; “India service in the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt” from an E-mail message from David Harding to Paul Pace, Aug. 7, 2010; *Gentleman’s and London Magazine for January 1766*, Dublin, p. 63; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Mar. 8, 1776, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/96, p. 260; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Orders in *Peebles’ Journal*, Aug. 8, 1776; *Peebles Journal* Entries Mar. 28, 1777, Mar. 11 and 18, 1777; TNA, Musters of Capt. Graham’s Company, Brunswick, New Jersey on Apr. 30, 1777 and Capt. Erskine’s Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Philadelphia, Mar. 28, 1778, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5478 and 5479; General Orders, New York, Nov. 1, 1778; Alexander Anderson to Lord John Murray, May 27, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; *The Parliamentary Register or History of the Proceedings and Debates of the House of Commons*, Vol. II., Great Britain Parliament, London 1793, p. 133, Google Books; *A History of the Highlands and of the Highland Clans*, Vol. IV, James Browne, A. Fullerton Co., Glasgow, 1843, Google Books, pp. 281-282; Lanarkshire, Aberdeenshire, Banff, Ayr, & Stirling: - *Register of Testaments*, 1564-1800.





Drynie House, Black Isles

Picture Source: *Old Drynie House*, Kilmuir, with permission.

**Graham**, Lt. Col. Charles. Graham was born around Dec. 1749 and accordingly was only about 10 years of age when commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1760, in place of William Angus. Charles was the oldest son of Lt. Col. Gordon Graham (second son of Colin Graham, 5<sup>th</sup> of Drynie) and his wife, the former Miss MacKenzie. Gordon Graham was one of the original officers commissioned at the formation of the Highland Regt. (then numbered the 43<sup>rd</sup>) in 1739. Drynie was an estate in the Black Isle (a peninsula between the Beauly and the Moray Firths and the Firth of Cromarty). Drynie is often mistaken in earlier histories for Drainie, about 50 miles away on the opposite side of the Moray Firth. Charles Graham was also the brother of Lt. William Graham and the brother-in-law of Capt. Alexander Donaldson who married his sister Anne.

Likely because of his youth, Ens. Graham is not shown performing regimental duty in the Order Book of Capt. James Stewart (Urrard), 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for the period from his commissioning in Sept. 1760 to the end of the order book on Sept. 17, 1761. Twelve-year old Graham was promoted to Lieutenant in Sept. 1762 in place of Lt. James Douglas, who died. Graham (age 14) was appointed Quarter Master in Feb. 1764 and resigned that position in Sept. 1766. He obtained a Company in Ireland in Sept. 1771 in place of Capt. John Stewart, who retired.

In April 1776, Capt. Graham's company traveled to America on the transport *Peggy No. 1*. When the regiment arrived in America it was split into two provisional battalions in Aug. 1776. Brevet-Maj. William Grant, the company commander of the Grenadier Company, assumed command of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. To facilitate this realignment, Grant and Capt. Graham exchanged companies and Graham assumed command of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company. Graham's grenadiers joined the 4<sup>th</sup> British Grenadier Battalion on Aug. 9, 1776 for the beginning of the New York campaign of 1776. The 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion was disbanded, however, on Oct. 8, 1776, due to the sickness of the other two grenadier companies from the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadiers then joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> British Grenadier Battalion.

In late Nov. 1776 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grenadiers along with a number of British and Hessian brigades sailed for Newport, Rhode Island under the command of Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton to seize and hold the important harbor there. After taking Rhode Island and wintering there, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grenadiers were brought back to New

Jersey to reinforce Lord Cornwallis and were again consolidated. Graham's Company was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Grenadier Battalion on Mar. 23, 1777.

Graham had to be excused as a member of a Court Martial at Brunswick, New Jersey on June 13, 1777 with the record reflecting "*Capt: Graham of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. having been taken ill Capt: Nixon of the 49<sup>th</sup> Regt. was Sworn as a Member in his room.*" Capt. Graham was still sick when the Grenadiers sailed for the Philadelphia campaign in July 1777 being listed as "*Cap<sup>t</sup> Graham ... is left Sick at New York.*" Capt. Graham rejoined the Grenadiers on Oct. 18, 1777, after missing the Battles of Brandywine and Germantown in Pennsylvania. After spending the winter in Philadelphia, Graham and his company took part in the fierce fighting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Grenadier Battalion at the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778.



Detail from Portrait of Marquis de Lafayette, 1791 by Joseph-Desire Court

Picture Source and Note: Wikimedia Commons. Although the portrait represents Lafayette in 1791, it was painted in 1834.

Col. David Stewart (Garth) related an event at Monmouth involving Capt. Graham and the rebel Maj. Gen. Marquis de Lafayette writing: "*When the Grenadier Brigade lay on their arms, before the commencement of the action, the Marquis de la Fayette, accompanied by a number of officers, rode up, and halting at the distance of 300 yards, asked, 'What troops are these,' when Captain Graham, of the 42<sup>d</sup>, answered, 'The British Grenadiers;'* 'very well,' said La Fayette, 'be prepared and we will be up with you' Accordingly, in less than an hour, he made his attack with great briskness, but was driven back..."

Soon after Monmouth and the return to New York, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company again changed battalions joining the 1<sup>st</sup> British Grenadier Battalion on Aug. 10. Graham served only briefly in the 1<sup>st</sup> Grenadiers, as he became Major of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on the retirement of Brevet-Lt. Col. William Grant on Aug. 25, 1778. Graham commanded one of the two line battalions of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in May 1779.

Upon the regiment's return from Virginia Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling, was brevetted a Brig. General in America, and on June 16, 1779 Maj. Graham assumed command of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders and led the regiment for the occupation of Stoney Point, New York from July to Oct. 1779. In Dec. 1779 Graham was appointed a member of a three field-officer board to examine the quality of necessities supplied to the troops and to prepare a report for King George's information.

Although not part of the initial expedition to take Charleston, South Carolina in late 1779, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was ordered to reinforce Gen. Sir Henry Clinton and arrived off Charleston, on April 18, 1780. Graham commanded the regiment in the siege lines before Charleston, which surrendered on May 12. Maj. Graham's Royal Highlanders returned to New York with Gen. Clinton soon after the surrender.

During the period of 1780 to 1781, communications between Maj. Graham, commanding the battalion in America, and the colonel of the regiment in Britain, Gen. Lord John Murray, were so strained that Lord Murray complained to Secretary at War Charles Jenkinson on Sept. 15, 1781 that *"I have wrote to Major Charles Graham who has Commanded the first Battalion of my Regiment above a year ago, and desired him at different times, to send me Monthly returns of my first Battalion, and what Arms and accoutrements were lost in Service and otherwise, or if he could not do it, to mention in his letters to me, which I desired every Opportunity, the Numbers that then were, and other Extraordinary's, but have not had any Answer from him to my different letters, and imagined they could not all have miscarried. I have wrote to him again the 10<sup>th</sup>. Inst': of it. & that I should be under the disagreeable Necessity of troubling you with his neglect; in not writing according to my orders, & sending returns, which Im sorry to do, but I believe you'l observe the Necissity of my knowing it."*

In Oct. 1781, Graham commanded the regiment for the relief attempt for Cornwallis' army in Virginia and when Brevet-Maj. Gen. Stirling became the Colonel of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. (former Fraser's Highlanders) in May 1782, Graham was promoted to Lt. Colonel of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Graham left America on leave in April 1783, after the end of hostilities but before the regiment moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia in October of that year. He was located in London on Oct. 1, 1783, where he wrote a letter in favor of Lt. John Young's claim to the Loyalist Commission and was shown still on leave for the regimental review conducted at Halifax on June 9, 1784.

A continuation of his leave is listed on a War Office document which reads *"Leaves of Absences... L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Graham} 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> {12 M<sup>o</sup> from 28 Ap<sup>l</sup> 84 on his Priv<sup>t</sup> Aff<sup>s</sup> ..."* This leave may have been associated with a legal posting in *The Caledonian Mercury*, (Edinburgh) on Mar. 6, 1784 that read *"First Notice – First Terms. IN the ranking and sale, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Graham, of the 42d Regiment of Foot, with concurrence of His Majesty's Advocate, against Andrew Cranston wright in the Abbey of Holyroodhouse, and his Creditors, the Lord Hailes, by interlocutor signed the 28th February last, named the Lord Justice Clerk of course to rank the said Creditors, and assigned the 12th of June, to the whole Creditors to produce their claims and diligences, competent to them against the bankrupt or his estate, and that for the first term, with certification as in a reduction and improbation, and appointed this notice thereof, so as the same may come to the knowledge of all concerned. C. H. CALLANDER, Clk."*

A newspaper account from Bath, England dated Apr. 20, 1785 described his arrival writing *"Bath, April 20... Arrived here, His Excellency the French Ambassador...Lieut.-Colonel Graham, Major [Francis] Skelly [late 71<sup>st</sup> Regt.], [Lt.] Gen. [George] Warde [Col., 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. of Horse]..."*

Col. David Stewart (Garth) who served under Lt. Col. Graham, wrote a summary of the colonel saying, *"General Graham had the benefit of a good example from his father. Born in the regiment in which he had all his life served, he intimately understood the character and peculiar dispositions of the men. An excellent disciplinarian, strict, but judicious, just and humane, with a fine voice, and a clear distinct manner of communicating his orders, and explaining his directions, he was admirably fitted for his situation as commander of the Highland regiment. The promotion to the rank of general, which removed him from the command, was a severe loss to the corps."*

In 1786 six companies of Highlanders under Lt. Col. Graham departed Halifax, Nova Scotia to serve as the garrison for Sydney, Cape Breton Island. On Sept. 25, 1788 Prince William Henry (later King William IV) visited Sydney and Lt. William Dyott, 4<sup>th</sup> Regt., recorded the Prince's dinner with Lt. Col. Graham. Dyott wrote "...*The next morning we weighed and went about nine miles up the harbour, and anchored off the new settlement called Sydney. The harbour from the mines is about three miles broad, and the shores entirely covered with wood to the water's edge... it has been quite deserted till the year '83, at which period a governor, etc., was sent out from England, a man of the name of [Joseph Frederick Waller] Des Barres, a captain in the 60th regiment; a great surveyor, having published a survey of the coast of North America from Florida, but a most eccentric genius. He fixed the seat of government at Sydney, and I am sorry to say that their improvements have not a very propitious appearance at present. He dined with his Royal Highness; Lieut.-Colonel Graham, who commands a part of the 42nd regiment quartered at Sydney, dined on board. We got pretty hearty, and went on shore in the evening and supped at Colonel Graham's. The town of Sydney consists of about fifty houses situated on the banks of Spanish River, and surrounded to the very sides of the buildings by an almost impenetrable wood. There is a narrow path from the barracks just to keep up a communication, and that's all the clear country I saw. The barracks are shamefully bad; the troops have cleared a good parade and made themselves as comfortable as their situation would allow. The officers had no rooms in the barracks, and were obliged to build huts and log-houses.*" About a year after the Prince's visit, in Aug. 1789, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. embarked to return to Britain after a thirteen year absence.

On Feb. 1, 1793 the French Convention War declared war against Britain and in September Lt. Col. Graham and the Royal Highlanders embarked at Portsmouth as part of Lord Moira's expedition to reinforce the army of the Duke of York in Flanders. Lord Moira had previously served in the American war under the title of Lord Rawdon. Graham was promoted to Colonel "*in the army*" in Oct. 1793 and to Brig. General "*on the Continent of Europe only*" on Nov. 20, 1793 and commanded a brigade in the expedition. Soon after Lord Moira's reinforcement reached the Duke of York, however, they were ordered to return to England to join an expedition under Lt. Gen. Sir Charles Grey against the French Colonies in the West Indies.

After arriving at Portsmouth, Graham's assignment to the expedition to the West Indies was changed to another one then forming against the coast of France, again under the command of the Earl of Moira. On Nov. 30, 1793 Lord Moira's expedition sailed with Graham commanding one of the three brigades. The next day they reached the Coast of France, to the eastward of Cape la Hogue but severe weather prevented the landing. After cruising off the coast for two days, the weather forced the expedition to put into Guernsey, where the troops landed and remained until Jan. 4, 1794, when they returned to Portsmouth. Five months later, on June 26, 1794, Lord Moira was again sent to Ostend in Flanders with 7,000 men, including Brig. Gen. Charles Graham and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., and linked up with the Duke of York's army at Metchelen, about 15 miles south of Antwerp.

On Feb. 27, 1795, the War Office announced Brig. Gen. Graham's promotion to Major General in the Army and he continued to serve in Flanders through the severe winter campaign until finally embarking in Apr. 1795 for Portsmouth. Maj. Gen. Graham embarked again in Aug. 1795 for the unsuccessful expedition for Quiberon Bay, France under Maj. Gen. Doyle and was second in command for Sir Ralph Abercromby's expedition against the French and Dutch possessions in the West Indies in October 1795.

A War Office announcement in the *London Gazette* on Dec. 6, 1796 led to Maj. Gen. Graham's departure from the Royal Highlanders. The *Gazette* announced "*A Regiment of Foot. Major-General. Charles Graham, from the 42d Foot, to be Colonel, vice [Col. Stephen] Howe, deceased.*" This regiment was termed "*Major-General Graham's Regiment*" until 1798 when it was re-titled the 5<sup>th</sup> West India Regt.

Graham was also the temporary commander-in-chief at St. Vincent from September 1796 to March 1797. In the introduction to a dispatch dated Oct. 16, 1796, Graham is referred to “*Major-General Charles Graham, commanding His Majesty’s Troops in the Leeward Islands in the Absence of Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, K.B.*”



Detail of *Portrait of King William IV*, 1800, by Sir Martin Archer Shee

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Maj. Gen. Graham returned to England from the West Indies on *His Majesty’s Packet Chesterfield* on Apr. 30, 1797 after a 28-day voyage from St. Kitts. The *Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal* of Aug. 25, 1797 reported that the future King William IV reviewed a number of militia and fencible regiments under Graham’s command at Brighton on the southern coast of England. Maj. Gen. Graham succeeded to the command at Brighton in June 1798 but did not remain long in that command as he left Brighton in early September and on the 27<sup>th</sup> of that month the *Oxford Journal* reported he was commanding the 2129-man “*Brigade 3*” consisting of the Hertfordshire and West Kent Militia Regiments to suppress the Irish Rebellion. The “*Monthly Army List, Corrected to the First of September, 1799*” showed Graham as a Maj. General on the “*Staff of Ireland*” at Kilkenny, in southeast Ireland.

*The Gentleman’s Magazine* for Aug. 1800 recorded Graham’s death in Ireland noting “*July...28. At Cork, Major-general Graham; whose remains were interred on the 30th, with military honors.*” An Apr. 9, 1801 letter from his former regimental surgeon, Dr. William Robertson, noted that “*...Gen<sup>l</sup>. Graham, died of mortification in the Inguinal Glands [lymph nodes]...*”

Commissions: Ens. Sept. 17, 1760; Lt. Sept. 10, 1762; Quartermaster Feb. 15, 1764 (resigned – Sept. 3, 1766); Capt. Sept. 7, 1771; Maj. Aug. 25, 1778; Lt. Col. May 3 – effective Apr. 28, 1782; Col. “*in the army*” Oct. 12, 1793; Brevet-Brig. Gen. (Continent of Europe only) Nov. 20, 1793; Maj. Gen. Feb. 26, 1795; Col. Nov. 30, 1796 (*Maj. Gen. Graham’s Regt.* – After 1798 the 5<sup>th</sup> West India Regt.); Brigade Commander, Ireland, Sept. 1798; Died July 28, 1800 (5<sup>th</sup> West India Regt.).

**References:** *Or and Sable, A Book of the Græmes and Grahams*, Louisa G. Græme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, p. 543; NRS, Records of Messrs. Haldane, Brown & Company, Chartered Accountants, Edinburgh, *Graham of Drynie*: title deeds and other legal papers, Graham of Drynie miscellaneous writs at GD255/2/5/2; *Extracts from the Order books of Capt. James Stewarts Company Royal Highland Regiment, 1759-61*, Copied by William B. Wilson, The Black Watch Museum, Perth, Dec. 1947; 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Orders, Aug. 8, 1776 in *Peebles’ Journal*; General Orders, New York on Oct. 8, 1776, Nov. 28, 1776, Mar. 23, 1777; approximately Aug. 10, 1778; June 16, 1779, Dec. 15, 1779 and May 3, 1782; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. I, pp. 387, 397, 401-402 and 439; Lt. John Grant to Lord John Murray, Aug. 27, 1777,

*Lord John Murray Papers*; *Peebles' Journal* entry Oct. 18, 1777; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 6-10, 1776; TNA, Court Martial of Samuel Smith, 55<sup>th</sup> Regt., Brunswick, New Jersey on June 11-13, 1777, *War Office, Court Martial Proceedings* at WO 71/84; NRS, Charles Graham to Henry Davidson Esq. of Tulloch, May 23, 1778, *Records of Messrs. Haldane, Brown & Company, Chartered Accountants, Edinburgh* at GD255/2/6; *Scots Magazine*, Mar. 1795, p. 207; *The Book of Dignities, Containing Rolls of the Official Personages of the British Empire*, Joseph Haydn, Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans, London, 1851, Google Books, p. 335; *London Gazette* for Nov. 14-17, 1778, pp. 1-2, July 13, 1782 p. 3, Oct. 15-19, 1793, pp. 3-4, Nov. 23-26, 1793 pp. 1-2, Feb. 24-28, 1795, p. 3, Dec. 3-6, 1796, pp. 2-3, Jan. 14, 1797 p. 2 and Aug. 9-12, 1800 pp. 1-2; TNA, Lord John Murray to Charles Jenkinson, Sept. 15, 1781, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/1012, p. 45; TNA, *War Office, Out-letters, Leaves of Absences* at WO 4/275, p. 343; TNA, Certificate from Lt. Col. Charles Graham, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Oct. 1, 1783, *Records of Claims Commissions, American Loyalists Claims*, Series II, Pennsylvania, Part 3, S-Z at AO 13/72, part 3, ff. 429-438; *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, Mar. 6, 1784, p. 4; *Whitehall Evening Post*, Apr. 19, 1785, p.4; *Dyott's Diary 1781-1845*, Vol. I, Gen. William Dyott, Ed. Reginald W. Jeffrey, Archibald Constable, London, 1907, Google Books, pp. 57-59; "Return of the General and Staff Officers who have been who have been employed and paid under the Earl of Moira; divided into Three Periods: With an Account of the Pay and Allowance of those Officers" in *An Impartial Report of the Debates That Occur in the Two Houses of Parliament...Sixth Session of the Seventeenth Parliament...*, Vol. II, Pub. by William Woodfall, T. Chapman, London, 1795, Google Books, Appendix pp. 38-45; *Saunders's News-Letter* (Dublin), May 6, 1797, p. 1; *Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal* (Kent, England), Aug. 25, 1797, p. 4; *London Observer*, June 24, 1798, p. 4; *Oxford Journal*, Sept. 29, 1798, p. 2; *True Briton* (London), Sept. 14, 1798, p. 4; TNA, *Commission Books 1779-1805* at WO 25/116, Part I, p. 219; *Stewart's Sketches*, Vol. I, Second Edition, Edinburgh, 1822, Google Books, pp. 406-416; *History of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Royal Highlanders – "The Black Watch,"* Lt. Col. Percy Groves, W. & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh, 1893, Google Books, p. 10; *British Campaigns in Flanders 1690-1794*, Hon. J. W. Fortescue, Macmillan and Co., London, 1918, Google Books; *Don Troiani's Soldiers in America, 1754-1865*, Don Troiani, Earl Coates and James Kochan, Stackpole Books, 1998, Mechanicsburg (Pennsylvania), p. 105; *The Monthly Army List Corrected to May 1798*, p. 75; *The True Briton*, London, Sept. 14, 1798, p. 4; *Monthly Army List, Corrected to the First of September, 1799*; *Gentleman's Magazine*, Aug. 1800, p. 800; NRS, Dr. William Robertson to John Peebles, Apr. 9, 1801, "Letters from Doctor William Robertson to Major John Peebles at Irvine," *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thornton* at GD21/401/5.



Airth Castle

Picture Source: *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland*, Vol. 1, David Macgibbon and Thomas Ross, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, p. 403.

**Graham, Lt. Henry.** Born in 1766, Henry Graham was the eldest son of William Graham of Airth and his wife, Anne Stirling (sister of Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.). Thirteen-year old Henry Graham was commissioned an Ensign in a 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Additional Company on Feb. 10, 1779 (effective Nov. 1777) in place of Ens. John Spens. Graham was then promoted to Lieutenant in Sept. 1779 (effective Feb.



1779) in place of Lt. Harry Munro who was promoted into the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. Graham did not immediately take his place in the regiment as discussed in a letter from Brig. Gen. Stirling to his sister in June 1781 where he wrote “...if Henry is improving at his studys let him continue if not you may take him home, he will probably be obliged to join the Reg<sup>t</sup> next spring” Graham did join the regiment in America in 1782 and served in the New York area until the end of the war in Oct. 1783.

Graham only served with the regiment a little over a year before he was listed in an Oct. 22, 1783 report from Gen. Sir Guy Carleton to the War Office of officers and men returning to Britain. Carleton wrote “I enclose an embarkation return of the detachment of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment, and of the men discharged from the British Regiments gone to Nova Scotia, together with lists of the last mentioned men’s names, and of the Officers that have charge of them...42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment...[Lieut<sup>t</sup>] Graham...”

Lt. Graham is noted in the regimental muster report dated Jan. 17, 1784 under the name “Hendry Graham” as “gone to Europe on half pay 24<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 83.” This is consistent with an Oct. 1783, letter from Brig. Gen. Thomas Stirling to his sister where he wrote “...I am sorry my efforts have not been attended w<sup>t</sup> better success I find Henry is coming home on half pay the scheme of his serving on Ens<sup>ns</sup> pay not being allowed, I shall take care of him while here if he comes this way & send him off soon for Scotland as nothing can be done for him at present.” Stirling, now Colonel of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt., continued to attempt to help his nephew, but was not initially successful as shown in a March 1784 letter to Sir George Yonge, Secretary at War where he complained: “Sir, I cannot help expressing my mortification w<sup>t</sup> the failure of my recommendation in favour of my Nephew, to be a Lt in my Reg<sup>t</sup>. My services and suffering I thought might have entitled me to this small favour...”



Reproduction 71<sup>st</sup> (Fraser's) Highland Regt. Officer's Uniform Button

Gen. Stirling was eventually successful in getting his nephew transferred from half-pay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as the War Office announced on Apr. 10, 1784 “71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot...Lieutenant Henry Graham, on the Half-pay of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, to be Lieutenant...” Graham had exchanged on Mar. 22, with Lt. Alexander M'Laren, who took Graham's Half-pay lieutenantancy in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Graham likely did not serve with the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. as that same month, 18-year old Graham was promoted to Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in place of Capt. John Grant of Auchindown.

A “Return of the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers &c to Embark for India” dated Nov. 29, 1784 listed “Cap<sup>t</sup> Graham & Ens. [Hugh] Sutherland” with two sergeants, two corporals and 105 privates and included a note that “Of the above Number, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Graham & 53 Private of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. now on their March from Scotland and expected to arrive from thence by the end of December...”

Graham was assigned to the battalion in India when it was renamed the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. in April 1786 and died while serving in that regiment on Oct. 16, 1787. *The Scots Magazine* for May 1788 recorded his death at age 21 in India writing “DEATHS. Oct. 17, 1787. In Bengal, Capt. Henry Graham, of the 73<sup>d</sup> regiment.” Col. Norman MacLeod found the circumstances of Graham's death suspicious and ordered a court-martial for a Major on the Bengal establishment. *The Gentleman's Magazine* for July 1788 noted the event in the East India Intelligence section writing “On the 5<sup>th</sup> of Dec. 1787, Maj. [George] Mence was tried at Calcutta for the murder of Capt. Henry Graham of his Majesty's 73<sup>d</sup> regiment, and

*acquitted; no evidence appearing against him, but that of Capt. Hogan, who was ordered, by Col. M<sup>c</sup>Leod, to carry him to take his trial for the above murder, but knew nothing farther.”*

Commissions: Ens. Feb. 10, 1779 – effective Nov. 11, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Additional Company); Lt. Sept. 24, 1779 – effective Feb. 2, 1779; Lt. “*half-pay*” Aug. 24, 1783 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. by exchange Mar. 22, 1784 (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Apr. 21, 1784 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Apr. 1786 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. – Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Died Oct. 16, 1787 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.).

**References:** General Orders, New York on Feb. 10 and Sept. 29, 1779; National Library of Scotland, Brig. Gen. Thomas Stirling to Mrs. Anne Graham, June 6, 1781 and Oct. 27, 1783, Inventory Acc. 12290, *Additional papers of the family of Graham of Airth, and other related families, notably (Graham) Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan, and Stirling of Kippendavie*, Box 1, Folder 3: Sir Thomas Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan (5) 1776-1807; TNA, Thomas Stirling to Sir George Yonge, Mar. 6, 1784, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/1025; 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. section of *Stewart's Sketches* (1822) Vol. II., p. 200; *London Gazette* for June 1, 1779, p. 1, Apr. 6, 1784, pp. 2-3, Apr. 20-24, 1784, p. 1 and May 4-8, 1784, p. 1; Graham's exchange to the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. provided in Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, April 27-30, 1784; *The Political Magazine and Parliamentary, Naval, Military, and Literary Journal*, Apr. 1784, p. 315; TNA, *War Office, Embarkation Returns* at WO 25/1145, f. 112; *Scots Magazine*, May 1788, p. 257; Graham of Airth at the Perthshire Heritage website, taken from *The Red Book of Perthshire* by Gordon A. MacGregor, perthshireheritage.co.uk; *London Gazette* for May 10-13, 1788, p. 1; TNA, Sir Guy Carleton to Richard Fitz Patrick, Oct. 22, 1783, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/13 f. 314; *Gentleman's Magazine, For July 1788*, p. 467.

*James Graham*

**Graham**, Lt. James [1]. *The Book of the Græmes* has a listing for the brother of Lt. Col. Gordon Graham, of the Grahams of Drynie (and father of Capt. Charles Graham and Lt. William Graham), as “*James Græme an ensign in Harrison's Foot. He appears to have had a son James afterwards in the 37<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.*” Based on the later service of Lt. James Graham in the 37<sup>th</sup> Regt., this identifies Lt. James Graham as a likely first cousin to Charles and William Graham.

Born around 1756, Graham was commissioned an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. while the regiment was stationed in Ireland in Mar. 1770 and was promoted to Lieutenant in March 1773 in place of Lt. Thomas Hall who retired. Graham was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company at the beginning of the American war and served with that company in the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Infantry Battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777.



Reproduction 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

In May 1777, Graham obtained a Company in the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. and on July 19, 1778 took command of the Lt. Infantry Company of that regiment. This company was the subject of an unusual General Order on May, 15, 1779 which stated “*The noncommissioned officers and men of the 57<sup>th</sup> light company having behaved in a manner which renders them unworthy of the distinction of serving in a flank corps, the Commander in Chief orders them immediately to be sent to their Regiment...*” Capt. Graham is not mentioned in the order, and accordingly his role in the subject event is unknown. He apparently was

unscathed by the 57<sup>th</sup> Lt. Infantry Company's scandal and was promoted to Major of the 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Feb. 1782.



Reproduction 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

As Major of the 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. Graham commanded the regiment in America in the absence of Lt. Col. Robert Abercromby, who served as a senior officer with the army. General Orders issued at New York on Aug. 17, 1783 directed that “...*It is moreover ordered that the 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry 33<sup>d</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 42<sup>d</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> are to hold themselves in readiness to Embark for Nova Scotia where they are to remain till further Orders.*” Whether Maj. Graham sailed with the regiment to Nova Scotia in 1783 is not known as an undated listing of officers with leaves of absences at the end of the war reported “*Leaves of Absence...Major Graham } 37<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. { D<sup>o</sup> [6 M<sup>o</sup>.] from 26 Jan<sup>y</sup> 84 on his Priv<sup>t</sup> Aff<sup>o</sup>...*” Maj. Graham likely had his leave extended as he was noted as observing military maneuvers at Metz, France in Sept., 1784. He retired as Major of the 37<sup>th</sup> (or the North Hampshire) Regt. three years later on June 13, 1787.

Maj. Graham was the subject of two letters from the former regimental surgeon of the Royal Highlanders. Dr. William Robertson wrote from Bath on Apr. 28, 1800 that “...*James Graham married the Daughter of a [illeg.] at Cheltenham without Cash, he has I believe one or two Children & is I am told quite the Gouty [illeg.]*” The next year on Apr. 9, 1801 he wrote “...*James is about quitting Cheltenham & goin to London... He must fall a Sacrifice to intemperance – Alone he takes regularly a Bottle of Sherry or Madeira & when he gets friends to stay with him indulges to great excess – He begins to fall off...*”

Graham's death in 1822 at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (95 miles northwest of London) was recorded in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, which wrote “*Gloucestershire...July 13. At Cheltenham, Maj. James Graham, late of 37th reg. foot.*” Graham is buried at Cheltenham Parish Church where the burial register has the listing “*1822... July 18. James Graham, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Cheltenham, 66 y<sup>rs</sup>.*”

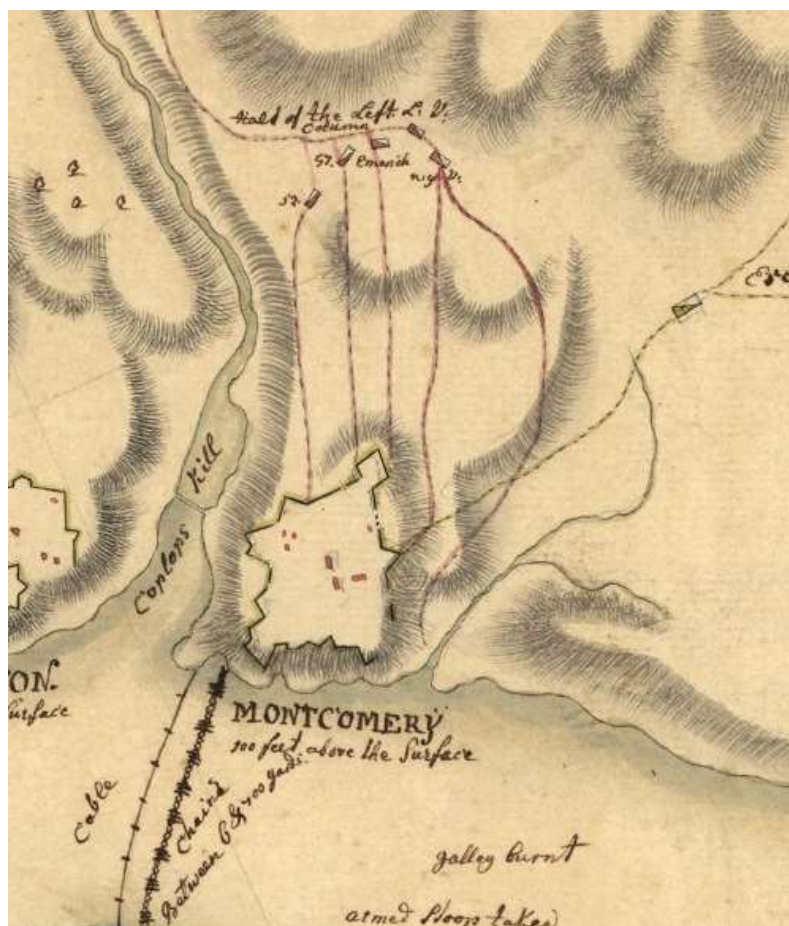
Commissions: Ens. Mar. 31, 1770; Lt. Mar. 1, 1773; Capt. May 8, 1777 (57<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Maj. Feb. 23, 1782 – effective Dec. 30, 1781 (37<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Retired June 13, 1787 (37<sup>th</sup> or the North Hampshire Regt.).

**References:** *Or and Sable, A Book of the Græmes and Grahams*, Louisa G. Græme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, p. 543; General Orders, New York, May 9, 1777, May 15, 1779 and Feb. 23, 1782; *Scots Magazine*, Aug. 1777, p. 455 and July 1787, p. 364; *London Gazette* for July 26-29, 1777, p. 1, May 18, 1782, p. 5 and July 3-7, 1787, p. 1; *Rivington's New-York Gazette*, Oct 11, 1777; TNA, Muster report for the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. for the period June 15, 1777 to June 24, 1778, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/6633; NRS, Letter from William Robertson to James Robertson dated Metz, Sept. 7, 1784 in the *Papers of the Robertson Family of Lude*, Perthshire at GD132/774, item 8; TNA, “Leaves of Absence,” *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/275, p. 343; NRS, Dr. William Robertson to John Peebles, Apr. 28, 1800 and Apr. 9, 1801, “Letters from Doctor William Robertson to Major John Peebles at Irvine,” *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thorntoun* at GD21/401/3 and 5; *Gentleman's Magazine*, July 1822, p. 93; “Extracts from the Cheltenham Parish Registers: Burials, 1813-1827,” *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, Golding & Lawrence, London, 1879, Google Books, p. 309.



**Graham, Lt. James** [2]. Born in Edinburgh in 1760, Graham was the son of Dr. John Graham from Paisley, *Surgeon-freeman of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow*, and Euphanel Stevenson, (daughter of Dr. Stevenson of Edinburgh). Dr. Graham had formerly served as surgeon of the 115<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Royal Scotch Lowlanders). His first wife died while their three children were young and in 1765 Dr. Graham married Isabella Marshall (who became a well-known religious writer), and joined the 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. in America as regimental surgeon. When Dr. Graham and his new wife left for America, James Graham, his sister, Jean, and his older brother, Samuel, were left in Scotland initially under the care of their mother's parents and the boys were placed in the grammar school in Paisley under the care of the rector, Mr. John Davidson. Dr. Graham died while serving with the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Antigua in 1773. Graham's brother was Capt. Lt. Samuel Graham of the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt. (MacDonald's Highlanders), who left a detailed memoir of his campaigns in America.

On Feb. 6, 1776, the *London Gazette*, announced "*Commissions signed by His Majesty, for the Army in Ireland...57th, Foot, Mr. James Graham to be Ensign, vice Edward Thornhill, who retires. Dated January 9, 1776.*" This announcement is likely incorrect as the annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1776 shows Edward Thornhill replaced by a Henry Williamson on Nov. 26, 1775. By the time of the 1777 list Graham was listed as Ensign with a date of rank of Jan. 9, 1776. This commission date matches the announcement in General Orders at New York on June 6, 1777 showing his promotion in the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. as "*...James Graham Gent to be Ens<sup>n</sup> by Purchase vice Thornhill by Purchase } 9<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 76..*" This 1777 date for the General Orders in America may imply Graham did not join the regiment in America until about that time.



Detail of map showing 57<sup>th</sup> Regiments' attack on Fort Montgomery, 1777



Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons from Lib. of Congress, Geography & Map Div.

The 57<sup>th</sup> Regt., under the command of Lt. Col. John Campbell of Strachur (a former Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.), took part in the 1776-1777 New York / New Jersey campaign, but stayed in the New York area during the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. The 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. was part of the force under Lt. Gen. Clinton that attacked and captured Fort Montgomery on the Hudson River in 1777.



Reproduction 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Graham was promoted to Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Aug. 1778 in place of Lt. John Rutherford, who was promoted. Graham, however, transferred to the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. five months later in Jan. 1779.

While a Lieutenant in the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt., Graham was involved in a duel in 1780 as described by his brother who wrote *"My brother, a lieutenant in the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment, being sent over by his lieutenant-colonel...to inspect and report upon the recruits for that regiment, met with such treatment in the execution of this duty, as to oblige him to demand satisfaction from another officer...the matter being settled to the satisfaction of all parties, my brother and I were immediately visited by Major James Gordon, of the 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment, who addressed us, saying that ...he had served in the same regiment with our father, the 115<sup>th</sup> or Royal Scotch Lowlanders..."*

James Graham remained with the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. for the southern campaign. The casualty report for the Battle of Eutaw Springs, South Carolina included *"... Return of the Killed, Wounded & Missing, at the Eutaws. 8<sup>th</sup> Sep: 1781...Names of Officers Killed, Wounded & Missing... 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Graham Wounded..."* A later memorial indicated Graham was shot through the body and was not expected to recover.

On Nov. 12, 1782 Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, fearing *"...that the island of Jamaica is in imminent danger of speedy attack..."*, ordered Lt. Gen. Hon. Alexander Leslie, the commander at Charleston, to send several regiments, including the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt., to that island. Arriving in Jamaica on Jan. 13, 1783, Graham retired from the Army about six weeks later on Feb. 24, 1783 and returned to Charleston in 1784.

Graham had married 18-year old Hester Howarth, the daughter of Col. Probart Howarth of South Carolina (former Loyalist Gov. of Fort Johnson in Charleston harbor) on Nov. 7, 1782 and had two daughters, Ann Howarth Graham, born Feb. 1784 and Jane Graham born 1785. Col. Howarth's 1785 memorial to the Loyalist Claims Commission described his former position and the status of his estate. He wrote, *"...In 1744 He commanded Fort Johnston near Charlestown. Commission produced dated in 1760 & likewise the King's Warrant ... He was at Fort Johnson when the troubles broke out. They called upon him to take the Oaths to them but he refused. This was in 1777. He had refused to sign the Association in 1775. He was obliged to depart the province within 60 Days after the Oath was tender'd but they dispossess'd him of his Gov<sup>t</sup> in Oct' 1775. They took the fort in the night... He gave up his property to his Daughter to prevent its being confiscated..."* In 1785 the South Carolina Legislature restored citizenship to Col. Howarth. The ban did not affect Hester, who had inherited property near Charleston from her

grandmother Catherine Croft. After the war Lt. Graham made a claim to the Loyalist Claims Commission for a house on the Neck, four miles from Charleston.

Hester Graham died on Oct. 9, 1786 and the *Charleston Evening Gazette* noted her death writing “On Friday the 6th inst: in her 22d year of her age, Mrs. Hester Graham, the amiable and much lamented wife of James Graham, Esq; and only child of Col. Probert Howorth...” Another paper indicated “...Her remains were yesterday attended by a numerous company of relations and friends to St. Phillips Church, from whence, after the funeral service was performed, they were conveyed to the family vaults a few miles from town.”

South Carolina property records concerning lands along the Ashley River near Charleston indicate that “...in 1786 all the lands to which Hester was entitled under the wills of Sarah Croft, Catherine Croft, Childermas Croft and Childermas Harvey [her mother’s family] were vested in James Graham who in 1794 executed a lease of the property as containing 175 acres, reserving the family vault and one acre around it.”

*The Scots Magazine* of August 1802 recorded Graham’s death writing “At Charleston, South Carolina, James Graham, Esq; formerly of his Majesty’s 64<sup>th</sup> regiment.”

Commissions: Ens. Jan. 9, 1776 (57<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 18, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Jan. 2, 1779 – effective Nov. 23, 1778 (64<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Retired Feb. 23, 1783 (64<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** Query by Col. F. W. Graham in *Scottish Historical Review*, Oct. 1903, Google Books, p. 103; *Memorials of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow 1599-1850*, Alexander Duncan, James Macle hose and Sons, Glasgow, 1896, Google Books, p. 256; *The Unpublished Letters and Correspondence of Mrs. Isabella Graham, from the year 1767 to 1814*; Ed. Mrs. Bethune, James S. Taylor, New York, 1838, Google Books, pp. xi – 19; *London Gazette* for Feb. 3-6, 1776, p. 2, Nov. 14-17, 1778, pp. 1-2 and Mar. 16-20, 1779 p. 1; *Scots Magazine*, Mar. 1776, p. 167 and Aug. 1802, p. 708; *Memoir of General [Samuel] Graham*, Col. James J. Graham, R. & R. Clark, Edinburgh, 1862, Google Books, p. 17; *Historical Records of the Fifty-seventh or West Middlesex Regiment of Foot, Compiled from Official and Private Sources from the Date of its Formation in 1755, to the Present Time, 1878*, Ed. Lt. Gen. H. J. Warre, C.B., W. Mitchell & CO., London, 1878, Google Books, pp. 30-45; General Orders, New York, June 6, 1777 and Jan. 2, 1779; *Royal Gazette*, Sept. 19, 1778; Sir Guy Carleton to Alexander Leslie, Nov. 12, 1782 in *Letters and Papers of Charles, Lord Barham, Admiral of the Red Squadron, 1758-1813*, Vol. I, Ed. Sir John Knox Laughton, Naval Records Society, 1907, Google Books, p. 225; TNA, Casualty Report for Battle of Eutaw Springs, S. C., Sept. 8, 1781, *Colonial Office, Military despatches 1781-1782* at CO 5/104; TNA, Archibald Campbell to Thomas Townshend, Jan. 25, 1783, *Colonial Office, Jamaica, Sec. of State Correspondence* at CO 137/83, f. 19; TNA, Muster of Capt. John Kennedy Strong’s company, Port Royal, Jamaica, July 26, 1783, *General Muster Books, Infantry, 64<sup>th</sup> Foot, 1774-1784* at WO 12/7313; “Charleston and Charleston Neck,” Henry A. M. Smith, in *The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Jan. 1918, Google Books, pp. 35-36; “Marriage and Death Notices from the Charleston Morning Post and Daily Advertiser,” Mabel L. Webber in *The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, The South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston, July 1919, Google Books, p. 215; “The Partridge Nest”, Dennis N. Partridge, at genealogical website, familytreeguide.com; “Memorial of P. Rob<sup>t</sup> Howarth,” Feb. 4, 1785 in *The Royal Commission on the Losses and Services of American Loyalists, 1783 to 1785, Being the Notes of Mr. Daniel Parker Coke, M.P.*, Ed Hugh Edward Egerton, Ayer Publishing, 1971, p. 299; *American Loyalist Claims*, Vol. I, Peter Wildon Coldham, National Genealogical Society, Washington, D. C., 1980, p. 195; “Journal of a Voyage to Charlestown in So. Carolina by Pelatiah Webster in 1765” Prof. T. P. Harrison in *Publications of the Southern History Association*, Vol. II, The Association, Washington, 1898, p. 139.

**Graham**, Lt. John. Graham was born in Scotland around 1740. He may have been the Volunteer of the same name from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders who was part of the Cadet Company in Maj. Robert Roger’s Rangers from Sept. to Nov. 1757 during the French and Indian War. Graham was commissioned an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in July 1758 as part of a promotion string following the death of Maj. Duncan Campbell at Ticonderoga. Graham was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1760 and after the French and



Indian War went out on half pay in 1763. In Feb. 1767, Lt. John Graham returned from half-pay by exchanging with Lt. George Rigge and served with the regiment in Ireland.

As the senior subaltern in the regiment, Graham sent a Memorial to the War Office in early 1776 providing his qualifications for promotion to Captain and the Secretary of War replied that “...the rec<sup>t</sup> of your Memorial which shall be properly considered.” No action was taken by the War Office before Graham and the regiment were ordered to embark for America. Just days after the regiment loaded on the transports at Greenock, Lord John Murray offered to raise a second battalion to the regiment and included in his proposal that John Graham would be the ranking Captain in that battalion. Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War on Apr. 15, 1776 that “I have taken the Liberty of inclosing to Your Lordship the names of Field officers & Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Should your Lordship think it for His Majestys Service to Recommend it to the King to add a Second Battalion at this time to the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under my Command... Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot...Captains John Graham – Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in 42<sup>d</sup>. the Eldest of that Rank...NB. Each of these Officers will give any Security Required, to raise by themselves or Friends, during their Absence, Fifty good Men for their Appointment of Captain in four Months after receiving their Beating orders, with the levy money of Five Guineas.” The War Office did not approve Lord Murray’s proposed augmentation to the regiment, and Graham and the other officers sailed on Apr. 29, 1776.



Reproduction 71<sup>th</sup> (Fraser’s) Highland Regt. Uniform Button

In Aug. 1776, soon after arriving in America, Lt. Graham was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser’s Highlanders) and served in the New York/New Jersey Campaign of 1776/1777. In March 1777 Graham was appointed to command one of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders’ Additional Companies recruiting in Scotland and left America around May 1777. In accordance with regulations his date of rank as a Captain dated from his appointment as a Capt.-Lieutenant.



The Main Gate of Stirling Castle, c 2010

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

A Feb. 16, 1778 deserter advertisement for the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. in the *Caledonian Mercury* in Edinburgh noted that a reward may be had by “...applying to Captain Graham of the 71<sup>st</sup> regiment at Stirling castle, or to Captain M<sup>c</sup>Donell of said regiment, at Edinburgh.”

Two months later on Apr. 20, 1778, Scottish Adj. Gen. Robert Skene wrote to the War Office about who was to command a detachment of three Highland additional companies to be sent to reinforce Newfoundland. Skene mentioned Graham’s poor health writing “... as Cap<sup>t</sup> [John] M<sup>c</sup>donnell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> commands the Detachment for Newfoundland, Cap<sup>t</sup> Graham the eldest Captain of that corps sick in a bad state of health and not able to go.” About a year later, on Mar. 30, 1779, Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser, Colonel, 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt, wrote to Commander-in-Chief Lord Jeffrey Amherst “...I beg leave to inform your Lordship that Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Graham who had one of the additional Comp<sup>ys</sup> of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> died at Stirling about ten days ago...” Based on the date of his widow’s pension, Graham likely died on Mar. 18, 1779.

Graham had married Grisell Campbell, daughter of Alexander Campbell of Ballochyle about 1768 and had one daughter, Susan who later married Capt. George Eddington of the Royals. As mentioned above, the “Warrant for placing several Widows of Officers on His Majesty’s Royal Bounty” dated Feb. 23, 1780 read in part “George R...Whereas several Widows of Officers whose Husbands suffered greatly in Our Service, have Most humbly represented to Us, that they are reduced to extreme want, and pray that We would be graciously pleased to allow unto them such pensions for their Support and Maintenance as are now paid to the Widows of Officers of equal Rank who have been killed or have Died in Our Service... Grisell Graham Widow of John Graham late Captain in the 71<sup>st</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot Commanded by Lieut: Gen<sup>l</sup>: Fraser, from the 18<sup>th</sup>. of March 1779) 26 [£]...

Commissions: Ens. July 25, 1758, Lt. July 31, 1760; Lt. Half Pay about Oct. 1763; Lt. from Half-pay Feb. 20, 1767; Capt. Lt. Aug. 23, 1776. (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Mar. 10, 1777 – effective Aug. 23, 1776 (Additional Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Died Mar. 18, 1779 (Additional Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.).

**Note and References:** There is some confusion in other publication between the commission dates of Lt. John Graham and Capt. Lt. John Græme (or Graham), Younger of Inchbrakie, who was killed at the Battle of Bushy Run, Pennsylvania in 1763. According to the regimental succession book (WO25/209) Capt. Lt. Graham (Inchbrakie) joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Aug. 15, 1762 from the “German Volunteers.” Accordingly the commission dates shown above for Lt. Graham could not be associated with that officer. Sources: *Journals of Major Robert Rogers*, Ed. Franklin B. Hough, Joel Munsell’s Sons, Albany (NY), 1883, Google Books, pp. 80-86; *Gentleman’s Magazine*, Feb. 1767; Viscount Barrington to Lt. John Graham, Mar. 7, 1776 WO 4/96, p. 251 (f. 126); Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; *Peebles’ Journal* entry for Apr. 10, 1777; General Orders, New York, March 16, 1777; *Scots Magazine*, May 1777, p. 280 and June 1779, p. 343; Lt. John Peebles to his father, John Peebles, Brunswick, New Jersey, May 7, 1777 at NRS, *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thorntoun*, GD21/489 f. 3; *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, Feb. 16, 1778, p. 4; TNA, Robert Skene to Mathew Lewis, Apr. 20, 1778, *War Office In-Letters: 3. General Correspondence: b. Series II: R-Z, 1778* at WO 1/999; TNA, Simon Fraser to Lord Amherst, Mar. 30, 1779, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/149, f. 522; TNA, Charles Jenkinson to Sir Henry Clinton, June 2, 1779, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/274, pp. 217-218 (f. 192V-110); TNA, *War Office, Pensions to Widows, 1780* at WO 24/827, p. 28; TNA, *War Office Out-letters, Widows* at WO 4/1023, p. 156; *Account of the Clan-Iver*, Peter Colin Campbell, Aberdeen, 1878, Google Books, p. 94; *Scots Magazine*, June 1779, p. 343; *The Parliamentary Register; or, History of the Proceedings and Debates of the House of Commons*, Vol. II., Great Britain Parliament, London 1793, p. 177.



Inchbrakie House

Picture Source: *Or and Sable A Book of the Græmes and Grahams*, Louisa G. Græme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, opp. p. 404

*Patrick Graham Major  
2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> M<sup>y</sup> Brig<sup>de</sup> N. London*

Signature source: TNA, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34-129-f. 65.

**Graham, Capt. Patrick.** With the names Patrick and Peter often used interchangeably in Scotland, Graham was called Peter by his family and fellow officers. He was born at Crieff (about seventeen miles west of Perth) on Feb. 17, 1755; the second son to Patrick Græme, 8<sup>th</sup> Baron of Inchbrakie (a former Captain in Gen. Colyear's Regt. of the Dutch service) and his wife Amelia Oliphant (sister of Oliphant of Gask). Patrick Graham's uncle, Capt. Lt. John Græme, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., was killed at the Battle of Bushy Run in Aug. 1763 in western Pennsylvania during Pontiac's Rebellion.

Seventeen-year old Patrick was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Dec. 1772 in place of Ens. Colin Campbell who was promoted into the 55<sup>th</sup> Regt. In Sept. 1775, Graham was advanced to Lieutenant as part of the augmentation of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for the war in America. The annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1775 shows Graham assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company with a date of rank of Sept. 8, 1775. A letter from the Secretary at War to Lord Murray dated Oct. 11, 1775 listed Lt. Graham in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company which was to stay in Scotland to recruit for the deployed battalion. Before the regiment embarked in April 1776, however, Graham was moved to one of the line companies and prepared to sail for America.

On arriving in America, Graham served with a line battalion in New York campaign. He was seriously wounded in the arm at the regiment's assault on Fort Washington, New York on Nov. 16, 1776. Lt. Col. Stirling noted in March the next year that "*L<sup>t</sup> Peter Graham is recovering, but will be long e'er he gets the use of his Arm...*" In Capt. Archibald Erskine's absence as a Major of Brigade, Graham likely commanded that company for the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778.

On Feb. 19, 1778 the Duke of Montrose wrote Lt. Graham's father about a promotion endorsement he had sent to the Secretary at War for Graham's older brother George. He also wrote *"I mentioned where your other two sons [Patrick and Laurence] were, in His Majesty's Service believing that it might be of use to them."* This endorsement may have been effective as Orders were issued in Philadelphia on June 17, 1778 promoting Graham to Captain in the Additional Company in place of Brevet-Maj. James M'Pherson, who retired. Graham did not immediately depart for Scotland to join his new company as he is listed as a member of a Court Martial which met in New York July 24 through Aug. 1, 1778.

After Lord John Murray's several previous unsuccessful attempts to win approval for a second battalion, Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, notified Lord Murray on July 29, 1779 that King George III had approved the new battalion. On Sept. 9, 1779, Lord Murray submitted a *"List of Field Officers and Captains proposed for the 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot"* and proposing *"[Brevet] Major John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh Eldest Cap<sup>t</sup> in the Add<sup>ls</sup> of 42<sup>d</sup> Captains Patrick Graham..."* However, Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was serving in America and had resigned his commission in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion before he was notified of his pending promotion. Accordingly Capt. Patrick Graham was commissioned as Major of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, headquartered at Perth under the command of Lt. Col. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod.

After assembling, outfitting and training the recruits of the battalion, Maj. Graham and the officers embarked 25 Sergeants, 34 corporals, 20 drummers and pipers, 546 private men, 80 women and 36 children at the battalion at North Queensferry (32 miles south of Perth) on the Dec. 21, 1780 to sail to Gravesend, England. Graham commanded the trip to Gravesend in the absence of Lt. Col. MacLeod who was to join the battalion from London. Maj. Graham notified Gen. Lord Amherst on his arrival on Jan. 3, 1781 writing *"I take the earliest opportunity by express to inform your Lordship of the safe arrival of the 2<sup>d</sup> battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of Royall Highlanders in the river Thames opposite to Gravesend."*

Gen. Lord Amherst replied to Graham the same day that *"You will receive an Order, by the return of the Express, for Disembarking the Battalion, and Marching them into Chatham Barracks, from whence they are to March on Friday, toward Portsmouth."* Portsmouth was a major naval port located about 100 miles southwest of Gravesend on the English Channel. Maj. Graham and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion soon arrived at Portsmouth and the Highlanders embarked on the transports for a secret expedition to South Africa on Jan 22, 1781. Due to delays, however, the expedition did not sail until Mar. 12, 1781.



*Foudroyant and Pégase entering Portsmouth Harbour, 1782, by Dominic Serres*

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Graham set sail on the *Three Sisters* transport and was soon involved in an action with a French fleet under Adm. Bailli de Suffren on Apr. 16, 1781 as he wrote his parents on Apr. 26<sup>th</sup> from Santiago Island, in the Cape Verde Islands (off the west coast of Africa near Senegal). Graham described the action writing *“Our Regiment, with a few ships of war, first anchored before the Isle of May, with an intention of watering more expeditiously, but found the water so difficult to be had and in general so bad, that it was thought proper our detachment should join the fleet in this Bay, which happened very luckily, The Whole Fleet being attacked the morning after our arrival by five Line of Battle French Ships, bound with Convoy, it is said, for the Mauritius with several thousand troops on Board, Stores, etc. I rather presume the above Fleet is destined to try and counteract our expedition. It is now confidently said we are bound for the Cape of Good Hope. Be that as it may, two 74 and three 64 French Gun Ships having determinedly engaged our Fleet laying at anchor, guarded by one 74, one 64, three 50 and three Frigates, some of which from being moored could not bring their guns to bear upon the enemy without doing Damage to our own Fleet. A few of the Transports suffered a good deal as to Officers and men... It was disagreeable enough to the Transports, the balls flying about our rigging and we not having it in our power to do any good. There was only one shot struck the Transport, though a number went amongst the rigging of the Vessel without doing any damage.”*



*Battle of Porto Praya (Cape Verde Islands)* by Pierre-Julien Gilbert, 1837

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Unfortunately Maj. Graham also told of a fever on board the ship in the same letter writing *“I am sorry to inform you that there was a fever broke out amongst the soldiers and sailors on board the ship; there has two fine lads died of it... All the Officers well. I have not been near so much distressed with sea sickness as formerly, though very Bad...”* He concluded by noting their planned departure for South Africa writing *“The Fleet is to sail this afternoon, Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> of April... Your most dutiful Son and loving Servant, Pat<sup>r</sup> Graeme.”* Sadly, Graham’s letter from Santiago would be the last his parents would hear from him. Based on the effective date of his replacement as Major, (by Maj. John Campbell) Graham likely died about Oct. 23, 1781.

Graham’s parents did not learn of his death until much later. Graham’s mother wrote of her attempts to find out what happened to her son saying she had a letter signed John McDonald, dated from Bombay (now Mumbai, India) on Mar. 30, 1782, which indicated *“We set sail four days after our entering the bay for the Island of Johnanna, one of the Comora Islands; on our arrival the sick were all landed and soon recovered from the scurvy, but got much worse desease from the unhealthyness of the island such as*



*fevers and flux. Major Graham, Capt. Murray suffered the same fate.*” The Comora Islands form an archipelago of volcanic islands situated off the south-east coast of Africa.

*The Book of the Graemes* describes Maj. Graham’s demise writing “General Drummond then called on General Meadows, home on sick leave, ‘Chief in Command of the expedition with which was your son. I did not see himself, but his aide-de-camp. Captain Hart, his report was, that Graeme fell into very indifferent health on the voyage; he was, after leaving the Gulf of Persia, transferred to the Indiaman the Latham, Captain Robertson, the vessel separated, but Captain Hart who was well acquainted with Lieutenant-Colonel Graeme and regrets his loss much, heard that he died of fever a few days afterwards.’ General Drummond adds that the Latham is expected to arrive in May, and as Captain Robertson is ‘a very intimate friend’ of his he will glean from him ‘every minute circumstance relative to his melancholy fate’ The letter concludes with messages of condolence to the various members of the family at Inchbrakie.”

When the fleet finally reached India in 1782, five officers, including Maj. Patrick Graham, and 116 non-commissioned officers and privates had died. Prior to the news of his death reaching London, the War Office announced Graham’s promotion on June 18, 1782, “...To be Lieutenant Colonel in the East-Indies only.”

Commissions: Ens. Dec. 31, 1772; Lt. Sep. 8, 1775 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Co., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. prior to Apr. 29, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. June 17 – effective June 5, 1778 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Co., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Mar. 21, 1780 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. “in the Army” Sept. 30, 1780 – effective Oct. 11, 1779; Died on the way to India, about Oct. 23, 1781 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. “In the East Indies Only” June 13, 1782.

**References and Note:** *London Gazette*, Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2, Sept. 22-26, 1778, pp. 3-4 and Apr. 6-10, 1779, p. 1; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, Mar. 13, 1777, *Lord John Murray Papers*; “42<sup>d</sup> Foot return of the Killed & Wounded Since the 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 76 to the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1777 both days inclusive Piscataway 23<sup>d</sup> May 1777, W<sup>m</sup> Grant Major 42<sup>d</sup> or R. H. Reg<sup>t</sup>.” *Lord John Murray Papers*; *Or and Sable, A Book of the Graemes and Grahams*, Louisa G. Graeme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, pp. 317-339; General Orders, Philadelphia, June 17, 1778; *Scots Magazine*, Nov. 1778, p. 630, Sept. 1780, p. 588 and Sept. 1782, p. 503; *Edinburgh Advertiser* Oct. 6-10, 1780; *London Gazette*, Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 1780, p. 1; *Edinburgh Advertiser* Oct. 6-10, 1780; *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Part I, Fourth Edition, Harrison Pall Mall, London, 1862, Google Books, p. 581; *Edinburgh Magazine, or Literary Miscellany for July 1800*, Google Books, p. 166; *London Gazette* for Sept. 26, 1780 p. 6 and June 15-18, 1782 p. 1; *Or and Sable*, photo opp. p. 404 and pp. 313-14; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); William, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Montrose to Patrick Graeme, Feb. 19, 1778 in *Or and Sable*, Sketch XXI; TNA, *Courts Martial Proceedings*, Mar. 1-Sept. 30, 1778 at WO71/86, p. 216 – 218; TNA, Lord Amherst to Lord John Murray, July 29, 1779, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/231, ff. 76 – 77; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, Sept. 9, 1779, at WO 34/155, ff. 134-136; TNA, “Return of Officers, Serjeants, Corporals, Drummers & Pipers, Private men Women & Children of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot Commanded by the Right Honourable Lord John Murray As Embarked at North Queensferry the 21<sup>st</sup>. December 1780” at WO 34/170, ff. 352, 355; TNA, Patrick Graham to Lord Amherst, Jan. 3, 1781 at WO 34/171, f. 65; TNA, Lord Amherst to Patrick Graham, Jan. 3, 1781 at WO 34/ 236, f. 10; TNA, Richard Baily to Lord Amherst, Jan. 23, 1781 at WO 34/171, f. 425; Patrick Graham to his Parents, Cape Verde Islands, Apr. 26, 1781 in *Or and Sable*, Sketch XXI, 317-339. Note: Inchbrakie House was built in 1733-39 and largely added to in 1839-42.



Signature Source: TNA, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/154, f. 141.

**Graham**, Lt. William. Born about 1753, William Graham was a younger son of Lt. Col. Gordon Graham, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., of the family of Graham of Drynie, and his wife, “Miss Mackenzie.” Drynie was an

estate in the Black Isle (a peninsula bounded by the Beaully, Moray and Cromarty Firths). William was the younger brother of Grenadier Capt. (and later Maj. and Lt. Col.) Charles Graham, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., and brother-in-law to Capt. Alexander Donaldson of the 1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Graham likely joined the regiment as a Volunteer around 1767 as one of his commission requests after retiring in 1777 mentioned that “...my only brother is now Major to 1<sup>st</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> 42<sup>d</sup> in which reg<sup>t</sup> I had the honor of serving ten years...”

The Colonel of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Lt. Gen. Lord John Murray, wrote to Lt. Col. Gordon Graham about a commission for his son on Oct. 21, 1769 noting “... I am Extreemly glad to hear the Lord Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [of Ireland; George, Viscount Townshend] has promised your Younger Son [William Graham] a Commission, and am perswaded he won't disappoint you, But if there should happen any time a vacancy of an Ensign in my Regiment [in binding] hopes you won't ask for it, as you have one Son [Lt. Charles Graham] in it [in binding] and you know I never had the recommending of one Ensign for many years, which both you and [Lt.] Colonel [Francis] Grant had [in binding] they were abroad, which was very reasonable, but now as [in binding] are at home you must be Sensible, I have friends who I [in binding] willingly oblige if it were in my power, and it would be [in binding] equally as well for your Youngest son to be in another Reg<sup>t</sup>. and probably vacancys will be much sooner in others...”

Lord Murray wrote the Regimental Agent, William Montgomery in Dublin about the same subject a few months later in early December remarking “...My Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup>. [Gordon Graham] wrote me when at Londonderry concerning his Son's being made Q<sup>r</sup>.Master if any should be appointed this I imagined was for his Eldest son L<sup>t</sup>. Charles on my Reg<sup>t</sup>., he afterward wrote me he had a promise from my L<sup>d</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. of an Ensigncy for his younger Son (whose Christian Name I don't know [William], nor his age [16]) and afterwards that he had in direct hints given him by some of his Friends about the [Dublin] Castle, as if his Excellency [the Lord Lieutenant] meant to give the Q<sup>r</sup>.M<sup>r</sup>. Commission to his son. I wrote some time ago to my L<sup>d</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. desiring the favour he would give me the Recommendation of my Q<sup>r</sup>.M<sup>r</sup>. which I hope his Excellency will please grant me, especially if any other Colonels of Regiments have leave to Recommend theirs, but of its his pleasure not to accept of mine but appoint my L<sup>t</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup> <sup>rs</sup>. youngest son to it, whatever Col<sup>o</sup>. Graham wrote me on that Subject will of course go for Nothing as if he had never wrote to me about it, but I hope he will rather wait for his Excellencys promise ~~for~~ <sup>of</sup> an Ensigncy for his Son and decline accepting of the Q<sup>r</sup>.M<sup>r</sup>. Ship of my Regim<sup>t</sup>., otherwise I believe you'll readily imagine I can't take it well of him since its only waiting a little longer for an Ensigncy, and he knows I have done all in my power for him, on every occasion for his preferrment which he has always hither to merited from me, and ever had the greatest Friendship for him, please acquaint him of this w<sup>t</sup>. my Comp<sup>ts</sup>. which will Save Repititions...”

Graham's first appointment was as Quartermaster in Jan. 1770 and he was commissioned an Ensign the next month. According to Lord Murray, however, Graham did not perform the duties of Quartermaster when he held the position. Lord Murray explained the situation to the Secretary at War in a letter dated Feb. 7, 1776 writing “...also Lieu<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Graham who is Quarter Master, but it seems has never acted as Such, his father the late Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel attained it from the Lord Lieutenant [of Ireland] five years ago...” Graham was advanced to Lieutenant in Nov. 1772 in place of Lt. John Robertson who was also promoted.



Detail of *Edinburgh Castle from the North*, 2012, by Kim Traynor,

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

In Oct. 1775, as the regiment was raising more troops for the American war, Graham was part of a company of the Royal Highlanders assigned to garrison Edinburgh Castle. In early 1776, Lt. Col. Stirling pushed to get an active Quartermaster for the war in America and Graham resigned the position when he wrote to Lord Murray on Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> “...*I do hereby authorize your Lordship to dispose of My Quarter masters commission in the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>; as to the disposal of my Lieutenancy I beg your Lordship would do no more in that, as I have chang’d my Sentiments with regard to quitting the service.*”

Graham served with the Grenadier Company, commanded by his brother Capt. Charles Graham, in the New York campaign of 1776, but missed some of the campaign as indicated by a letter to a Capt. Graham of the Invalids where he wrote on Nov. 12, 1776 that “...*I have been ill for some time with a fever & ague, but am now much better, James & my Brother are both very well, and are with the Grand Army 30 Miles from here towards N. England...*” “James” in this note is likely his cousin, Lt. James Graham of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Company.

Lt. William Graham likely recovered in time for Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton’s Rhode Island expedition of late 1776-1777. Being the Captain’s brother may have affected Graham’s work ethic in the company as documented by Grenadier Lt. John Peebles, who wrote in Feb. 1777: “*M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. G<sup>r</sup> never thinks of taking any share of this duty & as little of any other as he can help...*”

In late 1776 Graham attempted to purchase a company in the regiment, and when he failed to raise the purchase price, he resigned from the army. He documented his decision in a memorial several years later when he tried to return to the army saying “...*I was my Lord a lieutenant in the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland reg<sup>t</sup> for four years when I was offered a company to purchase, but I not being of age my fathers trustees would not advance the money which piqued me so much as to determine me to quit the reg<sup>t</sup> sooner than let a younger lieutenant over my head when I knew I had a sufficiency to purchase with...*” Because Graham had not purchased his lieutenancy he could only sell his Ensigncy, which had been purchased. Accordingly, General Orders for April 24, 1777 indicated he retired “...*for the value of his Ensigncy.*”

When Alexander, Duke of Gordon raised the Northern Regiment of Fencible Men for duty in Scotland, Graham was commissioned a lieutenant in Sept. 1778 (effective Apr. 1778), but resigned from the Fencibles in March 1779 and resided in Aberdeen. On Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> of that year Graham wrote Lord Amherst to try to return to the army indicating “...*I beg pardon for troubling your lordship, but hope your known goodness will excuse me. As there is at present a number of Vacancies in the army (at least I am led to think so from the number of new corps now raising) I should wish to again have the honor of serving his majesty in the same rank as when I quitted the service two years ago...I therefore beg for your Lordships protection in recommending me to His Majesty; and I am induced to think your Lordship will do for me*

*what is in your power particularly as being the son of one who had the honor of being well known to your Lordship, my father was Lieu<sup>t</sup> Col. Gordon Graham of 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> and about whose service I need say nothing, and my only brother is at present Major to the 42<sup>d</sup> and my zeal for the service (in which I was educated) is very great.*” Lord Amherst, however, refused to recommend his return to the King.

Graham tried again in July 1780, writing Lord Amherst that “...my only brother is now Major to 1<sup>st</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> 42<sup>d</sup> in which reg<sup>t</sup> I had the honor of serving ten years, but having been very ill used by my father’s trustees was oblig’d to quit the service and come home from America, as I am quite unhappy out of the army life hope lordship will recommend me for an Ensigncy...” Lord Murray provided his recommendation for this attempt writing Lord Amherst on Sept. 5 “William Graham Esq<sup>r</sup>. late a Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment under my Command, is son of the Late Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel Gordon Graham, and Brother to Major Charles Graham of my first Battalion, and at Present commanding them in America, to the best of my knowledge is a good Officer, and proper to Serve His Majesty again.” This appeal was also unsuccessful.

Graham married Isabella (also Isobel) Abernathie (second daughter of James Abernathie of Mayen) and had four children (Charles, Abernathy, Lt. George Graham (Royal Artillery) and Jean). Graham’s wife, who had inherited her brother’s (James Abernathie of Mayen) estate, died in Oct. 1798 as described by *The Scots Magazine*, which wrote “... [Oct.] 28. Near London, Mrs Graham, spouse of W. Graham, late of 42d foot, and daughter of the deceased James Abercrombie, Esq; of Mayen.”

Graham was also admitted into the Royal Company of Archers on Feb. 18, 1792 under the listing “William Graham, late 42d Regiment.” This largely ceremonial unit was formed as the King’s bodyguard for Scotland in 1676.

Commissions: Volunteer 1767; Quartermaster Jan. 18, 1770; Ens. Feb. 10, 1770; Lt. Nov. 23, 1772; Lt. Approx. 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Resigned as Quartermaster Mar. 19, 1776; Retired April 22, 1777; Lt. Apr. 14, 1778 (Northern Regiment of Fencible Men); Resigned March 23, 1779 (Northern Fencibles); Royal Company of Archers Feb. 18, 1792.

**References:** *Or and Sable, A Book of the Græmes and Grahams*, Louisa G. Græme, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1903, p. 543; Entry for Saturday, Oct. 14, 1775 in *Boswell: the Ominous Years, 1774-1776*, James Boswell, Ed. Frederick A. Pottle and Charles Ryskamp, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1963; *Bagshawe Muniments*, I-XI. Correspondence and Papers, V. Lord John Murray (d. 1787) and his Wife Mary, nee Dalton (d. 1765), 5/1/1-460. Correspondence, 1-408. Bound manuscript volume of copies of private letters, pp. 32-34, 52-53; John Rylands University, Manchester Univ.; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 7, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; TNA, Enclosure, Jan. 24, 1776 in Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 10, 1776 at WO 1/993; William Graham to Capt. Graham of the Invalids, New York, Nov. 12, 1776, *Lord John Murray Papers*; *Peebles’ Journal* entry for Feb. 12, 1777; General Orders, New York, Apr. 24, 1777; NRS, *Records of Messrs. Haldane, Brown & Company, Chartered Accountants, Edinburgh, Graham of Drynie*: title deeds and other legal papers, Graham of Drynie miscellaneous writs at GD225/2/5/8; TNA, William Graham to Lord Amherst, Aug. 5, 1779, *Baron Jeffery Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/154 f. 141; *Scots Magazine*, Nov. 1778, p. 630 and Oct. 1793, p. 571; “The Northern Fencibles” in *Scottish Notes and Queries*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, Vol. VII, July 1905 to June 1906, Ed. John Bulloch, Rosemount Press, Aberdeen, p. 39; TNA, William Graham to Lord Jeffrey Amherst, Aberdeen, Aug. 5, 1779 at WO 34/154, f. 141; TNA, Lord Amherst to William Graham, Nov. 2, 1779 at WO 34/188; TNA, Lord Amherst to William Graham, Nov. 2, 1779 at WO 34/188 and WO 34/232, p. 76; TNA, William Graham to Lord Amherst, July 27, 1780 at WO 34/165 f. 300 and 300R; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, Sept. 5, 1780 at WO 34/167, f. 89; *Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland during 1759-1814*, John Malcolm Bulloch, Aberdeen University, Aberdeen, 1914, p. 115; *The History of the Royal Company of Archers: The Queen’s Body-Guard for Scotland* James Balfour Paul, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London, 1885, pp. 356, 374, Google Books; *Scottish Notes and Queries*, Vol. XI, June 1897-June 1898, Ed. John Bulloch, A. Brown & Co., Aberdeen, 1898, Google Books, p. 156, *Moir Genealogy and Collateral Lines*, Alexander L. Moir, Union Printing Co., Lowell, Mass., 1913, Google Books, p. 215.



Moy House Ruins in 2011, by Anne Burgess

Picture Source: Photograph © Anne Burgess, with permission.

*Alex. Grant Lt.*

**Grant**, Lt. Alexander. Born on June 2, 1751 in Urquhart, Scotland, Grant was the illegitimate son of Col. Hugh Grant (later of Moy and son of Alexander Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> of Sheuglie) and his mistress, Christian Grant. Col. Grant was the commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sepoy Brigade of the Indian Army and amassed a considerable fortune in the East Indies, before returning to Scotland in 1775. Upon his return he purchased the estate of Moy (near Forres, 26 miles northeast of Inverness) and other properties from Sir James Grant of Grant by 1776. Alexander Grant was the nephew of Capt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Called “*Saunders*” by the other officers, Alexander Grant was commissioned Ensign in the Royal Highlanders while the regiment was stationed in Ireland in Mar. 1773 in place of Ens. James Graham who was promoted.

Grant was one of the subjects of an attempt by Lord John Murray to promote two junior Scots officers over more senior Irish and English officers. In a letter dated Oct. 11, 1775, the Secretary at War responded to Lord Murray’s recommendations and notified Lord Murray of several promotions stating “*I herewith to answer to your Lordships a List of Notifications for your Regiment which have been issued from this Office... Ensign Alexander Grant to be Lieutenant vice [John] M<sup>c</sup>Intosh...*” Despite this notification, Ens. Grant’s promotion was cancelled and Ens. Robert Franklin promoted in his place. Col. David Stewart attempted to explain this controversy writing “*At this time, there was a keen struggle between the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord John Murray, the former wishing to introduce some southern officers into the regiment, which the latter strenuously resisted. The influence of the Lord Lieutenant prevailed, and Lieutenant Littleton and Franklin were appointed, and the commissions of Lieutenants Grant and Mackenzie, whom Lord John had procured to be gazetted, were afterwards cancelled.*” However, what Col. Stewart left out of his narrative was that Franklin’s date of rank as Ensign was Dec. 16, 1771 while Grant’s was Mar. 1, 1773, clearly giving the promotion priority to



Franklin. The issue being resolved, Grant returned to his duties as Ensign as the regiment prepared to sail for America in April 1776.

Just two weeks before the regiment sailed, newly appointed Lt. William Rose had not reported for embarkation due to a severe illness. Lord Murray wanted to replace Rose with Ens. Alexander Mackenzie, but Ens. Grant was more senior. Lord Murray left the decision up to the Secretary at War writing on Apr. 15, 1776 “... *Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. Grant is the Eldest, but only thru Years, Standing, & Co<sup>l</sup>. Hugh Grant would not purchase a Lieutenancy for him, tho he is so rich...*” No promotion occurred, however, as Lt. Rose was transferred to one of the Additional Companies in Scotland and retained his commission.

After arriving in America, Ens. Grant was advanced to Lieutenant on Sept. 30, 1776 (effective in Aug.) in place of Lt. John Graham who was promoted into the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders. Grant served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and was wounded in the regiment’s assault in the battle of Fort Washington, New York on Nov. 16, 1776. He joined the Grenadier Company on Apr. 4, 1777 and served with that company in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778.

In Oct. 1779, during a period of massive sickness in the army in New York, Lt. Grant was diagnosed by former Surgeon’s Mate, Capt. John Peebles who wrote: “...*consulted with Dr. Morris & got a prescription for Grant. representing his case as Rheumatic fever...*” By Oct. 12, Grant was so weak he was taken to New York in a carriage, but he began to recover the next week.

At the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina, Grant was badly wounded while on a covering party on Apr. 5, 1780, as a six-pound cannon ball struck him in a slanting direction near the right shoulder. The iron ball carried away his entire shoulder blade, with several other bones. The surgeons could provide no real care, except to try to make him comfortable for the limited amount of time he was expected to live. Grant was taken to the General Hospital and left to die but to the surprise of the surgeons, was found alive the next day and free from fever or any other symptoms. On Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> of that year Capt. Peebles noted that: “...*Lt. Grant being recovered of his wound came with me...*”

Grant was married to Sarah Kent, the daughter of Rev. Elisha Kent (pastor of 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church near the town of Southeast, New York) and his wife Abigail Moss Kent. During the winter of 1780-1781, when the Grenadiers were stationed in Newtown, Long Island, Lt. Grant and his wife likely stayed in the house of rebel Capt. Benjamin Coe (of the Newtown militia company) that had been seized in 1776 by the British Army. After the war Lt. Grant’s property in New York was awarded to Capt. Coe for the losses he had sustained to his property in Newtown during the British occupation.

Grant was transferred from the Grenadiers to the Lt. Infantry Company in Feb. 1783. As the senior Lieutenant in the regiment, this transfer was likely so he could command the company in place of Capt. Dalrymple, who was on parole in Britain. Capt. William Dickson was later seconded to command the company in August 1783.

Grant was the senior Lieutenant of the regiment at the end of the war and was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant in Nova Scotia in Aug. 1785 when Capt. Lt. Robert Franklin died. Five years later Grant was advanced to Captain on Nov. 24, 1790 in place of Capt. James Campbell, who also died. Grant left the regiment in Jan. 1791 by exchanging with the Marquis of Huntly, taking command of the Marquis’ Independent Company. The Independent Companies raised in 1791 were part of a recruiting scheme by the Secretary of War, and the men were immediately drafted into the line regiments. The officers were placed on half pay in Dec. 1791.

In Mar. 1793 Capt. Grant was appointed to a company in the newly raised 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. (or the Ross-shire Buffs). Grant was promoted to Major “*in the Army*” in May 1795 and two months later, on July 11<sup>th</sup>, the War Office announced his promotion to Major of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 78<sup>th</sup> Regt. Strangely this Majority was never reflected in the War Office annotated copy of the 1796 Army List published Mar. 11, 1796 and Grant no longer appears on subsequent lists. Accordingly, it is likely Grant retired from the 78<sup>th</sup> Regt. before Mar. 1796.

According to Col. David Stewart (Garth), Maj. Grant died in 1807.

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 1, 1773; Lt. Aug. 13, 1775 – Cancelled; Lt. Sept. 30, 1776 – effective Aug. 23, 1776; Lt. Apr. 4, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Lt. (42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Co.); Capt. Lt. Aug. 31, 1785; Capt. Nov. 24, 1790; Capt. by Exchange Jan 25, 1791 (Independent Company); Capt. Half-pay Dec. 1791 (Independent Company); Capt. Mar. 12, 1793 (78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Feb. 10, 1794 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Maj. “*in the Army*” May 15, 1793; Maj. July 11, 1795 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Retired before Mar. 1796 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. – the Rossshire Buffs ).

**References:** *Descendants of Hugh Grant, of Moy* by Marie Fraser, Clan Fraser Society of Canada; *Naval and Military Magazine*, Vol. I, Published by T. Clerc Smith, London, 1827, Google Books, p. 161; *The Chiefs of Grant*, Sir William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1883; NRS, *Papers of the Ogilvy family, Earls of Seafield* (Seafield Papers) at GD248/52/1 and GD248/53/4; TNA, Lord Barrington to Lord Murray, Oct. 11, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); TNA, Lord Barrington to Lord Murray, Oct. 25, 1776 at WO 4/94, p. 441; TNA, Lord Barrington to Alexander Mackenzie, Feb. 9, 1776 at WO 4/96 p. 50 (f. 23); *Stewart's Sketches*, pp. 366-367; General Orders, New York, Sept. 30, 1776; *Stewart's Sketches* p. 376-377, 396 and Appendix; *Peebles' Journal* Entries dated Oct. 7, 12 and 18, 1779 and Apr. 5 and April 5 and Sept. 28, 1780; *Robert Coe, Puritan His Ancestors and Descendants 1340-1901*, J. Gardner Barnett, Published for the Author, Boston, 1911, Google Books, p. 108; TNA, George Yonge to John Campbell, Oct. 6, 1785, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 75-76. (f. 38); *London Gazette* for Sept. 6-10, 1785, pp. 1-2, Nov. 23 –27, 1790, p. 3, Jan. 29, 1791, pp. 1-3, Aug. 13-17, 1793, p. 1, May 12, 1795, pp. 2-5 and July 7-11, 1795, pp. 3-5; *The Parliamentary Register or History of the Proceedings and Debated of the House of Commons...During the First Session of the Seventeenth Parliament of Great Britain*, Vol. XXIX, Printed for J. Debrett, London, 1791, Google Book, pp. 20-25; *Scots Magazine* for Feb. 1791, p. 103, Sept. 1795, pp. 613-4 and Nov. 1795, p. 751; *Genealogies of the Different Families Bearing the Name of Kent*, by Lloyd Vernon Briggs, Rockwell and Churchill Press, Boston, 1898, Google Books, p. 172.

*Alex Grant Lieutenant*

**Grant**, Lt. Alexander, Junior, Younger of Auchterblair. Volunteer Alexander Grant was born about 1756 and was the son of Lt. Robert Grant of Auchterblair and his wife Jean Grant. Auchterblair is located about nine miles southwest of Grantown-on-Spey. Grant was commissioned an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in March 1778 in place of Ens. David Crawford who was promoted. Grant served with a line battalion in the return to New York after the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778 and the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779. He advanced to Lieutenant on Apr. 18, 1780 (effective Aug. 1779) in place of Lt. John Robertson, promoted into the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. Because there was already a “*Lt. Alexander Grant*” in the regiment, Grant was designated in orders as “*Alexander Grant, Junior.*” Grant served with the regiment for the attempt to rescue Lord Cornwallis in Virginia in 1781. He left the regiment on Oct. 14, 1782 when he exchanged with Lt. John Nesmyth of the 69<sup>th</sup> (or South Lincolnshire) Regt.



Reproduction 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

After joining the 69<sup>th</sup> Regt., Grant went out on Half-pay of that regiment on June 24, 1783, but on Feb. 23, 1796 the War Office announced his commission in *The Royals* writing “*1st Battalion of the 1st Regiment of Foot, Lieutenant Alexander Grant, from the Half-Pay of the 69<sup>th</sup> Foot, to be Lieutenant, vice Davies, removed to the 18th Dragoons.*” He did not serve long in *The Royals* as he was soon promoted to a Company in the 66<sup>th</sup> or the Berkshire Regt. in July 1796 and served on the island of St. Domingo (Hispaniola).

*The Edinburgh Magazine* for February 1798 recorded Grant’s death writing “*Deaths [late 1797] ...Lately, on his passage home from St Domingo, Captain Alexander Grant, of the 66th regiment, and son of Robert Grant, Esq. of Auchterblair.*” The War Office was apparently slow to update the records of the 66<sup>th</sup> Regt. as Capt. Grant remained listed in the 66<sup>th</sup> Regt. until the annual Army List of 1800 was published.

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 18, 1778; Lt. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Aug. 24, 1779; Lt. Oct. 14, 1782 (69<sup>th</sup> or South Lincolnshire Regt.), Lt. Half Pay June 24, 1783 (69<sup>th</sup> or South Lincolnshire Regt.); Lt. Feb. 20, 1796 (1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. – The Royals); Capt. July 1, 1796 (66<sup>th</sup> or the Berkshire Regt.); Died 1797 (66<sup>th</sup> or the Berkshire Regt.).

**References:** Biographical Notes of Robert Grant of Auchterblair by Marie Fraser; General Orders, Philadelphia, Mar. 19, 1778 and at Williams House [Charleston], Apr. 18, 1780; *London Gazette* for July 15, 1780 p. 5, Dec. 3, 1782, p. 3, Feb. 20-23, 1796, pp. 2-3, Sept. 23, 1796, pp. 4-5; Half pay date for 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. from Dr. John Houlding’s notes to Paul Pace; *Robert Coe, Puritan His Ancestors and Descendants 1340-1901*, J. Gardner Barnett, Published for the Author, Boston, 1911, Google Books, p. 108; General Orders, Lefferts House, Oct. 14, 1782; *Royal Gazette*, Oct. 19, 1782; *A Narrative of the Historical Events Connected with the Sixty-Ninth Regiment*, by W. F. Butler, 69th Regt., W. Mitchell & Co., London, 1870, p. 121; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany for February 1798*, p. 159.



Shewglie House, Glenurquhart, 2012, by James Grant,

Picture Source: James Grant, Historian, *Clan Grant*, USA, by permission

*Charles Grant Capt 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt*

**Grant**, Capt. Charles. Grant was born Mar. 13, 1740, the youngest child of Jacobite Alexander Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> of Sheuglie and his second wife, Isabella Grant (daughter of John Grant, 6<sup>th</sup> of Glenmoriston). Sheuglie is located in Glen Urquhart, about eight miles west of Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness. At the end of the '45 Jacobite Rebellion sixty-year old Alexander Grant of Sheuglie was made prisoner and accused of being the leader of rebels in Glen Urquhart, though he himself did not actually join Charles Stewart's Jacobite army. Alexander Grant was confined in Tilbury Fort, where he died of a fever on July 29, 1746, just as he was about to be brought to trial. One of Charles Grant's older brothers was Col. Hugh Grant of Moy, the father of Lt. Alexander Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.



Diorama of Fort Duquesne from Fort Pitt Museum,

Grant began his service as a Volunteer in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Montgomery's Highlanders) during the French and Indian War. Vol. Grant took part in Maj. James Grant of Ballindalloch's abortive attack on Fort Duquesne (at the current site of the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) in September 1758 and was captured and held prisoner by the Wyandot Tribe who moved him to their camp near Detroit, Michigan.

In July 1759 a letter from Lt. James Grant, 77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt., to Col. Henry Bouquet requested assistance for Grant writing "*Colonel [Archibald] Montgomery desires his Compliments to you & General [John] Stanwix & begs the favour Youl exert yourselves in recovering the prisoners among the Indians taken in Major Grants affair particularly L' [Alexander] M<sup>c</sup>Donald [77<sup>th</sup> Regt.] & M<sup>r</sup> Charles Grant, a Volunteer who came from home under Major Grants protection, if this opportunity of treating w<sup>t</sup> the Indians when you are in their Country, is overlooked; it is hard to Say how long those poor people may remain in Slavery.*" Vol. Charles Grant and Maj. James Grant of Ballindalloch were distant cousins.

Army Scout George Croghan was involved in Grant's release from the Wyandotts and wrote in his journal for Jan. 11, 1760 that "*a Number of Wyandotts came here to trade, and brought Lieutenant M<sup>c</sup>Donald of the Highland Regiment, and one Hamilton that was taken out of the Cove, both of them they delivered up to me; and said that their Nation would bring in all the English Prisoners they had, and deliver them up in the Spring.*" He continued in his journal on Jan. 26 that "*One Charles Powers an English Prisoner... gives the following intelligence...That the Wyandotts are Pretty kind to their Prisoners, but all other Nations that he has been amongst are very Cruel...*"

In late Nov. 1760 Capt. Campbell, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt., arrived at Detroit to accept the surrender of the fort, per an earlier arrangement with the French. The former French Garrison of three officers and 35 privates was sent to Fort Pitt and arrived on Dec. 24, 1760. Croghan noted on Dec. 2, 1760 that "*Lieut. [Robert] Holmes [of Roger's Rangers] set out with M<sup>r</sup> Belleater and the rest of the Garrison for Fort Pitt with whom I sent 15 English Prisoners that I had got from the Indians.*" Lt. Holmes made a listing or "Return" of the released English prisoners at Detroit dated Dec. 26, 1760 and included Vol. Charles Grant, indicating he had been captured at Major Grant's defeat near Fort Duquesne, Sept. 14, 1758, and had been a prisoner with the "Wyondot Indians" ever since.

Soon after Vol. Grant's arrival at Fort Pitt, Col. Henry Bouquet, commander at Fort Pitt sent a letter to Maj. Gen. Hon. Robert Monckton which read "*Fort Pitt 25<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1761 Sir, The bearer M<sup>r</sup>. Charles Grant was a Volunteer in Col. Montgomery's Regiment, and had the misfortune to be taken by the Indians in the Campaign of 1758. Having made his Escape, he came here last month, and hath been sick ever since, as he desired me to inform you of his case I take the liberty to do it ...*"

Grant was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. effective July 28, 1760, although still a prisoner of the Indians until Nov. 1760. After commissioning Ens. Grant likely participated in the capture of Montreal in 1761 and Martinique in 1762. Ens. Grant was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1762 and instead of going out on half-pay when the battalion was reduced at the end of the war, he reverted to the rank of Ensign but retained his seniority as Lieutenant. Grant participated in the 1764 expedition to Muskingum, Ohio under Col. Henry Bouquet.





Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania – reconstructed

Picture Source: Courtesy of the *Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania State Historic Site*.

Lt. Grant was the commander of Fort Loudoun in Western Pennsylvania in 1764 and 1765 with a half-company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to enforce the Proclamation Line of 1763, which prohibited illegal settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains. Fort Loudoun was located about 70 miles southwest of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and about 150 miles southeast of Fort Pitt where the largest part of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was located. In 1765 Lt. Grant was involved in a series of confrontations with James Smith, the leader of the “*Sidling Hill Volunteers*” a local paramilitary group of about 300 men, also nicknamed “*The Black Boys*,” who darkened their faces prior to engagements. Lt. Grant wrote to Col. Henry Bouquet on Mar. 9, 1765 explaining the beginning of the conflict. Grant wrote “...*The Country People is Very Much Alarmed here, By the Goods that is Going up to George Croghan as presents for the Indians, there was about One Hundred of the Country People that Raised in Arms to stop the Goods five miles from this place, at Justice Smiths. they followed them to the Great Cove; where they Killed three Horses and Wounded three More, and threatened to Kill the Drivers if They did Not go away from the Goods Immediately. they burnt Sixty three Loads of the goods.*”

At one point Grant was captured by Smith but was soon released. Brevet-Lt. Col. John Reid, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., described Grant’s capture in a letter to Gen. Thomas Gage from Carlisle dated June 1, 1765, writing “*I received letters from Lieutenant Grant, Commanding at Fort Loudoun, complaining much of some Late insults, received from the Rioters near that post. He says on the 28th Ultimo, [May], he was taking the air on Horseback and about half a mile from his post, was surrounded by Five of the Rioters, who presented their pieces at him; the person who commanded them to shoot the Bougar, that one of them fired at him, which frightened his horse, who run into the Bushes & occasioned his being thrown upon the Ground. They then disarmed him, carried him fifteen Miles into the Woods and threatened to tye him to a Tree and leave him to perish, if he would not give them up some Arms...*”

At the worst point in the conflict the “*Black Boys*” actually attacked the fort to recover some of their captured weapons on Nov. 16, 1765 as described by Lt. Grant in a letter to the commander of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Fort Pitt on Nov. 22. Lt. Grant wrote “... *On the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant, a man came in from the Country, and told me that there was Three Different Party’s waiting about the Fort, to take Me and Mr. [Sgt. Leonard M<sup>c</sup>]Glashan Prisoners, as they heard we were to March soon; at 7 o’clock at Night, the Fort was Surrounded by a number of the Rioters, who kept firing and hooting the whole night; next day they got*

*more men and encampt round the Fort, so that nobody could come in or go out of the Fort , they began next night and kept firing till Day light, when they sent me word that they wanted their Arms to be delivered to the Magistrates. I told them that I did apply to the Justices, but that they refused to take the Arms; at 10 o'clock they appeared to the number of about 100, and fir'd upon all Corners of the Fort, so that the Centry's could not stand upright upon the Bastions; they kept firing at the Fort to one o'clock, when Mr. M'Dowell came in, and said, if I would let him have the Arms, that he would give me a Receipt, and that those Arms would remain in his House till such time as the Governor would give Orders about them, and that the owners would be satisfied whatever the Governor thought proper to do with them. As the General wrote to me to give up the Arms when the Governor would desire it, I condescended so much as to take Mr. McDowell's Receipt, that the Arms would not be delivered up to the Owners, till the Governor would desire it, as the Garrison was much fatigued for want of Sleep for two nights and two days before, owing to the Rioters firing on the Fort. I thought it best to give the Arms to Mr. M'Dowell, as I had no particular orders for carrying them with me..."*

Grant's situation at Fort Loudoun was finally resolved when his detachment was pulled from the fort by the regiment. Capt. William Grant described the end of the affair to the regimental commander by letter in Nov. 25, 1765. Capt. Grant expalained "...Lieut. Grant, with his Garrison, is at last gone to Fort Pitt; I sent Ensign [Peter] Herring with thirty men to take him off from Loudoun, and I find it was very necessary. He was Besieged for two Nights and two Days; the Rioters fired some hundreds of Shot at the Stockades, and in return, one of his Sentries fired only one Single Shot, this Sentry was personally fired at three different times, which at last provoked him to fire a shot; many Balls went through Patton's House, and many Lodged in the Stockades of the Fort. Lieut. Grant had but little Ammunition, which made him Cautious to fire till the Lawless Sooundrels would come close to the Fort, the Villians Encamped at Night round the Fort, lighted Fires; Mr. Grant counted Twenty, and he believes the number of the rioters might Exceed Two Hundred. In this affair, Justice [William] Smith proves himself to be a most Atrocious Scoundre'l, which you will see in a Letter from him to Mr. Grant, which Mr. Grant has inclosed to you, with a Circumstantial Account from Mr. Grant, of every thing that happened since the rioters last broke out, to which I refer you."

Grant resumed his service with the regiment in Pennsylvania before sailing with the regiment to Ireland in 1767 where he was finally re-promoted to Lieutenant in Ireland on Dec. 16, 1771 (effective with his earlier date of rank of Aug. 1762) in place of Lt. Nathaniel M<sup>c</sup>Culloch, who had died. Several editions of the annual Army List incorrectly listed Grant's date of rank as 1771, but the date was corrected to Aug. 9, 1762 by the 1775 edition. Lt. Grant obtained Capt. Alexander, Earl of Balcarres' Company when Lord Balcarres was promoted out of the regiment in Mar. 1776.

Just a few weeks before Grant sailed for America, his illegitimate daughter was born. The entry of the baptism read "3 April 1776 Inverness - Capt<sup>n</sup> Charles Grant of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> & Jean Steven had a child begotten in fornication baptised by M<sup>r</sup> George Watson called Anne."

Grant's company traveled to America on the transport *Glasgow* and upon arrival he served as a company commander in one of the line battalions for the entire American war. His campaigns included the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777, the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777-1778, the raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stoney Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780 and the relief attempt to rescue Lord Cornwallis in Virginia in 1781.

In late 1779 Grant married Elizabeth Hunt from Newtown, Long Island. His wife's pension application in 1819 read that she "... was lawfully married at New Town Long Island in America on the Tenth day of December in y<sup>e</sup> year 1779 to Charles Grant late a Captain in the 42 Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot commanded by Col<sup>l</sup>.

*Charles Graham...*” Capt. Peebles commented on Mrs. Grant in his journal for July 17, 1780 writing “...paid a visit to M<sup>rs</sup> C. Grant who is in Camp. She looks well & may turn out something.”

In Sept. 1781, Grant offered a five dollar reward in the *Royal Gazette* for “...a negro man named TOM, about 27 years of age five feet five or six inches high, thick and well made, has a cut in his forehead. Whoever brings the said negro man TOM, to Captain Grant, or Mr. Hunt, at Newtown, Long-Island, or gives information where he can be found, shall have the above reward...”

At the end of the war, Capt. Grant and his wife sailed with the regiment for duty in Halifax, Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783 and was the senior Captain in the regimental review on June 9, 1784.

While Maj. Walter Home, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., was in Britain on leave he wrote the Secretary at War on Nov. 22, 1784 regarding commission rank conflicts with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in India. He included in his letter a discussion of Capt. Grant. Home wrote “*Before I left Halifax in Oct<sup>r</sup>: last... Cap<sup>t</sup>: Grant who purchased his company nine years ago, gave in his Resignation to retire from the Service on receiving the regulated price for his Commission, / just before my departure from Halifax; and I should wish to recommend the Senior Officers of each Rank in the first Battalion to succeed to the promotion, provided they will not be in danger of being put on half pay by the interference of the 2<sup>d</sup>: Batt<sup>n</sup>: with the first.*”



St. Paul's Anglican Church, Halifax,

Picture Source: Wikipedia Commons by Taxiarchos228

Capt. Grant died in 1785 and is buried in the St. Paul's Church burial ground in Halifax. His tombstone reads: “...Here lies the body of Charles Grant, Esq., late Captain in the First Battalion of His Majesty's 42nd Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, who departed this life the 1st day of February, in the year of our Lord, 1785. Aged 44 years.” Mrs. Grant's 1819 pension application indicated “... that the said Captain Grant died on the fourth of February 1785 that on the twenty fifth day of July 1786 she was married again to Lieutenant John Fox 33<sup>rd</sup> Foot...”

Commissions: Vol. Approx. 1758 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or 1<sup>st</sup> Highland Bn.), Ens. July 28, 1760 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 9, 1762; Ens. (as Lt.) 1763; Lt. Dec. 16, 1771 (effective Aug. 9, 1762); Capt. Mar. 20, 1776; Retired Approx. Oct. 1784.

**References:** *Descendants of Alexander Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> Sheuglie*, Marie Fraser, Clan Fraser Society of Canada; "The Chiefs of Grant" in *The Genealogist*, Vol. I, Ed. Walford D. Selby, George Bell and Sons, London, 1884, Google Books, p. 222; "Return of the prisoners brought by Lieu<sup>t</sup> Holmes from Detroit &ca Fort Pitt the 26<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> 1760" from Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Bouquet Papers, ref: Q3-61578-B, Vol. 21655, Reel A-1079, pp. 98-99; Lt. James Grant, 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. to Col Henry Bouquet, July 18, 1759 in *The Papers of Henry Bouquet, Volume III, January 1, 1759 – August 31, 1759*, Ed. Donald H. Kent, Louis M. Waddell and Autumn L. Leonard, The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1976, pp. 422-425; "George Croghan's Journal, 1759-1763," Ed. Nicholas B. Wainwright in *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. LXXI, No. 4, Oct. 1947, Google Books, pp. 364-365, 394; *The Papers of Henry Bouquet, Volume V, September 1, 1760 – October 31, 1761*, Ed. Louis M. Waddell, John L. Tottenham and Donald H. Kent, The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1984, pp. 262-263; Col. Henry Bouquet to Gen. Monckton, Fort Pitt, Jan. 25, 1761 in the Aspinwall Papers, Part I, *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, Vol. IX, Fourth Series, Boston, 1871, Google Books, p. 389; Henri Bouquet to Gen. Thomas Gage, Fort Pitt, Nov. 30, 1764, "Bouquet Papers" in *Historical Collections, Collections and Researches*, Vol. XIX, Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Lansing, 1892, Google Books, pp. 283-287; *Beyond Philadelphia, The American Revolution in the Pennsylvania Hinterland*, Ed John B. Frantz and William Pencak, Pennsylvania State University Press, University Park (Pennsylvania), 1998, pp. 112-113; George Washington to Virginia Gov. Fauquier, "Camp at Raystown" Sept. 28, 1758 from *The Writings of George Washington*, Vol. II, 1758-1775, Ed. Worthington Chauncey Ford, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1889, Google Books, p. 104; *Report of the Commission to Locate the Site of the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania*, Vol. I, Indian Forts Commission of Pennsylvania, State Printer of Pennsylvania, 1896, Google Books, pp. 539-540; *The First Rebel*, N. Swanson, Farrar & Rinehart, 1937; Charles Grant to Henry Bouquet, Mar. 9, 1765 in *The Papers of Henry Bouquet Volume VI Selected Documents November 1761 – July 1765*, Ed. by Louis M. Waddell, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1994, pp. 763-764; John Reid to Thomas Gage, June 1, 1765 in *Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania*, Vol. IX, Printed by Theo. Fenn & Co., Harrisburg, 1852, Google Books, pp. 268-269; Charles Grant to John Reid, Nov. 22, 1765 and William Grant to John Reid, Nov. 25, 1765 in *Pennsylvania Archives...Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 246-248; *Edinburgh Advertiser* April 9, 1776 and September 6-10, 1776; *London Gazette* for Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2 and Sept. 6-10, 1785, pp. 1-2; *Descendants of Charles Grant*, s/o Sheuglie, Marie Fraser, Clan Fraser Society of Canada; *Scots Magazine*, April 1776, p. 222; *John Peebles' American War*, Ira Gruber, Army Records Society and Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg (Pennsylvania), 1998, p. 517; *Peebles' Journal* entry for July 16, 1780; *Royal Gazette*, Sept. 5, 1781; *Family History Stairs Morrow*, William James Stairs, McAlpine Publishing Co., Halifax, N. S., 1906, Google Books, p. 15; TNA, *Office of the Commander-in-Chief and War Office: Adjutant General and Army Council, Inspection Returns, Foreign, 1783-1784* at WO 27/52; TNA, Walter Home to Sec. at War, Nov. 22, 1784 at *War Office: Sec. at War In-letters* at WO 1/1024, p. 265; TNA, *War Office: Sec. at War Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 75-76. (f. 38); TNA, *War Office: Officers' Birth Certificates, Wills and Personal Papers* at WO 42/19, G225.

The image shows a handwritten signature in cursive script. The first line reads "John Grant" and the second line reads "42<sup>nd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup> Regt." The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Signature Source: TNA, *Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/170, f. 84.

**Grant**, Lt. John (later of Auchindoun/Auchindown): Born in Scotland in 1738, John Grant was commissioned Ensign Oct. 1761 in the 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Queen's Own Royal Regt. of Highlanders) raised by Col. David Græme of Gorthy, Secretary to Queen Charlotte. The regiment served in Ireland and was disbanded at the end of the Seven Years War and Grant went out on Irish Half-pay in 1763. Grant married 22-year old Grace (or Grizel) Grant at Inveraron, Banff on Oct. 27, 1768.

Grant was commissioned Ensign from Half- pay when the new Light Infantry Company was ordered to be added to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1771, in place of Ens. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh who was promoted. Grant served

with the regiment in Ireland where he obtained a Lieutenancy in Jan. 1775 on the promotion of Lt. John Smith.

About six weeks before the regiment sailed for America, on Mar. 14, the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen. Lord John Murray provided the War Office a listing of the Officers assigned to the two Additional Companies, who were to remain in Scotland to raise recruits for the regiment in America. Murray wrote *"Names of the officers of the two additional Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot... 2 Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson Lieu<sup>t</sup>. John Grant..."* A month later on Apr. 15, 1776, Lord Murray proposed adding a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in a letter to the War Office. In his proposal he included the listing *"Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot ...Captains... John Grant Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in 42<sup>d</sup>. has got Eighty good recruits... NB. Each of these Officers will give any Security Required, to raise by themselves or Friends, during their Absence, Fifty good Men for their Appointment of Captain in four Months after receiving their Beating orders..."* The War Office did not, however, accept Lord Murray's offer at this time, and Lt. Grant continued on the Recruiting Service.

After raising a number of recruits in Scotland, the Officers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Additional Companies were ordered to escort the recruits to join the regiment in America and Lt. Grant was designated to command the detachment of 170 recruits sailing for America. A letter from Glasgow written on Apr. 3, 1777 observed their march to Greenock noting *"This morning two companies of the 42d, or royal Highlanders, marched from this place for Greenock. They are to imbark in transports for Corke, to join the fleet which is to sail from thence to America. We hear that some companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> regiment are soon to follow them – It is said, that the vessels which carry the companies of the 42d regiment are to return for those of the 71<sup>st</sup>."*

After Grant returned to Britain from delivering his recruits, he provided Lord Murray a report of his journey, writing on Aug. 27, 1777 from London that *"I arrived here last night with the non Commissioned Officers and arrived at Portsmouth the 24<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>: I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that when I left the Reg<sup>t</sup> they were all well / except the poor Sufferars / in good health and in high Spirit & behaves with that Spirit and Bravery, they ever were remarkable for, I landed at New York the 8<sup>th</sup> July, the Reg<sup>t</sup> was Embarked for the Expedition [for the Philadelphia Campaign], I was ordered to Staten Island with my Detachment where they lay encamped for three days to refresh themselves after being so long at Sea, then Draughted into the Different Companies, three of them were discharged, being thought old & unfit to undergo the Severities of that Service, I brought them to Portsmouth, there giving them their discharges, with 14 days pay, Agreeable to Colonel [Thomas] Stirlings orders..."*

Because a major factor in successful recruiting in the Highlands, was the relationship the regiment enjoyed with the Clan leaders, Lord Murray wrote Sir James Grant on Dec. 24, 1777 requesting his assistance for Lt. Grant's recruiting efforts. Murray wrote *"As Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Grant is recruiting for the Additional at Nairne, Shall be much obliged if you would write to your Factor or any other to be Assisting to him, & informed him I should write you of it. There is a report of my having a 2<sup>d</sup> Batt: but I don't as Yet know the certainty, in that case intend to Recommend him for a Company..."* Once again, the War Office did not accept Lord Murray's offer, and Lt. Grant continued his previous duties.

Following the signing of the treaty of alliance between France and the rebellious American Colonies on Feb. 6, 1778, the British Government recognized the need to reinforce the garrison of Newfoundland, Canada. Part of this reinforcement included sending three of the Highland Additional Companies from Scotland. One Additional Company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. under the command of Lt. John Grant, and two companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. were sent to Newfoundland. Capt. John McDonnell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. was the overall commander of the three companies *"consisting in the whole of Eight Commiss<sup>d</sup> Officers &*



*three Hund<sup>d</sup> & Twenty four NonCommissioned Officers & private Men.*” Capt. McDonnell’s three companies embarked for Newfoundland on Apr. 4, 1778 and arrived on July 27.

Lt. Grant wrote the regimental agents of his arrival at St. Johns, Newfoundland on Aug. 18, 1778 indicating *“We arrived here the 27<sup>th</sup> July, after a passage of five weeks from Cove of Cork, we disembarked the 7<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>l</sup>, And as the Barracks fitting out for us are not ready we were obliged to encamp, where I suppose we will remain till about the end of September: I beg the favor you will take the trouble of applying for an allowance of Forage & Bat Money for us. and if allowed please to write me first opportunity.”* An Oct. 1778 a return from Fort William, St. John’s, showed the company had 1 Lt. [Grant], 2 Ensigns, 5 Sergeants., 5 Corporals, 1 Drummer and 96 Privates for a total of 110.



*“View of Upper end of the Harbour from a Little Below Fort William,” late 18<sup>th</sup> century*

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

After several unsuccessful attempts, Lord John Murray’s offer to raise a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was accepted on July 29, 1779. Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief of His Majesty’s Forces, wrote Lord Murray that *“Having laid before The King, your Lordship’s Letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that His Majesty was pleased to approve of your Lordship’s raising a Second Battalion to the Forty Second, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under your Lordship’s Command, without any expense to Government, and agreeably to the Terms contained in my Letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> instant.”* One of the conditions in the letter read *“The two additional Companies of this Regiment, consisting of two Captains, Four Lieut<sup>s</sup> two Ensigns, 8 Serjeants, 10 Corporals, 2 Drummers, and two Hundred Private Men, are intended to be taken from the first Battalion, to be transferred to, and to make a part of, this Second Battalion.”* Accordingly, Lt. Grant and the other officers in Newfoundland, who would remain a part of that garrison, were transferred on paper to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on its formal establishment on Mar. 21, 1780.

Adm. Richard Edwards, Gov. of Newfoundland, was pleased with Lt. Grant’s service and recommended him to the War Office, in a letter forward to Lord Amherst on Dec. 6, 1780. The Secretary at War wrote

*"I have the honor to enclose to Your Lordship a Letter, which I received from Admiral Edwards, in favour of L<sup>t</sup> Grant of the Royal Highland Rg<sup>t</sup>: who is now on Service at S<sup>t</sup>. Johns Newfoundland; together with a Letter from the Lieutenant...."*

About nine months later, under orders from Adm. Edwards, Lt. Grant escorted about half the company to Halifax in Sept. 1781 and then on to New York to join the regiment. Likely because the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was then at sea as part of the expedition to relieve Lord Cornwallis' army at Yorktown, General Orders in New York for Oct. 31, 1781 directed *"The Detachment of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment arrived under the Command of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Grant will be landed this day at Brooklyn; where they will be quartered and to do duty with the Corps under the Command of Major [William John] Darby [7<sup>th</sup> Regt.] 'till further orders."* After arrival in New York, Lt. Grant was directed to obtain transportation to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., which had embarked for South Africa and India in Jan. 1781.

Grant did not join the battalion in India as the Secretary at War wrote on Jan. 11, 1782 that *"His Majesty having been pleased to direct that the 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> of the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot, should be augmented with One Company agreeable to the Numbers mentioned in the enclosed paper..."* Likely because of his success in recruiting for the battalion in America and long service, Grant was selected to command the new Additional Company. The War Office announced his promotion to Captain stating *"War-office, March 5. 42d foot, 2d batt: Lieut. John Grant to be Captain of an additional company."* The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Succession Book dates this promotion to be effective as of Dec. 25, 1781. An account of absent 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion officers by the Regimental Agent dated Mar. 2, 1782 indicated *"Officers belonging to the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot now in Great Britain...With the following Officers of the Additional Company & lately appointed Capt<sup>n</sup>. John Grant ..."*

Grant was again successful in raising recruits and the War Office notified the Paymaster General on Oct. 2, 1782 that *"It having been represented that the Additional Company belonging to the 42<sup>d</sup>. (or Royal Highland) Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot left at home to recruit, is more than half compleat, I have the honor to signify to you His Majesty's Pleasure, that you do issue to the Agent to the said Corps the full Subs<sup>ce</sup>. of the said Company from the 25<sup>th</sup>. Septem<sup>r</sup>. last inclusive."*

The War Office ordered the Commander of Forces in Scotland to send Grant's Additional Company about 600 miles from Nairne to Portsmouth on Dec. 9, 1783. Sec. FitzPatrick directed *"...you cause the Company of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot under your Command at Nairn, to march from thence by the S. & M. C. [Shortest & Most Convenient] Route to Cumberland Fort near Portsmouth where they are to be quartered & remain until further orders, acquainting this Office with the Route by which they propose to march after their arrival in England, & the time they will arrive at Cumberland Fort..."*

Grant served in the Recruiting Service for about two years before the War Office announced his retirement on Apr. 24, 1784 writing *"42d Regiment, 2d Battalion, Lieutenant [Henry] Graham; of the 71st. Regiment, to be Captain of a Company, vice Grant."*

Capt. Grant is often confused with Capt. John Grant of Glenmoriston of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. who was commissioned Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in 1780 from the 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. (The Royals). As Grant of Glenmoriston was still in India, Capt. John Grant is likely the officer involved with a baptismal record in the Tower Hamlets Borough, Saint George in the East Parish, dated Aug. 31, 1785 for Christiana Stewart which reads *"...Dr: of Christiana Stewart, a Black, by John Grant Cap<sup>t</sup> of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Foot Soldiers born in Cassel Germany the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1784 from Pennington S<sup>t</sup>"*



Ruins of Auchindoun Castle, circa 1887

Picture Source: *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland*, Vol. 1, David Macgibbon and Thomas Ross, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887, p. 316.

Capt. Grant obtained the estate of Auchindoun (held over the years by the Campbells and the Gordons), in Mortlach Parish, located ten mile southwest of Keith. The estate held the ruins of Auchindoun Castle that stands on a 600-foot high knoll overlooking the Fiddich River and had been burned by Clan Chattan in an attack on the Gordons in 1592.

On Dec. 6, 1787 the *Caledonian Mercury* reported an item from the Exchequer Chambers, Edinburgh writing “28th November 1787. BY order of the Barons, intimation is hereby given, That a petition having been this day presented to the Barons, from Mrs. Grace Grant, spouse of Captain John Grant, late of the 42d regiment, and him for his interest, praying a gift of the estate of the deceased Thomas Grant, son of Patrick Grant of Rothimurkus.”



1798 Engraving of Sir James Grant and  
the Strathspey Fencibles by John Kay

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

The War Office announced the formation of the “*Strathspey Regiment of Fencible Men*” under Sir James Grant of Grant on June 22, 1793. Capt. John Grant of Glenmoriston was appointed Major and John Grant of Auchindoun was selected to be a Captain with a date of rank of Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>. John Grant of Rippachie, who had briefly served in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1775-1776, was appointed Capt. Lieutenant. Sir James Grant had recommended Capt. Grant (Auchindoun) for both Captain and paymaster in letter to the Lt. Colonel writing “...*I hope he will do well in both... He is very active & intelligent and has worked like a Horse for me.*” The War Office announced Grant’s promotion to Major on Aug. 8, 1795 in the “*1st (or Strathspey) Regiment of Fencible Infantry.*” “*Major John Grant of Auchindoune*” was also listed as a Provost of Nairnshire in 1794. Maj. Grant would have been involved when the Strathspey Fencibles mutinied at Linlithgow in March 1794 when asked to volunteer to go to the south of England to counter a French threat, and again at Dumfries in June 1795.

Maj. Grant also ran into some trouble in the Fencibles late in his career. In 1797, he had been allowed leave to stand in the local election at Nairn, provided he returned to the regiment then stationed at Ayr as soon as the election was over. He initially refused to return, and after reporting about four months later, his Lt. Colonel wrote Sir James Grant saying “...*The old major joined Monday and according to orders was put in arrest & reported – he went at first like a madman & set the whole world at defiance – breathing nothing but independence & contempt...next morning he descended from his high horse...we are sorry to see the poor man so altered...& yet he has the folly & perversity to be keeping a woman here who will lead his family to ruin.*” The charges were dropped against 59-year old Maj. Grant, but his Lt. Colonel’s opinion of him was not improved. The Lt. Colonel decided to shorten his own leave writing “...*The old major is so deaf and doited, that I shou’d not wish to leave him long, with the charge of this place...in fact he is almost finished.*”

Maj. John Rutherford wrote about Maj. Grant in Edinburgh in 1798 saying “*I partook of a Mess dinner upon the invitation of Major Grant of the 1<sup>st</sup> Fencibles – Screw your bayonets was the Nom de guerre with us – He was commanding Officer of the Castle – shewed me marks of partiality & kindness...he has one Son a Cap<sup>t</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> in the 60<sup>th</sup> and another going out to India well recommended as a Surgeon..*” The Strathspey Fencibles were disbanded in April 1799.

*The Scots Magazine* for March 1809 reported Maj. Grants death writing, “*Deaths...March...7. At Auchindown, Major John Grant in the 71<sup>st</sup> year of his age.*” Grant and his wife Grace (or Grizel) had at least four children including Lt. Col. James Grant of Auchindoun, Major of the 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. who died in 1815 at age 40, the surgeon in India mentioned by Maj. Rutherford above, and daughters Jane and Eliza Grant. After Maj. Grant’s death his widow purchased property in Nairnshire in 1816 and built a house she called Larkfield, which was left to her daughters on her death.

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 17, 1761 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> or the Queen’s Own Regt. of Highlanders); Ens. Half-Pay Spring 1763 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> or the Queen’s Own Regt. of Highlanders); Ens. Sept. 1, 1771 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Jan. 14, 1775; Lt. Mar. 16, 1776 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Mar. 21, 1780 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Dec. 25, 1781 (Additional Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Apr. 21, 1784 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Mar. 1, 1793 (Strathspey Regt. of Fencible Infantry); Maj. Aug. 8, 1795 (1<sup>st</sup> or Strathspey Regt. of Fencible Infantry).

**References:** *Descendants of John Grant, of Auchindown*, Fraser, Clan Fraser Society of Canada; Irish Half pay list for 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. from Army List 1767 and note from Dr. John Houlding to Paul Pace; TNA, Lord John Murray to

Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; *The North British Intelligencer; or Constitutional Miscellany*, Edinburgh, Churnside and Wilson, Apr. 2, 1777, Google Books, p. 62; John Grant to Lord John Murray, London, Aug. 27, 1777, *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Anderson & Richardson, Sept. 2, 1777, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/101, pp. 377-378; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Sept. 9, 1777 at WO 4/100, p. 389; NRS, Lord John Murray to Sir James Grant, Dec. 24, 1777, *Papers of the Ogilvy family, Earls of Seafield (Seafield Papers)* at GD248/189/1/55; NRS, Lord John Murray to Sir James Grant, Dec. 31, 1777 at GD248/189/1/60; TNA, John Grant to Anderson & Richardson, Forwarded to Viscount Barrington, Aug. 18, 1778, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/995, p. 163; TNA, "Return of The Strength of The Troops Under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel David Hay Fort William, St. Johns Newfoundland 29th October 1778," *Colonial Office, Newfoundland Original Correspondence* at CO194/34 f. 52; Lord Jeffrey Amherst to Lord John Murray, July 29, 1779 at WO 34/231, ff. 76 – 77; Charles Jenkinson to Lord Amherst Forwarding Recommendation Letter from Richard Edwards, Gov. of Newfoundland, Dec. 6, 1780 at WO 4/112, p. 68; Richard Edwards to Lord Germain, St. Johns, Newfoundland, Sept. 28, 1781 at CO195/35, f. 77961; Richard Edwards to John Grant, Sept. 4 1781, St. John's, GN 2.1A, v. 9, p. 53-4, Office of the Colonial Secretary fonds, The Rooms Provincial Archives, Newfoundland; General Orders, New York, Oct. 31, 1781; "List of the Officers of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battallion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot absent from Duty" at WO 34/189, f. 218; "Officers belonging to the 2d. Battallion of the 42d. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot now in Great Britain" at WO 34/189, f. 236; *Scots Magazine*, Sept. 1780, p. 588, Apr. 1782, p. 223 and Mar. 1809, p. 239; Charles Jenkinson to Thomas Fauquier, Jan. 11, 1782 at WO 4/116, p. 122; *London Gazette*, Mar. 2-5, 1782 p. 1; George Yonge to Paymaster General, Oct. 2, 1782 at WO 4/119, p. 33 (f. 27); Baptismal record in the Tower Hamlets Borough, formerly posted on the City of London, Corporation website – no longer posted; TNA, *Secretary-at-War: Marching and Militia Orders* at WO5/63, p. 223; *Caledonian Mercury*, Dec. 6, 1787, p. 4; *Scots Magazine*, May 1788, p. 256-257; *The History of the Province of Moray*, Vol. I, Lachlan Shaw and J. F. S. Gordon, University Press, Glasgow, 1882, Google Books, pp. 126-128; *London Gazette* for Mar. 2-5, 1782 p. 1, Apr. 20-24, 1784, p. 3, June 18, 1793, p. 3 and Aug. 4-8, 1795, pp. 1, 4; *The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands*, Frank Adam, Hohnson & Bacon, 1965, p. 295; *History of Nairnshire*, George Bain, "Telegraph" Office, Nairn, 1893, Google Books, pp. 490-491; "Aberdeen Journal" *Notes and Queries*, Vol. I, Aberdeen Daily Journal Office, Aberdeen, 1908, Google Books, pp. 114-115; John Rutherford to John Peebles, Mossburnford, Feb. 2, 1798, NRS, GD21/417 item 2; *The Strathspey Mutineers, A History of the First Highland Fencible Regiment 1793-1799*, G. M. Fraser, Librario Publishing Co., Milton Brodie (UK), 2003, pp. 21, 224.



Circa 18<sup>th</sup> century Rippachie Bridge over Deskry Water

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons. Photo by Stanley Howe, 2010.



**Grant of Rippachie, Lt. John.** Born in Scotland in 1743, John Grant was descended from the Grants of Muchroch. A biography of his father-in law, Rev. James Lumsden of Corrachree, listed Grant at the time of his marriage as “*Capt. John Grant of Duthil, 111<sup>th</sup> Foot.*” Duthil is about seven miles southwest of Grantown-on-Spey. As discussed further below, however, Grant’s highest rank in the 111<sup>th</sup> Regt. was Lieutenant.

Grant wrote a memorial of his early service in Senegal, West Africa indicating “*I am a very old officer, having entered the army at the age of 16 in 1760 as ensign by purchase: went out in the 4th Division of Independent Companies to Senegal, where on 11 Nov., 1761, I was appointed Lieutenant. In 1763, was reduced and remained on half pay till 1775, when I was appointed as one of the additional Lieutenants of the 42nd, but owing to bad health had to retire....*”



View of St. Louis, Senegal, circa 1780 by unknown artist

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

As indicated in Grant’s memorial, he was initially commissioned in July 1760 in Capt. Harcourt Master’s Independent Company which was raised for service with three other independent companies in Senegal (on the west coast of Africa). The British stronghold in Senegal was at the former French settlement at St. Louis, captured in 1759. Grant was promoted to Lieutenant in one of the other Senegal Independent Companies under Capt. Moses Lilly in Nov. 1761, before that company was amalgamated into the 111<sup>th</sup> Regt. under Lt. Col. Commandant Hugh, Lord Warkworth (later Earl Percy) in June 1762. In May 1763 the 111<sup>th</sup> Regt. was disbanded and Lt. Grant went out on Half-pay.

On Feb. 1, 1763 Lt. Grant married Elizabeth Lumsden, daughter of Rev. James Lumsden of Corrachie, minister of Towie, and his wife Mary Grant, (niece of Grant of Ballindalloch) and heiress of Rippachie and Deskrieside. Through this marriage, Lt. Grant became “*Grant of Rippachie.*” Rippachie is located about 35 miles southeast of Grantown-on-Spey and was described in the 1870 Ordnance Survey name book as “*Rappachie. A large farm consisting of two dwelling houses with outhouses and a garden attd. Situated where the Old County Road cross[es] the Water of Deskry...*” Grant and his wife had eight children (Mary b. 1764 at Towie, Agnes b. 1765 at Rippachie, John b. 1772 at Rippachie, Katherine b. 1775 at Rippachie, Barbara b. 1778 at Rippachie, Maxwell b. 1780 at Rippachie, Helen b. 1782 at Aberdeen, and Mary b. 1785 at Rippachie.) Grant’s son Maxwell was wounded as an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup>

Regt. at Alexandria in 1801. Sir Maxwell Grant was later was a Lt. Col. in the Army in the Pyrenees and commanded the 6<sup>th</sup> Portuguese Regt.

Coming off of Half-pay, Lt. John Grant was commissioned a Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. by the War Office in Sept. 1775. Gen. Lord John Murray was not initially able to locate Grant and several other officers and put an advertisement in *The Edinburgh Advertiser* in Oct. 1775 to find him writing: “...Lieutenant John Grant from half-pay, 111 foot. These gentlemen are desired forthwith to write to me, and to the Commanding Officer of the said regiment at Glasgow, a proper direction where they now are, and where they wish to be stationed, in order that recruiting instructions, and levy-money may be sent them, and what other orders are necessary for recruiting.”

On reporting to the regiment, Grant was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company. However, as stated in his memorial, Grant’s health caused him to try to return to Half-pay. Lord Murray must have tried to assist him in his application, but the War Office would not approve the request, writing on Feb. 14, 1776 that “As there is no Provision on the Half pay for Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Grant, he cannot quit the 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup> but by Exchange, and I am to desire you will acquaint me of the Name of the Half Pay Lieutenant /being a Highlander/ whom you wish to recommend.”

Lt. Harry Gilchrist, a veteran of the Seven Years War in India, who was on Half-pay on the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Morris’ Highlanders), was identified as a replacement for Grant in Mar. 1776 and the two officers exchanged. Accordingly, Grant did not serve with the regiment in America.

Grant was not, however, done with military service and was commissioned Lieutenant in the Northern Fencible Regt. raised by Col. Alexander, Duke of Gordon in Apr. 1778 and was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant in Apr. 1779. He wrote of his service in his later memorial for promotion saying “I served five years during the last war in the Duke of Gordon’s Regiment of Fencibles and commanded a company.” On Feb. 8, 1780 the War Office announced, “Northern Regiment of Fencible Men, Captain-Lieutenant John Grant to be Captain, vice John Campbell.” Grant’s commission had been issued earlier on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. The Northern Fencibles were disbanded in April 1783.

In March 1791 a news article reported a duel involving Capt. Grant writing “Aberdeen, March 10. A duel was this day fought on the hill of Tynbaggen, near this city, between Capt. John Grant, of the late North Fencible regiment, and Mr. John Dingwall, junior, hosier, in Aberdeen. They exchanged three shots each, and the last from Capt. Grant wounded Mr. Dingwall in the thigh. He was helped into his chaise, where a surgeon was in waiting, and his wound is not thought dangerous. The quarrel originated from Mr. Dingwall’s having paid his addresses to Miss Grant, daughter to the captain, and afterwards drawn back. By the law of Scotland, no damages can be claimed for breach of a promise of marriage.”

When the Fencible regiments were again raised in response to the French threats to Britain, Grant was commissioned Capt. Lieutenant in Sir James Grant’s Strathspey Regt. of Fencible Men in March 1793, and was promoted to Captain and Paymaster of that regiment in May 1794. The Strathspey Fencibles mutinied at Linlithgow in March 1794 when asked to volunteer to go to the south of England to counter a French threat, and again at Dumfries in June 1795. Grant served in the regiment with Capt. (and later Maj.) John Grant of Auchindoun, who had briefly served with him in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Grant continued with the Strathspey Fencibles until they were disbanded in Edinburgh in April 1799.

On Feb. 10, 1794 the King approved the offer of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Gordon to raise a regiment of Highlanders which became the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regt. (Gordon Highlanders). Three months earlier the Duke had recommend thirty applications for commission which were denied. One of the applications that was denied was for the Capt. Lieutenancy and was listed as “Capt. J. Grant, Rippachy.”

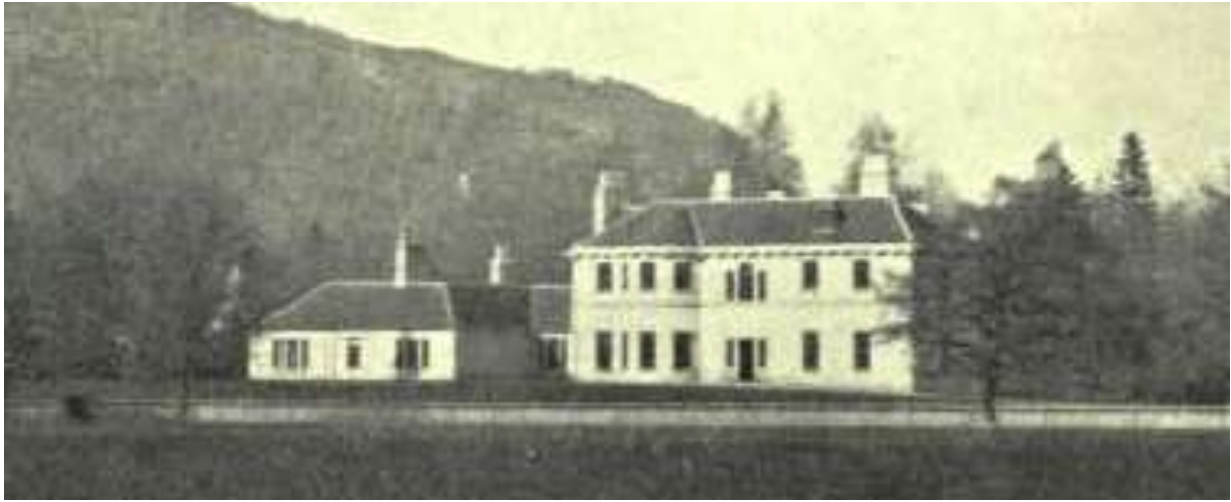
On July 27, 1799 a “*Captain John Grant, from the late Strathspey Fencibles*” was promoted to Captain in “*The Honorable Colonel [William] Edward’s Fencible Infantry*” later titled the Cambrian Rangers. Because there were two “*Captain John Grants*” at the time the Strathspey Fencibles were disbanded, it cannot be confirmed which officer joined the Cambrian Fencibles. However, as Capt. Grant of Rippachie was about 55 years old and had already served 39 years, it is likely that the other officer known as “*Capt. John Grant, jun.*” was the officer who joined the Cambrian Rangers.

*The Scots Magazine* for July 1800 announced the marriage of Capt. Grant’s daughter Barbara at Tarmore, an estate about a mile north-west of the church in Keith. An interview with an early resident listed only as “*J. W., Native of Keith*” described Capt. Grant’s move to Tarmore saying “*Tarmore reminds me of a gentleman I have heard some of the ancients speak of, who was tenant of that Farm, viz., Capt. Grant, or “Rippachie,” as he was more commonly called, that being the name of a farm near Huntly, whence he came to Tarmore. He seems to have been a “character,” an Elder too of the Parish, and father of Sir Maxwell Grant, a distinguished Peninsular officer, one of Wellington’s Lieutenants, a name-son of Jane Maxwell Duchess of Gordon...*” Grant also obtained the estate of Lyneish, formerly called Laggan of Finlairg, which became the residence of his son, Col. Sir Maxwell Grant, K.C.B.

Capt. and Mrs. Grant are buried in the enclosure of the Duthil Church (now Grant Centre), seven miles west of Grantown. Their headstone reads “*JOHN GRANT, and ELIZABETH LUMSDEN, his spouse, both departed this life on the 9th Feb. 1806. Their son, Colonel Sir MAXWELL GRANT, K. C., died 22d Oct. 1823.*”

Commissions: Ens. July 6, 1760 (Capt. Harcourt Master’s Independent Company, Fourth Division, Senegal); Lt. Nov. 11, 1761 (Capt. Moses Lilly’s Senegal Independent Company); Lt. June 25, 1762 (111<sup>th</sup> Regt – following turnover of two Senegal Ind. Companies); Lt. Half-pay May 28, 1763 (111<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 1, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Exchanged to Half-pay Mar. 6, 1776 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Apr. 14, 1778 (Northern Regt. of Fencible Men); Capt. Lt. Apr. 8, 1779 (Northern Regt. of Fencible Men); Capt. Jan. 19, 1780 (Northern Regt. of Fencible Men); Disbanded April 21, 1783; Capt. Lt. Mar. 1, 1793 (Strathspey Regt. of Fencible Men); Capt. and Paymaster May 9, 1794 (Strathspey Regt. of Fencible Men).

**References:** “James Lumsden of Corrachree” in *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, Vol. VI, Hew Scott, D. D., Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, 1926, p. 142; Early commission history from Dr. John Houlding’s notes to Paul Pace; *The Book of the Chronicles of Keith, Grange, Rithven, Cairney and Botriphnie*, Rev. J. F. S. Gordon, Robert Forrester, Glasgow, 1880, Google Books, pp. 2-4 and 181; *Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland during 1759-1814*, John Malcolm Bulloch, Aberdeen University, Aberdeen, 1914, pp. 114-115, 176 and 192-196; *Edinburgh Advertiser* for Oct. 24, 1775; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Feb. 14, 1776, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/96, p. 161 (may be p. 101) and Mar. 2, 1776 at WO 4/96, p. 226; Half-pay list for 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. in 1778 Army List; *London Gazette* for Sept. 22-26, 1778, pp.3-4, Oct. 20-24, 1778, p. 3, June 19-22, 1779, p. 3, June 18-22, 1793, p. 3, May 10-13, 1794, pp. 1-2; Feb. 5-8, 1780, p. 1 and July 23, 1799, pp. 2-3; *The Strathspey Mutineers, A History of the First Highland Fencible Regiment 1793-1799*, G. M. Fraser, Librario Publishing Co., Milton Brodie (UK), 2003, pp. 21, 94-96; “Rippachie,” Royal Commission on the Ancient Historical Monuments of Scotland at canmore.rcahms.gov.uk; “Note 54. The family of Cattanach,” A. J. Mitchell-Gill in *Scottish Notes and Queries* for May 1900, published in *Scottish Notes and Queri*, Second Series, Vol. I, July 1899 to June 1900, Ed. John Bulloch, A. Brown & Co. Aberdeen, 1900, Google Books, p. 173; “Aberdeen Journal” Obituary for Mrs. Mary Grant Lumsden, Jan. 13, 1778 in *Aberdeen Journal Notes and Queries*, Vol. I, 1908, Aberdeen Daily Journal Office, 1908, Google Books, p. 192; *Family Record of the Name of Dingwall Fordyce in Aberdeenshire*, Alexander Dingwall Fordyce, Fergus (Canada), 1885, Google Books, pp. 155-156 and 189; “Principal Occurrences in the Year 1791” in *The New Annual Register or General Repository of History, Politics and Literature for the Year 1791*, G.G.J. and J. Robinson, London, 1792, Google Books, pp. 18-19; *Scots Magazine*, July 1800, p. 499; *Lectures on the Mountains or the Highlands and Highlanders of Strathspey and Badenoch*, Saunders, Otley, and Co., London, 1860, Google Books, pp. 251-252; Obituary of Sir Maxwell Grant in *Gentleman’s Magazine*, Feb. 1824, p. 177; *Epitaphs & Inscriptions from Burial Grounds & Old Buildings in the North-East of Scotland*, Andrew Jervise, FSA Scot., Edmonston and Douglas, Edinburgh, 1875, Google Books, p. 142.



The Doune of Rothiemurchus, 1911 (front of house modified in 1803)

Picture Source: *Memoirs of a Highland Lady*, Ed. Lady Strachey, John Murray, London, 1911, p. 30.

*William Grant*

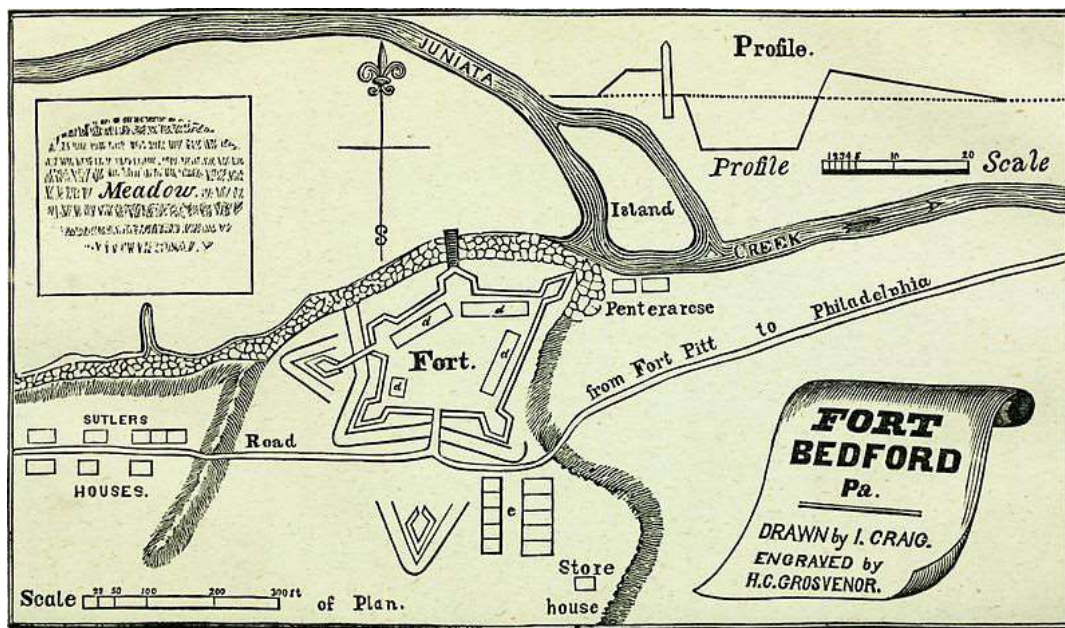
**Grant**, Brevet-Lt. Col. William. Known as “Maj. Billy” to some of his fellow officers, William Grant was born in 1723 and was the oldest son of Patrick Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> of Rothiemurchus (“Macalpine”) by his second wife, Rachel Grant of the Tullochgorm Grants. Later in life at his grand-niece’s wedding he was described as “*the little man*” and that he “...dressed himself in full regimentals, and wore a queue tied with very broad black ribbon which nearly reached down to his chair when he was seated...” Grant served as a Volunteer with the Highland Regiment (then numbered the 43<sup>rd</sup>) in the battle of Fontenoy, Holland, on May 11, 1745 and was commissioned an Ensign nine days later and advanced to Lieutenant in 1746.

*The New-York Mercury* of June 21, 1756, reported Lt. Grant’s arrival in America for the French & Indian War. The newspaper wrote “...Tuesday last in the Afternoon, his Majesty’s Ship the *Grafton*, Commodore Holmes, of 70 Guns; and Nottingham, Captain Marshall, of 60, came to an anchor off Sandy-Hook, in 9 Weeks from Plymouth. They came out as a Convoy to six transports, having Colonel OTWAY’S [35<sup>th</sup>] and Lord JOHN MURRAY’S Highland Regiment on board... As we have been favoured with the Returns of the Officers, &c. of Colonel OTWAY’S, and the Highland Regiment, the 12th of April last, we insert it here, for the satisfaction of our Readers... Return of the 42d Regiment, commanded by Lord JOHN MURRAY. OFFICERS NAMES...Ship Longville Lieutenant Colonel [Francis] Grant Captain [John] McNeil Lieutenant Grant ...”









Map of Fort Bedford

Picture Source: Wikipedia Commons, from *American Pioneer*, Cincinnati, 1842.

Grant also marched with Col. Henry Bouquet in his 1764 campaign to punish the Indians at Muskingum, Ohio. At the end of the campaign Col. Bouquet noted the return of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and the location of the troops writing from Fort Pitt on Nov. 30, 1764 “...*The Army returned the 28<sup>th</sup> Instant to this Post... Fort Pitt is garrisoned by Five Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. under the command of Cap<sup>t</sup>. William Murray... Fort Bedford another Company commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup>. William Grant...*” The mission of the Highlanders was to enforce the Proclamation Line of 1763, limiting settlers beyond the Appalachian Mountains. The regiment returned to Ireland in 1767 and Grant was promoted to Major “*in the army*” in 1772.

In Feb. 1775, Gen. Lord John Murray, Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., proposed adding a second battalion to the regiment and nominated Brevet-Maj. Grant for Major. Lord Murray wrote the War Department on Feb. 18, 1775 that “...*I am inform’d an Augmentation of the Troops are soon intended, If your Lordship should judge proper to propose to His Majesty the adding a Second Battalion to the Forty Second or Royal Highland Regiment, which was reduced after the peace... My Eldest Captain William Grant a brevet Major... was an Officer in it [42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] before it was conferr’d on me, near Thirty Years ago, and always with them during the Various Services they have been upon, I would therefore humbly recommend him to His Majesty to be the Major, if its His Royal pleasure this Second Battalion should again be raised...*” Lord Murray’s officer was not accepted by the War Office at this time.

When Gen. Lord John Murray again offered to raise a 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Jan. 1776, he proposed Grant as the Major for the battalion saying “...*Major William Grant by Brevit, who has constantly been with the Regiment above Thirty Years and still very Active to be Major...*” Just two weeks before the regiment sailed for America, Lord Murray once again proposed adding a second battalion to the regiment and proposed Grant to be the Major of the new battalion. Murray wrote on Apr. 15, 1776 that “*I have taken the Liberty of inclosing to Your Lordship the names of Field officers & Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Should your Lordship think it for His Majestys Service to Recommend it to the King to add a Second Battalion at this time to the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under my Command ...Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot ... Major William Grant Eldest Cap<sup>t</sup>. in*

42<sup>d</sup>. Major in the Army... If it Should be His Majestys Pleasure to appoint Major Murray to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Batt. if it should be ordered. Then Major Grant the Eldest Cap<sup>t</sup>. & with the Battalion is prepped to Succeed him as Major ...” Lord Murray’s proposal was again not accepted by the War Office and Grant and the other Highlanders made ready to sail that month to fight in the American War for Independence.

Brevet-Maj. Grant commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company and sailed for America on Apr. 29, 1776 on the transport *Thames*. Upon arrival at Staten Island that summer, the line companies of the regiment were split into two smaller provisional battalions of about 300 – 400 men each. General Orders issued on Aug. 6, 1776 directed the “...42<sup>d</sup> Regiment to be formed into two battalions under the command of Lt. Col. Stirling” and appointed William Grant to be the “second major” to the regiment and to command the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in America. This provisional second battalion in America is often confused with the “official” 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. raised in 1779 – 1780 in Scotland under the command of Gen. Lord John Murray and Lt. Col. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod for service in South Africa and India.

Grant’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was posted with the advance of the army at Flatbush after the landing on Long Island in August 1776. A memorial in the “*Sir Thomas Stirling Papers*” described the situation writing “On the 22<sup>d</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> 1776 the Army embarked from Staten island and landed on Long Island near New Utrecht w<sup>t</sup> out opposition, Lord Cornwallis was sent on to Flat Bush wt the British reserve 2 Miles from FB the 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> of 42<sup>d</sup> was left to Guard a pass which led to Brocklyn which they maintained ’tho having a constant picqueting w<sup>t</sup> the Enemy who was incamp<sup>d</sup> in considerable numbers in the woods close by, intill the 26<sup>th</sup> when a disposition having been made for a Gen<sup>l</sup> attack the 42<sup>d</sup> was relieved..” Grant continued to command the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion through the remainder of the New York/New Jersey Campaign of 1776 – 1777.

When Brevet-Lt. Col. William Murray was promoted to command the 27<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Oct. 1777, Grant became the Major of the whole 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for the rest of the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. Because Grant did not transfer to the former Major’s Company, but rather retained his existing company as the new “*Major’s Company*,” it is likely Grant continued to command the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion through the Philadelphia Campaign after his promotion.

Grant was promoted to Lt. Colonel “*in the army*” in Aug. 1777 and in Dec. 1777, Lord John Murray wrote to Sir James Grant about his plan to raise a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and that he planned to recommend Brevet-Lt. Col. Grant to be the Lt. Colonel. Once again, however, the War Office did not accept Lord Murray’s proposal.



Old Gravestones in Christ Church Burial Ground, Philadelphia

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons by "Smallbones."

On May 13, 1778, Capt. Lt. John Peebles wrote that Grant's wife, Ann who had traveled with him to America, "...died this morning about 7 o'clock after a short illness, & slipt out of life with ease & unexpected, so suddenly – call<sup>d</sup> on Coll. Grant in the evening. he seems to be very much Affected-" Ann Grant was buried the next day in the same vault as Lt. Col. William Murray, formerly of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., in Christ Church yard in Philadelphia. She is listed in the *Christ Church Register* as "Ann, Wife of Col. Grant."



42nd Foot vs Cilley's "Picked" Men, 2012, by Mark Maritato

Picture Source: Mark Maritato, with permission.

After the army received orders to return to New York, Grant commanded his battalion in the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778 and was heavily engaged at the Sutfin Apple Orchard by rebel Col. Joseph Cilley's battalion of "picked men" as Grant was ordered to withdraw to the main army.

Soon after returning to New York, Brevet-Lt. Col. Grant retired with Capt. Charles Graham purchasing his Majority in Aug. 1778. On his return to Britain he was elected as a member of the Highland Society of London in its meeting on Jan. 20, 1779 under the listing "Col. Grant, of the 42d..."





Croft House, Rothiemurchus in Snow by Peter Bond

Picture Source: *Geolocation*

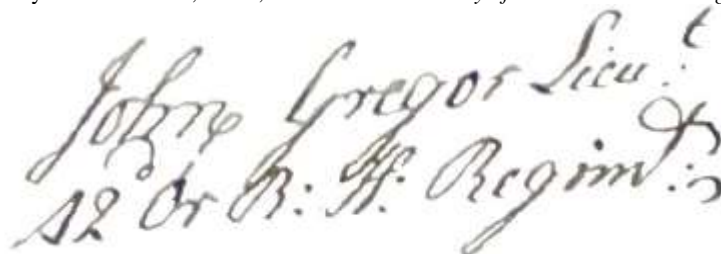
Col. Grant returned to Scotland and moved to family lands at Rothiemurchus, where he lived at a two-cottage farm in a birch wood forest called “*The Croft*.” Nineteenth century author, Elizabeth Grant of the Rothiemurchus family, wrote of Col. Grant; one of her “*father’s great-uncles*.” She told the family’s story of the Colonel at her mother’s wedding writing “...*Being the eldest living member of the family, Colonel William was tacitly elected to conduct my mother to the kirk on her arrival as a bride in Rothiemurchus, and on this occasion he dressed himself in full regimentals, and wore a queue tied with very broad black ribbon which nearly reached down to his chair when he was seated... he led her by the point of a finger, and walking backward on tiptoe up the aisle in the face of the congregation, relinquishing her with a bow so low as made her feel much smaller than the little man who thus honoured her. He was a man of fashion of the circle, excelling in those graces of manner which belonged to the beau of his day. He piqued himself on the amount of noise he made when rinsing out his mouth after dinner, squirting the water back into his finger-glass in a way that alarmed his neighbors...*”

Elizabeth Grant also described Col. Grant’s life at “*The Croft*” saying “... *he lived happily, but not altogether respectably, to a good old age. His very handsome housekeeper, Jenny Gordon, bore him two children, our dearly-loved Annie, and her brother Peter Macalpine Grant, whom my father sent out to India as a cadet...ANNIE GRANT was the “accidental” daughter...of old Colonel William Grant with the long queue, my father’s half great-uncle, my great-grand-uncle, who had long lived at the Croft...Mrs. General Need...the great lady of Cawnpore, the most favoured guest at Newstead Abby, the honoured of Kensington palace...her mother was her father’s housekeeper, and brought up her children, Annie and her brother Peter, in her own station, sending them off to the parish school, and never intruding them or herself on any of “the family.” After the old Colonel’s death she, still a very beautiful woman married his grieve [farm manager], and went to settle in another part of the country. The Colonel had been married in middle life to an Irishwoman, a Mrs. Dashwood; they had never had any children, so he left his savings – these Highlanders have always savings – to Annie and her brother, some £2000 or better. My father as head of the house was their guardian. Peter was sent to a better school. Annie was taken by Captain Lewis Grant and his odd wife to keep the keys of their establishment...*” In 1815, Col. Grant’s daughter Annie married Lt. Gen. Samuel Need of Fountain, Dale, and Notts (Colonel of the 9<sup>th</sup> Royal Lancers).

*The Edinburgh Magazine* recorded Lt. Col. Grant's death on May 21, 1800 writing "At the Lodge of Rothiemurchus, William Grant, Esq. late Lieutenant-Col. in the 42d or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot. He entered this Regiment early in life, and remained in it for nearly forty years."

Commissions and Appointment: Volunteer before May 1745; Ens. May 20, 1745; Lt. Nov. 22, 1746; Capt. July 23, 1758; Maj. "in the Army" July 23, 1772; Brevet-Maj. (and Commander) Aug. 6, 1776 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. – in America); Lt. Col. "in the Army" Aug. 29, 1777; Maj. Oct. 8 – effective Oct. 5, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Aug. 25, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Part II, Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Harrison, London, 1863, Google Books, p. 1635; *Memoirs of a Highland Lady, The Autobiography of Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus Afterwards Mrs. Smith of Baltiboyes, 1797-1830*, Ed. Lady Strachey, John Murray, London, 1898, pp. 135, 175-176, 184, and 415; *New-York Mercury*, June 21, 1756, p. 3; "A Particular Account of the Action at Ticonderoga," *Scots Magazine*, Appendix 1758, pp. 698-99 (The editors of *The Scots Magazine* added the following note to the letter "This letter was written by an officer of Lord John Murray's regiment, who never had seen the low country till anno 1740"); *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Dec. 29, 1763; Henry Bouquet to Thomas Gage, Fort Pitt, Nov. 30, 1764 in "Bouquet, Henry and Gage, Thomas," *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society Historical Collections*, Vol. 19, pp. 283-295; *The Orderly Book I of Colonel Henry Bouquet's Expedition Against the Ohio Indians, 1764, (Carlisle to Fort Pitt), part Two*, Ed. Edward G. Williams, *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* 56, Oct 1973, pp. 406-407; "Bouquet Papers" in *Historical Collections, Collections and Researches*, Vol. XIX, Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Lansing, 1892, Google Books, pp. 283-287; Christ Church Burial Ground Register, 1709-1785, p. 3279; *An Account of the Highland Society of London from its Establishment in May 1773, to the Commencement of the Year 1813*, Hon. Sir John Sinclair, E. McMillan, London, 1813, Google Books, pp. 36 – 45; *Edinburgh Advertiser* July 31, 1772 and Sept. 6-10, 1772; Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 18, 1775, British Library Archives and Manuscripts, "Letters from Lord John Murray relating to patronage, regimental appointments, etc., 1760-1775" in the *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xii, 1760-1778 at MS 73557, pp. 22-22v; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Viscount Barrington, Jan. 20, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; General Orders, Dyker's Ferry, Aug. 6, 1776 and "Camp at German Town," Oct. 8, 1777; Morning Regimental Orders, Staten Island Aug. 8, 1776; *Short account of the movements and engagements of the two battalions of the 42nd from 22nd August to 16th December 1776* (Addressed to Col T Stirling commanding 42nd Royal Highlanders.) BWRA 0398 *Stirling Papers* /5, Archives, Headquarters, The Black Watch, Balhousie Castle; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 15, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; *Peebles Journal* entry for Apr. 9, 1777; NRS, Lord John Murray to Sir James Grant, Dec. 24, 1777 in *Papers of the Ogilvy family, Earls of Seafield (Seafield Papers)* at GD248/189/1/55; *London Gazette* for July 21, 1772, p. 3, Sept. 2-6, 1777, p. 1, and Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2; *Scots Magazine*, Sept. 1777, pp. 509-510 and Jan. 1778, pp. 54-55; NRS, Lord John Murray to Sir James Grant, Dec. 31, 1777 in the *Papers of the Ogilvy family, Earls of Seafield (Seafield Papers)* at GD248/189/1; "The Battle of Monmouth: The Archaeology of Molly Pitcher, the Royal Highlanders, and Colonel Cilley's Light Infantry," Daniel M. Sivilich and Garry Wheeler Stone, Ph.D., Website of the *Society of American Archaeology*, at saa.org.



Picture Source: TNA, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, *Papers* at WO 34/147, f. 390.

**Gregor/MacGregor**, Lt. John. Gregor's family name was MacGregor, but as that name was proscribed at the time of his first commission he used the name of Gregor for most of his military career. Some have identified Gregor as the son of Coll MacGregor (Campbell) of Balquhiddy making him the grandson of "Rob Roy" MacGregor. There was, however, another John MacGregor (also called John Gregorson), an officer in the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. that is a closer match to the grandson of the famous MacGregor chieftain.

Gregor, who appears later to have strong links to Inverness, enlisted as a Private in the Highland Regt. (then numbered the 43<sup>rd</sup>) in 1743 and had a history of long and active service in the regiment before the



American war. He described his early service in a 1778 Memorial where he wrote “*I had the honor to Serve with the 42<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup>: At the Battle of Fontenoy [May 11, 1745], A descent on France under the Command of Gen<sup>l</sup>: S<sup>t</sup>Clair [L’Orient, Sept. 20, 1746], The pass of Hulst [May 1747], & Siege of Bergenopzome [Jul. – Sept. 1747]; besides number of Skirmishes with advanced guards & out posts, in the War before last – and in the last War, At the landing place [Lake George, July 6, 1758], Ticonderoga [July 8, 1758], Fort William Augustus [Fort Lévis, Aug. 1760], Montreal [Sept. 1760], & Bushy Run [Aug. 5-6, 1763], in America, And in the West Indies, the taking of Martinco [Martinique-Jan. 1762], & the Havannah [June 7-Aug. 14, 1762] &<sup>ca</sup>”*



Fort Ticonderoga, New York, from Mount Defiance

Source: Wikimedia Commons, by Mwanner.

At the time of the July 8, 1758 Battle of Ticonderoga, New York Gregor was Sergeant-Major of the Royal Highlanders and was promoted to Ensign on July 22<sup>nd</sup> vice George Campbell. After two more years of heavy campaigning he obtained a Lieutenancy in July 1760 in place of Lt. James Fraser. Like a number of former Sergeants-Major, Gregor served as Adjutant from Aug. 1760 to Oct. 1761, when he resigned the position in favor of his brother William. John Gregor went out on Half-pay when the regiment was reduced in 1763 at the end of the French and Indian War. On Feb. 20, 1764, Gregor’s petition for a land grant was approved by the Legislative Council of the Colony of New York along with several other officers of the regiment but he returned to Scotland the same year. Gregor’s grant is described in an 1851 New York *Catalogue of Maps and Surveys* as “*MAP of 2,000 acres of Land on the east side of Hudson’s river, in the county of Albany. Surveyed for John Gregor, late Lieutenant in His Majesty’s Forty-second Regiment. Alex<sup>r</sup> Colden, Surveyor-General. July 11, 1765.*”



Initiation of an apprentice Freemason around 1800. (Engraving is based on that of Gabanon on the same subject dated 1745.)

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

In Inverness, in 1764, Gregor was elected to the position of the Right Worshipful Master of St. John's Kilwinning Lodge of Freemasons, which he held through 1774. The lodge awarded him a gold plate "jewel" or medallion inscribed "*Gift Old Lodge Inverness No 8 to B' John Gregor for services being 9 years Master. 1774.*" There is some confusion in the naming of the lodges as the deposition Lt. Gregor provided in a Post Office legal case on June 5, 1770 stated he was "*Master Mason of Old St Andrew's Kilwinning Lodge at Inverness.*"

With the augmentation of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. for the war in America, Gregor returned to active service from Half-pay as a Lieutenant in Aug. 1775. In 1776 Gregor's Masonic Lodge gave him an introductory diploma to wherever he may be stationed saying: "*...we, the Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Old Kilwinning Lodge, No. 8 in the Register of Scotland, do declare, certify, and attest to all men enlightened, spread over the face of the earth, that this is our worthy and well beloved Brother the bearer hereof, Lieut<sup>r</sup> John Grigor of the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment, did return from the service of his King and country to this his native place, in the year 1764, and joined our Lodge; and from our knowledge of his great ability and strength in Masonry, was unanimously elected master, which important chair he filled for ten years with the utmost approbation, during which time he instructed us in Masonry, tending much to our mutual advantage, increase, and cement in friendship and brotherly love: and in return for his many eminent services we have, in token of our gratitude, presented him with a golden medal bearing the thanks of the Lodge. And now being recalled to the service of his King and country, we do most affectionately recommend him to all warranted Lodges, and regular worthy Brethren where Providence may order his lot. Given under our hand, and seal, at Inverness, this Sixth day of February 1776, and the year of Masonry 5776 A.M.*"

In March 1776, Lord John Murray assigned Lt. Gregor to the 1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company under Capt. Alexander Donaldson, posted at Fort George (about thirteen miles from Inverness) to raise and drill recruits for replacements to the regiment. On April 15, Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War about recruiting noting "*... Lieut<sup>ts</sup>. John Grant, & John Gregor have got their Recruiting Instructions the first raised 80 Recruits, & the Other an old Man, but as he was Lieut<sup>r</sup>. and Adjutant in America, will be of Great use in Disciplining the recruits.*"

Knowing Lord Murray had made several attempts at obtaining a second battalion for the regiment, Gregor wrote a memorial to the War Office asking for a promotion in the new battalion. Lord Murray forwarded his request with the memorial to War Office on June 20, 1776 writing “*Rec<sup>d</sup> the inclosed Memo<sup>m</sup>. from Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Gregor when I was at Fort George, where one of my Additional Companys is, the other still at Glasgow, ... “The Memorial of Lieu<sup>t</sup>: John Gregor of His Majestys 42<sup>d</sup> Or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot... That your Memorialist had the honor of Serving in this Regim<sup>t</sup>: in Germany, Flanders, the West Indies and America, And was present in every Action in which the Regim<sup>t</sup>: was Engaged Since it was Regimented – That he has been a Lieutenant Sixteen Years, And has Sent upwards of five hundred men to the Regiment at different times. Your Memorialist therefore Humbly Prays that in the Event of an Addition to the Regiment Your Lordship would be pleased to lay his case before His Majesty...”*” Gregor wrote the War Office again for promotion on Dec. 2, 1776, this time from Fort Augustus (about thirty miles southwest of Inverness on Loch Ness). As the War Office had decided not to accept Lord Murray’s offer of a second battalion, no Companies were available for Gregor at this time.

In 1778, while still serving as a Lieutenant in the Additional Company, Gregor was again elected to the chair of the Old Kilwinning Masonic Lodge in Inverness and in October of that year he collected recruits in Inverness that would be assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as a result of the 1778 Press Act. The act empowered the justices of the peace and the commissioners of the land tax to deliver to the recruiting officers “*...all able-bodied idle, and disorderly Persons, who could not, upon Examination, prove themselves to exercise and industriously follow some lawful Trade or Employment, or to have some Substance sufficient for their Support and Maintenance.*”

In early 1778, Gregor learned his Company Captain, Alexander Donaldson, was to be promoted to Major in the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt. (MacDonald’s Highlanders), and wrote the War Office on Jan. 13, to obtain that Company. Gregor wrote “*I beg leave to observe to Your Lordship, That there are Several Lieu<sup>t</sup>: in the Army who have Served but a few Years promoted to Companys, And were but Children, when I had the honor to Serve with the 42<sup>d</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup>: At the Battle of Fontenoy, A descent on France under the Command of Gen<sup>l</sup>: S<sup>t</sup> Clair, The pass of Hulst, & Siege of Bergenopzome; besides number of Skirmishes with advanced guards & out posts, in the War before last – and in the last War, At the landing place, Ticonderoga, Fort William Augustus, Montreal, & Bushy Run, in America, And in the West Indies, the taking of Martinco, & the Havannah &<sup>ca</sup> – And now almost 18 years a Lieu<sup>t</sup>: – I have only further to Observe to Your Lordship, that I know not one Lieu<sup>t</sup>: in the Army that has So much to Say – And Should my long Services be now forgot, it will make me groan under an intolerable burthen of Spirits that I know not how to get the better of – I therefore put myself & Situation intirely under Your Lordships protection; being perfectly convinced that Your Lordship has always befriended the old Soldier, took him by the hand & relieved him from his distress. I am informed the Additional Company of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Regim<sup>t</sup>: in which I have the honor to serve, will soon be or is now Vacant, by the preferment of Cap<sup>t</sup> Donaldson to be Major in Col<sup>o</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Donalds New Corps...”* The War Office soon responded, however, that “*The Offr<sup>s</sup> of the New Corps are recommended by the persons who undertake to raise them, except in the case of the Glasgow Reg<sup>t</sup>; the Capts for that Regt serving in G<sup>t</sup> Britain, Gibraltar, & Minorca, where there has been very little promoted: They are all very old Lieu<sup>t</sup>s. All vacancies in the Regt<sup>s</sup> under the command of S<sup>r</sup>. W. Howe are filled up by him: I hope he will soon give you that advancement your long Service has merited.*”

Lt. Gregor wrote Commander-on-Chief Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst on Jan. 25, 1779 from Stirling to again request a promotion to new additional companies to be formed in Britain. Lord Amherst replied on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> that “*... The Officers for the Additional Companies have long since been appointed, but if they had not, I could give you no hopes of succeeding to one of them; your situation in the Army not being within that description of persons who His Majesty has thought proper should be promoted upon this*

*occasion.*” It is not clear what Lord Amherst meant by the phrase “*your situation in the Army.*” It may have been that Gregor was in his fifties and a prior sergeant major.

Although, Gregor’s prior request for a Company had not been successful, on the formation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Gregor was appointed to Captain in the new battalion effective Mar. 22, 1780. In late 1779 he assisted Lord John Murray by contacting officers of the new battalion and giving them reporting instructions. A deserter advertisement in the Feb. 5, 1780 *Caledonian Mercury* has Gregor listed as the “...paymaster of the regiment.”

Lord Murray wrote Secretary at War Jenkinson on Sept. 2, 1780 to correct a long standing problem regarding Gregor’s name. Murray wrote “*I rec<sup>d</sup>. from the War Office the Establishment of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battalion, and in it Cap<sup>t</sup> Gregors name is inserted, who was of the Additional Companies, but Since his Commission was out Some years ago, there is an act of Parliament Passed allowing the Clan of Gregors to be called MacGregors, which he Earnestly desired me to put you in mind of before his Commission is Signed, which I hope you will please do accordingly.*” By two bills in 1633 and 1693, the Parliament of Scotland made the use of the name “MacGregor” illegal. Lord Murray is referring to an act of Parliament passed on Nov. 29, 1774 which restored the legal use of the name MacGregor. Because John Gregor had been initially commissioned during the period the name was illegal, his true name could not be used for his commissions as Ensign and Lieutenant. Accordingly in documents after this period, John Gregor is called by his correct name of John MacGregor.

Lt. Col. Normand MacLeod of MacLeod, commanding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, wrote Lord Murray on Dec. 18, 1780 that “*Your Lordship’s agent informed me yesterday that he had sent to your house the intimation from the War Office to your second batt<sup>n</sup>. to hold itself in readiness to embark for foreign service: & I can understand, from the time limited for the preparation of Camp equipage, &<sup>c</sup> that we shall depart very soon. ...*” The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. had been ordered for a secret expedition against South Africa, but Capt. MacGregor was too ill to embark with the battalion which sailed first for Portsmouth, before beginning the long voyage to South Africa and eventually India. The embarkation report at Portsmouth dated Jan. 20-22, 1781 stated “*Return of Officers, Serjeants, Corporals, Drummers and Pipers, Private Men Women and Children of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Commanded by the Right Honorable General Lord John Murray and Embark’d at Portsmouth the 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1781 ... Rank and Name of Absent Officers... Captain John MacGregor Sick on Shore...*”

A Mar. 2, 1782 listing of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Officers in Great Britain from the regimental agent also included a listing for MacGregor as “...*Captain John M<sup>c</sup>Gregor Left on Shore Sick at Portsmouth & Still in bad health at Inverness...*” Alexander Anderson, the agent, wrote the War Office on Aug. 2, 1782 for additional money to pay for the care of MacGregor, who had received the King’s Leave of Absence. He wrote “*I have had to Subsist from Period, The undermentioned Officers left sick when the Battalion embarked at Portsmouth for India Viz<sup>t</sup>. Cap<sup>m</sup>. John MacGregor now ill at Inverness in Scotland for 365 days from the 25 June 1781 to 24 June 1782 at 7/6 p<sup>r</sup> day} £136: 17: s 6 d...*” Anderson may have accidentally requested a few extra days coverage for MacGregor, as the Succession Book of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion lists MacGregor’s retirement date as June 20, 1782.

After his retirement from the regiment MacGregor continued his association with the Old Kilwinning Masonic Lodge and was again elected chair in 1785, 1786 and 1787.

Commissions/Appointments: Pvt. (prior to May 1745); Sgt.-Major (prior to 1758); Ens. July 22, 1758; Lt. July 28, 1760; Adj. (while Lt.) Aug. 27, 1760 to Oct. 22, 1761; Lt. Half-pay 1763; Lt. from Half-pay Aug. 27, 1775 (1<sup>st</sup> Additional Co., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. as “*John MacGregor*” Mar. 22, 1780 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired June 20, 1782 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** Early commission history from Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace; "Calendar of Council Minutes 1668-1783," in *New York State Library Bulletin* 58, Mar. 1902, Melvin Dewey Director, Univ. of the State of New York, Albany, 1902, Google Books, p. 508; *History of the Clan Gregor*, Amelia Georgiana Murray MacGregor of MacGregor, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1901, pp. 451-453; *Scottish Notes and Queries*, Vol. IV, June, 1890, to May, 1891, John Malcolm Bulloch, D. Wyllie & Son, Aberdeen, 1891, Google Books, p. 78; *Catalogue of Maps and Surveys, in the Offices of the Secretary of State of the State Engineer and Surveyor, and in the New-York State Library*, Printed by Order of the Assembly, Weed, Parsons and Company, Albany (N. Y.), 1851, Google Books, p.81; "Masonic Jewel, St. John's Old Kilwinning Lodge, No. 6, Scotch Constitution," W. Harry Rylands in *Ars Quatour Coronatorum, Being the Transactions of the Lodge Quatour Coronati, No. 2076, London*, Vol. VII, Ed. G. W. Speth, Printed at Keele's Gazette Office, Margate, 1894, Google Books, pp. 88-89; *Miscellanea Invernessiana*, John Noble, Inverness, p. 75; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, Apr. 15 and June 20, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 6-10, 1776; TNA, John Gregor to Viscount Barrington, Dec. 2, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/992; *The Organization of the British Army in the American Revolution*, Dr. Edward E. Curtis, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1926, Ch. 3; TNA, Memorial of John Gregor, Jan. 23, 1778 at WO 1/993; TNA, Memorial from John Gregor to Lord Amherst, Oct. 6, 1778, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Papers* at WO 34/146A pp. 28-29; TNA, John Gregor to Lord Amherst, Jan. 25, 1779 and Lord Amherst to John Gregor, Jan. 31, 1779 at WO 34/147, f. 390 and WO 34/228, p. 327; NRS, John Gregor to Colin Campbell, Nov. 3, 1779, *Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine* at GD170/3162; *Stewart's Sketches* p. 367; *A History of the Scottish Highlands, Highland Clans and Highland Regiments*, Vol. II, Ed. John Scott Keltie, A. Fullarton & Co. Edinburgh, 1875, p. 438; *Caledonian Mercury*, Feb. 5, 1780, p. 1; TNA, Lord John Murray to Charles Jenkinson, Sept. 2, 1780 WO 1/1008, p. 1877; *London Gazette* for Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 1780, p. 1; *Scots Magazine*, Sept. 1780, p. 588; TNA, Norman MacLeod to Lord John Murray, Dec. 18, 1780 at WO 34/170, f. 266; TNA, Embarkation Return of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Portsmouth, Jan. 20-22, 1781 at WO 34/171; TNA, "List of the Officers of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battallion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot absent from Duty," Oct. 31, 1781 at WO 34/189, f. 218; TNA, "Officers belonging to the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battallion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot now in Great Britain," Mar. 2, 1782 at WO 34/189, f.236; TNA, Alexander Anderson to George Yonge, Aug. 2, 1782, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/118, p. 290.

**Harris, Lt. John.** Harris was initially commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 85<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Royal Volunteers) in Mar. 1762. The regiment served in Portugal from 1762 to 1763 and Harris went out on Half-pay when the regiment was disbanded in 1763. He exchanged from Half-pay to an Ensigny in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Regt. in Feb. 1764 and was promoted to Lieutenant in that regiment in Mar. 1768 before exchanging with an officer in the 49<sup>th</sup> Regt. in December of that year. In Mar. 1772, Harris exchanged again to go on Half-pay of the former 122<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

As part of a three-officer transaction in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., General Orders dated at New York on Sept. 8, 1780 announced "*Lieu<sup>t</sup> John Harris, from half pay in the late 122<sup>d</sup> Foot to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> vice West who exchanges} 26<sup>th</sup> May 1780.*" The transaction with Lt. James West and Lt. Hon. George Fraser resulted in Harris' immediately transfer to the 88<sup>th</sup> Regt. Accordingly Harris did not serve with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the American war. The War Office announced his retirement from the 88<sup>th</sup> Regt. on Jan. 1, 1782, however, the annotated War Office copy of the Annual Army List for 1781 marks Lt. Harris as having died, and his replacement Lt. William Bell was given the date of rank of May 14, 1781.

**Commissions:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Mar. 22, 1762 (85<sup>th</sup> Regt.); 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Half-pay, May 24, 1763 (85<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Ens. exchanged from Half-pay Feb. 13, 1764 (43<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Mar 11, 1768 (43<sup>rd</sup> Regt.); Lt. by Exchange Dec 30, 1768 (49<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Irish Half-pay by exchange Mar. 14, 1772 (122<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 8 – effective May 26, 1780 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 8, 1780 by transfer – effective May 31, 1780 (88<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Died May 14, 1781 (88<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** Lt. Harris' early commission history from Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace; General Orders, New York on Sept. 8, 1780; *London Gazette* for June 10, 1780 p. 3 and Dec. 29, 1781-Jan. 1, 1782 pp. 1-2.





Heybridge Hall, Maldon, Essex (prior to being destroyed by fire in 1997)

Picture Source: "it's about Maldon" website, with permission.

**Herring, Lt. Julines.** Lt. Herring was born in Jamaica in 1767, the son of wealthy Jamaica planter, Half-pay Capt. Julines Hering, 94<sup>th</sup> Regt., and his wife, Mary Inglis, daughter of a Scots merchant in Philadelphia. Capt. Hering also owned an English property, Heybridge Hall, Maldon, Essex, which he held on a leasehold title from the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.

Fifteen-year old Julines Herring was first commissioned Ensign in Capt. Robert Riddell's Independent Company effective on Sept. 17, 1782 vice John Carruthers. This company was likely absorbed at about that time by Maj. John Elford's Corps. Capt. Riddell's date of rank of Dec. 13, 1781 in Maj. Elford's Corps predates the Major and was the same as his previous date of rank in his Independent Company. Elford was commissioned as Maj. Commandant on Sept. 13, 1782.

Five months after Herring's assignment to Maj. Elford's Corps, the War Office announced on Feb. 22, 1783 "[2<sup>nd</sup>] 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot... Ensign Julines Herring, of Major Elford's Corps, to be Lieutenant, vice Smollet Campbell." The "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt., commanded by Lt. Col. Commandant Alexander, Earl Balcarres (former Capt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.), had been split off from the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. in America on the death of that regiment's Colonel, Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser, in 1782. The "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt. initially was made up of the two Additional Companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders that were stationed in Scotland and Newfoundland to provide recruits for the regiment in America.

When the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was formed in 1779 both Additional (or recruiting) Companies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, were transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. As a result, the battalion in America did not have a source for new recruits to make up for losses in the battalion. On Jan. 21, 1783, the Secretary at War notified Lord Murray that "*I have the honor to acq<sup>t</sup>. Your Lop: that H. M. has been pleased to direct that the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot, under your Command, should be augmented with one Company for the purpose of recruiting, which Company is to consist of 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 10 Serjeants, 10 Corporals, 4 Drummers, & 30 Private men; & that directions have been given to the (2<sup>d</sup>.) – 71<sup>st</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>: of Foot, to turn over accordingly, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, & 1 Ensign, of one of the additional Companys to the 1<sup>st</sup>: Battalion of Your Regiment...*" The transfer was made effective as of Dec. 25, 1782.

The Apr. 5, 1783 muster at Perth of Capt. William Nairne's Company in the 2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt. indicated Nairne and Ens. Cornelius Wallace were "*Transferred to 1<sup>st</sup>. B: 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. 25<sup>th</sup>. Dec<sup>r</sup>*" along with two

“Vacant” Lieutenancies formerly held by Lieutenant James Abercrombie and John Story. However, the annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1783 showing officers of “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. included Nairne, Lt. John Herring, Lt. John Sinclair, and Ens. Alexander Innes. Lt. Sinclair had been appointed to the vacant Lieutenancy of Lt. John Abercrombie on Feb. 17, but the other two officers were not associated with Lt. Story or Ens. Wallace, respectively.

Neither Lt. Herring nor Lt. Sinclair are mentioned in the above Perth muster. All three subalterns were commissioned in the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. after the date the 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. was ordered to turn a company over to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and accordingly their actual date of service in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. cannot be precisely determined. All three subalterns were very junior in their respective ranks which likely is the reason for their selection for transfer.

Besides the officers, other soldiers of the “12<sup>th</sup> Company” of the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. were transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. The muster of Capt. John Elphinstone’s Company at Perth on Apr. 5 has a note that *“the Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Serjeants, four Corporals, two Drummers from the 12<sup>th</sup> Company transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battn 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt 25<sup>th</sup> Dec, and twenty seven Effective private men.”* The officers mentioned in this note did not come from Elphinstone’s company but rather as discussed above.

Once formed, however, Capt. Nairne’s company did not serve very long in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders. Due to the reduction of the army at the end of the American war the Secretary at War notified Gen. Lord Murray on June 23, 1783 that *“... I have the honour to acq<sup>t</sup>: You, that the men to be Discharged in Consequence of the Reduction of the Additional Companies, are to have the usual Bounty of fourteen days Subsistence beyond the time of their Discharge, to carry them to their respective Homes; those excepted who were enlisted in Scotland or Ireland who are to receive twenty one or twenty eight Days Sub<sup>s</sup>ce according to the Distance...”* Accordingly, Capt. Nairne’s Additional Company was disbanded and the officers went out on Half-pay.



Reproduction 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt. Uniform Button of the War of American Independence Era

Lt. Herring remained on Half-pay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. until the War Office announced on Apr. 9, 1791 *“60<sup>th</sup> (or the Royal American) Regiment of Foot... Lieutenant Julines Hering, from the Half-Pay of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, to be Lieutenant, vice William Floyer, who exchanges.”* At the time of his assignment to the Royal Americans, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions were stationed in the West Indies and Herring purchased a Company in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion in Mar. 1793 from the retiring James Bain. Nine months later, in Dec. 1793, the soldiers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion were drafted into the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, and the Officers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> returned to Europe and were sent to the Channel Islands before returning to the West Indies again in Apr. 1795. The annotated War Office copy of the Army List for 1797 shows the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion in the “Leew<sup>d</sup> Isles” and the 4<sup>th</sup> at Jamaica. That copy also is annotated to show Capt. Herring assigned to the new 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion and that he purchased the Majority of the retiring Maj. William Martin of that battalion on Oct. 25, 1797. Herring’s Majority, although published in the 1798 Army List, was cancelled several months later, and he returned to his Company. The War office announced the cancellation on Apr. 10, 1798 writing *“60<sup>th</sup> Ditto [Regiment of Foot]... Captain Edmund Burke, from the 52<sup>d</sup> Foot, to be Major, by Purchase, vice Herring, whose Promotion does not take Place.”* Likely offended by the loss of his Majority, Herring retired the following year on Dec. 5, 1799.

Capt. Herring died unmarried in 1813.

Commissions: Ens. Sept. 13, 1782 (Capt. Robert Riddle's Independent Co.); Ens. Sept. 1782 (Maj. John Elford's Corps); Lt. Feb. 12, 1783 (Second 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. of (Highland) Foot); Lt. By Transfer Jan. 21, 1783 – effective Dec. 25, 1782 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Additional Company); Lt. Half-Pay June 23, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. by Exchange Mar. 30, 1791 (3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Royal Americans); Capt. Mar. 19, 1793 (3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Royal Americans); Maj. Oct. 25, 1797 – Cancelled Apr. 10, 1798 (60<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Royal Americans); Retired Dec. 5, 1799 (60<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Royal Americans).

**References:** *The Inglis of Auchindinny and Redhall*, John Alexander Inglis, T. and A. Constable, London, 1914, p. 72-74; *London Gazette*, Sept. 14-17, 1782, p. 1, Feb. 18-22, 1783, p. 2, Apr. 5-9, 1791, p. 3, May 14-18, 1793, p.2, Oct. 24-28, 1797, p. 8, Apr. 7-10, 1798, p. 1, and Dec. 7-10, 1799, p. 4; Army Lists for 1782 (TNA, WO65/32, p. 190), 1783 (WO65/33, Copy of missing page 146 for "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt. provided by Mr. Ed Brumby and p. 187), 1797, (WO65/47, p. 220); 1798 (WO65/48, p. 220) and 1799 (WO65/49, p. 229); TNA, *War Office: Out letters*, WO 4/120, p. 208; TNA, *War Office*, *Musters of Capt. Wm. Nairne's and Capt. John Elphinstone's Companies, 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt., Perth, Scotland*, Apr. 5, 1783 at WO 12/7847; TNA, *Richard Fitz Patrick to Lord Murray*, June 23, 1783 at WO 4/122, pp. 142-143 (f. 73); *A Regimental Chronicle and List of Officers of the 60<sup>th</sup>, or the King's Royal Rifle Corps*, Nesbit Willoughby Wallace, Harrison, London 1879, Google Books, pp. 13-14 and 46.



Reproduction 71<sup>st</sup> (Fraser's) Highland Regt. Officer's Uniform Button

*Alex. Home Boudinot*

**Home**, Ens. Alexander. On June 8, 1776 Home was a Volunteer serving in Capt. Hamilton Maxwell's Light Infantry Company of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders) when three Continental Schooners took their transport ship *Anne*. *The Edinburgh Advertiser* published Capt. Maxwell's description of the attack indicating, "*The ship Anne was chased by three privateers, a whole day near the coast of America, but out-sailed them. Next morning the ship was becalmed, and the privateers, by favour of their oars rowed up, two under her stern, and one upon her bow, by which the ship's guns could not bear; but indeed she had only two carriage guns and two swivels put on carriages for show. A council of war was held, and it was resolved to surrender. I desire you will represent these facts.*" Home and the officers were taken to Marblehead, Massachusetts on the Continental Schooner *Lee* and then forwarded on to Boston on June 9. Home ended up a prisoner in Dunstable, Massachusetts (40 miles northwest of Boston).

While on parole, the officers and Volunteers were allowed to live within six miles of the town. Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. described their captivity in Dunstable saying "...*there is an excellent House, cheap living, and Kindly neighbours to associate with...*" Late the next year, while still a prisoner, Home broke his leg and petitioned the Massachusetts Council on the Dec. 17, 1777 to be allowed leave to see a physician, which was granted.

Home was released from captivity in mid-1778. The Rebel Commissary General of Prisoners, Elias Boudinot, wrote to Joshua Mersereau regarding Home and others on May 6, 1778 noting "*Being again in*

*this City on an Exchange of Prisoners, I am to require you in Consequence of some Exchanges I have made here, to Send in to Rhode Island without delay, the following Prisoners of War... Cadets ... Home {...71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>... Exchanged altogether. ..”*

The War Office annotated copy of the annual Army List for 1778 is noted to show Home as Ensign in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. with a date of rank of Oct. 14, 1778 and about two weeks later General Orders on Nov. 3, 1778 announced “42<sup>d</sup> regiment... Ensign Alexander Hume from 71<sup>st</sup> to be Ensign vice [Ens. Dougall] Campbell promoted...” effective Aug. 26, 1778.

Home served with a line battalion in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, and the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780. On Aug. 30 of that year, Maj. Charles Graham, commanding the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., sent a memorial to Sir Henry Clinton indicating “...*Your Memorialist further, Humbly requests that Ensign Home of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under his command may be permitted to dispose of his Ensigncy, which he earnestly desires to do, in order to satisfy some pressing demands which are now made upon him, as well as to comply with his Fathers wishes for his leaving the Army...*” Home retired two weeks later on Sept. 13, 1780.

Commissions: Volunteer 1776 (Lt. Inf. Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Ens. Oct. 14, 1778 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Ens. Nov. 3, 1778 – effective Aug. 26, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Sept. 13, 1780.

**References:** *71st Fraser Highland Regiment in the American War of Independence*, Ed Brumby, Anchorprint Group Ltd., 2012, p. 183; *The Connecticut Currant*, June 24, 1776, p. 3; Massachusetts Archives, “Report of Captured Men of the 71st Regt. held in Massachusetts, Nov. 14, 1776,” *Revolutionary Rolls* at RR8-361, f. 241a, Transcribed by Mr. Ed Brumby; “The 71st Highlanders in Massachusetts, 1776-1780” Colin Campbell, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, 1958, pp. 265-272; Hist. Society of Pennsylvania, Elias Boudinot to Joshua Mersereau, New York, May 6, 1778, *Elias Boudinot Papers*, Vol. I, p. 138; Receipt from Elias Boudinot, New York, May 6, 1778, *Elias Boudinot Papers*, Vol. II, p. 2; *71st Fraser Highland Regiment in the American War of Independence*, Ed Brumby citing Massachusetts Archives, Vols. 173, 174:34-35a; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 17, 1776, p. 182 and Oct. 15, 1776, p. 245; General Orders, New York, Oct. 14, 1778, Nov. 1, 1778 and Sept. 13, 1780; *London Gazette*, Mar. 6-9, 1779 pp. 1-2 and Mar. 9 - 13, 1779 pp. 1-2; E-mail E. Brumby to P. Pace dated Nov. 13, 2006; Charles Graham to Sir Henry Clinton, Aug. 30, 1780, *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 119: 47, W. L. Clements Lib., Univ. of Michigan.



Fogo Church

Picture source: *Stray Leaves from a Border Garden*, Mary Pamela Milne Home, (Illustration by F.L. B. Griggs), John Lane, London, 1901, Google Books, after p. 210.

*W. Home Major  
R. H. Regt.*

**Home, Maj. Walter.** Born Oct. 4, 1742, Home was the second son of Rev. William Home, Presbyterian Minister of Fogo (son of Walter Home of Bassendean) and his wife, Mary, daughter of Robert Roddam of Ewart, Northumberland. The Fogo parish church overlooked the Blackadder River in Berwickshire, about four miles southwest of Duns. Rev. Home was appointed Chaplain of Edinburgh Castle in 1778, but the duty was performed by his deputy.



Reproduction 7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fuzileer Regt. Uniform Button

Since its founding in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the 7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fuzileer Regt. (1776 spelling) did not have the position of Ensign, and accordingly Home entered the regiment, then part of the garrison of Gibraltar, as a Lieutenant on June 12, 1760. By the time the Fuzileers sailed for Canada in March 1773, Home was Capt. Lieutenant and advanced to Captain on Nov. 22, 1775. The 7<sup>th</sup> Regt. was captured in Canada at Forts St. John's and Chambly in 1775 and Capt. Home became a prisoner of war on parole.

Although the circumstances of Home's capture have not been documented, he wrote a narrative of his captivity and apparently made an escape attempt after concluding the rebels had violated his parole. Home wrote *"On condition of being allowed to make choice of Reading in Pennsylvania for their residence he and others gave their parole. After remaining ten months at Reading, where they were frequently insulted, they were removed contrary to agreement to Lebanon, although it was previously known there was no accommodation for them in that place. The committee of that place wrote to Congress asking that they might be removed. On complaining of the insults and threats they received, the person who had charge of them answered that he was sorry for it, but durst not interfere lest he himself should be treated in the same manner. At last they were told they might be allowed choice of another place so long as it was not Reading or Lancaster. They replied to the effect that they had already been moved from the place of their choice and were determined neither to say nor sign anything until they were set down in a place where they could be accommodated and live like gentlemen. The person to whom this was addressed acknowledged that they were in the right. Being thus freed from the former parole their desire of taking active part in the service of their country made them attempt to make their escape. Their enemies, since that time, to vindicate themselves from the imputation of neglect, have thrown many illiberal and unjust reflections on them."* The Royal Fuzileers were exchanged in Dec. 1776 and marched to New York City arriving on Dec. 30, 1776.

After serving most of the American war as Captain of the Fuzileers' Grenadier Company, Home purchased the Majority of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on the advancement of Maj. Charles Graham to be Lt. Colonel of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in May 1782. At the time he joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. his brother Luke Home was Capt. Lt. of the 16<sup>th</sup> Regt. and his brother Roddam Home, was Capt. of *HMS Romney*.

Maj. Home assumed command of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in New York after April 1783 when Lt. Col. Graham returned to Britain on leave. He continued in command as the regiment embarked on Oct. 4, 1783 at New



York and sailed for Halifax, Nova Scotia with 586 men and women on three ships as part of the evacuation of the former American Colonies. While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was in Nova Scotia, Home remained in command until Oct. 1784 due to the continued leave of Lt. Col. Graham.

Maj. Home left for Britain in Oct. 1784 and wrote to the Sec. at War with concern on how the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion officers would be treated if the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion on India were reduced. Writing from Cecil Street on Nov. 22, 1784, Home wrote “...Before I left Halifax in Oct<sup>r</sup>: last, I had been credibly informed that the 2<sup>d</sup>: Batt<sup>n</sup>: of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>., on its return from India, would be reduced as a distinct & separate Batt<sup>n</sup>. from the 1<sup>st</sup>: now in Nova Scotia; & that the Officers of the young would not interfere with those of the old Batt<sup>n</sup>: –On my arrival here I found that the matter either had not been fully considered, or that it was not finally determined. The following circumstance obliges me, as Commanding Officer of the 1<sup>st</sup>: Batt<sup>n</sup>: to be anxious to have the matter ascertained... the two Corps have constantly been employed on separate & distant Services without interfering; & if they should interfere at last, the old & established Battalion will have been placed thereby in a Situation where it would only lose, and where it was impossible to gain. The two Senior Cap<sup>ts</sup>. of the first Batt<sup>n</sup>. at this moment, were Officers before the Major of the Second Battalion was born...”

A War Office letter dated Oct. 6, 1785 extended the dates of Home’s leave until Dec. 1, 1785 for his private affairs indicating “*Leaves of Absence...Major Home* of 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. {6 Months from 1<sup>st</sup>. June 1785 on D<sup>o</sup> [his P. Aff<sup>s</sup>.] Home was still in Scotland in St. Andrew Parish on Jan. 2, 1786, when he married Frances (Fanny) Dysart, daughter of the late minister, Mathew Dysart Sandilands of Couston.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. returned to Britain from serving in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton in 1789 and two years later, the War Office announced Home’s retirement on March 19, 1791. The announcement read “42d (or Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot Captain George Dalrymple to be Major, by Purchase, vice Walter Home, who retires.”

Home died sometime before 1800, the year his widow died as published in the *Edinburgh Magazine* which indicated “Deaths...1800...Feb...27...At Antonhill, Mrs Home, widow of the late Major Walter Home, of the 42d Regiment of Foot.” Antonhill was the home of her sister Jean Dysart and brother-in-law David Dickson of Antonhill.

Commissions: Lt. June 12, 1760 (7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fusilier Regt.); Capt. Lt. Dec. 25, 1770 (7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fusilier Regt.); Brevet-Capt. May 25, 1772 (7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fusilier Regt.); Capt. Nov. 22, 1775 - effective May 25, 1772 (7<sup>th</sup> or Royal Fusilier Regt.); Maj. May 3 – effective Apr. 28, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Mar. 16, 1791.

**References:** Website for Scottish Ministers of Dumfries & Galloway citing Presb. Reg., Scots Mag. xix, Morren’s Ann. ii, Carlyle’s Autob., Sinclair’s xx, and New St. Acc. ii, Geneal. of Hume, www.dwalker.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk; *Autobiography of the Rev. Dr. Alexander Carlyle, Minister of Inveresk*, Alexander Carlyle, Ticnor and Fields, Boston, 1861, Google Books, pp. 213-214, 400, 432, 446-447; *Edinburgh Advertiser* June 12, 1772; Notes on Home’s early commission history from Dr. J. Houlding to Paul Pace; *Historical Records of the 7th or Royal Regiment of Fusiliers*, Percy Groves, Frederick B. Guerin, Guernsey, 1903, Google Books, pp. 65-95; Narrative of Captain W. Home, Royal Fusiliers, of his treatment when prisoner, dated approximately Dec. 4, 1776 in the *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books. p. 75; *Scots Magazine*, Feb. 1777, p. 81, Sept. 1782, p. 504 and Mar. 1791, pp. 155-156; General Orders, New York on May 3, 1782 and Oct. 4, 1783; *London Gazette* for Apr. 6, 1771, p. 1, May 23-26, 1772.; June 2, 1772, p. 2, July 13, 1782 p. 3 and Mar. 15, 1791, pp. 1-2; TNA, War Office, Our-letters at WO 4/276, pp. 75-76. (f. 38); TNA, War Office, In-letters at WO 1/1024, p. 265; *The Register of Marriages, For the Parish of Edinburgh, 1751-1800*, Scottish Record Society, Ed. Francis J. Grant W. S., Rothesay Herald. Printed for the Society by J. Skinner & Company, LTD., 1922, last update 27 Sept. 2004; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany*, Vol. XV, New Series, Printed for James Symington, London, 1800, Google Books, p. 240; *The Memoirs of Walter Pringle, of Greenknow*, Ed. Rev. Walter Wood, William P. Kennedy, Edinburgh, 1847, Google Books, pp. 131-132; *The Royal*

*Navy, a History from the earliest Times to the Present*, Vol. III, William Laird Clowes, Sampson, Low, Marston and Company, London, 1898, p. 544.



Balvenie Castle Ruins

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons by Anne Burgess

**Innes**, Lt. Alexander. Innes (pronounced “Innez”) was born Feb. 9, 1755 to John Innes and Magdalen Grant, who lived at Wakemill of Balvenie, Mortlach parish, Banffshire (about eighteen miles west of Banff). Innes’ parents were part of the Innes of Balvenie family.

Innes was serving as a Volunteer in Capt. Erskine’s Company when promoted to Ensign in Sept. 1776 in place of Ens. Alexander MacKenzie. Innes served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. He was promoted to Lieutenant on Aug. 15, 1778 in place of Lt. John Campbell and took part in the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779, the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780 and the relief attempt for Cornwallis’ army in Virginia in 1781. At the end of the war he moved with the regiment to Halifax in Oct. 1783 and was present with the regiment in the regimental review conducted at Halifax in June 1784.

Innes remained with the regiment during its service in Canada. A War Office letter dated Jan. 4, 1786 approved leave for several officers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Included was “*L<sup>ts</sup> ... Innes } of 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> B<sup>n</sup>: 6 Months from 3<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>: 1785 P[rivate]. A[ffairs].* This leave was likely extended into late 1786.

While home in Scotland on Oct. 8, 1786 Innes married 21-year old Katherine Duncan (daughter of John Duncan of Jamaica and his wife Katherine Grant) in Fordyce (about ten miles west of Banff). Innes and his wife had nine children; Hector Munro, b. 1787, at Fordyce; Katherine Grant, b. 1789, at Fordyce; Anna Alexander, b. 1790, at Fordyce; twins John and Alexander, b. 1792, Elspet, b. 1793, at Loanhead; Magdaline, b. 1794, at Loanhead; Mary Munro, b. 1796, at Loanhead and George, b. 1798, at Loanhead.

Two years after the regiment returned from Nova Scotia and Cape Breton in 1789, the War Office announced Innes’ exchange to half pay on July 12, 1791 (effective June 17) indicating “*42d (or Royal*

*Highland) Regiment of Foot, Lieutenant John Raitt, from Half-Pay of the Independent Companies, to be Lieutenant, vice Alexander Innes, who exchanges."*

After leaving the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Innes became a Captain in the "Enzie Companies of Banffshire Volunteers" in June 1797 and died at Loanhead, in Rathven Parish, Banffshire, on Sept. 15, 1799. The Enzie Volunteers was a Banffshire volunteer unit of about 300 men which was later part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Aberdeen Volunteers. Innes is buried at the church at Rathven where a stone is inscribed: "*This stone was erected by Katherine Duncan to the memory of ALEXANDER INNES, Capt. of the Enzie Volunteers, her husband, who died at Loanhead the 15 Sept. 1799, and is interred here, aged 45.*" Innes' wife died on Jun. 24, 1851 and is buried next to her husband in Rathven.

On Nov. 23, 1905 the *Banffshire Advertiser* reported a second memorial as "*A stone slab was erected on the wall of Rathven Cemetery to Alexander Innes, a Lieutenant in the 42nd Royal Highlanders and Captain in the Enzi Volunteers who died at Loanhead on 15 September, 1799.*"



Memorials of Alexander Innes and Catherine Dunvan Innes, on the Wall of St. Peters and Old Burial Ground, Rathven,

Picture Source: Find-a-Grave Memorials 135464576 and 135464412.

Commissions: Ens. Sept. 30 – effective Sept. 21, 1776; Lt. Aug. 15 – effective Aug. 3, 1778; Lt. Half-Pay June 17, 1791 (Independent Company); Capt. June 17, 1797 (Enzie Companies of Banffshire Volunteers).

**References:** Family history from Beresford Family History; General Orders, New York, Sept. 30, 1776 and Aug. 15, 1778; TNA, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/276, pp. 94-95 (f. 48); *Family Website of Robert Beresford*, Queensland Australia; *Epitaphs & Inscriptions from Burial grounds & Old Buildings in the North-East of Scotland*, Andrew Jervise, F.S.A. Scot., Edmonstone and Douglas, Edinburgh, 1875, Google Books, p. 273-274; *Rathven Old Parish*

**Innes**, Ens. Alexander. Ens. Innes was initially commissioned in the Northern Fencibles in Nov. 1781. Three years earlier, the Duke of Gordon raised the regiment under a Letter of Service dated Apr. 14, 1778 which began *"My Lord, I am commanded by the King to acquaint your Grace that His Majesty approves of the plan of raising a Battalion of Fencible Men for the internal protection of North Britain..."* At the time Innes was commissioned the Fencibles were stationed in Aberdeen on the northeast coast of Scotland. The regiment was still at Aberdeen when the War Office announced on May 16, 1782 *"...Northern Regiment of Fencible Men, Ensign Alexander Innes to be Lieutenant, vice \_\_\_\_ [Donald] Forbes."*

The Aberdeen Town Council recognized the services of the Northern Fencibles upon their disbanding at the end of the war, writing to the Duke of Gordon on Apr. 7, 1783 *"My Lord Duke, Being informed that Your Grace's Regiment of North Fencibles is ordered soon to be disembodied, before that event takes place, We think it our indispensable duty in name of this City and Community to express the just since [sense] we entertain of not only of the laudable and spirited exertion made by Your Grace in first raising of the Regiment for the internal defence of the Country, at a period, when its situation so much called for a protection, but also of the good conduct and behaviour of the Corps since their establishment, by which they have upon all occasions done so much honour to themselves. We are no less particularly sensible of the exact discipline and good order which has uniformly been maintained by all the Officers, as well as of the regular and peaceable deportment of the Soldiers, during the long time we have had the happiness of the Regiment's head quarters being at Aberdeen, in so much that we are convinced, they are all looked upon and esteemed as good citizens, equally as well disciplined Military."* The Fencibles were disbanded on Apr. 12, 1783.

Just days before the order for the Fencibles to disband, the War Office announced on Mar. 18<sup>th</sup> "[2<sup>nd</sup>] 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot... Lieutenant Alexander Innes, of the Northern Regiment of Fencible Men, to be Ensign, vice John Grant." Innes' commission was dated Mar. 7. The "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt., commanded by Lt. Col. Commandant Alexander, Earl Balcarres (former Capt., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.), had split from the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. in America on the death of that regiment's Colonel, Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser in 1782. The "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt. initially was made up of the two Additional Companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders that were stationed in Scotland to provide recruits for the regiment in America.

Previously, when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was formed in 1779, both Additional Companies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. were transferred to provide the initial staffing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. As a result, the battalion in America did not have a source for new recruits to make up for losses. On Jan. 21, 1783, the Secretary at War notified Gen. Lord John Murray, Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., that *"I have the honor to acquit. Your Lordship: that H. M. [His Majesty] has been pleased to direct that the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>: Regt. of Foot, under your Command, should be augmented with one Company for the purpose of recruiting, which Company is to consist of 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 10 Serjeants, 10 Corporals, 4 Drummers, & 30 Private men; & that directions have been given to the (2<sup>d</sup>:) – 71<sup>st</sup>: Regt. of Foot, to turn over accordingly, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, & 1 Ensign, of one of the additional Companies to the 1<sup>st</sup>: Battalion of Your Regiment..."* The transfer was made effective as of Dec. 25, 1782.

The Apr. 5, 1783 muster at Perth of Capt. William Nairne's Company in the 2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. indicated Nairne and Ens. Cornelius Wallace were *"Transferred to 1<sup>st</sup>. B: 42<sup>d</sup>. Regt. 25<sup>th</sup>. Dec<sup>r</sup>."* along with two *"Vacant"* Lieutenancies formerly held by Lieutenants James Abercrombie and John Story. However, the annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1783 showing officers of "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>" Regt.

transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. included Nairne, Lt. John Herring, Lt. John Sinclair, and Ens. Innes. Innes was the junior Ensign in the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. which is likely the reason for his selection for transfer.

Ens. Innes had not yet reported to the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. at the time of the Perth muster on Apr. 5, 1783. Because Ens. Innes’ commission was dated after Capt. Nairne’s company was transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Jan. 21, 1783, it is likely Innes never served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. and joined the Additional Company of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. immediately after he was commissioned. Because this transfer did not result in a new commission, it was never posted to the *London Gazette* or the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Succession Book. The annotated War Office copy of the Annual Army List for 1783 for the “*Second 71st Regiment of (Highland) Foot*” shows Ens. Innes’ name annotated with “42<sup>d</sup>” along with the other officers who were transferred.

Besides the officers, other soldiers of the “12<sup>th</sup> Company” of the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>” Regt. were transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. The muster of Capt. John Elphinstone’s Company at Perth on Apr. 5 has a note that “*the Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Serjeants, four Corporals, two Drummers from the 12<sup>th</sup> Company transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battn 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt 25<sup>th</sup> Dec, and twenty seven Effective private men.*” The officers mentioned in this note did not come from Elphinstone’s company but rather as discussed above.

Due to the reduction of the army at the end of the American war, Capt. Nairne’s company did not serve very long in its new regiment. Just five months later, on June 23, 1783, the Secretary at War notified Lord Murray that “... *I have the honour to acquit: You, that the men to be Discharged in Consequence of the Reduction of the Additional Companies, are to have the usual Bounty of fourteen days Subsistence beyond the time of their Discharge, to carry them to their respective Homes; those excepted who were enlisted in Scotland or Ireland who are to receive twenty one or twenty eight Days Sub”*see according to the Distance...” Accordingly, Capt. Nairne’s new Additional Company was disbanded and the officers, including Ens. Innes, went out on Half-pay.

Ens. Innes died on Mar. 12, 1792. This officer can be confused with another officer in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. with the same name who was initially commissioned Ens. in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. effective Sept. 21, 1776.

Commissions: Ens. Nov. 21, 1781 (Northern Regt. of Fencible Men); Lt. May 5, 1782 (Northern Regt. of Fencible Men); Ens. Mar. 7, 1783 (Second 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. of (Highland) Foot); Ens. Approx. Mar. 7, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company); Ens. Half-pay June 23, 1783 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.), Died Mar. 12, 1792 (Half-pay 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.)

**References:** *London Gazette*, Dec. 4-8, 1781, p. 1, May 21-25, 1782, pp. 3-4 and Mar. 15-18, 1783, p. 1; *Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland during 1759-1814*, John Malcolm Bulloch, Univ. of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, 1914, pp. 74, 117, 125-126; Army Lists for 1783 (TNA, WO65/33, p. 146 - missing), 1793 (WO65/43, pp. 329-330) and 1794 (WO65/44, p. 330), E-mail from Dr. John Houlding, July 31, 2012, referencing TNA, Records of the Paymaster General, Army Establishment: Half-pay at PMG4/48.

**Lees, Ens. James.** Lees was born about 1757 and was the brother of John Lees of Portman Square (near Hyde Park, London). He was commissioned Ensign on Jan. 14, 1775 in place of Ens. John Grant. Just a few months later, at the Regimental review of the regiment at Waterford, Ireland on May 30, Lees was listed on Commander in Chief’s leave from May 15, 1775 to Nov. 15, 1775. Near the end of that period, Lt. Col. Stirling received a letter from the Secretary at War dated Sept. 12, that “*I have the honor to acquaint you that H.M. has been pleased to permit Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [Ens.] Lees of the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Regiment of Foot under your Command to be absent from the Regiment for Six Months.*”





Portman Square, 1813

Picture Source: Wikipedia.

On Jan. 29, 1776 Lees' brother wrote the Secretary of War to obtain Ens. Lees release from the Army. Viscount Barrington replied the next day writing *"I am acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of Yesterday's date and to acquaint you that His Majesty is pleased to allow Ensign Lees to resign his Commission in the 42<sup>d</sup> (or Royal Highland) Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot."* Accordingly, Ens. Lees did not serve with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the American war. About two months after leaving the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., on Mar. 27, 1776, Lees was commissioned as a Practitioner- Engineer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. The Corp of Engineer Warrant dated July 21, 1784, listed ten companies, each with five officers. Lees was listed as the senior second lieutenant and was posted at St. Kitts in the West Indies, east-southeast of Puerto Rico.

On Oct. 26, 1785 the Office of Ordnance announced *"...Corps of Engineers... Second Lieutenant James Lees to be First Lieutenant, vice Benjamin Fisher, promoted."* Seven years later, however, Lees was cashiered from the Corps of Royal Engineers as a result of the sentence of General Court-martial on Apr. 12, 1792. The May 2, 1792 Office of Ordnance announcement of his departure did not reflect the reason stating only *"...Corps of Royal Engineers...Second Lieutenant William Bartlett to be First Lieutenant, vice James Lees."*

In 1798 the *London Gazette* published King George III's signing of commissions dated June 12, 1798 for the Loyal Oldham Volunteer Association. Included were *"John Lees, Esq; to be Major Commandant... James Lees, Esq; to be Captain, Edward Lees, Esq; to be Captain..."* Based on the similarity of names these commissions may have been issued to former 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Lees and his brother. Oldham is in Lancashire about seven miles northeast of Manchester. These same officers of the Volunteers were associated with the estate of Clarksfield in Lancashire.

Commissions: Ens. Jan. 14, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Resigned Jan. 31, 1776; Practitioner-Engineer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Mar 27, 1776 (Corps of Engineers); 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Sept. 16, 1785 (Corps of Engineers); Cashiered Apr. 12, 1792 (Corps of Royal Engineers).

**References:** TNA, "Major General Cuninghames Observations on the Fortysecond Or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot reviewed By Him at Waterford on the 30<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1775" War Office, *Inspection Returns, Irish* at WO 27/35 Sheet No. 3; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Thomas Stirling, Sept. 12, 1775, War Office, *Out-letters* at WO 4/94, p. 309; TNA, Viscount Barrington to John Lees, Jan. 30, 1776 at WO 4/95, p. 485; Army List 1779, p. 239; Lee's service in

the Engineers from Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace referencing *Roll of Officers of the Royal Engineers from 1660 to 1898*, T.W.J. Connolly and R.F. Edwards, Chatham, W. & J. MacKay & Co., for the Royal Engineers Institute, 1898, No. 205; *London Gazette*, Oct. 25-29, 1785, p. 1, May 1-5, 1792, p. 2 and June 19 – 23, 1798, p. 3; *History of the Corps of Royal Engineers*, Vol. I, by Maj. Gen. Whitworth Porter, R. E., Longmans, Green and Co., London, 1889, Google Books, p. 216.

*Alex. Loraine Ensign 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.*

**Loraine**, Lt. Alexander. Loraine was born in Duns, in the Scottish Borders and christened Sept. 13, 1761. He was the eldest child of James Loraine, a Writer to the Signet and sheriff's clerk of Berwickshire, and his wife Patricia Home from Angelraw, Berwickshire.

Loraine was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. backdated to Nov. 8, 1778 in place of Ens. John Robertson. Ens. Loraine was actually commissioned in mid-1779 as shown by his name being added by handwriting to the War Office Annual List for 1779, dated June 1, 1779. A Sept. 2, 1780 letter from Lord John Murray to the Secretary at War discussed transfer of three officers from America who were assigned to the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Ens. Loraine was one of the officers to be sent to America to replace the transferred officers. Lord Murray wrote "...*There is Ensign Loraine gone from Cork, another is ordered from Fort George and he [Lt. Robert Franklin] is the third.*"

Loraine was promoted to Lieutenant in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company in July 1781 in place of Lt. Callander who retired. The Light Infantry Company, however, had sailed from New York on March 20, 1781 with Maj. Gen. William Phillips for the Virginia Campaign. Loraine did not sail with the company as Capt. Peebles noted in his journal on Oct. 10, 1781, writing that "...*he is left behind convalescent...*" for the Cornwallis relief expedition to Virginia in Oct. 1781. Lt. Loraine was transferred to Capt. John Rutherford's Company in the line battalion in New York on Feb. 8, 1783.

On Oct. 22, 1783 Gen. Sir Guy Carleton, Commander in Chief, North America provided the Secretary at War a listing of returning officers and discharged troops. Carleton wrote "*I enclose an embarkation return of the detachment of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment, and of the men discharged from the British Regiments gone to Nova Scotia, together with lists of the last mentioned men's names, and of the Officers that have charge of them...*" 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment... d<sup>o</sup> [Lieu'] Lorraine..." The War Office awarded Loraine and two other officers additional full-pay until the Dec. 12, 1783 because they "...*were detained on Service abroad so they could not arrive in England until the 12<sup>th</sup> December...*"



Reproduction 9<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button, era of the American War for Independence

*The London Gazette* published Loraine's return to active service on Oct. 1786 announcing "Commissions signed for the Army in Ireland...9th Regiment of Foot, Lieutenant Alexander Loraine, from British Half-Pay of 42d Foot, to be Lieutenant en Second, vice [James] Fitzgerald, exchanged, dated August 26, 1786."



The Prince of Wales Bastion at the Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park, St Kitts, Leeward Islands, 2003

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, by Ukexpat.

On Jan. 15, 1788 the 9<sup>th</sup> or East Norfolk Regt. embarked for the West Indies and was station at Brimstone Hill Fort, on the Island of St. Christophers (now Saint Kitts, Leeward Islands). Loraine was then advanced to Capt. Lieutenant in the same regiment in Mar. 1793 and to Captain in Dec. 1794. While in the West Indies the 9<sup>th</sup> Regt. participated in the Martinique, St. Lucia and Guadeloupe Campaigns of 1794 and were stationed in Grenada in 1795 before returning to Norfolk, England in 1796.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Regt. sailed to Guernsey in 1798 before returning to England in 1799. Capt. Loraine was listed that year as a Major of Brigade for Gen. Sir William Howe's *Eastern District* of Great Britain at a pay rate of £172, 17s, 6d and was promoted Aug. 7, 1799 to second Major of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> or The East Norfolk Regt. when it was raised in 1799.

On Apr. 9, 1801, Dr. William Robertson (Former Surg., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) wrote to Maj. John Peebles from Bath, that "... *Lorraine is in the Adjutant Gen<sup>l</sup>: Office London...*" The Army later paid Loraine £228 14 3 on Sept. 23, 1819 and the account was noted "*To Colonel Alexander Loraine, for his Pay as Assistant Adjutant General on the Home Staff, from the 25th December 1799 to 10th November 1800*"

The War Office announced on Sept. 5, 1801 "*91st Ditto [Regiment of Foot], Major Alexander Loraine, from the 9th Foot, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice [Fielder] King, appointed to the Command of a Corps of Infantry.*" Loraine's commission was dated June 25, 1801. The 91<sup>st</sup> Regt. was formerly the 98<sup>th</sup> Argyllshire Highlanders until 1798 and had been in South Africa since Sept. 1795. In 1801 the government decided to give up the South Africa Colony to the Dutch and in Nov. 1802 the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the 91<sup>st</sup> embarked for Portsmouth arriving Feb. 1803. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Division of the regiment arrived at Portsmouth in May 1803. The regiment wore tropical dress during their time in South Africa, but reverted to Highland dress on their return to Britain. The annotated War Office copies of the annual Army List for 1804 shows the 91<sup>st</sup> Regt. assigned to Guernsey.

In Aug. 1804, Loraine was the Lt. Col. of the 400-man 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 91<sup>st</sup> Regt. which was raised at Perth from men enlisted under the "Defences Act" in Perthshire, Argyleshire, and Buteshire. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was chiefly used to feed recruits to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and was stationed at Perth in March 1805. Loraine

may not have served with this battalion as during this period he is noted as serving as an Assistant Military Secretary in the Commander-in-Chief's office for seven years.



Southsea Castle, by John Berney Ladbroke, c.1850s

Source: Wikimedia Commons from the Portsmouth Museums and Records Service

Four years later on June 13, 1805, while still retaining his Lt. Colonelcy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 91<sup>st</sup> Regt., Loraine was appointed "*Deputy-Governor of South-Sea Castle,*" which had been built by King Henry VIII in 1544 to defend Portsmouth and its harbor.

Loraine's final appointment was announced in the *London Gazette* and read "*Whitehall, December 19, 1807...The King has been pleased to appoint Osborne Markham, John Fisher, and Alexander Loraine, Esqrs. to be Commissioners for the General Superintendence and Management of the Barrack Department.*" Shortly after this announcement, on Feb. 2, 1808, the War Office announced Loraine's retirement writing "...91<sup>st</sup> Ditto [Regiment of Foot], Major John Ross, from the 52<sup>d</sup> Foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, by Purchase, vice Loraine, who retires."

Loraine married Margaret Kerr, eldest daughter of William Kerr, of Broadmeadows, Berwickshire and was listed as living at "*New Street, Spring Gardens*" in a subscriber list of a poetry book in 1809. He obtained the estate of Oxendean, in Duns Parish, Berwickshire, and accordingly was known as Col. Loraine of Oxendean.

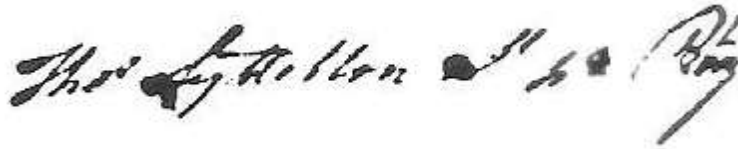
Loraine's death was recorded in *The Gentleman's Magazine* in 1838 stating "*SCOTLAND – June 4. At Edinburgh, aged 75, Lt.-Col. Alex. Loraine, Deputy Governor of South Sea Castle. He was appointed Ensign 42<sup>d</sup> foot 1778... He served four campaigns in America, between five and six years in the West Indies, and was at the capture of the French West Indies islands. He also served on the continent of Europe; was an Assistant Mil. Secretary in the Commander in Chief's office for seven years, and subsequently one of the Commissioners of Barracks. Having served 29 years when he accepted civil employment, he was allowed to sell his Lieut.-Colonelcy, but retain his rank.*"

Commissions: Ens. Nov. 8, 1778; Lt. July 25, 1781; Half-pay Oct. 24, 1783; Lt. Aug. 26, 1786 (9<sup>th</sup> or The East Norfolk Regt.); Capt. Lt. Feb. 19, 1793 (9<sup>th</sup> or The East Norfolk Regt.); Capt. July 3, 1794 (9<sup>th</sup> or The East Norfolk Regt.); Maj. of Brigade Approx. 1799 (Eastern District), Maj. Aug. 7, 1799 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 9<sup>th</sup> or The East Norfolk Regt.); Assistant Adjutant General on the Home Staff, Dec. 25, 1799 – Nov. 10, 1800; Lt. Col. June 25, 1801 (91<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. Aug. 1804 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 91<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Deputy-Governor of South



Sea Castle June 15, 1805; Lt. Col. and Commissioners for the Affairs of Barracks Dec. 19, 1807; Retired Jan. 28, 1808 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 91<sup>st</sup> Regt.).

**References:** *The History of the Family of Dallas*, James Dallas, T. and A. Constable Ltd., Edinburgh, 1921, p. 345; TNA, Muster report for Capt. Charles Grant's Co., Feb. 13, 1782, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479; *The Royal Military Calendar or Army Service and Commission Book*, Third Edition. Vol. IV, T. Egerton, Whitehall, 1820, Google Books, p. 318; TNA, Lord John Murray to Charles Jenkinson, Sept. 2, 1780, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/1008, p. likely 1877 (partially obscured in copy); General Orders, New York, July 26, 1781; *Peebles' Journal* entry, Oct. 10, 1781; TNA, Muster at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Jan. 17, 1784 at WO 12/5479 f. 138; TNA, Sir Guy Carleton to Richard Fitz Patrick, Oct. 22, 1783 at WO 1/13 f. 314; TNA, George Yonge to Alexander Anderson, Oct. 19, 1784 at WO 4/127, p. 90; *London Gazette* for Sept. 29, 1781 p. 1, Oct. 5-9, 1784, pp. 1-2, Oct. 14-17, 1786, p. 2, Mar. 16-19, 1793, p. 12, Dec. 2-6, 1794, pp. 4-5, Aug. 10-13, 1799, pp. 1-2, Sept. 1-5, 1801, pp. 1-2, June 11-15, 1805, pp. 1-3, Dec. 19-22, 1807, p. 6 and Jan. 30 – Feb. 2, 1808, p. 2; *Historical Record of the Ninth, or the East Norfolk Regiment of Foot*, Ed. Richard Cannon, Parker, Furnivall, & Parker, London, 1848, Google Books, pp. 33-37; NRS, Dr. William Robertson to John Peebles, Apr. 9, 1801, "Letters from Doctor William Robertson to Major John Peebles at Irvine," *Papers of the Cuninghame Family of Thornton* at GD21/401/5; *History of the 91<sup>st</sup> Princess Louise's Argyllshire Highlanders*, Lt. Col. Percy Groves, W. & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh, 1894, Google Books, pp. 5-7, 34; *The Parliamentary Register, or History of the Proceedings and Debates of the House of Lords and Commons*, Vol. VII, Printed for J. Debrett, London, 1799, Google Books, pp. 212- 214; "An Account of the Extraordinary Expenses of the Army" for the year 1819 in *Estimates and Accounts Army; Navy Ordnance; Civil List; Public Debt; The Bank; The Revenue; Pensions; Land Bank; &c.*, Session 21 April—to—23 November, 1820, Vol. XI, Google Books, 3 and 13; *Poetical Picture of America*, by a Lady, Printed for the Author, W. Wilson, London, 1809; *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. X, July to Dec. 1838, John Bowyer Nichols and Son, London, 1838, Google Books, p. 229 and Vol. XXI, New Series, January to June, Sylvanus Urban, William Pickering, London, 1844, Google Books, p. 110.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Thos Lyttelton' followed by a flourish and a small mark.

**Lyttelton**, Lt. Thomas. Although most official documents spell this officer's name Lyttleton, his signature above shows the listed spelling. Born in England in 1757, Thomas Lyttelton was initially commissioned in the 9<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Oct. 1772 but he is not listed in that regiment in the annotated War Office copies of the annual Army Lists for 1772 or 1773. Fifteen year old Lyttelton's first entry in the annotated annual Lists is upon his transfer in Nov. 1772 to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as an Ensign in place of Ens. William Graham who was promoted. Lyttelton's selection for this Ensigncy was the result of influence by Irish politicians as recorded in a 1775 manuscript of the Irish Parliament which documents his selection as "...Lord Chancellor, Baron Lifford...An Ensigncy for his Friend Mr. Lyttelton in the 42nd Regiment by Lord Townshend—During Lord Townshend's Administration..." During the period 1767 to 1775, while the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders were stationed in Ireland, officer commission recommendations were under the control of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and not Gen. Lord John Murray, the Colonel of the regiment.

Lord John Murray attempted to get Lyttelton, the only English officer and Ens. Robert Franklin, the only Irish officer, out of his regiment in 1775. Around the end of Aug. 1775, Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War listing the Ensigns of the regiment and added a note that "...NB. If Ensign Franklin an Irish Gen<sup>l</sup>. & Ensign Lyttleton of Staffordshire, near [Thomas] Lord Lyttletons, are appointed Lieutenants in any other Additional Companys, which they are desirous of, & can be of much more Service in Recruiting then in an Highland Corps..."

A War Office letter dated Oct. 11, 1775 mentioned Lord Murray's continued attempts citing "M<sup>r</sup> John Dalgleith cannot have an Ensigncy 'till M<sup>r</sup> Franklin is actually removed to another Corps; and M<sup>r</sup> Alexander Fraser must wait 'till Ensign Lyttleton is also removed." Two weeks later, on Oct. 25, a similar letter to Lord Murray from the Secretary at War listed the same requirement noting "I have the honor to acknowledge the rec<sup>d</sup>. of your Lordship's letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>. instant. Your recommendation of



*Ensign [George] Dalrymple cannot be taken into consideration until Ensigns Franklin & Lyttelton are appointed to another Corps."*

Not only was Lord Murray unsuccessful in removing the two officers at this period, but he lost the argument with the War Office to prevent their promotions over previously selected (though junior in the regiment) Scots officers. Col. David Stewart attempted to explain this controversy writing *"At this time, there was a keen struggle between the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord John Murray, the former wishing to introduce some southern officers into the regiment, which the latter strenuously resisted. The influence of the Lord Lieutenant prevailed, and Lieutenant Littleton and Franklin were appointed, and the commissions of Lieutenants [Alexander] Grant and [Alexander] Mackenzie, whom Lord John had procured to be gazetted, were afterwards cancelled."*

However, what Col. Stewart left out of his narrative was that Lyttelton's date of rank as Ensign in the regiment was Nov. 23, 1772 while Alexander Mackenzie's was July 12, 1773, clearly giving the promotion priority to Lyttelton. Further, the War Office explained their reasoning for promoting Lyttelton in a Dec. 12, 1775 letter which read *"...With respect to Ensigns Franklin & Lyttelton I am to observe to your Lordship, that it never was His Majesty's Intention to pass by or supersede them. – Ensigns Patrick Graham, Alex<sup>r</sup>. Grant & Alex<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie had been named for Lieutenancys, upon the Supposition that the two elder Ensigns might be provided for in other Corps; but as there is no prospect of this at present, if your Lordship cannot find Highland Officers willing to exchange with M<sup>r</sup>. Franklin & M<sup>r</sup>. Lyttelton they must certainly be promoted in the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. and preserve the Rank they are entitled to. His Majesty had accordingly directed that the former Notification should be stopped and that Ensigns Franklin & Lyttelton should be appointed Lieutenants in their proper places."* With this issue finally resolved, Lyttelton's promotion was backdated to Sep. 7, 1775 and Lyttelton and the rest of the regiment prepared for service in America.

Lyttelton was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company in place of Lt. James Cramond in Regimental Orders dated Aug. 8, 1776 and served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Light Infantry Battalion for the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the beginning of Philadelphia campaign of 1777.



Reproduction 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Lyttelton transferred to the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Oct. 31, 1777 in place of Lt. William Cox who had been promoted.

On the occasion of Gen. Sir William Howe's departure from America in May 1778, a grand affair titled the *"Mischianza"* was held which included costumed officers and ladies portraying a medieval tournament. Lt. Lyttelton carried the shield and was "Esquire" to Captain Watson of the Guards, who led the *"Knights of the Burning Mountain"* in the mock tournament."



Engraving depicting a ticket for entrance to the Mischianza

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Capt. Patrick Ferguson of the 70<sup>th</sup> Regt. complimented Lyttelton's conduct during the Oct. 1778 raid on Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey in a letter to Sir Henry Clinton, writing "*To the Conduct and Spirit of Captain Cox, Lieutenant Littleton and Ensign Cotter, of the 5th Regiment... this little Enterprize owes much of its Success...*" The next month, the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. joined Maj. Gen. James Grant's expedition to St. Lucia in the West Indies that left New York in Nov. 1778. The regiment was subsequently posted to Ireland in Dec. 1780, where Lyttelton was promoted to Captain in Sept. 1781.

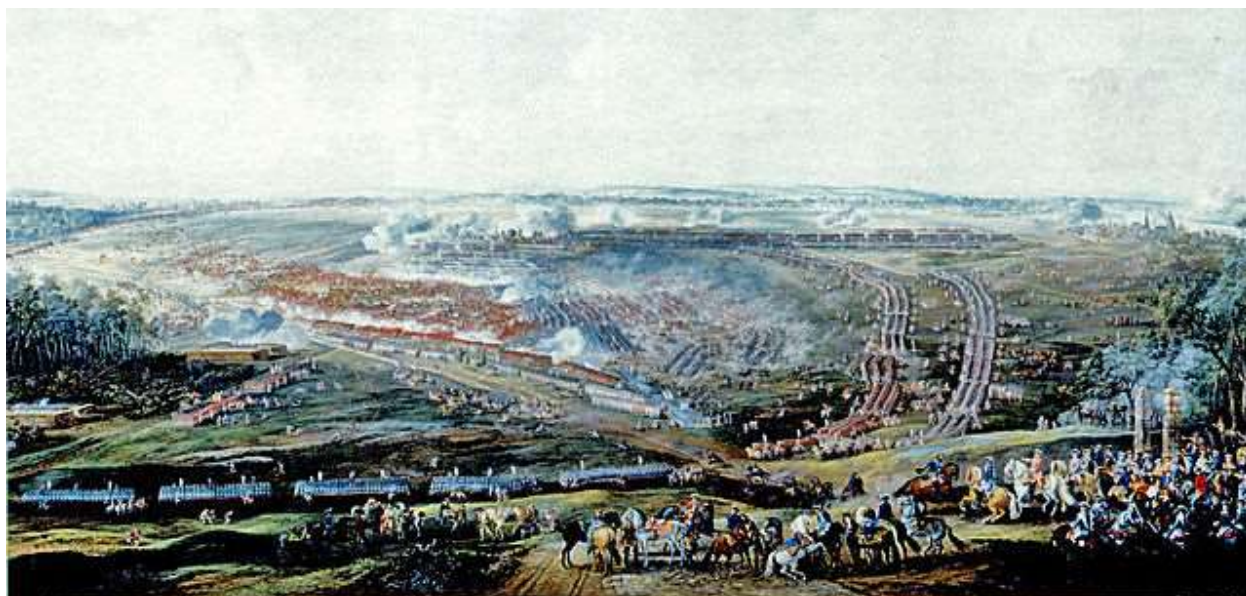
Lyttelton exchanged to the 19<sup>th</sup> or The 1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt. in Dec. 1782 and exchanged with Capt. Samuel Graham on Half-pay of the 76<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. in Apr. 1786. Lyttelton remained on Half-Pay of that regiment until he died on July 15, 1789.

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 19, 1772 (9<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Ens. by transfer Nov. 23, 1772 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sep. 7, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. by transfer Oct. 31 – effective Oct. 7, 1777 (5<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. Sept. 1, 1781 (5<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. by transfer Dec. 25, 1782 (19<sup>th</sup> or The 1<sup>st</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt.); Capt. Half-pay by exchange Apr. 26, 1786 (76<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Died on Half-pay July 15, 1789 (76<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.).

**Reference:** *The Irish Parliament 1775 From an Official and Contemporary Manuscript*, Ed. William Hunt, Longmans, Green, and Co., London, 1907, Google Books, p. 61; British Library Archives and Manuscripts, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, dated between Aug. 29 and Sept. 7, 1775, "Letters from Lord John Murray relating to patronage, regimental appointments, etc., 1760-1775" in the *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xii, 1760-1778 at MS 73557, pp. 29-32; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 25, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, p. 441; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Dec. 12, 1775 at WO 4/95, p. 201 (f. 101); TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775 at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); TNA, Alexander Mackenzie to Viscount Barrington, Jan. 18, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO1/992; 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Orders, Aug. 8, 1776 in *Peebles' Journal; Stewart's Sketches* pp. 366-7; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1777; *London Gazette* for Jan. 17-20, 1778, p. 2, Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2 and Apr. 25-29, 1786, p. 1; "*Particulars of the Mischianza, exhibited in America at the Departure of General Howe*," Appendix to the Chronicle, *The Annual Register or a View of the History, Politics, and Literature for the Year 1778*, London, 1800, Google Books, p. 267; "*Report of Captain Ferguson, of the 70th Regiment, to his Excellency Sir Henry Clinton, dated Little Egg Harbour, October 15, 1778*" in *London Gazette*, Nov. 28, 1778, pp. 2-3; *A Short Narrative of the Fifth Regiment of Foot or Northumberland Fusiliers*, Anonymous, Howard, Jones & Parks, London, 1873, Google Books, p. 33; *Scots Magazine*, Nov. 1781, pp. 615-616; Lyttelton's service in the 19<sup>th</sup> Regt. from Dr. John Houlding's notes to Paul Pace.

*John Macdonald*

**Macdonald**, Lt. John. John Macdonald was born about 1719 to Angus Macdonald and his wife at Braegrudy, in the parish of Rogart, Sutherlandshire, about thirty miles north of Inverness. In Aug. 1739, Macdonald was on a cattle drive and stopped at the inn at Balchraggan on the west side of Loch Ness. When he woke up after a hard night of drinking with a recruiting party he found himself enlisted in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Regt. (Descury's). Macdonald married Janet MacDonald a "...namesake and relation of Macdonald of Keppoch" from Fort William, who traveled with him during campaigns and with whom he had several children. Two of their sons, William and Simon, became officers in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.



Battle of Fontenoy, by Louis-Nicolas van Blarenberghe (1716-1794)

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Macdonald served with Descury's Regt. in the War of the Austrian Succession, fighting at the Battle of Dettingen in 1743, the Battle of Fontenoy in 1745 and the Battle of Lauffeldt in 1747. Macdonald was wounded in the Battle of Fontenoy, hurting his shoulder and receiving a musket ball in his right thigh. Despite his wounds he joined a platoon of volunteers from Descury's to cover the withdrawal of the Earl of Crawford's 4<sup>th</sup> Troop of Horse Guards.

Macdonald was transferred to the Grenadier Company after Fontenoy and served under Capt. William MacDowall of Garthland. He was appointed "*Lance-Corporal*" in Jan. 1746 and Corporal in July 1746. He served at Gibraltar in May 1749 where he was promoted to Sergeant and later served as a recruiting sergeant.

In 1756, Macdonald decided to obtain a commission and three years later, in Sept. 1759, with the help of William Gordon, Earl of Sutherland, he was appointed Ensign in the "*Earl of Sutherland's Battalion of Highlanders, or First Sutherland Fencibles.*" The duties of the *First Sutherland Fencibles* were restricted solely to Scotland and they were disbanded after the Peace of Paris in 1763. Again with the help of the Earl of Sutherland, and by visiting the War Office daily for eleven weeks to obtain a commission in a

regiment of the line, Macdonald was finally appointed Lieutenant in the 101<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Johnstone's Highlanders) and joined that regiment at Perth in Jan. 1763 only to be put on Half -pay two months later, when the regiment was reduced.

After leaving the army, Macdonald took out a seventeen year lease of some land in Moy in 1764, but in 1775, the War Office notified officers, who were willing to serve again in the same rank they formerly held, to send their names to the Secretary of War. Lt. Macdonald responded to this request and was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1775. Lord Murray was apparently surprised at his appointment writing to Lord Barrington that: *"Lieu' John M'Donald was not amongst the Names I had the honour to Recommend to your Lordship, but whomever you think most proper, shall always be acceptable to me."*

Lord Murray could not find Lt. Macdonald initially and posted an advertisement in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* on Oct. 24, 1775 to locate several officers writing *"ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT. WHEREAS the KING has been pleased to appoint an additional LIEUTENANT to each company of the 42d, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under my command, and their notifications having accordingly been issued from the war office, amongst others, for ... Lieutenant John Macdonald from half pay, 101 foot; ... These gentlemen are desired forthwith to write to me, and to the Commanding Officer of the said regiment at Glasgow, a proper direction where they now are, and where they wish to be stationed, in order that recruiting instructions, and levy-money may be sent them, and what other orders are necessary for recruiting."* Fifty-six year old Macdonald reported to the regiment at Fort George with his fourteen-year old son, William M'Donald, who was accepted in the regiment as a Volunteer.

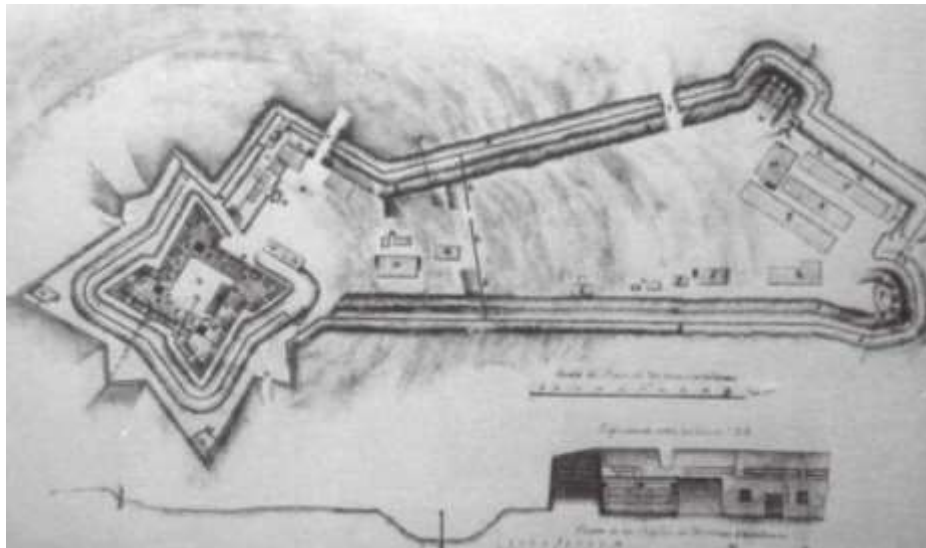
Macdonald served with a line battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776 - 1777. He described the Battle of Harlem Heights, New York on Sept. 16, 1776 in his autobiography writing *"The enemy finding us thus give way, came on furiously, and I had hot work. This was the first opportunity I had of seeing my son fairly engaged, and I will be allowed to say that it gave me pleasure to see him active and cool; but with only one company there was no keeping of that ground, therefore we retreated in good order. In this engagement I had a ball through the cuff of my coat, which made a trifling contusion. We had two Captains wounded slightly, and Ensign [Alexander] Mackenzie mortally. In consequence of his vacancy I was advised to memorial the Commander-in-Chief, in order to push for my son."*

Macdonald also provided details of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment's attack up the steep ground from the Harlem River to Fort Washington, on Nov. 16, 1776 writing *"Whether my son landed before or after me, it is certain we lost each other in scrambling up the rocks, and knew nothing of each other's fate till the evening, when it will be allowed, when hot firing ceased, natural concern took place After mounting the hill, and firing ceased, to capitulate, our party sat down under trees to rest. I soon observed to Colonel [Brevet-Maj. Duncan] Macpherson ... that we had better look for our Regiment. He answered, as there seemed nothing to be done, we were as well there for the present. I replied, My dear Duncan, you have no son on the Island this day. Very just, says he, let us move, and we soon find the corps, when Colonel [Thomas] Stirling shook hands with me, and thanked me for my activity in dispersing the rebels at Morris' House, adding, Your son has been with me through all this day's danger to yourself, and trust him to me in the future."*

Because of illness, Macdonald remained on the troop transports when the regiment landed near Head of Elk, Maryland on Aug. 24, 1777 for the Philadelphia campaign. Macdonald described the events writing *"I was in a high fever, and left on board an Hospital Ship, and relapsed often, which brought me very low. Still on coming up the Delaware I landed with the first convalescents at Wilmington. Here I found my friends of the 71st, and Major [John] Macdonald of that corps being ordered to form the convalescents into a battalion, choose to have me Adjutant to that corps. I then commenced in that duty."*

In Oct. 1777, after he rejoined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Macdonald's son, Volunteer William M<sup>c</sup>Donald, was commissioned Ensign in the regiment. Macdonald decided he could now retire as described in his autobiography where he wrote "... my son got the Ensigncy, date 5th October 1777. Thus one of my grand points being obtained, there remained only to realise a penny for my Lieutenantancy, and retire after serving upwards of thirty-eight years, and at the age of fifty-eight."

Instead of retiring completely, Macdonald decided to join a Provincial regiment as its Major and Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling strongly supported Macdonald as reported in the Lieutenant's autobiography: "*He (Colonel Stirling) wrote strongly in my favour, recommending me to the general as well qualified for the intended office, and meriting the indulgence of settling my present office. But instead of giving me the trouble of delivering this letter, he put it in his pocket, went to Head-Quarters, sent it in to the General, and soon followed in person, and, without doubt, confirmed what might be alleged in his letter. The General graciously owning himself no stranger to my character, matters were then and there settled, and next day, the 10th of November, Ensign John Spence was appointed Lieutenant in the 42nd Regiment, vice Lieutenant John Macdonald, who retired. That same day orders contained the following: - Lieutenant John Macdonald appointed Major to the First Battalion of the Maryland Loyalists.*"



Plan of Fort George, Pensacola, 1778

Picture Source: "*A plan of Pensacola and its environs in its present state, from an actual survey in 1778,*" Joseph Purcell, Library of Congress, Maps of North America, 1750-1789.

After leaving the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Macdonald continued with the Maryland Loyalists for the remainder of the American war. In Jan. 1779, after a month on the Island of Jamaica, the Loyalist battalion arrived for duty at Fort George, Pensacola, in West Florida. In Dec. 1779, the battalion was combined with the Pennsylvania Loyalists to form a single temporary command under Maj. Macdonald. During the Siege of Pensacola, 62-year old Macdonald, led 100 of his Pennsylvania and Maryland troops in a sortie at the main Spanish works on May 4, 1781. Macdonald captured the works and a second redoubt and spiked five cannon before retiring back to the British lines. His valor was recognized in Maj. Gen. John Campbell's report of the siege saying: "...I assure your lordship that I was perfectly well supported by the field officers of corps under my command ...major M<sup>c</sup>Donald, of the Maryland provincial corps... went through a great deal of fatigue in the execution of their duty with zeal, promptness and alacrity; and in justice to them I must observe, that the sally of the 4th instant, was led by them, when upwards of 400

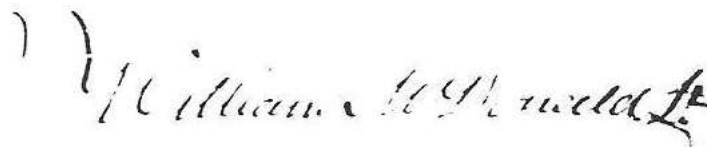


men, actually on duty in that part of the trenches attacked, were routed by only a handful of men, their cannon spiked, works destroyed, &c. Major Macdonald headed the provincials, who attacked and stormed the trenches...” Despite Macdonald’s heroism, the large Spanish Army under Gen. Galvez was successful in its siege and the garrison surrendered that month. The Maryland Loyalists surrendered “... 1 major, 4 captains, 2 lieutenants, 5 ensigns, 1 quarter-master, 1 mate, 9 serjeants, 8 corporals, 3 drummers, 101 privates...”

Macdonald returned to New York as a prisoner of war on parole on July 6, 1781 and retired a few months later on Nov. 30. After retiring, Macdonald returned to Britain arriving at Portsmouth on Jan. 2, 1782. Macdonald summed up his service in his autobiography saying “*Thus at the end of forty-three years I quitted a service to which Providence, contrary to my own inclination, directed me, after such a variety of hardships as few constitutions could bear. In balancing the general usage I met with in the army, I find it most favourable, as I had not many friends, nor remarkable talents that could recommend me to much notice. Perseverance, honesty, and sobriety I take credit for; but who can say that merit is neglected, or finds no reward in the army, when such slender parts as mine could make a Major.*”

Commissions/Appointments: Private Aug. 1739 (32<sup>nd</sup> Regt. - Descury’s); Lance-Corp. Jan. 2 1746 (32<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Corp. May 1746 (32<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Sgt. May 1749 (32<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Ens. Sept. 6, 1759 (Earl of Sutherland’s Bn. of Highlanders, or First Sutherland Fencibles); Lt. Oct. 22, 1762 (101<sup>st</sup> Regt. – Johnstone’s Highlanders); Lt. Half-Pay March 1763 (101<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half-pay Sep. 3, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Retired Nov. 11, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Nov. 11, 1777 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Maryland Loyalists); Retired Nov. 30, 1781 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., Maryland Loyalists).

**References:** “Major John Macdonald – His Autobiography,” M.A. Rose, *Celtic Magazine*, Vol. X, Conducted by Alexander Mackenzie, F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1885, Google Books; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington Oct. 10, 1775, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 24, 1775; General Orders, Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 1777 and at New York, July 6, 1781; TNA, Robert Mackenzie to Lt. Col. Chalmers, Nov. 11, 1777, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester, Papers* at PRO 30/55/742 and in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 151; Maj. Gen. John Campbell’s Orders, Pensacola, Dec. 26, 1779 in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 76; “*General State of the Forces composing the garrison of Fort George and its adjoining works, on their surrender by Capitulation to the arms of Spain, the 10th of May 1781*” in *Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain from 1727 to 1783*, Vol. VI, Robert Beatson, Longman, Hurst, Rees and Orme, London, 1804, Google Books, p. 279-280; “The History of the Provincial Corps of Pennsylvania Loyalists,” On-Line Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies, created by Nan Cole and Todd Braisted; *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institutions of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Google Books, p. 76; TNA, *Colonial Office* at CO 5/597, f. 310 as shown in *Documents of the American Revolution 1770-1783, Colonial Office Series*, Vol. XX, Transcripts 1781, Ed. K. G. Davies, pp. 138-142; “1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Maryland Loyalists Orderly Book,” Ed. M. Christopher New at website of Loyal American Regiment 1777-1783.



**M<sup>c</sup>Donald, Lt. William.** Born around 1761, M<sup>c</sup>Donald was the son of Lt. John Macdonald of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and his wife Janet MacDonald (of the MacDonald of Keppoch family). M<sup>c</sup>Donald’s father brought fourteen-year old William with him when he joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. from Half-pay of the 101<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Johnstone’s Highlanders) in Sept. 1775. M<sup>c</sup>Donald was accepted a Volunteer and traveled with the regiment to America in April 1776. His father proudly recorded one of Volunteer M<sup>c</sup>Donald’s first battles at Harlem Heights, New York in Sept. 1776, writing: “*The enemy finding us thus give way, came on furiously, and I had hot work. This was the first opportunity I had of seeing my son fairly engaged,*

*and I will be allowed to say that it gave me pleasure to see him active and cool...” After the regiment’s heroic assault in the Battle of Fort Washington, New York in Nov. 1776, Lt. Macdonald noted “...Colonel [Thomas] Stirling shook hands with me, and thanked me for my activity in dispersing the rebels at Morris’ House, adding, Your son has been with me through all this day’s danger to yourself, and trust him to me in the future.”*

In May 1777, M<sup>c</sup>Donald’s father described how Lt. Col. Stirling sent Volunteer M<sup>c</sup>Donald in command of a small party to rescue his father. Lt. Macdonald wrote “... *On the 10th of May the rebels made a formidable attack on our picquet... At that instant my son joined me, with a sergeant and fifteen men. It seems Colonel Stirling, missing me, asked the lad where I was, the latter answering that he left me giving charge of prisoners to Corporal Paul Macpherson, and that he believed that I was forward. The Colonel ordered him to take a party and find me...*”

When Lt. John Macdonald could not land with the regiment for the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 due to a high fever, Volunteer M<sup>c</sup>Donald was called on to serve in his stead as recorded in his father’s autobiography. Lt. John Macdonald wrote “...*when Colonel Stirling found I had been left behind, he called him out of the rank of privates where he always stood, telling him he was sorry he had been so long in that rank, and he would take care he should appear no more in it, ordering him at that same time to command half the company on a march or action, that is, to act as subaltern in the company till his father joined, or his being otherwise appointed. This was very flattering to a lad of seventeen, and two years service; but this was not all. After the battle of Brandy Wine, the Colonel gave him a copy of a memorial addressed to General [Sir William] Howe setting forth his own short, and my long, services, desiring him to transcribe and sign a fair copy of it, which the Colonel presented in order to procure a commission in some other regiment, as there was no vacancy in the 42nd. This was done, and a favourable answer received. Soon after, Major Murray being appointed to the 27th, and the General being pleased to give the commissions in succession in the 42nd, my son got the Ensigncy, date 5th October 1777.*”

Ens. M<sup>c</sup>Donald served with a line battalion in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. He was promoted to Lieutenant in place of Lt. George Dalrymple on Oct. 1, 1778 (effective Aug. 1778) as part of the string of promotions resulting from Brevet-Lt. Col. William Grant’s retirement. M<sup>c</sup>Donald then transferred to the Light Infantry Company where he remained until moving back to a line battalion in Aug. 1779. He continued with a line battalion for the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780 and the relief attempt for Cornwallis’ army in 1781.

On Feb. 14, 1782, M<sup>c</sup>Donald transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company and remained with the Royal Highlanders as they moved to Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783 at the end of the American war. He continued to serve with the regiment until 1788. In September of that year, M<sup>c</sup>Donald exchanged to half-pay in the 53<sup>rd</sup> (or the Shropshire) Regt. in place of Lt. Coll Lamont.

The annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List of 1801 still lists M<sup>c</sup>Donald on Half-Pay of the 53<sup>d</sup> Foot under the listing “*The Eleventh Companies, reduced the 24th of December, 1787,*” but his name is crossed out and marked “*D<sup>d</sup>*”, indicating his death during that year at about the age of 40.

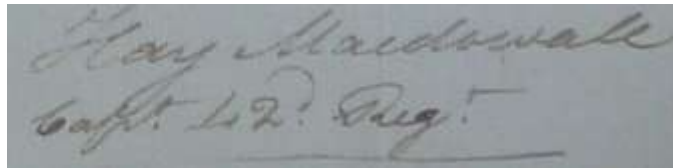
Commissions/Appointments: Volunteer Sept. 1775; Ens. Oct. 31 – effective Oct. 5, 1777; Lt. Oct. 1, 1778 – effective Aug. 25, 1778; Lt. Oct. 19, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Co.); Lt. Aug. 25 1779 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Feb. 14, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Lt. Half-Pay by Exchange Sept. 24, 1788 (53<sup>rd</sup> or the Shropshire Regt.).

**References:** “Major John Macdonald – His Autobiography” by M.A. Rose in *The Celtic Magazine*, Vol. X, Conducted by Alexander Mackenzie, F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1885, Google Books; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1777 and at New York, Oct. 1, 1778; *London Gazette* Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2, Dec. 19-22, 1778, p. 1, Sept. 23-27, 1788, p. 1 and Sept. 27-30, 1788, p. 1; *Royal Gazette*, Dec. 13, 1777.



Detail of Portrait of Hay Macdowall, c-1793, by Henry Raeburn

Picture Source: alchetron.com



Signature source: TNA, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers at WO 34/176 f. 145

**Macdowall**, Capt. Hay. Macdowall was born on Nov. 12, 1759, the fourth son of William MacDowall of Castle Semple and Garthland and his wife Elizabeth Graham (daughter of Adm. James Graham of Airth). Castle Semple is located about fourteen miles southwest of Glasgow.



Castle Semple built by Col. William Macdowall in 1735 (House burned down to shell in 1924).

Picture Source: "Castle Semple, Home Sweet Home", Slagheaps photostream, Flickr

Macdowall matriculated at the University of Glasgow in 1772 and received his first commission at the age of 15 in Aug. 1774 as an Ensign in the 25<sup>th</sup> Regt. Two years later on Dec. 23, 1776 the Secretary at War wrote to Lord George Germaine that *"His Majesty having signified his pleasure to me that Commissions be presented to him for the follow<sup>s</sup> Gent<sup>n</sup>. to be Officers as undem<sup>d</sup>. Viz<sup>t</sup> ...In the Second Battalion of the said [71<sup>st</sup>] Regiment...Ensign Hay M<sup>c</sup>Dowall of 25<sup>th</sup> Foot to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 76..."* Macdowall was promoted to Lieutenant on the formation of two additional companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders) in Scotland effective Sept. 1, 1776 and remained in Scotland on the Recruiting Service.

On July 8, 1779 Lt. Gen. Fletcher Campbell, Colonel of the 35<sup>th</sup> Regt. recommended Macdowall for a Company in his regiment. That recommendation was not approved by King George III, who selected John, Lord Chatham for the Company. However, two months later, in Sept. 1779, Macdowall obtained a Company in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh retired. Capt. Macdowall's mother (Elizabeth Graham) was the sister-in-law of Anne Graham, Lt. Col. Stirling's sister.

Lt. Col. Stirling wrote to Lord Murray about Macdowall's saying *"...Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Intosh has Sold out and a L<sup>t</sup> Hay M<sup>c</sup>Dowall Son to Castlesemp<sup>e</sup> is the purchaser he is now in Brittain, I have desired he may join as soon as possible, as we have few Captains, & being a young man Will be much advantaged by being upon Service."* Despite the Colonel's urging, Macdowall remained in Scotland and never served with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in America. Macdowall explained his absence during a later dispute over his date of rank saying *"In September 1779 I purchased a Comp<sup>y</sup> in the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment at New York, with an idea of going immediately to America, but was ordered here to Join the Second Battalion – I have been near Six years in the Army, and tho' I have been so unfortunate as never to see service, nothing would make me happier than to be ordered against the Enemies of my King and country."*

Macdowall was formally transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in March 1780 and a conflict with Lord Murray arose over how he should be ranked compared to veteran officers. Macdowall wrote Commander-in-Chief Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst, on Sept. 9, 1780 from Fort George to state his case indicating *"... I did myself the honor to write your Lordship some months ago, and then took the liberty to acquaint you, that I had purchased from an Officer in America in Sept<sup>r</sup>. last, an additional Comp<sup>y</sup>. of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 42<sup>d</sup>. Regiment, which Company has since been added to a Second Battalion of that Regiment, and from the date of the Officers Commissions to said Battalion being posterior to mine, I fortunately remain Eldest Captain to it at present. Last Post I received an order from Lord John Murray to set out to join the First Battalion in America, by the second of October next, as I presume My Lord I belong to this Battalion as Eldest Captain, I humbly lay my case before you, and hope your Lordship will not look on what I have done as presumption, when my rank in the Army is so nearly concerned."*

The *"Officer in America"* Macdowall claims commanded the Additional Company was Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, who commanded one of the line companies of the battalion in America. Lord Murray had ordered him to return to Britain to take command one of the Additional companies, but M<sup>c</sup>Intosh had sold his company in America to Macdowall before he received Lord Murray's orders. The two Additional Companies in Scotland and Newfoundland were transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion to form the core of the new battalion, and it is possible Macdowall, thought he was purchasing one of those companies. Lord Murray did then assign Macdowall to one of the Captaincies in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Lord Amherst settled the dispute in Macdowall's favor writing Lord Murray that *"...Captain Hay Macdowall having purchased*

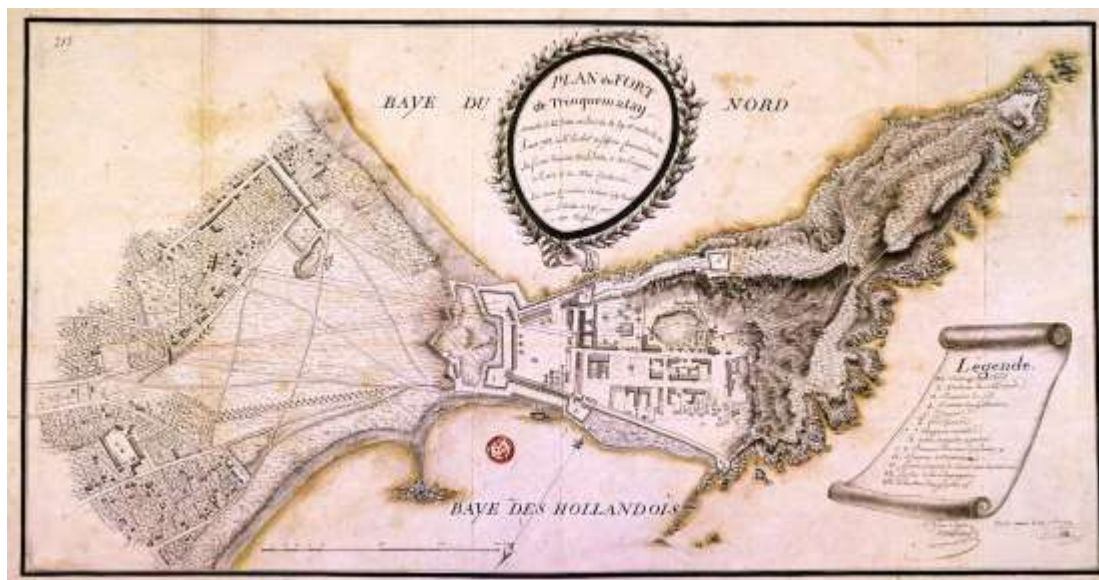
*a Company in America in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion must of course, if posted to the 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion, take rank therein from the date of the Commission which he purchased in America.”*



Detail of Portrait of Adm. Pierre-André de Suffren Saint-Tropez, 1785 by Pompeo Batoni

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, from Palace of Versailles

As the senior Captain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Macdowall embarked with his Company in Jan. 1781 on a secret expedition to capture the Cape of Good Hope, in South Africa, but the attack did not materialize and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion sailed on to India. Not long after his arrival, Macdowall was placed in command of Fort Trincomale, located on the northeast coast of Sri Lanka. The fort was, however, forced to capitulate to a French force under “*Mr Baillie de Suffrein de St Tropez, Commander in Chief of his Most Christian Majesty’s fleet in the Indian Seas*” on Aug. 30, 1782.



“Plan of Fort Trincomale, made by the Chevalier de Suffrein in August 1782”

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

In late 1782 Macdowall was court-martialed for the capitulation of Fort Trincomale, the charge reading: “*Captain Hay Macdowall, of His Majesty’s 42d regiment, lately commanding in the fort of Trincomale and its dependencies, put under arrest by order of Major-General James Stewart, commanding his Majesty’s forces on the coast of Coromandel, for surrendering the fort of Trincomale to the French, under Mons. Suffrein, upon the 30<sup>th</sup> of August last, without sufficient cause for so doing, or before any*



*practicable breach was made in that fort. Dated Head Quarters, Fort St. George, November 11, 1782.” Macdowall, was, however, acquitted of the charge with the court ruling: “...that although there was no practicable breach effected, he did not surrender the fort of Trincomale till his ammunition was nearly expended, and with every prospect of relief at an end: That in so doing, he complied with the orders he received from his Excellency the Commander in Chief, to defend the place to the last extremity: That the terms he obtained were equally honourable to himself and the garrison, and such as he had no reason to expect from the situation he was reduced to, and the force opposed to him. The court is therefore of opinion, that the prisoner, Capt. Hay Macdowall, is not guilty of the crime laid to his charge, and do honourably acquit him... Camp Taumorum, Jan. 29, 1783.”*

Despite Macdowall’s court martial, he was promoted to Major of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion in Mar. 1784, in place of Maj. John Campbell, who had died. Two years later, on Apr. 22, 1786 the War Office announced the renaming of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regiment. Maj. Macdowall continued to serve with the re-numbered 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. in India. Earl Cornwallis wrote back to England from Mongheer, India on Nov. 16, 1787 about the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. noting “...*The 73<sup>rd</sup> regiment is in excellent order, and does great credit to the pains which Colonel [Norman] Macleod and Major Macdowal have taken with it... I would infinitely rather take the 73<sup>rd</sup> regiment upon service with me, than the whole six [East India] Company’s battalions.*”

Macdowall’s older brother William was elected to Parliament in 1783 and lobbied for promotions for his brother. In Apr. 1791 Maj. Macdowall was promoted to Lt. Colonel of the 57<sup>th</sup> or the West Middlesex Regt. and joined his new regiment at Tynemouth Barracks in northeast England, where the regiment remained through the next winter before moving in 1792 to Edinburgh Castle. The following year, the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt, under Lt. Col. Macdowall embarked at Leith for Portsmouth to sail to reinforce the Duke of York’s army in Flanders. Landing at Ostend, on Sept. 15, 1793 the regiment marched through Ypres and Dixmude and back to Ostend where they re-embarked and sailed for the relief of Nieuport near Rotterdam, Holland. The enemy having retreated before the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt arrived; the troops returned to their transports and returned to Portsmouth.

When Macdowall and his regiment arrived back in England, they joined the army forming under Lord Moira (formerly Lt. Col. Lord Rawdon, who had served with distinction in the American War). Lord Moira was appointed Commander of a Force intended to co-operate with the French Royalists in Brittany but returned to Spithead. After a severe fever spread among the men on the transports, the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. landed on the Isle of Wight near Portsmouth. Later the regiment was quartered at Newport, about 140 miles west of London. On June 26, 1794 Macdowall and his regiment were again part of Lord Moira’s 7000-man expedition to Ostend. One of the Brigadiers of the expedition was Brig. Gen. Charles Graham, Lt. Colonel of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at the end of the war in America.

Lt. Col. Macdowall and the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. continued to serve in Flanders and Holland till May 1795, during which time the regiment formed part of the garrison of Nijmegen, Holland during the siege. The army, however, was obliged to evacuate the city on Nov. 7, 1794. The 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. bore the winter campaign, as well as the retreat through Holland and Westphalia, without loss; and embarked at Bremerlee on Apr. 14, 1795 for Portsmouth, where it again rejoined Lord Moira’s Army. In the summer Macdowall’s regiment embarked and sailed with the expedition for Quiberon, on the northwest coast of France, with two brigades commanded by Maj. Generals Charles Graham and Alexander Campbell. A disaster having befallen the French Royalists, the two brigades returned to England and were encamped with the army, which was collected at Nutshalling, near Southampton. Lord Moira gave up the Command to Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was preparing an expedition for the West Indies.

After the expedition for Quiberon, in Aug. 1795, Macdowall was involved in a series of confusing transfer transactions also involving Lt. Col. James Hartley, 75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. These transactions are shown in the annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List of 1796. The printed List shows Macdowall as the Lt. Colonel of the 75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. with a date of rank of Aug. 20. There is an annotation, however, that shows a cancelled transaction to replace Macdowall with James Hartley of the 36<sup>th</sup> Foot. On the 36<sup>th</sup> or the Herefordshire Regt. page of the list, Hartley is shown as the Lt. Colonel also with the date rank of Aug. 20. The annotation also shows a cancelled transaction to exchange Hartley and Macdowall. In addition, on Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> of that year Macdowall was appointed Colonel *"in the army."*

In the Army List of 1797, Macdowall is shown as the Lt. Colonel on the published list of the 36<sup>th</sup> or the Herefordshire Regt. with a date of rank of Aug. 19, 1795, one day earlier than his previously published commission in the 75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. Lt. Col. Hartley is shown in that list as the Lt. Colonel of the 75<sup>th</sup> Regt with a date of rank of Oct. 24, 1787. In 1795 the 36<sup>th</sup> Regt. was stationed at Negapatam, India and in 1796 and 1797 at Warriore, near Trichinopoly in the Madras Presidency.

On May 22, 1797 Macdowall again exchanged regiments, this time with Lt. Col. Alexander Mackenzie, and became Lt. Colonel of the 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. (the Ross-Shire Buffs), located at Fort William, Calcutta, India. About a year later, on June 23, 1798 the War Office announced *"HIS MAJESTY has been pleased to appoint COLONELS...Hay M'Dowall, of the 78th Foot, To be MAJOR GENERALS in the Army."*

Maj. Gen. Macdowall was assigned as the commander of the British forces in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) with his headquarters at Columbo. In 1800 he was also appointed *"Ambassador Extraordinary and Commissioner Plenipotentiary to the Court of Candy."* Kandy was a kingdom in central Sri Lanka. Macdowall's Brigade Major, William Macpherson wrote an account of the journey of Ambassador Macdowall to the Court of Candy, Sri Lanka which took from Mar. 12 until Apr. 9, 1800. Macpherson wrote *"... On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 1800... Major General Hay Macdowall, in the capacity of Ambassador to the Court of Candy, took leave of the governor in the government-house of Columbo... The escort appointed to attend him consisted of one thousand one hundred and sixty-four men, Europeans and natives... In the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> of April the Nobles of the-court waited on the Ambassador... Having arrived at the entrance of the hall of audience several curtains were drawn, and gave us a full view of the King on his throne in a recess at the farther end of the apartment. The drawing of the curtains was the signal for six of the nobles to prostrate themselves on the ground, and for the Ambassador (Macdowall) and the gentlemen who were with him to kneel... I forgot to say that we were all obliged to take off our hats when we entered the hall, excepting the Ambassador, who did not take his off until he had delivered the Governor's letter. After keeping the Ambassador and his suite some time longer on their knees, the King at length condescended to let the whole sit down on the carpet..."*

The King of Kandy did not wish to have a British garrison in Kandy and Macdowall returned to Columbo without approval of the treaty. Conditions between the British colony and the King of Kandy deteriorated over the next year until war was declared in 1803. The Kandyan War began on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> of that year when Maj. Gen. Macdowall led one column of troops from Columbo and after a march of 103 miles linked up with a second British column on the outskirts of Kandy on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. The next morning Macdowall led the army into Kandy which they found deserted. A garrison was left to hold the town and on Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> Macdowall marched for Columbo.

On Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> the Government of Ceylon issued orders congratulating Maj. Gen. Macdowall for the capture of Candy, writing *"... His excellency the governor is happy to congratulate major-general Macdowall on the possession of the capital of the kingdom of Candy by his majesty's troops, and on the speedy and successful advancement of the important business with which he is charged, the progress of which, his*

*excellency is persuaded, would have been very different, had it not been for the energy, activity, and judgment displayed by the major-general, and the excellent discipline and spirit maintained by him in the army. His excellency requests major-general Macdowall to accept of his thanks, and to communicate them to colonel Baillie, lieutenant-colonel Barbut, and all the officers who have so meritoriously seconded him; and at the same time to express to the non-commissioned officers and privates his high approbation of their good conduct and intrepidity."*

After a return trip to Kandy in May, Macdowall fell sick with "jungle fever" and returned to Columbo for a painful convalescence of three months. While Macdowall was serving in Ceylon, he sold his Lt. Colonelcy of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regt. and was appointed to be Col. Commandant of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 40<sup>th</sup> (or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Somersetshire) Regt. on Apr. 7, 1802. Macdowall, however, never served with his new battalion which served briefly in England before being disbanded in June 1802. Strangely, while Macdowall was commanding the British forces in the Kandyan War, he was carried on the annual Army List as Col. Commandant on the Half-Pay list of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 40<sup>th</sup> Regt. He remained on this list until 1808.

In March 1804, Macdowall, now a Maj. General on the staff in India, was also appointed Maj. General by the Government of Fort St. George, in the Army of Madras and was promoted to Lt. General on Nov. 2, 1805. The *Asiatic Annual Register* for 1808 carried the announcement "...*Military Promotions &c. Madras... 1807... September. Lieut. General Hay Macdowall, to command in chief the army of this presidency...*" While still in India, on May 16, 1808 (on the death of Gen. Sir Thomas Stirling of Ardoch and Strowan), Lt. Gen. Macdowall was appointed Colonel of the 41<sup>st</sup> Regt. then serving in Canada.



Detail of Fort St. George, in Madras (Chennai) by Jan Van Ryne, 1754

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons from the National Maritime Museum, United Kingdom

Macdowall's command at Madras was cut short in 1809, when a conflict arose with the Governor over his powers as Commander-in-Chief. General Orders of the Ft. St. George Government announced Macdowall's removal citing as the reason his orders to publish "...*to the Army a General Order dated the 28th instant, in the highest degree disrespectful to the authority of the Government, in which that Officer has presumed to found a public censure on an act adopted under the immediate authority of the Governor in Council, and to convey insinuations grossly derogatory to the character of the Government, and subversive of Military discipline and of the foundations of public authority. The resignation of Lieutenant General Macdowall of the Command of the Army of Fort St. George not having been yet received, it becomes the duty of the Governor in Council, in consideration of the violent and inflammatory proceedings of that Officer on the present and on other recent occasions, and for the purpose of preventing the possible repetition of farther acts of outrage, to anticipate the period of his expected resignation, and to annul the appointment of Lieutenant General Macdowall to the command of the Army of this Presidency. Lieutenant General Macdowall is accordingly hereby removed from the station of the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of Fort St. George...31<sup>st</sup> January 1809...*" Macdowall had left for

England on leave before this removal was announced and met with tragedy on his way to Britain on the 820-ton Indiaman "*Lady Jane Dundas*."

In two letters to Sir Edward Pellew, on *HMS Culloden* (escort ship for the voyage) dated Feb. 15, 1809, just a month before he died, Macdowall wrote "*You will have heard of the proceedings against me at Madras, which have abundantly vexed and distressed me. I have nothing official on the subject, and merely a copy of a very violent order of Government reflecting on my conduct and removing me from the Command, and after I had in fact sailed from the country. I am very comfortable on board the Lady Jane Dundas...*" and "*Excuse pencil. Your Letter tells me you wished to see me on board, but I am not very well and have rather laid low since I accidentally heard of the extraordinary conduct of the Madras Government. During the voyage will take an opportunity of stating the circumstances to you. Your kind offer of accommodation I would with great gratitude accept, but I am quite snug and comfortable here...*"

Macdowall's decision to remain on the *Lady Jane Dundas* cost him his life. Sir Edward Pellew wrote to Sir George Barlow on Apr. 14, 1809 explaining that "*You will be glad to hear that we have escaped with our Convoy from the effects of a most violent gale of wind (I may indeed call it, rather, a Hurricane) by which we were assailed on the 14th, 15th and 16th of March in Lat. 23.30 S., Long. 61.00. A total separation took place and every body shifted for themselves, looking only to their own preservation, and more or less every ship suffered. ... The four Absentees are, I consider, gone on also to St. Helena, which was the second rendezvous.*" The 826-ton Indiamen *Lady Jane Dundas* with Lt. Gen. Macdowall on board was one of the four absentees. All four of the absent ships were lost without a trace south of Mauritius, east of the island of Madagascar.

*The Scots Magazine* for 1810 recorded Macdowall's death writing "*Lost at sea in the Lady Jane Dundas – Indiaman, Lieut.-General Hay M<sup>c</sup>Dowall, late Commander in Chief at Madras, and Colonel of the 41st regiment of foot...*"

Macdowall had at least two sons; Capt. MacDowall, who served as his father's Aide-de-Camp in Ceylon, and John MacDowall, a civilian writer working for the Ceylon Civil Service. Lt. Gen. Macdowall is the subject of a painting by Sir Henry Raeburn, in the uniform of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regt. circa 1791-1793.

Commissions and Appointments: Ens. Aug. 4, 1774 (25<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Approx. Dec. 23, 1776, effective Sept. 1, 1776 (Additional Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Sept. 20, 1779 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. March 1780; Maj. Mar. 24, 1784 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Aug. 11, 1786 – effective Mar. 24, 1784 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. – Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. Apr. 6, 1791 (57<sup>th</sup> or the West Middlesex Regt.); Lt. Col. Aug. 19, 1795 (36<sup>th</sup> or the Herefordshire Regt.); Col. "*in the Army*" Aug. 21, 1795; Lt. Col. Aug. 20, 1795 (75<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. May 22, 1797 (78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. or the Ross-Shire Buffs); Maj. Gen. June 18, 1798; Commander British Forces, Ceylon 1798; Ambassador Extraordinary and Commissioner Plenipotentiary to the Court of Candy Mar. 1800; Col. Commandant Apr. 7, 1802 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 40<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Somersetshire Regt.); Col. Commandant Half-Pay June 1802 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 40<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Somersetshire Regt.); Lt. Gen. Oct. 30, 1805; Commander-in-Chief Sept. 18, 1807-Jan. 31, 1809 (Madras Presidency Army); Col. May 16, 1808 (41<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Drowned at Sea Mar. 1809 (41<sup>st</sup> Regt.).

**References and Notes:** *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, Part II, Fourth Edition, Harrison, London, 1863, Google Books; p. 937; Matriculation numbers 508 and 3209, *Matriculation Albums of the University of Glasgow From 1728 to 1858*, Ed. W. Innes Addison, James Maclehouse and Sons, Glasgow, 1913, pp. 15 and 101; *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Published for the Society, London, 1921, Google Books Snippet, p. 222; TNA, *War Office, Notification Books to the Secretary of State* at WO 25/147, p. 252; General Orders, New York, Dec. 21, 1776, Mar. 17, 1777 and Sept. 22, 1779; *London Gazette* for Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 1784, p. 1, Apr. 18-22, 1786, p. 3, Apr. 5, 1791, pp. 2-3,

Aug. 18-22, 1795, pp. 2-3, Sept. 29-Oct. 3, 1795, May 23-27, 1797, pp. 4-5, June 19-23, 1798, p. 7, Mar. 23-27, 1802, p. 4, Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 1805, p. 1 and May 14-17, 1808, p. 2; *Scots Magazine*, Dec. 1776, pp. 679 – 680; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, Oct. 27, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Lord Amherst to Gray & Ogilvie, Whitehall, Nov. 23, 1779, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/232, p. 158; TNA, Hay Macdowall to Lord Amherst, Mar. 27, 1780 at WO 34/161, ff. 499-500; TNA, Lord Amherst to Lord John Murray, Whitehall, Apr. 6, 1780 at WO 34/233, p. 336; TNA, Lord Amherst to Capt. Hay Macdowall, Whitehall, Apr. 21, 1780 at WO 34/233, p. 417; TNA, Hay Macdowall to Lord Amherst, Sept. 9, 1780 at WO 34/167 ff. 144-145; *Scots Magazine*, Feb. 1780, p. 335, Dec. 1784, p. 664, Apr., 1791, pp. 207-208, Sept. 1795, pp. 613-4; Oct. 1795, p. 684; and Dec. 1795, p. 820; *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, Apr. 14, 1783, p. 1; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 31, 1783; Earl Cornwallis to Hon. Henry Dundas, Mongheer, India, Nov. 16, 1787 in *Correspondence of Charles, First Earl Cornwallis*, Vol. I, ed. Charles Ross, John Murray, London, 1859, Google Books, pp. 299-300; *Historical Records of the Fifty-Seventh, or West Middlesex Regiment of Foot*, Ed. Lt. Gen. H. J. Warre, C.B., W. Mitchell & Co., London, 1878, Google Books, pp. xl and 34-36; *Annual Register, or a View of the History, Politics, and Literature, for the Year 1802*, Printed for W. Otridge and Son, London, Google Books, 1803, p. 486; *The Asiatic Annual Register, or View of the History of Hindustan, and the Politics, Commerce, and Literature of Asia for the Year 1804*, Lawrence Dundas Campbell, Esq., T. Cadell and W. Davies, London, 1806, Google Books, p. 161; *Ceylon under British Rule 1795-1932, With an Account of the East India Company's Embassies to Kandy 1762-1795*, Lennox A. Mills, Frank Cass & Co. Ltd., Sri Lanka, 1964, Google Book Preview, pp. 42 and 142; *Description of Ceylon*, Vol. II, Rev. James Cordiner, Longman, Hurst, Rees and Orme, Aberdeen, 1807, Google Books, pp. 162-205; *Asiatic Annual Register... For the Year 1803*, printed for Cadell and Davies, London, 1804, Google Books, pp. 86-87; *Historical Records of the 40<sup>th</sup> (2nd Somersetshire) Regiment Now 1st Battalion the Prince of Wales's Volunteers*, by Capt. R. H. Raymond Smythies, A. H. Swiss, Devonport, 1894, Google Books, p. 96; *A History of the Services of the 41<sup>st</sup> (the Welch) Regiment, (Now 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion the Welch Regiment)*, Lt. D. A. N. Lomax, Caxton Press, Grandy St., Devonport, 1899; *Asiatic Annual Register for the Year 1799*, J. Debrett, London, 1801, Google Books, p. 133; *Asiatic Annual Register... Vol. X – For the Year 1808*, T. Cadell, London, 1811, Google Books, pp. 157 and 285-287; *History of the Madras Army*, Vol. Third, Compiled by Lt. Col. W. J. Wilson, Govt. Press, Madras, 1883, Google Books, p. 201; *Selections from Calcutta Gazettes of the Years 1806 to 1815 Inclusive*, Office of the Superintendent Government Printing, Calcutta, 1868, Google Books, pp. 537-538; *Stewart's Sketches*, Vol. II, 1822, pp. 200 and 216; *Notes and Queries*, Eleventh Series – Vol. XII, July – Dec, 1915, J. Edward Francis, London, Google Books, p. 127; Colyn Brookes' website "NCS Cape Town General History Database", Cape Town SA; Two enclosures from Lt. Gen. Hay Macdowall to Sir George Barlow as enclosure in letter from Sir Edward Pellew to Sir George Barlow, Feb. 15, 1809, *The White Mutiny*, Sir Alexander Cardew, Constable, London, 1929, Add. D, pp. 183-195; *Scots Magazine and Edinburgh Literary Miscellany*, Apr. 1810, p. 317. **Notes:** The Succession book has Apr. 18, 1786 as the dated of Maj.-Gen. Osborn's commission. The regimental number "73" had previously been used by Lord MacLeod's Highlanders, which were renumbered as the new 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. The complete correspondence associated with Macdowall's resignation as Commander-in-Chief, Madras Army can be found in *Reports From Commissioners; Also Papers Relating to East India Affairs, Session 23 January – June 21, 1810*, Vol. XI., Google Books.



**Macgregor, 6<sup>th</sup> of Balhaldies**, Lt. Alexander. Macgregor was born at Corbeil, France on Oct. 17, 1758, the son of Jacobite Col. William MacGregor (alias Drummond) of Balhaldies, Chief of Clan MacGregor, and his wife Janet, (daughter of Laurence Oliphant of Gask). The Balhaldie estate was located about two miles north of Dunblane. William MacGregor took an active part in the Jacobite rebellion of 1715 and escaped to France after the unsuccessful revolt. He returned to Scotland for the 1745 rebellion, again escaping to France where he spent the remainder of his life at the Jacobite court of James "The Pretender" in Rome before dying in 1765.





Balhaldie House on High Street in Dunblane by Euan Nelson

Picture Source and Note: *Geograph Britain and Ireland*, under Creative Commons License. “Prince” Charles Edward Stewart stayed in this house on Sept. 11, 1745.

In 1766 MacGregor’s son, Alexander was sent to his maternal relations at Inchbrakie to be educated in Scotland. In March 1777, Alexander Macgregor obtained the former home of the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Argyle in Stirling called the “*Earl of Argyle’s Lodging*.”



“The Argyle Lodging.” Stirling, home of Alexander Macgregor of Balhaldies on Mar. 25, 1777.

Picture Source: *The Story of the Argyle Lodging*, by James Ronald, Eneas Mackay, Stirling, 1906, Google Books, p. 14.

Philadelphia General Orders dated Mar. 1, 1778 announced Macgregor’s commission as Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., effective May 8, 1777, in place of Ens. Robert Rollo who had been promoted. Maj. M’Pherson’s Company Muster report dated at Philadelphia on Mar. 28 1778 listed Macgregor as “*Appointed in Brittain and on his way to join*”

Instead of joining Brevet-Maj. McPherson's Company in Philadelphia, Ens. Macgregor moved with his 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. when it was posted to St. John's, Newfoundland in April 1778 along with two Additional Companies of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. to reinforce that garrison. He was promoted to Lieutenant in one of the line companies in place of Lt. Patrick Graham in June 1778 but remained with the Additional Company in Newfoundland until transferred on paper back to the Additional Company in Aug. 1778. The next year, Lt. Col. Stirling requested Lt. John Grant, commanding the Additional in Newfoundland, to send him one of his Lieutenants and Macgregor joined a line battalion in New York in Oct. 1779; serving in the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in May 1780.

After several earlier attempts, Lord John Murray's offer to raise a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was accepted on July 29, 1779. Lord Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, His Majesty's Forces, wrote Lord Murray that "*Having laid before The King, your Lordship's Letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that His Majesty was pleased to approve of your Lordship's raising a Second Battalion to the Forty Second, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under your Lordship's Command, without any expense to Government, and agreeably to the Terms contained in my Letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> instant.*" One of the conditions in the letter read "*The two additional Companies of this Regiment, consisting of two Captains, Four Lieut<sup>s</sup> two Ensigns, 8 Serjeants, 10 Corporals, 2 Drummers, and two Hundred Private Men, are intended to be taken from the first Battalion, to be transferred to, and to make a part of, this Second Battalion.*" Accordingly, Lt. Macgregor in New York and the other officers in Newfoundland, who would remain a part of that garrison, were transferred on paper to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on its formal establishment in Scotland on Mar. 21, 1780.

Because Macgregor was still in New York serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, he was listed as absent when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion embarked for South Africa and India. The "*Return of Officers, Serjeants, Corporals, Drummers and Pipers, Private Men Women and Children of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Commanded by the Right Honorable General Lord John Murray and Embark'd at Portsmouth the 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1781*" listed him as "*Lieutenant Alexander MacGregor At New York.*"

On Jan. 24, 1781, Capt. Peebles, who was trying to sell his company and retire from the Army, wrote in his journal that "*I took Lt. McGregor to [Lt. Col.] Stirling & talk over the affair he offers 1800 guineas as soon as he gets his affairs settled at home, & ... [Stirling] says it is a very handsome offer, & that he will keep it open for him till he writes from home.*"

Macgregor returned to Scotland before Oct. 1781. A list of the Officers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion absent from duty dated Oct. 31, 1782 listed Macgregor as "*... Lieut<sup>r</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> MacGregor, now at Stirling Came home from the first Battallion since the 2<sup>d</sup>. Embarked at Portsmouth...*" Six months later, on Mar. 2, 1782, the regimental agent reported "*Officers belonging to the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot now in Great Britain... Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Alex<sup>r</sup>. McGregor from the detachment at Newfoundland (last from New York) at home with leave from the Commander in Chief in America now at Stirling... Alex<sup>r</sup> Anderson Agent 2<sup>d</sup> March 1782*"

On Jan. 11, 1782 the Secretary at War wrote that "*His Majesty having been pleased to direct that the 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> of the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot, should be augmented with One Company agreeable to the Numbers mentioned in the enclosed paper...*" Likely because of his success in recruiting for the battalion in America Macgregor was appointed to the new Additional Company. On Aug. 2, 1782, the Regimental Agent, Alexander Anderson, wrote the War Office for compensation for officers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, not serving in India. He described the justification for Macgregor's expenses writing "*...Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Alex<sup>r</sup> MacGregor from the detachment at Newfoundland, from the 24<sup>th</sup> June 1781 to the 24<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1781 (he then Commencing Lieu<sup>t</sup>. to the Additional Company Established the 25<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>, 1781) 183 Days Subsc<sup>e</sup> at 3/6} 32 [£] 6 [d]...*"

On Christmas day, 1781 Macgregor married his cousin Mary, daughter of Donald MacGregor from New York and had ten children including Maj. William Oliphant MacGregor (born 1782), 7<sup>th</sup> of Balhaldies (65<sup>th</sup> and 77<sup>th</sup> Regts.) and his brother Donald MacGregor, 8<sup>th</sup> of Balhaldies. Macgregor's sister, Jacobina, married Lt. Dougald Campbell, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and settled in Canada.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was renamed the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt., Macgregor, who was still in Britain, was appointed to the new Capt. Lieutenancy which was added when the new regiment was established on Apr. 18, 1786. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. had not been authorized a Capt. Lieutenant when it was established. Despite his new position, Macgregor remained in Britain and soon transferred to the 65<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt. as Capt. Lieutenant on June 20, 1787. He was promoted to Captain in the 65<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Nov. 1787. The 65<sup>th</sup> Regt. was stationed in Canada from 1785 to 1793, before shipping to the West Indies in 1794.



Reproduction 65<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

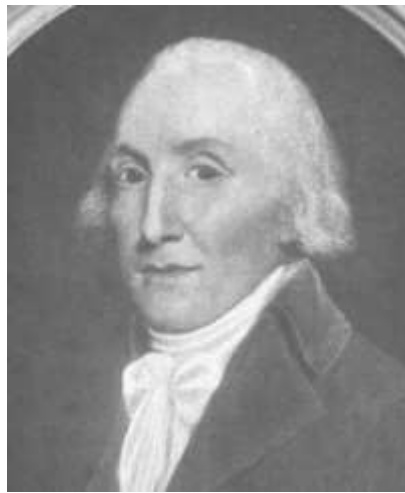
On Dec. 6, 1794 the War Office announced Macgregor's retirement indicating "65<sup>th</sup> Ditto [Regiment of Foot]...Lieutenant the Hon. James Stopford to be Captain of a Company, by Purchase, vice M<sup>c</sup>Gregor, who retires." A history of the family, however, indicates Macgregor "...died of Military fatigue in the West Indies in [Aug.] 1794. His gallant conduct at the capture of Martinique and Guadaloupe were repeatedly mentioned in terms of high approbation in the general orders of the late Sir Charles afterwards Earl Grey Commander in those well known expeditions."

In Ann Macgregor's unsuccessful pension request based on her father's service, Lt. Col. Archibald Maclaine, 7<sup>th</sup> West India Regt., describes the final months of Macgregor's service writing in 1817 that "...The pleasure which I am aware Your Lordship feels in having an opportunity to ameliorate the condition of the unfortunate offspring of deceased officers of merit, induces me to take the liberty of expressing to Your Lordship the distressed Situation of Miss Ann MacGregor, Daughter of the late Captain Alexander MacGregor late of the 65<sup>th</sup>. Regiment of Foot, who died of fatigue under the Walls of Martinique, after the Siege of that place in the Year 1794, much and justly regretted, after having Served His Majesty for the space of Eighteen Years, with loyalty and honour. – His gallant conduct and bravery at the taking of Martinique and Guadeloupe was represented after his Death by Sir Charles Grey, who commanded the Expedition then in the West Indies, to the Commander in Chief in London, who was graciously pleased to order all the Commissions which Captain MacGregor purchased to be sold for the relief of his Widow and five helpless children, to enable them to return to Britain ..."

Commissions: Ens. Mar. 1, 1778 – effective May 8, 1777 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. June 17 – effective June 5, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Aug. 18, 1778; Temporary Assignment to 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Oct. 28, 1779; Transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Mar. 21, 1780; Lt. Jan. 1782 – effective Dec. 25, 1781 (Additional Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Lt. Apr. 18, 1786 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Lt. June 20, 1787 (65<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt.); Capt. Oct. 31, 1787 (65<sup>th</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yorkshire North Riding Regt.); Died Aug. 6, 1794.

**References:** *History of The Clan Gregor*, Vol. 2, Amelia Georgiana Murray MacGregor of Macgregor, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1901; *Story of the Argyle Lodging*, James Ronald, Eneas Mackay, Stirling, 1906, Google Books, p. 140; "The MacGregors of Roro," Dr. James Macgregor, 14<sup>th</sup> of Roro in *Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness*,

Vol. XXIV, 1899-1901, The Gaelic Society of Inverness, Inverness, 1904, Google Books, pp. 427-428; “Macgregor alias Drummond of Culcrieff and Balhaldie” at the website of the Perthshire Heritage Trust, Nov. 2005; General Orders, Philadelphia, Mar. 1 and June 17, 1778; *London Gazette* for June 18-22, 1786, p. 1, July 22-25, 1786, p. 2, June 19-23 1787, p. 2, Oct. 30 – Nov. 3, 1787, p. 1, Dec. 2-6, 1794, pp. 4-6; John Grant to Lord John Murray, St. Johns, Newfoundland, May 21, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Lord Jeffrey Amherst to Lord John Murray, July 29, 1779, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/231, ff. 76 – 77; *Peebles’ Journal* Entry dated Jan. 24, 1781; *Roll of the Officers of the York and Lancaster Regiment Containing a Complete Record of Their Services Including dates of Commissions, &c., The First Battalion, Formerly 65th (2nd Yorkshire, North Riding) Regiment, From 1756 to 1884*, Major G. A. Raikes, F.S.A., Richard Bently & Son, London, 1885, Google Books, pp. 1, 4, 5, 9 and 88; TNA, Embarkation Return of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Portsmouth, Jan. 20-22, 1781 at WO 34/171; TNA, Alexander Anderson to George Yonge, Aug. 2, 1782, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/118, p. 290; TNA, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/189, f. 218 and f.236; *History of the Clan Gregor, From Public Records and Private Collections*, Vol. II, Compiled by Amelia Georgiana Murray MacGregor, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1901, p. 294; TNA, *War Office, Widows’ Pensions and Bounty Application Papers* at WO 25/3100/2/4.



Capt. John M'Intosh

Portrait Source: *The Balfours of Pilrig*, by Barbara Balfour-Melville of Pilrig, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1907, Google Books, after p. 178.

*John M'Intosh Capt.*

**M'Intosh, Capt. John.** John M'Intosh was born about 1743; the son of Angus MacIntosh of Corrybrough More and his wife Margaret (daughter of Lt. John Mackintosh from Mid Coul). Corrybrough More was an estate on the banks of the Findhorn River, near Moy, thirteen miles southeast of Inverness.

M'Intosh was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Dec. 1759 during the French and Indian War. He served in all major campaigns of the regiment and was promoted to Lieutenant in May 1762 in place of Lt. John Charles St. Clair, who died of the fever off Martinique. M'Intosh was with Col. Henry Bouquet at Bushy Run, Pennsylvania in Aug. 1763 and was with his 1764 Muskingum expedition to subdue the Ohio Indians.

At the end of the French & Indian War, in Aug. 1763 orders were given to reduce the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. In a letter to Gen. Sir Jeffery Amherst dated at Fort Pitt on Aug. 11, 1763, Col. Henry Bouquet forwarded Maj. John Campbell's recommendation for M'Intosh's promotion, writing "...there will be two vacancies

more for which the Major desires I would recommend Lieu<sup>t</sup> Charles Menzies and Lieu<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh as the two eldest Lieutenants here of the second Battalion who chose to remain in full pay.” Unfortunately for Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, that promotion did not come through. Four Lieutenants, including M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, were required to serve as Ensigns, while retaining their rank as Lieutenants.



Fort Cumberland, Maryland c. 1755

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons from *History of Cumberland*, by William Lowdermilk, 1878.

On June 17, 1764, Capt. Jonathan Schlosser, 60<sup>th</sup> (Royal American) Regt., wrote Col. Henry Bouquet from Fort Loudoun (located about 70 miles southwest of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania) that the “*Men [were] sent off under Lieu<sup>t</sup>. McIntosh to Garrison Fort Cumberland.*” M<sup>c</sup>Intosh and his men of the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Regiments arrived at Fort Cumberland seven days later on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The Fort was about 70 miles southwest of Fort Loudoun. Two months later, on Aug. 14, 1764, orders were issued at Fort Loudoun for “*Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Sealy to march to Fort Cumberland to relieve Lieu<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh.*” Despite this ordered “*relief,*” Col. Henry Bouquet described the garrisons of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Nov. 1764 and included “*...Fort Cumberland [Maryland] half a Company under the Command of L<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Intosh...*” Fort Cumberland was about 115 miles to the east of the main body of the regiment at Fort Pitt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was noted to be at Fort Pitt (present site of Pittsburgh) in Aug. 1766 and remained in America until the regiment sailed to Cork, Ireland in 1767.

While serving in Ireland in Nov. 1768 M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was appointed Adjutant and was restored to his Lieutenancy when a Light Infantry Company was ordered to be added to the regiment in Ireland in Sept. 1771. He was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant in Gen. Lord Murray’s Company in Aug. 1775 when Capt. Lt. John Smith was promoted to Captain.

As the regiment prepared to sail for America in 1776, Lord John Murray asked the War Office for permission for M<sup>c</sup>Intosh to sell his Adjutancy and explained M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was holding four positions in the regiment. Murray explained on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> that “*Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Mackintosh, desires leave to dispose of his Adjutancy, which he writes he purchased, but as the Board of General Officers, who were appointed to Regulate the Sale of Commissions, of whom I was one, we did not mention any price for those of the Staff, as we were of opinion they might not be Sold, or at least they must run the risqué if Colonels did it without leave, I beg to be honor’d with Your Lordships commands in Relation to it. He has been for Several Years besides these two Commissions, Pay Master, and Quarter Master by Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel [Thomas] Stirlings orders. but as I thought four was too much for one Officer, After he was made Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieutenant, I appointed Captain [Alexander] Donaldson pay Master, who was very fit for it, as well as a good Officer and had Recruited 45 Men, but it Seems this displeased my Lieutenant Colonel...*”

Although it was unusual at that time to purchase Adjutancies, the Secretary at War approved the sale writing Lord Murray on Mar. 2, that “*...As Captain Mackintosh purchased the Adjutancy, he will be*



*allowed to sell it – the price must not exceed £400 ...*” Capt. Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was succeeded as Adjutant by Sgt. Maj. Hugh Fraser.

About two weeks before the regiment sailed for America, Lord Murray proposed adding a second battalion to the regiment. In his letter to the War Office on Apr. 15, 1776, Lord Murray proposed a promotion for Capt. Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh to replace Maj. Murray who he proposed to command the second battalion. The letter included a listing of officer selections including *“Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel William Murray ...If it Should be His Majestys Pleasure to appoint Major Murray to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Batt... Then ... Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup> Mackintosh to have the Company in the Batt: vice Major Murray...”* The War Office did not approve the second battalion at this time and M<sup>c</sup>Intosh and the other officers continued to make their final preparations for the expedition to America.

The General’s Company traveled to America on the transport *Neptune* and on arriving in America with the regiment in the summer of 1776, M<sup>c</sup>Intosh’s company was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, under Maj. William Murray when the large regiment was split into two smaller provisional battalions for service. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh’s brother Lachlan served in the Commissary Department at New York and his cousin, Capt. Angus MacKintosh of Kyllachy, served in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.

M<sup>c</sup>Intosh commanded his company in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in the beginning of New York campaign of 1776 but was wounded at Battle of Harlem Heights, New York on Sept. 16, 1776. The seriousness of his wound is not recorded, but he had not returned to duty six weeks later. The strength report for that period read *“Extract Return 42<sup>d</sup>. Or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. Dated Camp at White Plains 31<sup>st</sup>. October 1776....All the Officers present Except ...Cap<sup>ts</sup> ... {John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh ... [Wounded, at New York]...”* M<sup>c</sup>Intosh’s wound may also be the reason he was listed as being on *“Lord Cornwallis’s Leave”* in the muster taken at Piscataway, New Jersey on Apr. 30, 1777.

M<sup>c</sup>Intosh recovered from his wound and served in the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777. He was promoted to Captain on Oct. 31, 1777 when Brevet-Lt. Col. William Murray’s promotion and departure caused a string of promotions in the regiment. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh commanded his company during the return of the Army to New York in the summer of 1778 including the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778.

In Dec. 1778, Gen. Lord Murray wrote to M<sup>c</sup>Intosh requesting him to return to Scotland to take command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company on the Recruiting Service. Lord Murray wrote Lord Amherst later of this exchange of officers explaining on Oct. 19, 1780 that *“Cap<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh was appointed by me to Succeed Captain [Alexander] Donaldson Preferred to the Additional Company in Scotland, which I ordered him by Several letters to join, some of them Miscarried, he Answered one and said, he could not come over without the Secretary at War’s leave, which I wrote to the Secretary at War off. in answer to which he said “I beg you will continue to make such arrangements in the Officers of your additional companies of your Reg<sup>t</sup>, as you shall judge best for the benefit of the Recruiting Duty, agreeable to Lord Barringtons letter to your Lordship of the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1776.”* Despite Lord Murray’s clear authority to bring M<sup>c</sup>Intosh back to Scotland, Lt. Col. Stirling refused to allow him to leave. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh explained his predicament to Lord Murray in a letter dated Apr. 2, 1779 that he *“...had no objections to go home – But that at present Colo<sup>l</sup> Stirling would not allow a Cap<sup>t</sup>”* to go home as he says *one of the Additional Company is at Newfoundland – till your Lordship gets this matter Cleened up at the War Office. I must Remain with the Reg<sup>t</sup>.*” Accordingly, Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh continued with the regiment for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779.

On Sept. 9, 1779, Lord John Murray proposed the officers for his newly authorized second battalion including Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh writing Lord Amherst *“Some More Officers Proposed for 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion of the*

*42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot Major John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh Eldest Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Addit<sup>ls</sup> of the 42<sup>d</sup> now eldest of the Second Battalion...* Lt. Col. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod began raising the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and wrote in Sept. 1779 that “... Captain John Mackintosh of the 42<sup>nd</sup> is appointed major, and I am desired by Lord John Murray to spur his friends in recruiting for him...” On Nov. 5, 1779 Secretary at War Charles Jenkinson wrote Gen. Sir Henry Clinton that it was “*his Majesty’s pleasure*” that Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh and three other officers return home to assist in raising the men for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Unfortunately for Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh, his orders to return home for the Majority in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion were not received before he resigned from the regiment to attend to his personal affairs in Scotland. He wrote Lord Murray on Oct. 25, 1779 saying “*Yesterday Major [Charles] Graham shewed my your Lordships letter ordering me home to the Additional Companies, I am very Sorry it did not arrive Sooner, as it would have prevented my Quitting the Service, I have very pressing Affairs to settle in Brittain, and made repeated Application to Gen<sup>l</sup> [Thomas] Stirling for leave to go home, but in vain, and as he Seemed Determined to keep me here I took / though with Reluctance/ the Resolution of Selling my Company, and a Month ago the Affair was concluded, your Lordship may easily conceive the Regrett I feel in Quitting a profession, which I have made my Study for upwards of Twenty Years ...I congratulate your Lordship on the Acc<sup>t</sup> we have of your Getting a 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion for the Reg<sup>t</sup>, as my Business in Brittain will Soon be Settled and Shall then be as willing and ready as ever to Serve my King & Country....*” Lord Murray later explained to Lord Amherst on Oct. 19, 1780 the “*pressing Affairs to settle in Brittain*” in M<sup>c</sup>Intosh’s letter above, writing that “*Cap<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh wrote me he had sold his company in America, as he could not get leave to come over without it, and had particular Business to do in Scotland, which was his Marriage, which he has since done.*”

Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh sailed for Britain in late 1779 and married Margaret M<sup>c</sup>Gilchrist, daughter of Archibald M<sup>c</sup>Gilchrist of Northbar, Renfrewshire in 1780 and had three daughters (Elizabeth b. 1782, Margaret b. 1783 at West Calder, Midlothian, and Anne b. 1786 at Harwood, West Calder). M<sup>c</sup>Intosh’s marriage was fairly short lived as the Sept. 1786 *Scots Magazine* reported the death of his wife writing “*Deaths... Sept....12. At Harwood, Margaret Macgilchrist, wife of Capt. John Macintosh of Harwood.*”

A 1907 history of the Balfours of Pilrig included a description of Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh sale of his estate of Corrybrough More to MacIntosh of Balnespick in 1791 and the settling of the family at Harwood. The author wrote “*We were always told when we were children that in the Highlands an unwritten law demanded of the clansman who had no son that he should sell his land to another of the name, so that the clan might be kept up to its strength, and that accordingly an arrangement was made by which Corrybrough More passed into the hands of Mackintosh of Balnespick, who gave the name of his old home to the new. Perhaps, however, Captain Mackintosh only felt that it would be better and happier for the motherless little daughters if they were brought up in the south, in a more genial climate and a more advanced civilisation than the ancestral valley could boast of. Anyhow, they all came south, and settled at Harwood in the county of Midlothian. Harwood was not far from Edinburgh (to the south-west)...*”

Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh died in 1803 and is buried at the Parish Church of South Leith, Edinburgh. He is sometime confused with his cousin, Capt. John MacIntosh of the Kyllachy family, who served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.



South Leith Parish Church by M J Richardson

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, Geograph 626353

Commissions: Ens. Dec. 4, 1759, Lt. May 15, 1762; Ens. (as Lt.) Aug. 1763; Adj. Nov. 2, 1768; Lt. Sept. 1, 1771; Capt. Lieut. Aug. 16, 1775 (Resigned as Adjutant Mar. 19, 1776.), Capt. Oct. 5, 1777 – effective to date of his Capt. Lieutenancy of Aug. 16, 1775; Retired Sept. 20, 1779.

**References:** *The Balfours of Pilrig, a History for the Family*, Barbara Balfour-Melville of Pilrig, William Brown, Edinburgh, 1907, Google Books; “Bouquet Collection, A. 20,” and “Public Orders Issued by Gen. Amherst and Col. Bouquet, 1761-1765” in Bouquet Collection, A. 26, in *Report of Canadian Archives*, Ed. Douglas Brymner, Brown Champerlain, Ottawa, 1890, Google Books, pp. 27 and 331; *Scots Magazine*, Sept. 1786, p. 407; Col. Henry Bouquet to Gen. Jeffery Amherst, Fort Pitt, Aug. 11, 1763 in *Collections and Researches Made by the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society*, Vol. XIX, Ed. M. Agnes Burton, Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co. State Printers, Detroit, 1911, Google Books, p. 226; “Mathew Clarkson’s Diary, August 6, 1766 - April 16, 1767” in *The New Regime 1675-1767*, Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library Volume XI, British Series Volume II, Eds. Clarence Walworth Alvord and Clarence Edwin Carter, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, 1916, Google Books, pp. 349-352, 353, and 357; *Sons of the Mountains*, Vol. I, Ian Macpherson McCulloch, Purple Mountain Press, Fleischmans (NY) 2006, p. 327; *London Gazette* for Mar. 30, 1776, p. 2 and Jan. 20-24, 1778, p. 2; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. I, p. 374; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 6-10, 1776; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 18, Apr. 15 and Dec. 28, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Mar. 2, 1776, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/96, p. 226; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 31, 1777 and New York, Sept. 22, 1779; *Letters of Two Centuries, Chiefly Connected with Inverness and the Highlands, From 1616 to 1815*, Ed. Charles Fraser-Mackintosh of Drummond, M. P., F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. MacKenzie, Inverness, 1890, pp. 291-294, Google Books; John McIntosh to Lord John Murray, Apr. 2, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, Sept. 9, 1779, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/155, ff. 134-136; Norman MacLeod of MacLeod to Provost John MacIntosh of Aberarder, Sept. 27, 1779 in *Antiquarian Notes, Historical, Genealogical, and Social* (Second Series), by Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1897, p. 290; John McIntosh to Lord John Murray, Oct. 25, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; Summary of Charles Jenkinson to Sir Henry Clinton, Nov. 5, 1779 in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, Dublin, 1906, Google Books, p. 58; *Royal Gazette*, Dec. 18, 1779; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, Oct. 19, 1780 WO 34/168, ff. 273-274; *Antiquarian Notes, Historical, Genealogical, and Social* (Second Series), by Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1897, p. 290; *The New Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. XIV, Inverness – Ross and Cromarty*, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, 1845, Google Books, p. 109; TNA, Will of John McIntosh at TNA, *Prerogative Court of Canterbury: Will Registers* at PROB 11/1431/68.

Signature Source: TNA, *War Office In-letters* at WO 1/992 A. Mackenzie letter, Jan. 18, 1776

**Mackenzie**, Ens. Alexander. Mackenzie was born in Scotland in 1746 and was initially commissioned Ensign in Oct. 1761 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Highlanders) raised by Col. David Græme of Gorthy. After assembled, this regiment was ordered to Ireland, where it served until disbanded in 1763 at which time Ens. Mackenzie went out on Half-Pay.



Reproduction 54<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Mackenzie returned to active service from Half-Pay as an Ensign in the 54<sup>th</sup> Regt. on Sept. 1, 1771 and transferred to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Ireland in July 1773 in place of Ens. Hon. William Leslie. Mackenzie later described the circumstances of his transfer writing, “...but my inclination to my National Corp's made me exchange upon the twelfth day of July 1773 with another Gentleman, was to be put in upon them, (on the contrary, to their inclination. – The answer they got at the castle of Dublin, was it they cou'd get, an other Ens. from any other Regt': to make an Exchange; that wou'd leave a vacancy for the Gentleman, that intended, to be put in upon them, that his Excellency the Lord Lieut' had no objections. –Upon which time I was applied to, and readily Consented...”

As part of the augmentation for the American war, Lord John Murray received a letter from the Secretary at War dated Aug. 1775 with promotions in the regiment. The letter indicated “*I have the honor to acquaint you that His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Officers mentioned in the annexed List to be Lieutenants and Ensigns in the 42<sup>d</sup>/or Royal Highland/ Regiment of Foot under your Command in consequence of the intended augmentation. – The notification will not be issued 'till the additional Lieutenants are named when the Dates of the several Commissions respectively will be arranged; In the mean time these Officers may be employed on the recruiting Duty...Ensign Alexander Mackenzie, to be Lieutenant.*” However, Lord Barrington wrote Lord Murray again on Dec. 12, 1775 to correct promotions in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. including that of Ens. Mackenzie. Barrington clarified that “*With respect to Ensigns [Robert] Franklin & [Thomas] Lyttleton I am to observe to your Lordship, that it never was His Majesty's Intention to pass by or supersede them. – Ensigns Patrick Graham, Alex'. Grant & Alex'. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie had been named for Lieutenancys, upon the Supposition that the two elder Ensigns might be provided for in other Corps; but as there is no prospect of this at present, if your Lordship cannot find Highland Officers willing to exchange with M<sup>r</sup>. Franklin & M<sup>r</sup>. Lyttleton they must certainly be promoted in the 42<sup>d</sup> Regt', and preserve the Rank they are entitled to. His Majesty had accordingly directed that the former Notification should be stopped and that Ensigns Franklin & Lyttleton should be appointed Lieutenants in their proper places.*”

The following month, as the regiment was managing the proposed resignation of Lt. Robert Reid and the revocation of Mackenzie's promotion, Maj. William Murray wrote Lord Murray from Fort George on Jan. 3, 1776 that *"I shall immediately acquaint Ensign Alexander Mackenzie of His Majestys Pleasure, and shall assure him at the same time of your Lordships inclinations for him, I am certain the poor lad cannot purchase So Lieutenant Reids commission must go to the next eldest Ensign..."* Lord Murray wrote the War Office later that month, on Jan. 27, that *"...Ensign Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie is recruiting at Garloch, and in the Western Isles; I have wrote once or twice Since to Major Murray, to desire he would write to My Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel and to me, when he Re<sup>ed</sup> his letter but have had no Other answer. The Roads and passages by Water, must make the Correspondences of the Recruiting Officers very uncertain at this Season in the Highlands, The Storm of snow and frost Still continues here, which occasions the posts to come in very irregularly."*

Mackenzie prepared a memorial to the War Office dated Jan. 18, 1776 to attempt to undo the injustice of his reduction claiming he was promised he would be credited with his rank in the 54<sup>th</sup> Regt. in future promotions. He wrote *"I make bold to represent my hardships to your Lordship, as an unluckie Officer, tho' always willing to Serve my King and country; I had a letter from Major Murray: informing me, that my Commission, at L<sup>t</sup>: in the Royal Highlander's, (which was Issued some time ago) has been Recalled, as Ensign [Robert] Franklin, & Lyttleton, have been appointed L<sup>t</sup> in the Reg<sup>t</sup>: – However My Lord, it would grieve me less never to have been appointed; than after my Commission, being out for some months past, to have the mortification, to be Reduced again, to my former Rank – I have Accompted now, for three Commissions, as Ensign. – my first Commiss<sup>on</sup> was dated the 19<sup>th</sup>: Day of October 1761. in the Late 105<sup>th</sup>.; or Grames Highlanders and I had the honour to be Reponed in full pay, the 1<sup>st</sup>: Septem<sup>r</sup>. 1771. in the 54<sup>th</sup>. Foot, where I was very happy, but my inclination to my National Corp's made me exchange upon the twelfth day of July 1773 ...but at the same time, was promised, that my former Rank, would be considered upon, in the 42<sup>d</sup>: Reg<sup>t</sup>. – Therefore I hope your Lordship will at least; see to continue, the Lieutenantcy, that come out; as Rank, and date of Commission wou'd be greatly in my favors... Mackenzie signed the letter "Alex<sup>r</sup> Mackenzie Recalled L<sup>t</sup>. f<sup>m</sup>. the 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>."*

The Secretary at War replied to Mackenzie on Feb. 9 denying the War Office had ever approved his commission, contrary to the notification to Lord Murray dated Aug. 15, 1775. Viscount Barrington wrote *"I have received your Letter of the 18<sup>th</sup>. last month, and enclose an Extract from my Letter to Lord John Murray, which will explain to You the reasons why your Appointment to a Lieutenantcy in the 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. did not take place. I am to add that your Notification as Lieu<sup>t</sup>. was never issued from this Office; At the same time I shall be ready to Recommend you for promotion when a proper Opportunity offers."*

Col. David Stewart attempted to explain this controversy in his *Sketches of the Highlanders* writing *"At this time, there was a keen struggle between the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord John Murray, the former wishing to introduce some southern officers into the regiment, which the latter strenuously resisted. The influence of the Lord Lieutenant prevailed, and Lieutenant Littleton and Franklin were appointed, and the commissions of Lieutenants Grant and Mackenzie, whom Lord John had procured to be gazetted, were afterwards cancelled."* However, Col. Stewart left out of his narrative that Lyttelton's date of rank as Ensign in the regiment was Nov. 23, 1772 and Mackenzie's was July 12, 1773 (without due credit for his service in the 54<sup>th</sup> Regt. ranking from Sept. 1, 1771), giving the regimental promotion priority to Lyttelton.

Lord Murray continued to try to help Mackenzie and on Feb. 7 he wrote the War Office to recommend Mackenzie to take the Lieutenantcy of Lt. John Grant of Rippachie who was trying to get back on Half-pay status due to his health. Murray wrote *"If Lieu<sup>t</sup>. John Grant has leave to Return on half pay which I hear he has applied for I should be extremely glad if your Lordship thinks proper to Recommend it to His Majesty that Ensign Alexander Mackenzie that has served above fourteen Years and lately Reduced may*



*Succeed him as Lieutenant...*” Lt. Grant’s attempt was unsuccessful and accordingly Mackenzie was again disappointed.

Lord Murray again attempted to mitigate the harm done to Mackenzie on Feb. 18, 1776 requesting the War Office to issue a brevet commission as Lieutenant writing *“I take the liberty to inclose Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. Mackenzies letter, he is a very old Ensign as I formerly mentioned, and am hopeful your Lordship will obtain a brevet of Lieu<sup>t</sup> dated as far back as you judge as Equitable, as he cannot Succeed to Lieu<sup>t</sup> Grant...”* Lord Murray’s request were denied by the Secretary at War who wrote on Mar. 26 that *“...in answer to which, and also to your recommendation of Ensign Alexander Mackenzie for a Lieutenant’s Brevet, I am to acquaint your Lordship that it is not the King’s intention at present to grant any Brevet Commissions.”*

Lord Murray made one more attempt to help Mackenzie about two weeks before the regiment sailed for America. One of the newly appointed Half-Pay officers, Lt. William Rose, was too ill to report to the regiment for embarkation. Lord Murray wrote to the War Office on Apr. 15 that *“... the battalion compleat of Officers & Soldiers, Except Lieu<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Rose of the Battalion, who has not joined Since his Appointment from half pay... Recommend to His Majesty, on the occasion that Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Rose should be Superceded, I humbly beg leave that the Succession may go in the Battalion, and that Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie be appointed Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in his place, who has been above fourteen years an Ensign in the Army, was Lieu<sup>t</sup>. for two or three Months, be again appointed Lieu<sup>t</sup>. vice Rose...Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. Grant is the Eldest, but only thru Years, Standing, & Co<sup>l</sup>. Hugh Grant would not purchase a Lieutenantcy for him, tho he is so rich, & Mackenzie So poor, has no Mony to purchase, but a great deal of Service, I humbly Submit it, which of the two Should be Recommended to be Lieutenant. & beg to Receive your Lordships Commands...”* Lt. Rose eventually reported for duty, although still quite ill, and retained his Lieutenantcy. Accordingly Mackenzie remained an Ensign and prepared for service in America.

Mackenzie was assigned to the Gen. Lord Murray’s Company and sailed for America on Apr. 29 on the transport *Neptune*. On arriving in America with the regiment in the summer of 1776, Mackenzie’s company was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> (Provisional) Battalion, under Maj. William Murray. Mackenzie served with the General’s Company at the Battle of Long Island and the landing at Kip’s Bay on Manhattan Island.



Site of Principal Action of the Battle of Harlem Heights Looking North, circa 1897 (“Buckwheat Field” at top of Photograph)

Picture Source: *Battle of Harlem Heights, September 16, 1776*, Henry P. Johnston, McMillan Co., 1897, opp. p. 88.

Ens. Mackenzie was badly wounded the next day in the Battle of Harlem Heights, New York on Sept. 16, 1776 and died of his wounds five days later. Chap. James M<sup>c</sup>Lagan later wrote to Lord John Murray describing the action when Mackenzie was mortally wounded. He noted “*On the 16<sup>th</sup> the Battalion of 42<sup>d</sup> were engaged in a very serious affair. Some companies of light infantry pursuing a party of Rebels too far, were almost Surrounded, when your Lordships Regiment was called to their assistance, here, about 700 British Troops were hotly engaged for sometime, and in the thick wood with about 9000 rebels, at length the Highlanders brought of the Light Infantry & Stopped the Enemies Course, here Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie was Mortally wounded.*”

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 19, 1761 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Queen’s Own Royal Regiment of Highlanders); Ens. Irish Half-pay Spring 1763 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Ens. from Half-pay Sept. 1, 1771 (54<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Ens. by exchange July 12, 1773 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 15, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. – Cancelled); Ens. by recall approximately Jan. 3, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Died of wounds Sept. 21, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** Early commission history from Dr. John Houlding’s notes to Paul Pace; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. II, p. 127; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Aug. 15, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, p. 136; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Dec. 12, 1775 at WO 4/95, p. 201 (f. 101); TNA, Alexander Mackenzie to Viscount Barrington, Jan. 18, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/992; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Jan. 27, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 7, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Alexander Mackenzie, Feb. 9, 1776 at WO 4/96; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 18, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Mar. 26, 1776 at WO 4/96, p. 392 (f. 197); TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; James M<sup>c</sup>Lagan, to Lord John Murray, May 31, 1777, *Lord John Murray Papers*; NRS, Thomas Stirling to Sir William Stirling, “*Camp near Bloomingdale, Island of New York, Sep<sup>t</sup> 22, 1776,*” *Papers of the Family of Stirling Home Drummond Moray of Abercairny* at GD 24/1/458/1; General Orders, New York Island, Sept. 30, 1776; *The Dorsetshire Regiment*, Christopher Thomas Atkinson, University Press, 1947, p. 174.



Detail showing Lt. Col. the Hon. George Mackenzie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. from *General Elliot and his Officers Observing the Destruction of the Floating Batteries, Gibraltar, 1782*, by George Carter

Picture Source: National Army Museum, London

*Geo Mackenzie Capt*

**Mackenzie**, Capt. the Hon. George. Born around 1744, Mackenzie was the third son of George Mackenzie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Cromartie and his wife Isabella (“*Bonnie Bell*”) Gordon, daughter of Sir William Gordon, Baronet of Invergordon.



Detail of Portrait of George Mackenzie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Cromarty

Picture Source: Jacobite Prints collected by  
*Walter Balkie*, National Library of Scotland.

An ardent Jacobite, the Earl of Cromartie was tried by the House of Peers for his support of the '45 Rebellion and sentenced to death on Aug. 1, 1746, but pardoned a week later. He was permitted to leave the Tower of London in Feb. 1748 and in August of that year he received a warrant for his discharge enabling him to reside at Layhill, in Devonshire. The Lords Justices approved of his residence there and granted £200 for the expense of his removal. A pardon was granted Oct. 1749, with the condition that he should remain in such place as should be directed by the King. Lord Cromartie resided but a short time at Layhill, removing thence to Northcote, near Honiton (150 miles southeast of London near Exeter). Capt. Mackenzie's older brother was John MacKenzie, Lord Macleod.

While George Mackenzie was serving as a Volunteer in 1761 in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Montgomery's Highlanders), his uncle, Hugh Mackenzie, purchased a commission for him as an Ensign in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. (The Royals). Mackenzie's father wrote in Jan. 1762 that "*My son George is with the regiment at Halifax in Nova Scotia...*" Mackenzie was promoted to Lieutenant in the Royals in Nov. 1766.

John, 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Argyle, wrote to Secretary at War Viscount Barrington from Argyll House, on Nov. 30, 1770 regarding Mackenzie's promotion into the Royal Highlanders. Argyle wrote "... *I find by letter from the Commanding Officer of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, that the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has Consented that L<sup>t</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of the 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion Royal should purchase a Company in the 42<sup>d</sup>...* "

Mackenzie served with the regiment in Ireland until 1775 and then at the beginning of the American war, he commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company, which traveled to America on the transport *Houston*. On Aug. 6, 1776, General Orders directed "*The Light Company of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment to join the 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Battalion Light Infantry*” and Mackenzie served with his company in that composite battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777.

When the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. arrived at New York in 1776, it was split into two smaller provisional battalions for service in America. Mackenzie was senior Captain in the regiment in America (Capt. Alexander Donaldson being in Scotland) when the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion commander, Lt. Col. William Murray, left the regiment on Oct. 5, 1777. Based on his seniority Mackenzie could have left the Light Infantry Company to assume command of one of the two battalions. This change however is not reflected in the Light Infantry Company muster conducted at Philadelphia on Feb. 23, 1778 which shows Mackenzie serving with the Light Infantry.

In 1777 Mackenzie’s older brother John, Lord Macleod, who had left Scotland after being pardoned for his part in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745, returned to Britain from Sweden where he had risen to the rank of Lt. General in the Swedish Army. King George III received Lord Macleod who promised to raise a regiment of Highlanders to support the American war effort. Although the King was initially opposed to giving a regiment to an officer who had not served in the British Army, the Letter of Service to raise the regiment was issued in Dec. 1777 and Lord Macleod’s Commission as Colonel was dated Dec. 19.

Although Lord Macleod’s Highland Regiment was authorized in Dec. 1777, George Mackenzie did not learn of his brother’s offer of a Majority in his new regiment until late May 1778. That month George Mackenzie had agreed to purchase Brevet-Lt. Col. William Grant’s Majority in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. However, Capt. Charles Graham wrote his agents on May 23 about the transaction saying *“About an hour ago L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>l</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Grant Major to the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> sent for me to know if I chose to purchase his Majority and that the price he was determined to take was 3000 pounds Sterl<sup>s</sup> and that Cap<sup>t</sup> Geo: M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie had agreed to give him that, but two or three days ago he having accounts of his Brother Lord M<sup>c</sup>Leod getting a Reg<sup>t</sup>, and that he has got the Majority of that Reg<sup>t</sup> (tho from no certainty) he has therefore declined purchasing in the 42<sup>d</sup> untill the packet arrives which we expect hear every day..”*



Col. John, Lord Macleod, 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.

Picture source: *The Earls of Cromartie, Their Kindred, Country and Correspondence*, Vol. I. William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1876, following p. cclvi.

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. (Macleod's Highlanders) was formed in the spring of 1778 at Fort George (about 25 miles northeast of Inverness) and in May the regiment sailed for the islands of Guernsey and Jersey where it was stationed for six months before returning to Portsmouth.

The Commander-in-Chief in America, Gen. Sir William Howe, received orders around June from the War Office dated Apr. 18, 1778 that *"The several Officers mentioned in the enclosed list being intended to be promoted in the Regiment now raising by Lord M<sup>c</sup>Leod, and that Regiment being under orders to embark as soon as possible for the East Indies, I have the honor to signify to you His Majesty's Pleasure that you do permit the said Officers to leave the Army under your command immediately that they may if possible join their regiment before it leaves England....42<sup>nd</sup> Foot Captain George Mackenzie Lieut. George Mackenzie..."* In accordance with his orders, Mackenzie left America on the packet ship in June 1778 and returned to Scotland to become the Major of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders. On June 6, 1778, the War Office issued a notice of the formation of the regiment writing *"A Highland regiment of foot. Colonel: John Lord Macleod...Majors: Capt. George Mackenzie, of 42<sup>d</sup> foot..."* A few months later on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, Mackenzie was elected a member of the Highland Society of London.

About nine months after the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was raised, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was formed and Maj. Mackenzie was commissioned Lt. Colonel of that battalion on Sept. 24, 1778. His commission promoted Mackenzie over a number of more senior Majors in the Army and this early promotion was addressed in a Sept. 25, 1778 letter from Commander-in-Chief Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst to Lord Macleod stating *"... That a moment's time may not be lost in forwarding the raising of a second battalion to your Lordship's regiment, his Majesty has been pleased to approve of the following gentlemen, proposed by your Lordship through M<sup>r</sup>. Atkinson, to be field officers in it, viz., Major George Mackenzie of your Lordship's regiment, to be Lieu<sup>t</sup>.-Colonel, and Captains Hamilton Maxwell, and Norman Macleod of the 71<sup>st</sup>, to be Majors. I have the King's command to inform your Lordship that his consent to this quick promotion of Major Mackenzie is given only on account of the necessity which it has been represented there is for his being placed at the head of the intended battalion, and that it is not his Majesty's intention that he shall hereafter avail himself of a step so obtained to the prejudice of the numerous list of Majors who are at this time his seniors in the army."*

Lt. Col. Mackenzie's Piper, John MacDonald, wrote an account of Mackenzie during this period indicating *"... At that time Colonel George Mackenzie, son to the late Earl of Cromarty, was raising a second battalion for the 73<sup>rd</sup> ... regiment of Highlanders, and had his headquarters at Inverness. He used to come frequently to dine with the officers of the North Fencibles, where he had an opportunity of hearing me play the pipes, which so pleased him that he earnestly wished to have me in his regiment, and applied himself closely to Captain Mackay for my discharge... On the 16<sup>th</sup> April 1779, I left London, and on the 18<sup>th</sup> I arrived at Portsmouth, to find Colonel Mackenzie and the most part of the officers of the 73<sup>rd</sup> at the Fountain Inn. The colonel expressed a great deal of joy at my arrival, and showed me all the marks of kindness I could naturally expect of one of his rank; nor did his goodness stop here but continued always fresh during my stay in the regiment. Two or three days after my coming to Portsmouth I settled with the colonel about my bounty and subsistence, and he very cheerfully laid down twenty guineas of bounty money, and the arrears of my pay since I left Fort George at one shilling and sixpence per day."*

Initially destined for Minorca, Lt. Col. Mackenzie and his battalion were diverted to Gibraltar and landed there on Jan. 18, 1780 as part of Adm. George Rodney's reinforcement against the French siege.





*The Sortie Made by the Garrison of Gibraltar*, John Trumbull, 1789

Picture Source: Wikimedia

Mackenzie's battalion remained at Gibraltar until May 1783 when it embarked for Portsmouth and landed in July. Three months later the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was disbanded at Stirling on Oct. 3, 1783 and Lt. Col. Mackenzie went out on Half-Pay. While still at Gibraltar on Mar. 4, 1783, the War Office had announced Mackenzie's promotion to Colonel "*in the Army.*"

The officers belonging to the disbanded 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, who were regimentally senior to those serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in India, were given the option of joining that battalion in the East Indies, at their own expense. Lt. Col. Mackenzie and several other officers took advantage of this offer and sailed for India, where the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was stationed at Fort St. George at Madras (now Chennai), India on the Bay of Bengal. Around March 1785 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion officers arrived and Brevet-Col. Hon. George Mackenzie assumed command of the regiment from Lt. Col. William Dalrymple, who had returned to Great Britain. In 1786 the numerical title of the regiment was changed from the 73<sup>rd</sup> to the 71<sup>st</sup> following the reduction of two other regiments (including the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders) and new regimental colors (flags) were received from England.

Mackenzie died unmarried at Wallajabad in northwest India on June 4, 1787. His death and funeral were described in *The Gentleman's Magazine* for Apr. 1788, which wrote "*Deaths. 1787 June 4. AT Wallajabad, in the East Indies, justly and universally lamented the Hon. Col. George Mackenzie (brother-german to Lord Macleod), of his Majesty's 71st regiment, and commandant of the second brigade. – His remains were conveyed to the garden house of William Balfour, esq. at Madras, escorted by a party of the 19th light dragoons, and a detachment of infantry. Every military honour was paid by the second brigade on the removal of the corpse from Wallajabad. On the evening of the 7th, his body was deposited in the church-yard of Madras. During the funeral ceremony, half-minute guns were fired from the fort, the flag*

*hoisted half-mast high, and three vollies were fired from his Majesty's 14th regiment of Hanoverians over the grave. The Governor, Council, and Settlement, civil and military, attended to pay the last tribute to the remains of a gallant soldier and warm friend."*



Fort St. George, in Madras, by Jan Van Ryne, circa 1754

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

Mackenzie was buried at Fort St. George where the officers of the regiment erected a monument with the following inscription: - *"Sacred to the remains of the Honourable George Mackenzie, second son to the late Earl of Cromarty, Lieutenant-Colonel of His Majesty's 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment, Colonel of His Majesty's Army, Commander of the Forces on the Wallajabad Station, who depart this life the 4th of June 1787, aged 46 years. In tribute to his much esteemed memory and great worth, the officers of the 71st Regiment (lamenting their gallant Commander) and his nephew and name son, George Mackenzie of the 75<sup>th</sup> Regiment, who has fought and bled by his side, have caused this monument to be erected."*

A *London Gazette* announcement to his creditors was published July 22, 1788 which read *"THE Creditors of Lieutenant Colonel George Mackenzie, now deceased, some Time Major in the First Battalion of the late 73d Regiment of Foot, are requested to give in to George Andrew, Writer in Edinburgh, Notes of the Debts severally due to them, specifying the precise Amount thereof, and the Securities by which the same are constituted, in order, that Measures for their Payment may be taken."*

Lt. Col. Mackenzie is one of the subjects of the 1784 painting *"General Eliot and his Officers Observing the Destruction of the Floating Batteries, Gibraltar, 1782"* by George Carter at the National Army Museum, London. Mackenzie is shown in the right front foreground in the uniform of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt.

Commissions: Vol. prior to March 1761 (77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Ens. March 22, 1761 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 1<sup>st</sup> or Royal Regt.), Lt. Nov. 24, 1766 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 1<sup>st</sup> or Royal Regt.); Capt. Dec. 12, 1770 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Dec. 20, 1777 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. Sept. 24, 1778 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Col. “in the Army” Feb. 28, 1783; Lt. Col. Half-Pay Oct. 3, 1783 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. Approx. Mar. 1785 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. Col. 1786 (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. – renumbered from 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Died June 4, 1787 (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.).

**References:** *The Earls of Cromartie, Their Kindred, Country and Correspondence*, Vol. I. William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1876, pp. ccxxiii, ccxxviii, ccxxix, ccxxxi, and ccxlix-ccl; Excerpt of letter from Earl of Cromartie, Poland Street, Jan. 30, 1762 in *The Earls of Cromartie...*, Vol. II. William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1876, p. 255; TNA, *War Office, 1<sup>st</sup> Regt. Succession Book* at WO 25/209; *Dictionary of National Biography*, Vol. XII, Ed. Sir Leslie Stephen and Sir Sidney Lee, Oxford University Press; British Library Archives and Manuscripts, Duke of Argyle to Viscount Barrington, Nov. 3, 1770, *Barrington Papers*, Vol. xv, 1765-1779 at MS 73560, pp. 140-140v; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Sept. 6-10, 1776; TNA, Muster report of Capt. George MacKenzie’s Company at Philadelphia on Feb. 23, 1778, *War Office, General Muster Books* at WO 12/5479; NRS, Charles Graham to Henry Davidson Esq. of Tulloch near Dingwall, May 23, 1778, *Records of Messrs. Haldane, Brown & Company, Chartered Accountants, Edinburgh, Graham of Drynie miscellaneous correspondence and accounts, 1776-1779* at GD255/2/6; *Peebles’s Journal* entry dated June 12, 1778; *Scots Magazine*, June 1778, p. 334; *An Account of the HIGHLAND SOCIETY of LONDON FROM ITS Establishment in May 1773, to the Commencement of the Year 1813*, Hon. Sir John Sinclair, E. McMillan, London, 1813, Google Books, pp. 36 – 45; *London Gazette* for Dec. 29, 1778-Jan. 3, 1779, p. 2, June 1, 1779, p. 2, Mar. 4, 1783 and July 22, 1788; *Autobiographical Journal of John MacDonald, Schoolmaster and Soldier 1770-1830*, Ed. Rev. Angus Mackay, M.A., (Pub.) Norman Macleod, Edinburgh, 1906; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Jan 8, 1779; *Historical Record of the Seventy-First Highland Light Infantry, An Account of the Formation of the Regiment in 1777, and to its Subsequent Service to 1852*, Richard Cannon, Her Majesty’s Stationery Office, London, 1852, pp. 31-34; *The Scots Peerage: Founded on Wood’s Edition of Sir Robert Douglas’s Peerage of Scotland*, Sir James Balfour Paul, Lord Lyon King of Arms, Volume III, David Douglas, Edinburgh, 1906, p. 80, Google Books; The painting “General Eliot and his Officers Observing the Destruction of the Floating Batteries, Gibraltar, 1782” by George Carter at the *National Army Museum*, London, reference number NAM 1996-07-107.



Detail of Illustration of Lochend House, Edinburgh, circa 1847, by James Grant

Picture Source: *Cassell’s Old and New Edinburgh: Its History, its People, and its Places*, Vol. III, James Grant, Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., London, 1881-83, Google Books, p. 136



Signature Source: Letter from George MacKenzie, Nov. 1, 1776 at WO 1/992.

**MacKenzie**, Lt. George. Contrary to Col. David Stewart's *Sketches of the Highlanders*, MacKenzie was not the son of Sir Lewis Mackenzie of Scatwell and did not serve in the 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. Rather this officer who served as a Lieutenant in 87<sup>th</sup> (Keith's) Highlanders and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders was born in 1740 and was the second son of John Mackenzie of Lochend (also Lochind, the third son of Alexander Mackenzie, 7<sup>th</sup> of Gairloch). MacKenzie's mother was Annabella Mackenzie, daughter of George Mackenzie, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Gruinard. Lochend House (sometimes called Lochend Castle) is located in Edinburgh about two miles southwest of the Castle.

MacKenzie was initially commissioned in Oct. 1759 as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant in the 87<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Keith's Highlanders) which served in Germany during the Seven Years War. MacKenzie went out on Half-pay when the regiment was disbanded at Perth on May 24, 1763 at the end of the war. MacKenzie married Christina Munro, daughter of Captain John Gunn Munro of Braemore and Elizabeth Sutherland and had three sons (John, Poyntz and Alexander), all of whom also served as officers in the army, and five daughters (Annabella, Eliza, Lilas, Georgina and Christina).

MacKenzie returned from Half-pay to active service in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. with a commission dated Aug. 1775. Gen. Lord Murray could not initially find Lt. MacKenzie and placed an ad in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* on Oct. 24, 1775 saying "ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT. WHEREAS the KING has been pleased to appoint an additional LIEUTENANT to each company of the 42d, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under my command, and their notifications having accordingly been issued from the war office, amongst others, for ... Lieutenant George Mackenzie from half pay, 87 foot... These gentlemen are desired forthwith to write to me, and to the Commanding Officer of the said regiment at Glasgow, a proper direction where they now are, and where they wish to be stationed, in order that recruiting instructions, and levy-money may be sent them, and what other orders are necessary for recruiting." MacKenzie reported for recruiting duty with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. about Nov. 20, 1775.

About the time MacKenzie reported for duty with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders, his brother in law, George Gunn Munro, Chief of Clan Gunn, wrote to Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser, Col., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt., for a Company for Mackenzie. Gunn Munro provided an account of MacKenzie's service and family, writing on Nov. 16, 1775 that "...Lieu<sup>t</sup>. George Mackenzie Brother to Lochind was, at the Reduction of the 87<sup>th</sup>. Regiment, oldest Lieutenant in that Corps – he served in Germany where he was wounded – he has lately been appointed Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in the 42<sup>d</sup>. Regiment – tis now on full Pay – he is a very likely active young Officer, Some years ago he married a Sister of mine & has Since then resided chiefly in Caithness & now in Sutherland Shire – I have not a Doubt but that from his numerous Connections in the West Highlands (Lochbroom particularly) he could raise a Company as soon as any Man – but I can undertake that from his own long Residence in our Part of the Country & the Family Connections & Influence which I can myself boast of & firmly rely upon in both Sutherland & Caithness – his Company (were he fortunate enough to be appointed) would be as quickly raised & comprised of as fine Fellows as any in the Army –

*upon Enquiry the Probability of this will appear – Tho' the Clan Gun whom I at present consider myself as Chief are not very numerous, yet I know that they can spare a few for me that would do me some Credit as well as Honour to any Corps that they may join – Were it not too much Presumption without my Brother in Law's desire – I would refer to the Earl of Seaforth for a Character of my Brother in Law – His Lordship I believe is a good Friend to M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie – & I trust would excuse the Liberty, could I with any Propriety give you Sir the Trouble of waiting on his Lordship – if your Companys are all appointed, – he would gladly be your own Cap<sup>m</sup>. Lieu<sup>t</sup>. & Contribute his Proportion of Men – at any Rate Sir any Aid or Assistance that either he or I can give in Compleating your Highland Regiment shall be most cheerfully afforded – for my own part I long to see a few more Belted Plaids in the British Army ...”*

Although only recently returned from Half-pay and unsuccessful in gaining a Company in Fraser's regiment, MacKenzie wrote the War Office on Mar. 1, 1776 requesting promotion to a Company citing 20 men he had raised for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. but not yet delivered to the regiment. MacKenzie wrote from Nairdule near Dornoch, where he was recruiting, that *“I had the Honour of your Lordships Letter, acknowledging Receipt of my Memorial, presented to Your Lordship By my Late Collonel Sir Robert Murray Keith; proposing to Raise a Company; And as my Friend informed me that Your Lordship was pleased to give it a favourable Reception I have upon the Faith of it, already Secured twenty good Men; I have delivered to my Regiment Since the 20<sup>th</sup> of November but thirty as good Men as have been Inlisted in Scotland; And with this twenty that I have engaged without Any Orders, I'm Certain my Lord that I can Compleat a Company within any Reasonable time your Lordship will appoint; But I am now under orders For America only that I get leave from my Commanding officer to Remain here till further orders; This is the Reason of my Troubling Your Lordship at this time; to Beg the favour of a Line in Course In Case Your Lordship may think proper To bestow a Company upon me For Raising of them That I may not be out of the way; If not that I may go to the Field that will probably procure me preferment some one way or other; At present I am to be full of favourable hopes from Your Lordship That I will Remain here Securing all the Men I can until I have the Honour of your Lordships Answer.”*

The War Office's response is not known, but MacKenzie did not receive a Company as a result of his request. He was, however, successful in being removed from the list of officers ordered to sail for America. Just two weeks later, on Mar. 14, 1776, Lord Murray wrote the War Office to provide the list of officers who would be remaining in Scotland to recruit writing *“I have the honor to inclose the list of Officers for the two additional Companys, as they are now placed, in obedience to your Lordships orders...Names of the officers of the two additional Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot First Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. Alexander Donaldson Lieu<sup>t</sup>. George Mackenzie...”* MacKenzie later wrote the reason for the change in assignment was that *“Lord John Murray having found me usefull in Compleating his Regiment returned me from Greenock upon the Recruiting Service again. “*

MacKenzie's desire to retain his recruits to obtain a Company may have been the cause for Lord Murray to complain about the tardiness of his recruits just two weeks before the regiment sailed for America. Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War on Apr. 15, 1776 that *“I have the honor to Acquaint your Lordship that in consequence of L<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>r</sup>. Ja<sup>s</sup>. Ad Oughton orders the battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot marched this Morning to Greenock about 24. miles where they were ordered to embark on their arrival this day. .. Lieu<sup>t</sup> George Mackenzie, tho ordered not Yet come from the North...”*

Lord Murray did not apparently hold the recruit issue against MacKenzie and mentioned him the same day in a proposal to raise a second battalion to the regiment. Lord Murray wrote the Secretary at War on Apr. 15 that *“I have taken the Liberty of inclosing to Your Lordship the names of Field officers & Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Should your Lordship think it for His Majestys Service to Recommend it to the King to add a Second Battalion at this time to the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under my Command ... “Field Officers and Captains humbly proposed for a Second Battalion to the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot...Captains...George Mackenzie –*



*Lieu<sup>t</sup>. in 42<sup>d</sup>. from half pay 87. R... NB. Each of these Officers will give any Security Required, to raise by themselves or Friends, during their Absence, Fifty good Men for their Appointment of Captain in four Months after receiving their Beating orders... ”* The War Office, however, did not accept Lord Murray’s proposal at that time, and MacKenzie continued on the Recruiting Service.

MacKenzie did not, however, give up on his wish for a Company. He wrote the Secretary at War again on Nov. 1, 1776 from “*Nairdale Near Dornoc*” that “*Sir Robert Murray Keith did me the Honor last Season; To present your Lordship a Memorial in my behalf; proposing to Raise a Company; And now I find there is Some mention made of Further Levies... Your Lordship’s great attention to your department and the justice you seem inclined to do, To Officers of all ranks who have Served their King & Country with reputation, Makes me Rely on Your Lordships promise of not being forgot, when an Opportunity offer’d.*” MacKenzie must have followed up on that letter on Dec. 15 and the War Office replied to MacKenzie two weeks later, on Dec. 30, that “*I am to acknowledge the receipt of y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup>, and to acquaint you that the Noble Persons who are raising Corps in N<sup>o</sup> Britain, will be indulged in recommending their Officers; but I presume any of them will be glad of your Assistance.*”

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. having suffered a number of losses during the 1776 campaign around New York, on Mar. 17, 1777 the Secretary at War notified the Duke of Argyle, Commander of His Majesty’s Forces, North Britain (i.e. Scotland) that “*His Majesty having been pleased to direct, that the Men raised for the two add<sup>d</sup> Comp<sup>ys</sup> of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot, shall forthwith be sent to Corke & from thence to N<sup>o</sup> America as recruits to compleat the Body of the Reg<sup>t</sup>; I have the honor to acquaint your Grace therewith, that you may be pleased to give the necessary Orders for the immediate Execution of this Service.*” In accordance with those orders, Lt. John Grant escorted about 170 recruits to America. On his return he reported a problem with three of the recruits writing Lord Murray on Aug. 27 that “*...three of them were discharged, being thought old & unfit to undergo the Severities of that Service, I brought them to Portsmouth, there giving them their discharges, with 14 days pay, Agreeable to Colonel [Thomas] Stirlings orders... N.B. the Mens names that was discharged Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leod Duncan Menzies Archibald M<sup>c</sup>Lean.*” One of the rejected men, M<sup>c</sup>Lean, had been recruited by Lt. MacKenzie.

Lt. Col. Stirling must have mentioned the rejected recruits to Lord Murray in a letter dated Oct. 20, 1777 which prompted Lt. MacKenzie to defend his actions in a letter to Lord Murray. MacKenzie wrote Lord Murray on Dec. 28, 1777 that “*... The other Man the Co<sup>l</sup> aludes to is by Name Archibald M<sup>c</sup>Lean, and the only Man of all Inlisted for your Lordships Reg<sup>t</sup> that I could say was past thirty years of age, Co<sup>l</sup> Stirling must have Misunderstood Lieu<sup>t</sup> Grants report of him, that Man was at least eight weeks at Glasgow before the Embarkation of the Draughts, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Grant sent him there being Draughted out of my Recruits for Major [James] Macphersons Company, and both L<sup>t</sup> Grant & L<sup>t</sup> [John] Gregor were present with me in the Town of Hamilton, when he was approven of as a man very fit for Service and past, by L<sup>t</sup> Co<sup>l</sup> Hugonin of the Dragoons, the Passing Return I delivered the same day to Cap<sup>t</sup> [Alexander] Donaldson who, I’m persuaded can Still account for it. There being all unquestionable Facts; I cannot help observing that Co<sup>l</sup> Stirling appears exactly Anxious to find fault with my Conduct, in particular, when he overlooks the other four men found unfitt for Service, without ever Mentioning the other Gentlemen who inlisted them.*”

In Dec. 1777, a Letter of Service to raise a Highland regiment was issued to Col. John, Lord Macleod, son of the attainted Earl of Cromarty and older brother of Capt. Hon. George Mackenzie, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Lt. MacKenzie was selected as the senior Captain for the new regiment which would later be numbered the 73<sup>rd</sup>. His commission as Captain in the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. is dated Dec. 20, 1777 and Lord Murray advised the War Office on Feb. 25, 1778 of MacKenzie’s selection writing “*I was lately inform’d ... from Lieu<sup>t</sup>. George Mackenzie that he is appointed Captain in Lord Macleods Corps...*”

The War Office did not immediately recognize that Lt. MacKenzie was serving in Scotland and send a request to Sir William Howe on Apr. 18 that *"The several Officers mentioned in the enclosed list being intended to be promoted in the Regiment now raising by Lord M<sup>c</sup>Leod, and that Regiment being under orders to embark as soon as possible for the East Indies, I have the honor to signify to you His Majesty's Pleasure that you do permit the said Officers to leave the Army under your command immediately that they may if possible join their regiment before it leaves England....42<sup>nd</sup> Foot Captain George Mackenzie Lieut. George Mackenzie..."* On June 6, 1778 the War Office issued a notice of the formation of the regiment writing *"A Highland regiment of foot. Colonel: John Lord Macleod...Captains...Lieut. George Mackenzie, of 42d foot..."*

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was formed in the spring of 1778 at Fort George and sailed to Portsmouth to prepare for the long voyage to India. Due to a delay in assembling the ships for the voyage to India, in May the regiment sailed for the islands of Guernsey and Jersey where it was stationed for six months before returning to Portsmouth.

On Jan. 25, 1779 Capt. MacKenzie's company embarked in the East India ship *Granby* but did not sail until Mar. 7 as part of the fleet under Adm. Sir Edward Hughes. Following several incidents on-board, Capt. MacKenzie complained of the conduct of the ship's captain John Johnson. After liquor got past MacKenzie's sentries at the island of Madeira off the coast of Portugal, Capt. Johnson drew up regulations for the troops, which MacKenzie read to his men *"...in English and in Erse [Gaelic]."* Later in Table Bay, at Capetown, South Africa, instructions were given to stow some bales of regimental clothing in the hold. One of MacKenzie's officers objected, but the Chief Mate carried out his orders. *"Upon this, Lieu<sup>t</sup>. John Lindsay called out to the Soldiers of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regiment to Arm, and upon the Chief Mate persisting in the execution of his orders, the Lieutenant, John Lindsay, called out, Soldiers, Advance! upon which several of them came up to Mr. John Bevan, Chief Mate, with their drawn Bayonets, and one in particular (by name Barner) pointed his bayonet to Mr. Brevan's breast. An alarm of Mutiny immediately echoed all over the ship..."* Capt. Johnson threatened to have the soldiers removed from his ship and Lord Macleod *"... sent Captain M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie on board at 11 o Clock at night, with orders to repel Force by Force, ..."* Ultimately Adm. Sir Edward Hughes intervened, and the troops were disarmed and the trouble ceased.

After departing Madeira, the fleet sailed to the small island of Goree, off Senegal, on the west coast of Africa. Lord Macleod had received secret orders and instructions to take possession of the island on his way to India, with the forces under his command, assisted by the fleet. Lord Macleod described the event in a letter dated on the East Indiaman *Atlas*, from Goree Bay on May 10, 1779 writing *"...I have the honor to inform you that, in obedience to his Majesty's orders, I proceeded to the Island of Goree, in concert with the squadron under command of Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, and came to an anchor in this bay the 8<sup>th</sup> instant. We found the island evacuated by the French, who had retired to Senegal sometime before our arrival..."*



Plan of the Island of Goree with Fortifications, circa 1772, by Jacobus van der Schley

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

After a three month stay at the Dutch colony at the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, the fleet sailed for India again in Nov. 1779, arriving at Madras (now Chennai) on the east coast of India in Jan. 1780, a full year after they had embarked at Portsmouth. Lord Macleod and his officers were initially accommodated in a house in Fort St. George and the regiment was soon afterwards quartered at Poonamallee, three and a half miles west of the Fort.



Fort St. George, Madras, India, circa 1754 by Jan Van Ryne

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons.

In Oct. 1780 Capt. MacKenzie sent home a lengthy letter from Fort St. George, Madras of his first campaign against the Nabob of Mysore, Haider Ali and his son Tipo Sultan in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anglo-Mysore War (1780-1784) in southwest India. He wrote “... *Christy* [MacKenzie’s wife Christina Munro, daughter of Capt. John Gun Munro of Braemore] *and her two little ones and me are well and have kept perfect good health since we arrived in this country... The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company having for some time been engaged in an expensive and ruinous war against the Marrahtos upon the Malaher coast... the 24<sup>th</sup>. July issued orders for their army to assemble, and take the field, but the army was so detached in small bodies, in distant*

*parts of the country, that was over-run with the enemy, that it was impossible to get them together, however, about the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, they were able to join to our regiment 500 Europeans, 4000 Sepoys and a corps of Artillery of 30 field pieces, this was the whole strength of the Carnatic Army, to be opposed against so formidable an enemy...”*

While in India, MacKenzie was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Major in Aug. 1781 and to Lt. Colonel (in India) in June 1782. That same month the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was again engaged against Nabob Haider Ali's Mysorian army near Arnee and the rearguard of the army consisting of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was attacked by Hyder's troops. The 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was ordered to advance immediately upon the enemy's guns, and after heavy combat, the enemy were soon forced across the river of Arnee. Capt. Hector Munro later told of Maj. MacKenzie's key role in the battle writing that *“they were so closely pursued by the British forces, that seven tumbrils, which had got entangled in the bed of the river, soon became a prize to the spirited and manly exertions of the Honourable Captain James Lindsay, of the seventy-third regiment. He, perceiving a battalion of the enemy's sepoys endeavouring to extricate the tumbrils, judiciously concluded, that, in order to capture them, time was not to be lost in sending for orders; and accordingly pushed forward to them with the greatest celerity at the head of his grenadier company, supported by the rest of the seventy-third, under Major George Mackenzie; and, dispersing the Misorians, quickly made the tumbrils his prize.”*

The War Office announced Maj. MacKenzie's retirement from the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. on Feb. 12, 1785 and in 1791 Maj. MacKenzie was tragically killed near Inverness as a passenger of a coach which upset. Maj. MacKenzie is sometimes confused with Capt. Hon. George Mackenzie (above) of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. who also joined the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. as a Major and with a Lt. Col. George MacKenzie, the son of Sir Lewis MacKenzie of Scatwell, who served in India at the same time as a Major in the 78<sup>th</sup> Regt.

Commissions: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Oct. 26, 1759 (87<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Keith's Highlanders); 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Half-pay May 24, 1763 (87<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. from Half pay Aug. 25, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Mar. 14, 1776 (1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Dec. 20, 1777 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Maj. Aug. 28, 1781 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Brevet-Lt. Col. in India June 12, 1782 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.), Retired Feb. 9, 1785 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.).

**References:** “The Mackenzies of Lochend” in *History of the Mackenzies with Genealogies of the Principal Families of the Name*, Alexander Mackenzie, M. J. I., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1894, Google Books, pp. 448-453; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 24, 1775; TNA, Lt. George MacKenzie to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 1, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/992; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Two letters from Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 15, 1776 at WO 1/993; TNA, Lt. George MacKenzie to Viscount Barrington, Nov. 1, 1776 at WO 1/992; TNA, Viscount Barrington to the Duke of Argyle, Mar. 17, 1777, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/99, f. 282-283; George Gunn Munro to Simon Fraser, Nov. 16, 1775, *Laing Papers* at LA.11.506, Edinburgh University, Special Collections. pp. 56-57; George Mackenzie to Lord John Murray, Dec. 1777, *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lt. George M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, Dec. 30, 1777 at WO 4/101, p. 94; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 25 and Mar. 11 1778 at WO 1/997; Orderly Book, British Headquarters Orders, New York, kept by Lt. Col. Stephen Kemble, Sept. 11-Oct. 24, 1778, Item 69 of Research Publications Inc. *Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817*, Woodbridge CT; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, Apr. 18, 1778, *Guy Carleton, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Dorchester: Papers* at PRO 30/55/10 f. 107003 and WO 4/274, f. 42; *Scots Magazine*, June 1778, p. 334; “List of the Officers of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regim<sup>t</sup> of Foot Commanded by the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Lord John Murray”, *Lord John Murray Papers; New-York Gazette and The Weekly Mercury*, Feb. 10, 1783; *Dictionary of National Biography*, Vol. XXXV, Ed. Sidney Lee, Macmillan and Co., New York, 1893, Google Books, p. 156; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany*, Feb. 1798, p. 158; *History of the Madras Army*, Vol. II, Compiled by Lt. Col. W. J. Wilson, Govt. Press, Madras, 1882, Google Books, pp. 115 and 118; “Testimony of Capt. John Johnson to Government, Feb. 3, 1780” in *Vestiges of old Madras, 1640-1800: traced from the East India company's records preserved at Fort St. George and the India office, and from other sources*, Volume III, Henry Davidson Love, 1913, pp. 168-171; *The Earls of Cromartie, Their Kindred, Country and Correspondence*, Vol. I. William Fraser, Edinburgh, 1876, pp. ccl-ccli; *The Life of General, the Right Honourable Sir David Baird*, Bart. G.C.B. K.C. &c. &c., Vol. I, Richard Bently (Publisher), London, 1832, Google Books, pp. 3-7 “Letter Written by Colonel George MacKenzie, With a Short Account of His Descendants” Alexander W. Mackenzie in *The “Old*

*Northwest*” *Genealogical Quarterly*, 1905, Vol. VII, “Old Northwest: Genealogical Society, Columbus (Ohio), Jan. 1905, Google Books, pp. 33-38; *A Narrative of the Military Operations of on the Coromandel Coast Against the Combined Forces of the French, Dutch, and Hyder Ally Cawn, from the Year 1780 to the Peace in 1784*, Innes Munro, Esq., Capt. in the late 73d or Lord MacLeod’s Regiment of Highlanders, Printed for the Author, London, 1809, Google Books, pp. 279-282; *Gentleman’s Magazine: and Historical Chronicle from January to June, 1825*, Vol. VCV, Sylvanus Urban, Printed by John Nichols and Son, London, 1825, Google Books, p. 478; *London Gazette* for Aug. 13-17, 1782, p. 2, Feb. 8-12, 1785, pp. 1-2 and July 22, 1788, p. 4.





Photo of Amulree and Strathbraan Church (built 1743), by Rob Burke

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Signature Source: Dundee City Archives, *Wedderburn Family of Pearsie Papers* at GD/We/5/12.

**M'Lagan**, Chaplain James. Born at Ballechin, Logierait, Perthshire in 1728, M'Lagan was the son of Dr. Alexander M'Lagan of Little Dunkeld, one of the principal clergymen of the Presbytery of Dunkeld. Educated at St. Andrew's University (1750-51) James M'Lagan was the Church of Scotland minister of a "chapel of ease" in Amulree, Dull Parish, from 1760 to 1764. A "chapel of ease" was a church built to accommodate those living at a distance from the parish church. M'Lagan's brother, George had been an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders during the French and Indian War.

After the French war, during Col. Henry Bouquet's expedition against the Ohio Native America tribes, orders were issued from "Camp at Wackatamacky" on Nov. 4, 1764 that "*His Majesty has been pleased to make the following Promotions in the Army in North America Viz'... 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> James M'Laggan (Clark) to be Chaplain in the Room of Doctor [Adam] Ferguson, who retires...*" Chap. Ferguson was not serving with the regiment in America at the time of his retirement.

The Colonel of the regiment made an unusual condition in his selection of chaplain. M'Lagan had to agree that the arrears, or back pay normally due to a new appointee from a vacancy in the regiment, would not go to him, but rather to the children of former Chap. Lauchlan Johnston who had died serving with the regiment in the West Indies in 1762. Lord Murray retained the stewardship of these funds and was involved in a conflict with Chap. Johnstone's widow over their distribution in 1767. Chap. M'Lagan ended up writing the widow to clarify his involvement and to reject her attempt to hurt his reputation. M'Lagan wrote from Galway, Ireland on Nov. 24, 1767 that "... *I rec<sup>d</sup>. your letter of May 1<sup>st</sup>. Some days*

before I sail'd for Ireland, and was not a little Surprized at the Contents, as I never had any letter from Lord John Murray <sup>^at all</sup> when in America, and as there could be no reason for writing me about these Arrears, after I had given up to Lord John Murray in your favours all the Title I could have to them, and impowered the Agent to Issue them when due, I was also Surprized to find that our Paymaster (Captain Balneavis) had Creidet for part of them. These were the causes why I did not ~~not~~ write you an answer Some weeks Sooner, For indeed <sup>^I did</sup> not know what to Answer; but in the Mean time Refused these Arrears and desired the paymaster <sup>^write the Agent to</sup> put Him in mind <sup>^that</sup> I had no Title to them, which he has accordingly done Sometime ago, and this will Sufficently prove my Integrity in the Matter, whatever my Enemies may think say or do, of this Truth the Agent can Easily Satisfy you if he pleases, and the letter is not Miscarried; which if it should happen, the gentlemen who wrote it can do me Justice.

Notwithstanding all this, I hear that you have mentioned my Name in a Law Suit, by which you intend to contort what was promised, as a voluntary Gift, without any other Title on your Side, the propriety of this Conduct tis not of my Business to Decide, his Lordship is at home & can plead his own cause; But for my own part I was till of very late at above Three Thousand three Hundred Miles Distance, so that you might with Impunity use my Character as you pleased without my hearing so much as known anything of the Matter. A Lady <sup>^then</sup> whose Character there is none more Easily hurt unless it be that of a Clergyman, ought to be Sure that She had some grounds before She Attacked that Cloth; but this could not have been, as it is demonstrable there is none, for what would you have me do what I can do? I never had the Disposal of that money as is Evidient from his Lordships express words in the Conditions upon which he Granted me the Chaplaincy, in a letter dated London Nov<sup>r</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1764 wherein he puts me in mind that his Lordship had formerly at Pitnacrie [in binding] to recommend me to be Chaplain of his Regim<sup>t</sup>; provided that three years of the Arrears, Says his Lordship, from the time you entered [in binding] should be Appropriated towards the Mantinance & Education of the late M<sup>r</sup>. Johnstons Children, In the manner I shall appoint [in binding] I draw that Money make a present of it to you contrary to [in binding] Appointment and be liable to pay it to his Lop: a Second time [in binding] my letter ~~my letter~~ to you or the Agent promise any Such Thing in the other hand, have I drawn that money or come one title [in binding] of my Promise, of not why make my Name a Song in my [in binding] To Conclude I thereby give over to his Lordship, to you, and your Children all the Title I could have to it but his Lordship I [in binding] give you, and as I am not Knave enough to break my [in binding] So neither am I fool enough to pay that money to you [in binding] and then to Lord John Murray. I have got the Shai... [in binding] the Scorn about it already, which is too much, as you have Injured me Publicly, you can do no less than own to the p... [in binding] that it was an injury. If you do not <sup>^this</sup> and cease to injure my Character any further, Remember that you put me [in binding] a necessity of vindicating myself, by laying your Conduct before the Public in it's proper Colour."

When M<sup>c</sup>Lagan became regimental chaplain he was a 34-year old Gaelic scholar and accomplished poet. The Rev. John Kennedy from Arran described M<sup>c</sup>Lagan as "...of fair and ruddy complexion, and was under the middle stature. He was fond of humour, and his dispositions were singularly benevolent. In youth he was remarkable for his skill in athletic exercises." An observer at the Fort Pitt Garrison on Sunday Aug. 24, 1766 recorded that he: "...Went and heard Mr. M'Cleggan preach to the soldiers in Erse [Gaelic] ... He preaches alternately one Sunday in that language, and the next in English..."



*The Church Militant, 1779, by John Collett*

Picture Source: *Prints, Drawings and Watercolors from the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection*. Brown Digital Repository. Brown University Library.

When the Highlanders had just arrived in Ireland in Nov. 1767, Lord John Murray contacted the chaplain about what kind of Gown to get for services asking on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> “...write if you have bought a Geneva Gown Such as the clergy wear at Edinburgh & other places, as it becomes your order, you remember I told you, you was to pay for it yourself ...” M<sup>c</sup>Lagan replied from Galway a few weeks later on the 24<sup>th</sup> that “ ...I bought a gown at Glasgow which not being hardy enough to my mind, I have bought Cloth for another, but [in binding] not how to get it properly made here.”

Godfrey Bosville of Gunthwait (near Sheffield) described a visit by Rev. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan on July 16, 1769 writing ... *I like that M<sup>r</sup>. Maclagan, he seems to me a very Honest man and a very sensible one. I assure you he was very much lik<sup>d</sup> by every body that met with him in our Country and I shall be very glad to see him when ever he comes this way again...*”



Picture Source: *Glasghu facies: a view of the city of Glasgow*, John M'Ure, Oxford University Press, 1872, Google Books, p. 832.

In Jan. 1776, as the regiment was headquartered in Glasgow preparing for the American war, McLagan had his quarters at Saracen's Head Inn, on the Gallowgate, about three blocks from Glasgow Green.

Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan served with the regiment in the American War for Independence, sailing to America on the *Neptune* transport with the General's Company. He was present for the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan, did not take part in the march through New Jersey in June 1778 as he wrote "*In June the British army left Philad<sup>a</sup>...I came round with the fleet which was at Sandy hook a few days before Compte D'Estaing appeared off that place on the 11<sup>th</sup> July...*"

M<sup>c</sup>Lagan described his regimental experience in an Aug. 1778 letter writing, "*Sometimes in deed I live in a house, viz in winter commonly; Sometimes I live in a crowd aboard a ship, sometimes I march & sometimes I live in a tent with a few cloths & linnens, a half dozen books, 2 or 3 blankets, some straw or branches, a bottle & a mug. Having been a few weeks in this camp, I have fixed 4 stakes in the ground on which I have fixed a bit of deal with nails, & on it I now write.*" A "bit of deal" refers to a cheap fir or pine board.

M<sup>c</sup>Lagan was an accomplished Gaelic scholar and in early 1779, the Gaelic Society of London determined to prepare a Gaelic Dictionary and wanted the help of Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan for the project. The Society had a number of Scotland's most influential men including "*The Dukes of Gordon, Buccleugh, Marq<sup>s</sup>. of Graham, L<sup>ds</sup>. Adam Gordon, Fre<sup>d</sup>. Campbell, E. of Eglinton, [and] General [Simon] Fraser...*" A Mar. 3, 1779 letter from Donald M<sup>c</sup>Nicol to Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan discussed the Society's efforts to bring M<sup>c</sup>Lagan back to Scotland. M<sup>c</sup>Nicol wrote in part "... *Is there not Application from the Gaelic Society of London to solicit the Commander in Chief in America for leave for your Honour to come home to forward the Scheme for the Gaelic Dictionary... I have been desired to correspond w<sup>t</sup>. Yon Gentlemen, & to see if you will pledge Yourselves to the Public in general, & to the Gaelic Society in particular, for the Publication of a Gaelic Dictionary...Major [John] Small of the [Royal Highland] Emigrants, a Man of most elegant Taste & amiable Manners, has undertaken, as soon as he shall get to America this Spring, to procure M<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Lagans leave to return, from the Commander in chief in America...*" The Society's request

was successful as M<sup>c</sup>Lagan is shown as “*Absent by Com<sup>s</sup> Off Leave*” in the regimental muster taken at Valentines Hill, New York on July 15, 1780.

On Sept. 15, 1781 Lord John Murray complained to Secretary at War Jenkinson, about a lack of responses to his letters from Maj. Charles Graham, then commanding the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in America. Included as part of the complaint Lord Murray wrote “*I also in my last letter desired to know, how the regiment was Supplied with a Preacher, in the Gallic, ...language, Since M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Lagan left the Regiment to go to Scotland where he now remains, as it is very necessary to have a proper person to do duty with a Highland Corps, in that Language which I have ever taken care to provide since I commanded it years ago.*”

Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan married Catherine Stewart, daughter of the Rev. James Stewart, minister of Killin, in June 1784 and retired from the regiment in Aug. 1787. The next year the Duke of Atholl selected him in for the parish of Blair-Atholl, Perthshire.

M<sup>c</sup>Lagan and his wife had a family of three sons and three daughters. Their eldest son, the Rev. James M<sup>c</sup>Lagan, D. D., was minister of the parishes of Auchtergaven and Kinfauns, in Perthshire, and later the Free Church Professor of Divinity in Aberdeen.

As mentioned above M<sup>c</sup>Lagan was an accomplished Gaelic scholar and he recovered and collected large portions of the poetry of Ossian. In 1805 the Highland Society of Scotland inquired into the nature and authenticity of the poems of Ossian and noted the importance of Rev. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan in their work.

Chap. M<sup>c</sup>Lagan died in 1805, at the age of 77. His wife Catherine died about ten years later on June 2, 1815 at Auchtergaven Manse, about nine miles north of Perth.

Commissions: Chaplain Aug. 11 – effective June 15, 1764; Retired Aug. 8, 1787.

**References:** *Bagshawe Muniments*, I-XI. Correspondence and Papers, V. Lord John Murray (d. 1787) and his Wife Mary, nee Dalton (d. 1765), 5/1/1-460. Correspondence, 1-408. Bound manuscript volume of copies of private letters, pp. 18-24 and 30-34. John Rylands University, Manchester Univ.; *The Orderly Book of Colonel Henry Bouquet's Expedition Against the Ohio Indians*, 1764, Ed. Edward G. Williams, Mayer Press, Pittsburgh, 1960, pp. 43-44; *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh, Aug. 11, 1764, p. 1; [Mathew] Clarkson's Diary, August 6, 1766 - April 16, 1767 in *The New Regime 1675-1767*, Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library Volume XI, British Series Volume II, Eds. Clarence Walworth Alvord and Clarence Edwin Carter, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, 1916, Google Books, pp. 349-352, 353, and 357; *The General Correspondence of James Boswell, 1766 – 1769*, Volume 2: 1768 – 1769, The Yale Editions of the Private Papers of James Boswell, Research Edition, Correspondence: Volume 7, Ed. Richard C. Cole, Peter S. Baker and Rachel McClellan, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1997, pp. 203-204; “MacLagan, The Clans Cuil and Clachane, and the Combat on the Inch of Perth,” R. C. MacLagan, M. D., in *The Celtic Monthly: A Magazine for Highlanders*, No. 8, Vol. IX, May 190, p. 153; “Visitors: Gaelic material on show for conference delegates” by Sarah Hepworth, University of Glasgow Website, Aug. 24, 2012; James McLagan to Hugh McDermad, Camp on Long Island, Aug. 20, 1778, in the *Papers relating mainly to family of Wedderburn of Pearsie, Forfarshire* in the Dundee City Archives at NRAS1921; Dundee City Archives, Donald M<sup>c</sup>Nicol to James M<sup>c</sup>Lagan, Mar. 3, 1779, in the *Wedderburn Family of Pearsie Papers* at GD/We/5/13; “Information Respecting the History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States...” Vol. IV. Henry W. Schoolcraft, Lippincott, Philadelphia. 1854, p. 270; Lord John Murray to Secretary at War Jenkinson, Sept. 15, 1781 at WO 1/1012, p. 45; University of Glasgow Manuscripts Catalogue – Collection; Introduction to a paper titled “Some Unpublished Gaelic ballads from MacLagan MSS. – No. 1,” Rev. John Kennedy, Arran, in *Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness*, Vol. XXI, 1896-97, The Gaelic Society of Inverness, 1899, Google Books, pp. 214-216; *London Gazette*, Aug. 28-Sept. 1, 1787, p. 1; *Report of the Committee of the Highland Society of Scotland Appointed to Inquire into the Nature and Authenticity of the POEMS OF OSSIAN*, Henry Mackenzie, Esq., University Press, Edinburgh, 1805, Google Books, pp. iii-iv; *Scots Magazine*, and *Edinburgh Literary Miscellany*, July 1815, p. 256.





Modern Photograph of Feall Bay, Isle of Coll, by Toby Thurston

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

*Allan M. Lean Lieut.*

**M<sup>c</sup>Lean**, Lt. Allan. M<sup>c</sup>Lean was likely born Apr. 23, 1751, the son of Rev. Hector Maclean, minister of Coll and his wife, Janet Maclean (daughter of Hector Maclean, tackman of Knock). M<sup>c</sup>Lean's grandfather on his father's side was Ewen Maclean of Treshnish (located on the northwest coast of the Isle of Mull). Dr. Samuel Johnson visited Maclean father's house in 1773 writing: *"...From the habitation of Captain Maclean, we went to Grissipol, but called on the way on Mr. Hector Maclean, the Minister of Col, whom we found in a hut, that is, a house of only one floor, but with windows and chimney, and not inelegantly furnished. Mr. Maclean has the reputation of great learning: he is seventy-seven years old, but not infirm, with a look of venerable dignity, excelling what I remember in any other man...He has no public edifice for the exercise of his ministry, and can officiate to no greater number, than a room can contain; and the room of a hut is not very large..."* "Grissipol," near the center of the northwest coast of Coll is now commonly spelled Grishipoll or Greshipoll.

Volunteer M<sup>c</sup>Lean was serving with the 43<sup>rd</sup> Light Infantry Company in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Battalion, when he was appointed Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on Sept. 30, 1776 (effective Aug. 1776) in place of Ens. Alexander Grant, who was promoted to Lieutenant. M<sup>c</sup>Lean served with the line battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. He was promoted to Lieutenant on Aug. 12 in place of Lt. James Campbell. M<sup>c</sup>Lean joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company on Oct. 9, 1778 under Capt. John Peebles.

M<sup>c</sup>Lean served with the Grenadiers until he became sick from the "Ague" (chills and fever that are sometimes symptoms of malaria) and took leave from the regiment to return to Scotland in December 1779. On his way to Scotland, he likely died in a shipwreck and was listed in the June 24, 1781 Grenadier Company muster report as *"Dead 1<sup>st</sup> Jan" 1781.* However, in his journal dated May 27, 1781, Capt. Peebles wrote *"... I hear today some accounts of Lt. Mclean & those that went from here in Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1779, the Report says that they were taken up at sea just as the ship was sinking by a Portugese Vessel & carried to Brasils from whence they are returned to Lisbon..."* It cannot be confirmed if this account by

Capt. Peebles is correct, as M<sup>c</sup>Lean does not reappear in regimental records after being marked as “Drowned.”

Commissions: Ens. Sept. 30. – Effective Aug. 23, 1776; Lt. Aug. 12 – effective Aug. 3, 1778; Lt. Oct. 9, 1778 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Co.); Likely drowned 1779.

**References:** *The Clan Gillean*, Rev. A. Maclean Sinclair, Haszard and Morre, Charlottetown, 1899, pp. 333-334; Biography of Hector Maclean. in *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae, The Succession of Ministers in the Church of Scotland from the Reformation, Volume IV, Synods of Argyll, and of Perth and Stirling*, Hew Scott, D. D., Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, 1923, pp. 108-109; *A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland*, Dr. Samuel Johnson, A. Strahan, London, 1785, Google Books, pp. 278, 280; Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Dec. 28, 1776 at WO 1/993; General Orders, New York, Sept. 30, 1776 and Aug. 12, 1778; *Peebles' Journal* Entry dated Oct. 9 and 31, 1779 and June 24, 1781.



Kilravock Castle, 2006, by Wojsyl

Picture Source: Wikipedia Commons

**M<sup>c</sup>Lean**, Quartermaster Hector. M<sup>c</sup>Lean was born in Scotland around 1746. The Wishart family of Flamborough, Ontario, who are descendants of Quartermaster M<sup>c</sup>Lean, held a stirrup cup marked “C. S.” A stirrup cup was a gift given while departing named for the giver’s feet being in the stirrups. Family tradition describes the cup as being presented to Hector by Prince Charles Edward Stewart (The Young Pretender) the night before the Battle of Culloden which ended the unsuccessful Jacobite Rebellion of 1745-1746. Charles Stewart’s itinerary is well documented and he was known to have spent the evening before the battle six miles to the northeast at Kilravock Castle, the home of Hugh Rose of Kilravock. The Prince had dinner and walked the grounds before returning to the army at Culloden that evening. The relationship of Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean to Hugh Rose of Kilravock is not recorded.

Col. David Stewart’s account of the Reay Highlanders described this officer as “...*Hector Maclean, who had served nearly thirty years in the 42<sup>nd</sup> regiment...*” Accordingly and based on the date of his departure from the regiment, Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean enlisted as a private in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. around 1764. By the time of the American war in 1776 he was a 29-year old Quartermaster Sergeant in Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling’s Company. Although the regimental establishment did not list a specific position of “*Quarter-Master Serjeant*,” the title commonly appears in promotion orders, military journals and manuals during this

period. Capt. Bennett Cuthbertson, in his *System for the Complete Interior management and Oeconomy of a Battalion of Infantry* (1776), wrote of the qualifications of a Sergeant-Major and discusses the seniority of the Quartermaster Sergeant. Cuthbertson noted that “... *the Quarter-master-serjeant only should be allowed to inhabit the room or tent he [the sergeant major] does, as being an inferior staff-officer, and having, as well as the Serjeant-major, business of consequence to transact in the writing-way, in which they may be of assistance to each other.*”

M<sup>c</sup>Lean served with a line battalion in New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. After the regiment returned to New York, General Orders dated Nov. 22, 1778 announced “*The Commander in Chief is pleased to appoint Quarter Master Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean to act as Quarter Master to the 2d Battalion of the 42d Regiment, vice [Ens. James] Stirling.*” Although M<sup>c</sup>Lean was eventually promoted to Quartermaster for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., it was not issued in General Orders until Oct. 25, 1780. Accordingly this 1778 order is likely in error and should have addressed M<sup>c</sup>Lean as “*Quarter-Master Serjeant*” before promoting him to Brevet-Quartermaster of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. In this instance the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was a provisional unit formed in 1776 by splitting the large regiment. It should not be confused with the “*official*” 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion raised in Scotland in 1779-80 by Gen. Lord John Murray and Lt. Col. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod for intended service in South Africa and India.

M<sup>c</sup>Lean continued to serve with the regiment for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779 and the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780. On Apr. 4, 1780 Lt. Col. Stirling sent a letter to Adj. Gen. John Andre, recommending M<sup>c</sup>Lean to be Quartermaster of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to replace Quartermaster Colin Smith who committed suicide on Dec. 20, 1779. Stirling wrote in part “...*This will be delivered to you by M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Lean acting as Q<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> to the nominal 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup>: of the 42<sup>d</sup> in this Country who I beg leave to recommend to His Excellency the Commander in Chief, for the Q<sup>r</sup> Mastership of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> now vacant by the Death of M<sup>r</sup> Smith late Q<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup>, as I know him to be very deserving and very capable for that business...*”

Lt. Col. Stirling’s recommendation was accepted and M<sup>c</sup>Lean was promoted to Regimental Quartermaster on Oct. 25, 1780 with the commission back-dated to Dec. 21, 1779. As Quartermaster, M<sup>c</sup>Lean served in relief attempt for Cornwallis’ army in 1781 and at the end of the war moved with the regiment to Nova Scotia in Oct. 1783.

On April 12, 1794, the War Office announced that “*Quarter-Master Serjeant Donald M<sup>c</sup>Donald to be Quarter-Master, vice M<sup>c</sup>Lean, removed to the Independent Companies...*” and that “*Quarter-Master Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean from the 42d Foot, to be Ensign in Captain [Hon. John] Kennedy’s Independent Company of Foot, vice Shipley, promoted in the 85th Foot.*” The Independent Companies were established mostly for recruiting purposes and were disbanded soon after they were established.

On Feb. 1, 1793 the French Revolutionary government declared war on Great Britain beginning the French Revolutionary Wars. A number of Fencible regiments, which could only serve in Great Britain and later Ireland were raised to defend the island. One of the regiments was raised in the lands of Clan MacKay in Sutherland and named the Reay Fencible (Highland) Regiment of Foot. It was established on Oct. 25, 1794 and named after Hugh, Lord Reay, Chief of Clan Mackay. The Colonel of the regiment was Col. Mackay Hugh Baillie of Rosehall.



Reay Fencibles Shoulder Belt Plate

Picture Source: *An Old Highland Fencible Corps*, Capt. I. H. Mackay Scobie, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, 1914, p. 48.

Ens. M<sup>c</sup>Lean was promoted to Lieutenant in the Reay Fencibles effective Oct. 25, 1794 and the regiment was embodied at Fort George, near Inverness, in March the next year and officially placed on the Establishment on June 18, 1795.

After only a few months drill the regiment marched for Port Patrick in late Oct. 1795 and arrived at Belfast in Northern Ireland in early November. A year later, on Nov. 7, 1796, Regimental Orders announced Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean's first company command in place of a sick Captain stating "*R. O. Lieut. Hector Maclean to be attached to Captain Lamington Baillie's Company, and to have charge of it till further orders.*"





Regimental Uniform of the Reay Fencibles circa 1794 by Capt. I. H. Mackay Scobie

Picture Source: *An Old Highland Fencible Corps*, Capt. I. H. Mackay Scobie, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, 1914, frontispiece.

The Reays remained in and around Belfast for the next two and a half years. While at Belfast a regimental order in 1797 reflected Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean's next promotion indicating "R. O., 29<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>... Capt.-Lieut. H. Maclean is appointed to the Colonel's Company. These appointments and transfers to take place from the 1<sup>st</sup> February." While still at Belfast, the War Office announced M<sup>c</sup>Lean's promotion in the Reay's on Jan. 30, 1798, writing "War-Office, January 30, 1798... Reay Fencible Infantry. Captain-Lieutenant Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean to be Captain, vice MacKay, removed to a Lieutenancy of Invalids on the British Establishment." About three months later the regiment under the command of Lt. Col. George Mackay of Bighouse, left Belfast for Cavan, 88 miles to the southwest.



First set of Colours Issued to the Reay Fencibles

Picture Source: *An Old Highland Fencible Corps*, Capt. I. H. Mackay Scobie, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, 1914, p. 78.

Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean's most significant engagement in Ireland during the rebellion of 1798 was at the Battle of Tara Hill (also Taragh Hill), about 26 miles northwest of Dublin, on May 26, 1798. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland sent a dispatch to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the next day reporting on the battle. He wrote "I have the satisfaction to inform your Grace, that the body of rebels who for some days had been in considerable force to the northward of Dublin, was yesterday defeated with very great loss on their part, by a party of the 'Reay' Fencibles, and the neighbouring yeomanry corps, on the hill of Taragh. Five companies of the 'Reay' Fencibles, under the command of Captain Scobie, had halted



*yesterday at Dunshaughlin, on their march to Dublin, and hearing that the rebels were in great force and had taken a station on Taragh-hill, Captain Scobie detached three of the companies under the command of Captain Maclean, with one field piece, to the spot, who, being accompanied by Lord Fingall and his troop of yeomanry, Captain Preston's and the Lower Kells cavalry, and Captain Molloy's company of yeomanry infantry, attacked the rebels, who, after some resistance, fled in all directions. Three hundred and fifty were found dead in the field this morning, among whom was their commanding officer in his uniform. Many were killed and wounded. Some horses were taken, and a great quantity of arms. The loss on the part of the King's troops was nine rank and file killed and sixteen wounded."*

About three months after the battle of Tara Hill, a French Army contingent of about a thousand soldiers under Gen. Jean Humbert landed at Killala Bay on the northwest coast of Ireland on Aug. 22, 1798. The Reay Highlanders marched for the coast under Gen. Gerard Lake where the French were badly defeated in the battle of Ballinamuck on Sept. 8. Although the Reays were not engaged General Orders dated near St. Johnstown on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> lauded the army conduct stating *"Lord Cornwallis cannot too much applaud the zeal and spirit which has been manifested by the army, from the commencement of operations against the invading enemy until the surrender of the French forces. The perseverance with which the soldiers supported the extraordinary marches which were necessary to stop the progress of the very active enemy does them the greatest credit, and Lord Cornwallis heartily congratulates them on the happy issue of their meritorious exertions..."*

The regimental musters showed Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean assigned to recruiting duty in Scotland in Oct. 1800 and that he returned to join the regiment in Ireland on Dec. 16, 1801. The Reays returned to Scotland in Sept 1802 and were disbanded at Stirling on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> of that year. Some regimental histories imply that Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean went out on Half-pay, but his name is not listed in the annual Army List of 1804.

A Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia land petition from 1809 indicates M<sup>c</sup>Lean obtained land in Canada, but based on his other military service it is not likely he ever occupied the grant. The petition states that the lot *"...on the south-east branch of Sydney River, between the lands of Col. Moore and Sergeant Brown... was formerly occupied by Quarter Master McLean of the 42nd Regiment..."*

Several years after leaving the Reay Fencibles, on May 6, 1809, Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean was appointed Adjutant to the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt., Aberdeen Militia under Col. Alexander Tower. Headquartered in Aberdeen, the 5<sup>th</sup> Regt. was composed of the former Aberdeen Light Infantry, the Gilcomston Light Infantry, Belhelvie, Dyce, Newmachar and Fintray Volunteers. The Militia were disembodied Apr. 24, 1816.

*The Edinburgh Magazine and Literary Miscellany* for Dec. 1820 reported M<sup>c</sup>Lean's death on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> writing *"DEATHS... At Aberdeen, Captain Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean, formerly of the 42d regiment, and late Reay Highlanders."*

Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lean described his family members in his will where he wrote *"Know all Men by these presents That I Captain Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean late of the Reay Highlanders and formerly Quarter Master of the Forty Second or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot... Give Grant and Dispone from me my heirs and Successors to and in favor of M<sup>rs</sup>. Christian Monro or M<sup>c</sup>Lean my Spouse, Donald M<sup>c</sup>Lean, Hugh M<sup>c</sup>Lean, George Gordon M<sup>c</sup>Lean my Sons, Mary M<sup>c</sup>Lean my Daughter..."*

M<sup>c</sup>Lean's remaining daughter Janet married an officer of his original regiment as recorded in the *Scots Magazine* of Sept. 14, 1814. The announcement read *"July 21. At Aberdeen, Lieutenant Alex. Wishart, of the 2d battalion 42d Royal Highland regiment, to Miss Janet M<sup>c</sup>Lean, daughter of Captain Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean, (formerly of the 42d regiment, and the late Reay Highlanders) Adjutant of the 5th regiment A. L."*

*militia.*” Lt. and Mrs. Wishart settled in Flamborough, near Hamilton Ontario after Wishart left the Royal Highlanders.

In his will, M<sup>c</sup>Lean left his gold watch, No. 855, made by Aberdeen watchmaker John Gartly, to his eldest grandson on reaching the age of 25. M<sup>c</sup>Lean also made arrangements in his will for the “*Lands of Temple laud of Auchterless and Kirkhill as now divided...*” Auchterless is located about thirty miles north-northwest of Aberdeen and thirty miles west of Peterhead. Kirkhill is located about seven miles northwest of Aberdeen.

*The Edinburgh Evening Courant* of Sept. 18, 1868 recorded the death of M<sup>c</sup>Lean’s son George writing “*ABERDEEN – DEATH OF DR M<sup>c</sup>LEAN. – We this week record the death of George Gordon M<sup>c</sup>Lean, M D, late Professor of Hebrew in the Marischal College, at the mature age of seventy-three. The deceased was the son of the late Captain M<sup>c</sup>Lean, adjutant in the Aberdeen Local Militia, and who in early life had served in the 42d Regiment... Dr. M<sup>c</sup>Lean was educated at King’s College, and commenced the study of medicine at the Infirmary here when very young. He completed his medical studies in London, and served as assistant surgeon in the 78th Highlanders... Aberdeen Journal*”

Commissions/Appointments: Pvt. to Sgt. 1764 - 1775; Brevet-Quartermaster Nov. 22, 1778 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. - in America); Quartermaster Oct. 25, 1780 – effective Dec. 21, 1779 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Ens. Apr. 4, 1794 (Capt. Hon. John Kennedy’s Independent Company of Foot); Lt. Oct 25, 1794 (Reay Fencible (Highland) Regiment of Foot); Capt. Lt. Feb. 1, 1797 (Reay Highland Fencible Regt.); Capt Jan. 30, 1798 (Reay Fencible Highland Regt.); Disbanded Oct. 13, 1802 (Reay Highland Fencible Regt.); Adjutant, May 6, 1809 (5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Aberdeen Local Militia), Disbanded Apr. 24, 1816 (5<sup>th</sup> Regt. Aberdeen Local Militia).

**References:** “Some Historical and Biographical Notes on Militia within the limits now constituting the County of Wentworth, in the Years 1804, 1821, 1824, 1830, 1838 and 1839, with lists of Officers “H. H. Robertson, in *Journal and Transactions of the Wentworth Historical Society*, Vol. 4, Griffin & Kinder Co., 1905, Google Books, pp. 58-59; *History of Nairnshire*, George Bain, Telegraph Office, Nairn, 1893, Google Books, pp. 352-353; *Sketches of the Character, Manners and Present State of the Highlanders of Scotland with Details of the Service of the Highland Regiments*, Vol. II, Col. David Stewart, Archibald Constable & Co., Edinburgh, 1822, p. 387; General Orders, New York, Nov. 22, 1778 and Oct. 25, 1780; Thomas Stirling to John Andre, Apr. 4, 1780 in *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 91:30, William L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; *London Gazette*, Apr. 8-12, 1794, pp. 1-2, June 2, 1795, pp. 9-10 and Sept. 22-26, 1795, pp. 3-4; *Lineage Book of the British Army; Mounted Corps and Infantry, 1660-1968*, John Bassett Moore Frank, Hope Farm Press, 1969, Google Books Snippet, p. 314; Land petition for Michael Kerry, No. 492, 1809 Land Petitions, Cape Breton Island petitions 1787-1843, *NSARM microfilm: 15790; An Old Highland Fencible Corps*, Capt. I. H. Mackay Scobie, William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, 1914; pp. 7, 27, 34, 80-83, 104-106; *The Reay Fencibles or Lord Reay’s Highlanders*, John Mackay, Clan MacKay Society, Glasgow, 1890, Google Books, pp. 13-15, 34-41 and 44; *London Gazette*, Sept. 22-26, 1795, pp. 3-4 and Jan. 27-30, 1798, p. 89; TNA, “*English Half-Pay List*,” Army List for 1804, *War Office, Printed annual army lists* at WO65/54, pp.483-485; “Local Militia: Aberdeenshire, 1808-1816” in *Territorial Soldiering in the North-East of Scotland during 1759-1814*, John Malcolm Bulloch, Printed for the University, Aberdeen, 1914, pp. 370-383; Will Extract Registered “*Trust Deed of Settlement of Captain Hector M<sup>c</sup>Lean At Aberdeen the eleventh day of February in the year One Thousand Eight hundred and Twenty six...*”, *Edinburgh Commissary Court* at CC8/8/147; *Edinburgh Magazine and Literary Miscellany*, Edinburgh, Dec. 1820, Google Books, p. 575; *Scots Magazine, and Edinburgh Literary Miscellany*, Edinburgh, Sept. 14, 1814, Google Books, p. 716; *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, Sept. 18, 1868, p. 8 (from the *Aberdeen Journal*).



**MacLeod**, Lt. Alexander. On Aug. 29, 1775 Secretary at War Viscount Barrington wrote to Lord John Murray that King George III “...*having been pleased to direct that the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot under your Command, shall be further augmented with two additional Companies to be raised in Great Britain... I have the honor to send your Lordship a list of Officers appointed from half Pay to One of the additional Companies... 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment. Captain Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of the late 89<sup>th</sup> Foot... Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Leod ...*” MacLeod’s commission was issued Aug. 15, 1775, and although the letter implies MacLeod came from Half-pay, it is likely only referring to Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, as the Succession Book refers to no previous service for MacLeod. There is a minor conflict regarding MacLeod’s Ensigny date. While the Annual Army List for 1776 and later years list the date as Aug. 25, 1776, the Commission Book shows the date as “15<sup>th</sup>. Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1775.”

On Dec. 17, 1775 Capt. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod, 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt., wrote to his Colonel, Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser, to recommend a lieutenancy for a friend’s relation indicating “... [Hugh MacLeod of] *Geanies lately begged a lieutenancy for a relation of his, Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. MacLeod of the 42<sup>d</sup>. who is next heir to MacLeod of Cadbol. I beg leave to join my wishes to his that you may find it convenient to grant it.* – [Robert Bruce Aeneas MacLeod] *Cadbol is a delicate boy of 12 years old: if he dies, this young gentleman immediately becomes a man of very considerable consequence in the highlands: but if he lives, a favour done to so near a connection will infinitely oblige the whole tribe. – Another circumstance you may depend on; that few people is more likely to succeed in recruiting...*”

Capt. MacLeod was unsuccessful in getting a Lieutenancy for Alexander MacLeod in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders and the Ensign was assigned to one of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment’s Additional Companies that remained in Scotland on the Recruiting Service. However, before the regiment sailed in late April 1776, MacLeod was reassigned to Capt. Archibald Erskine’s Company and travelled to America with the regiment on the transport *Bowman*. MacLeod served with a line battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777.

MacLeod advanced to Lieutenant in Apr. 1777 when Lt. William Graham retired and MacLeod was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company on May 22, 1777. His Lieutenancy was the subject of some controversy when the War Office forwarded a copy of a letter from Lt. John Campbell’s father to the Secretary at War dated “*Arditignach 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1777.*” Campbell’s father claimed that “*The Date of my Son’s Commission as Ensign was altered by your Lordship from the 29<sup>th</sup> August 1775, to the 10<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, yet by Lord John Murray & Mess<sup>rs</sup> Anderson & Richardson /Agents for the Reg<sup>t</sup> / their neglecting to inform Sir William Howe or L<sup>t</sup> Colo: [Thomas] Stirling who Commands the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. of the date of my Son’s Commission, Ensign Alex<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Leod who was a younger Ensign by 15 days got a Lieutenancy in the Reg<sup>t</sup>., without purchase, also Ensign Rob<sup>t</sup>. Rollo who was still a younger Ensign than M<sup>c</sup>Leod got a Lieutenancy in the Reg<sup>t</sup>., both over the head of my Son, and now I am obliged to pay £550. Sterling for a Lieutenancy for my Son, to Lieut: [Valentine] Chisholm who has sold out of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. which is a great hardship upon me, and now altho’ I do not in the least expect to procure for my Son the Lieutenancy which M<sup>c</sup>Leod got without purchase, yet I flatter myself that your Lordship will be graciously pleased to procure Rank for my Son of Lieut. M<sup>c</sup>Leod, it being his right as an older Ensign in the Reg<sup>t</sup>. than M<sup>c</sup>Leod.*” The King directed Campbell’s Ensigny be backdated to Aug. 10, 1775, but no change was made to MacLeod’s Lieutenancy.

MacLeod remained with the Light Infantry for the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778 before transferring back to a line battalion in 1778. The Dec. 28, 1778 company musters have conflicting dates for the transfer, with the Lt. Infantry Company indicating the transfer occurred on Aug. 2 and Capt. Dalrymple’s Company indicating he was received on Oct. 19. MacLeod remained with a line battalion

for the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia and the occupation of Stony Point, New York in 1779 and the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in 1780.

After the successful Charleston siege, Gen. Sir Henry Clinton issued orders on May 13, 1780 directing that *"As several of the Arms taken in Charlestown have been brought into Camp, The General desires the Commanding Officers of Corps will cause a strict Search to be made for them and return them to the Artillery Store in Charlestown ..."* Two days later, on May 15, as the muskets were being loaded into the storehouse on Magazine Street, a major explosion occurred, killing over 30 men including Lt. MacLeod and two privates of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. At least two reasons for the explosion were given. Loyalist Lt. Allaire recorded in his diary that *"... 'tis supposed by throwing the captured arms into the magazine, one went off, and set fire to the powder."* The tradition of the Amory family of South Carolina documented the cause to be that *"The British officers had the privilege offered them, to go there and select any gun, sword or pistols, that they thought proper to take. While many of them were there engaged in selecting choice arms, the magazine was blown up with a tremendous explosion... One elderly officer was very much injured, but escaped with his life. He represented, that the young officers were carelessly snapping the fire arms, in selecting their pieces, and then throwing them down as carelessly, when they went on to examine others. He also stated that he had cautioned them against doing so, as some of the pieces were loaded, and loose powder scattered about on the floor; that he had left the magazine hastily, from an apprehension of danger from this source, and had only escaped from the enclosure, when he was overwhelmed by the ruins."*

MacLeod can be confused with a Half-pay Lieutenant of the late 87<sup>th</sup> Regt. with the same name that Lord Murray recommended for a Lieutenancy in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. during the augmentation in Feb. 1776. That officer, however, did not join the regiment.

Commissions: Ens. Aug. 15, 1775; Lt. Apr. 22, 1777; Killed May 15, 1780.

**References:** TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Aug. 29, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 217-218; TNA, *War Office, Commission books, Series I, 1773-1775* at WO 25/32, p. 245; *Laing Papers*, Edinburgh University, Special Collections at LA.11.506, item 77; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, Nov. 19, 1777 enclosing Lt. John Campbell to Viscount Barrington Nov. 1, 1777 at WO 4/274, p. 36 (f. 19); TNA, Sir William Howe to Lord Barrington, Apr. 2, 1778, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/10, p. 333 (f. 166); *Diaries of Two Ansbach Jaegers*, Trans. and Ed. Bruce E. Burgoyne, Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie Maryland, 1997, p. 150; General Orders, New York, Apr. 24, 1780 and at Charlestown Neck, May, 13, 1780; "Dairy of Lieut Anthony Allaire" in *King's Mountain and Its Heroes*, Lyman C. Draper, Peter G. Thompson, Cincinnati, 1881, Google Books, p. 495; "Tradition of the Amorys" in *Tradition and Reminiscences Chiefly of the American Revolution in the South*, by Joseph Johnson, M.D., Walker & Kames, Charleston, 1851, Google Books, pp. 274-275.



Dunvegan Castle on the Isle of Skye, from the Gardens, 2004 by Saintchris

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

*Normand MacLeod Lt.*

**MacLeod**, Lt. Normand. Known in Clan histories as Normand MacLeod of Cyprus, MacLeod was born in Edinburgh in 1740 and was one of two illegitimate sons of Norman MacLeod, 22<sup>nd</sup> Chief of Clan MacLeod whose seat was at Dunvegan Castle on the Isle of Skye. Lt. MacLeod was the uncle of the Chief's grandson and heir, Capt. Norman MacLeod (23<sup>rd</sup> of MacLeod) of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt., who later became Lt. Colonel of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Lt. MacLeod's granddaughter, Mrs. John MacDonald, provided notes on the early life of her grandfather to a nineteenth-century author. She indicated "*Norman MacLeod (Cyprus) was born in Edinburgh about 1740. His father was Norman MacLeod ...of Dunvegan, and his mother an Edinburgh lady, who loved the gallant Chief of MacLeod "not wisely, but too well," Young Norman was brought up in Glenelg, and received a good education. As a youth he went to the Island of Cyprus, where he lived for seven years. He held a good appointment there, and was on the way to preferment when he was recalled by his father, who had meanwhile purchased a commission for him in the army...*" Glenelg is located near the Kylerhea River (separating Skye from the mainland) about fifty miles west of Fort Augustus.

On Nov. 4, 1761, Normand MacLeod was commissioned a Lieutenant in the 105<sup>th</sup> Regt., a two battalion regiment raised by Col. David Græme of Gorthy and known as the Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Highlanders. After it was assembled, both battalions were ordered to Ireland, where they served until disbanded in 1763. Lt. MacLeod went out on Half-Pay when the 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. was disbanded and is listed on the Irish Half-pay list of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 105<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. in the Army List. MacLeod was noted as living at Dunvegan in Oct. 1763.



MacLeod was brought back to active service to an Additional Company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Aug. 1775 as the regiment increased its strength for the war in America. Another officer of the same name was brought back from Half-pay at the same time as explained in a letter from Secretary at War Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray dated Oct. 11, 1775 which explained "... *I am further to observe to your Lordship, that there are Two Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leods appointed Lieutenants, both from Half pay; One of the late 105<sup>th</sup> and one from the reduced Lieutenants of the 69<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> ...*" However, the other Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Leod, formerly of the 69<sup>th</sup> Regt., declined his commission ending the confusion.

MacLeod likely lived near Kilmuir, a few miles from Dunvegan Castle on the Isle of Skye, home of his nephew, clan chief Norman MacLeod of MacLeod. Gen. Lord John Murray's letter to Lord Barrington on Oct. 10, 1775 noted that he had "...*given out Lieu<sup>t</sup> Norman Macleod in Regimental orders, and have wrote him to Dunvegan in the Isle of Skye, that he may begin to Recruit directly.*"

Just a few weeks before the regiment sailed for America, on Apr. 2, 1776 Lord John Murray, wrote to the Secretary at War to advise him of a change to MacLeod's assignment. Lord Murray wrote "... *As Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Dougal Campbell [of Craignish] of the Battalion, is Extremely ill at Edinburgh, and not fit to Serve abroad at present, have moved him to the Additional in place of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Norman Macleod.*"

After arriving in America in the summer of 1776, the Royal Highlanders were split into two smaller battalions. MacLeod was the senior Lieutenant of Maj. William Grant's Company in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion and served in the New York campaign of 1776. MacLeod was wounded at the Battle of Fort Washington, New York, on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> as described in a March 13, 1777 letter from Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling to Lord Murray. Stirling praised the Lieutenant for his steadiness after being wounded writing "...*I believe I did not mention to your Lordship the Bravery & coolness of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leod, which ought not to be omitted, he happened to be wounded in the Boat before he Landed, by a Shot through the body but least the men should be intimidated he said nothing of it but Landed with his men, when he could go no further, he is now in a fair way of recovery.*" Later, Gen. David Stewart of Garth used MacLeod's wound to demonstrate the steepness of the heights scaled by the regiment in the attack on Fort Washington in Nov. 1776. Stewart wrote "*This hill was so perpendicular, that the ball which wounded Lieutenant Macleod, entering the posterior of his neck, ran down on the outside of his ribs, and lodged in the lower part of his back.*" MacLeod recovered to serve in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778 and the Raid on Portsmouth, Virginia in 1779.

Around March 1778, MacLeod and Lt. John Robertson, who had come off Half-Pay at the same time as Lt. Alexander Munro, sent an undated memorial to Gen. Sir William Howe to address their grievance that Munro's commission incorrectly predated their commissions and that he had been considered junior to them before arriving at Staten Island in 1776.

In Oct. 1779 Lt. Col. Stirling recommended MacLeod for a company in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. that was soon to be raised in Scotland. Stirling wrote to Lord John Murray saying "...*I'm afraid you will find it difficult to raise the Men, nor do I believe the officers here can benifit much from it being at Such a Distance if the Laird of MacLeod would undertake to raise a company for Lieu<sup>t</sup> Norman MacLeod it would be Serving him Essentially.*" The "*Laird of MacLeod*" in this letter was Lt. Col. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and Lt. MacLeod's nephew.



Reproduction 71<sup>st</sup> (Fraser's) Highland Regt. Officer's Uniform Button

Although MacLeod did not join the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., he did leave the regiment when he was promoted to Capt. Lieutenant in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders). After the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. joined the siege of Charleston, South Carolina MacLeod's advancement was announced in General Orders dated Apr. 18, 1780 (effective back to Aug. 25, 1779). MacLeod took the place of Capt. Lt. Harry Munro, formerly of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., who was promoted to Captain. After just a week with his new regiment, MacLeod was wounded during the Charleston siege as described by Capt. Peter Russell of the 64<sup>th</sup> Regt. who mis-identified MacLeod's regiment when he wrote "*Ap<sup>l</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Wind S. W. a fair day and very hot. About 1 oclock in the Morn<sup>g</sup> a most tremendous Fire of Cannon Shells and Musquetry commenced from the Trenches and the Rebel Works and continued about half an Hour. it proceeded from an Alarm being given by our working Party who were running their Sap to the Ditch, that the Enemy were making a Sortie, but it proceeded no further than their forming behind their first abbatis. an Ensign M<sup>c</sup>Gregor of the 71<sup>st</sup> was killed, Cap<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Cloud of the 42<sup>d</sup> was wounded, three killed and 15 wounded on this Occasion. It is feared that our Troops in the right Trenches fired on our working Party, mistaking them upon their hurrawing (which was the Signal they were ordered by [Hessian] Gen<sup>l</sup> Kospoth to give on the approach of an Enemy, and retire to their Arms) for the Rebels. The whole Line was under Arms but returned to their Tents about two oclock.*" The severity of MacLeod's wound was not recorded, and his service in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders' southern campaign is not well documented.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. under Maj. Archibald M<sup>c</sup>Arthur, was heavily engaged and captured in Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's defeat at the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina on Jan. 17, 1781. All the officers present at Cowpens have been documented and MacLeod is not listed as present at the battle. A letter from Lt. Lachlan M<sup>c</sup>Lean to Capt. Murdoch M<sup>c</sup>Laine, both of the 84<sup>th</sup> Regt., dated Feb. 14, 1781, places MacLeod in Charleston around that time when he wrote "*...Be so good as give my Compliments to Cap<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Leod of the 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. tell him I am very Sorry I did not see him the Day he came to town...*"

General Orders dated Feb. 8, 1781 promoted MacLeod to Captain in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. in place of Capt. Charles Campbell, who had died Sept. 18, 1780.

On Sept. 10, 1782, General Orders in New York split the two-battalion 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. into two separate Regiments with one being called the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. and the other styled the "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt." A list was issued of Captains for each regiment that read in part "*Distribution of the Officers of the late Lieutenant General Fraser's Regiment into the 71<sup>st</sup> Stirlings / and Second 71<sup>st</sup> (Balcarres's)... Second 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment ...Captains... Norman McLeod 25 Aug '79...*" The officers of Maj. Gen. Stirling's 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. remained in America while the officers of the new "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup>", including Capt. MacLeod, were directed to return to Britain "*...by the first opportunity. The "List of Ships bound to England under the direction of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Arnold & under the Convoy of His Majestys Ship Adement..*" dated Nov. 19, 1782 in Charleston included the transport *Moor* to carry the officers of the "2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment." Capt. MacLeod retired from the 2<sup>nd</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. in Feb. 22, 1783.

MacLeod's granddaughter provided additional notes on his life after the army and his 1784 marriage indicating "*Captain MacLeod married for his first wife Jessie, daughter of "MacLeod of Ellanriach," Glenelg. About a year after his marriage he and his wife accepted an invitation to visit their friends at*

*Talisker; and a boat was engaged to convey them there. Along with Captain MacLeod and his wife were his sister-in-law ... The boat struck on a sunken rock, split, and the occupants were thrown into the water. Captain MacLeod seized an oar, and endeavoured to get hold of his wife. Having succeeded, as he thought, he said: "Are you Jessie?" And the lady answered "Yes." They were for three-quarters of an hour in the water. At length his sister-in-law (for it was she, and not his wife, he was supporting, without his knowing it) said: – "I am not Jessie. " I am becoming exhausted. We shall certainly be drowned. Let me go." This, however, he refused to do, saying that it was now too late to undo what had been done. In the meantime the accident was observed from Talisker House; and, after some delay, a boat was launched, which reached them in time to save them all from drowning, but, alas! Captain MacLeod's young wife died from exhaustion that same night. For many years after her death he remained a widower. When well advanced in years, however, he married for his second wife Jessie, daughter of James MacDonald of Knockow, son of Alexander Macdonald, the worthy bailie of Kingsburgh. Jessie Macdonald was twenty-two years of age when she married Captain MacLeod. She was a beautiful woman of middle height and dark-haired. Her mother was Margaret MacLeod, a sister of Major MacLeod, Bailemeanach.*

*Mrs. MacLeod (Cyprus) died at Keill, Eigg, in 1846, aged eighty-eight years, in the house of her granddaughter, Mrs. John MacDonald, from whose narration this information has been written down.*

*Captain MacLeod lived at Musselburgh for some time after his marriage, and he and his wife associated while there a good deal with his half-sister, Lady Pringle. He resided for about five years in Dunvegan Castle, where he had apartments. For a few years before his death, however, he lived near Dunvegan. His widow made her home at Stein for many years before removing to the Island of Eigg.*

*There were born to Captain MacLeod by his second wife one son, who died young, and four daughters, viz. :-*

- (1.) Elizabeth, who married the Reverend Roderick MacLean, minister of South Uist;*
- (2.) Margaret, who married Donald Calder, teacher in Troternish;*
- (3.) Alexandra, who married -- C-owan, Skye... and emigrated to America; and*
- (4.) Matilda"*

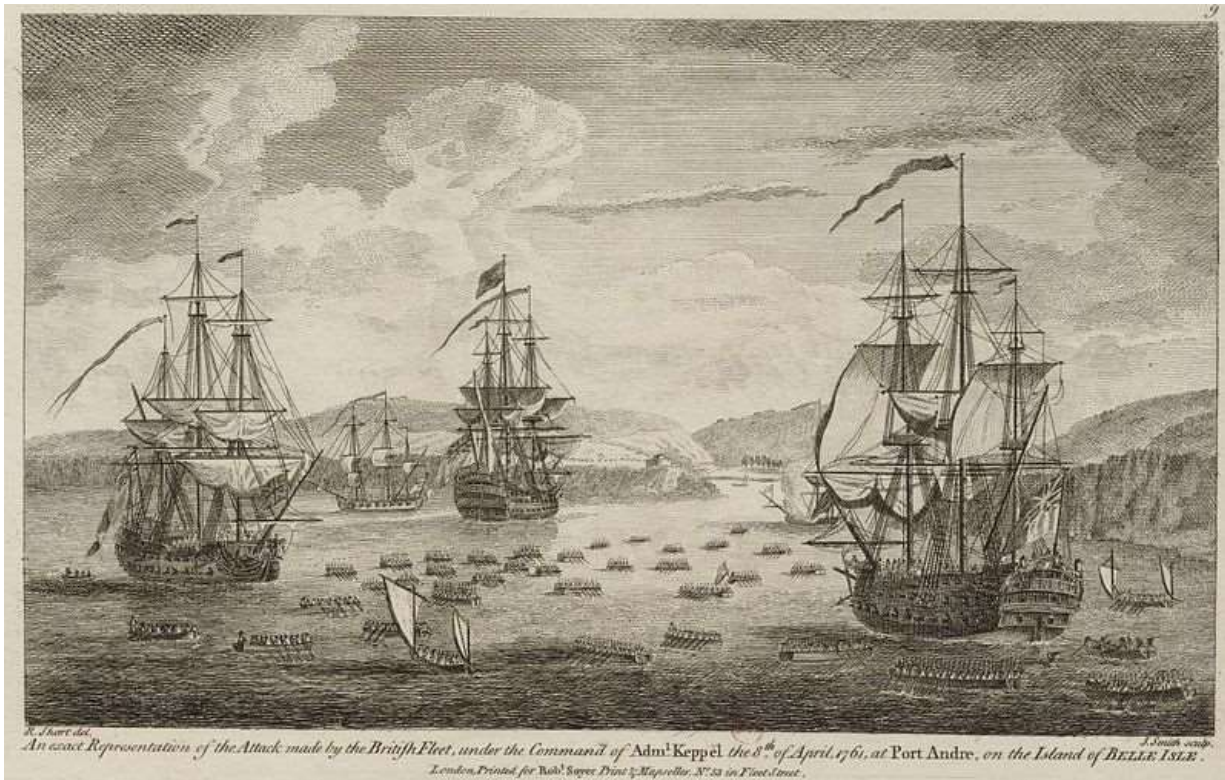
*MacLeod's boating accident was also recorded in The Scots Magazine for March 1785, which wrote, "By a letter from Skye we have an account, that as Capt. Norman Macleod, late of the 71st regiment, was going, on Feb. 8. in a boat with his wife, whom he had lately married, and her sister, upon a visit to some friends; the boat struck upon a sunken rock when she filled and upset. The Captain got hold of an oar, where he remained with his wife and her sister near two hours, when they were all three taken up by a boat from the shore. Every effort was tried, but unfortunately in vain, to recover Mrs Macleod."*

*The Edinburgh Annual Register for 1809 recorded Capt. Macleod's death on Apr. 30 writing "...At Kilmuir, Skye, Captain Norman Macleod, late of the 71st foot..."*

Commissions: Lt. Nov. 4, 1761 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Queen's Own Royal Regt. of Highlanders); Lt. Irish Half-pay 1763 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Lt. from Half-pay Aug. 31, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Lt. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Aug. 25, 1779 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Feb. 8, 1781 – effective Sept. 18, 1780 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn. 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Sept. 10, 1782 – effective April 25, 1782 (2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regt.); Retired Feb. 22, 1783.

**References:** *The Brave Sons of Skye*, Lt. Col. John MacInnes, V.D., Eyre and Spottiswoode, London, 1899, Google Books, pp. 85-86; NRS, Normand MacLeod to Robert Gardiner, Oct. 25, 1763, *Papers of the Smythe Family of Methven, Perthshire* at GD190/3/319/33; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Oct. 10, 1775 and Apr. 2, 1776, War Office, In-letters at WO 1/993; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, Mar. 13, 1777; *Stewart's Sketches*, Vol. I, p. 387; TNA, Sir William Howe to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 26, 1778 at WO 1/10, p. 411 (f. 205) and p. 431 (f. 215), memorial also filed at WO 34/188; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray, Oct. 27, 1779, *Lord John Murray Papers*; General Orders, William's House, South Carolina, Apr. 18, 1780 and at New York, Feb. 8, 1781; TNA,

*Courts Martial Proceedings*, WO71/91, pp. 150-153; *Royal Gazette*, Feb. 21, 1781; “The Siege of Charleston; Journal of Captain Peter Russell, December 25, 1779, to May 2, 1780,” *The American Historical Review*, Vol. IV, No. 3, April, 1899, Google Books, p. 500; *Edinburgh Annual Register for 1809*, Vol. Second – Part Second, James Ballantyne and Co., Edinburgh, 1811, Google Books, p. 327. *London Gazette* for July 15, 1780 p. 5 and Mar. 15-18, 1783, p. 1; NRS, *MacLaine of Lochbuie Muniments* at GD.174/2156; *71st Fraser Highland Regiment in the American War of Independence*, Ed Brumby, Anchorprint Group Ltd., Leicester, 2012, p. 104; TNA, Court Martial of Lt. Anthony Allaire, *War Office, Court martials* at WO71/93, pp. 287-311 as shown on the website of The On-Line Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies; “*Distribution of the Officers of the late Lieutenant General Fraser’s Regiment into the 71st Stirlings / and Second 71st (Balcarres’s)*” dated approx. Feb. 13, 1782 in the *Carleton Papers* Doc. 4521(1); TNA, Sir Guy Carleton to Secretary at War, Providing List of Officers of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. and “2d 71st” Regts., Oct. 7, 1782 at WO 1/12, pp. 251, 255 and 259 (ff.126, 128 and 130); TNA, *War Office, Out-letters* at W04/275, pp. 170-172 (ff. 87-88); TNA, *Papers of Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester* at PRO 30/55, No. 10026; *Scots Magazine* for Mar. 1785, p.155 and July 3, 1781 pp. 2-3; *Stewart’s Sketches*, Vol. II, 1825 edition, pp. 363-364.



Attack and Capture Belle Isle in 1761 by the English fleet during the Seven Years' War.

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**M<sup>c</sup>Leod of Ferinlea**, Lt. Norman. Lt. Macleod was the son of Roderick Macleod, 6<sup>th</sup> of Ferinlea (also Fernilea), an estate on the Isle of Skye located on the south side of Loch Harport.

On May 19, 1759, M<sup>c</sup>Leod received his first commission as Ensign in the 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Col. Hon. Charles Colville's Foot), which was raised for the Seven Years War. The 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. was included in the landing to seize Belle Isle, an island off west coast of France, near Saint-Nazaire, on Apr. 7, 1761. He received his Lieutenancy by a commission granted by his colonel, Maj. Gen. Charles Colville, at Belle Isle on June 2, 1761, “...for the present expedition, or until His Majesty's pleasure is known.” M<sup>c</sup>Leod went out on Half-Pay at the end of the war in 1763.

During Dr. Samuel Johnson's famous tour of the Hebrides, he and James Boswell visited Lt. MacLeod about Sept. 25, 1773. Boswell described the visit writing “... We had good weather, and a fine sail this

day. The shore was varied with hills, and rocks, and corn-fields, and bushes, which are here dignified with the name of natural wood. We landed near the house of Fernilea, a farm possessed by another gentleman of the name of Macleod, who, expecting our arrival, was waiting on the shore, with a horse for Dr. Johnson. The rest of us walked. At dinner I expressed to Macleod the joy which I had in seeing him on such cordial terms with his clan. 'Government,' said he, 'has deprived us of our ancient power; but it cannot deprive us of our domestic affections. I would rather drink punch in one of their houses (meaning the houses of his people), than be enabled by their hardships, to have claret in my own.' – This should be the sentiment of every chieftain. All that he can get by raising his rents, is more luxury in his own house. Is it not better to share the profits of his estate, to a certain degree, with his kinsmen, and thus have both social intercourse and patriarchal influence?"

M<sup>c</sup>Leod returned to active duty in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1775 and another officer of the same name (above) was brought back from Half-pay at the same time as explained in a letter from the Secretary at War to Lord John Murray dated Oct. 11, 1775 which explained "... I am further to observe to your Lordship, that there are Two Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leods appointed Lieutenants, both from Half pay; One of the late 105<sup>th</sup> and one from the reduced Lieutenants of the 69<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> ..."

Gen. Lord Murray placed an advertisement in the Oct. 24, 1775 edition of the *Edinburgh Advertiser* to find some newly appointed officers writing "ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT. WHEREAS the KING has been pleased to appoint an additional LIEUTENANT to each company of the 42d, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under my command, and their notifications having accordingly been issued from the war office, amongst others, for Lieutenant Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leod from half-pay, 69 foot... These gentlemen are desired forthwith to write to me, and to the Commanding Officer of the said regiment at Glasgow, a proper direction where they now are, and where they wish to be stationed, in order that recruiting instructions, and levy-money may be sent them, and what other orders are necessary for recruiting..."

Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Leod, however, declined to accept his commission and the War Office notified Lord Murray of a replacement in a letter dated Dec. 16, 1775 which stated "... I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> instant, and to acquaint you that Lieu<sup>t</sup> James Cameron of the late 101<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> is appointed a Lieutenant in the 42<sup>d</sup>. (or Royal Highland) Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot under your Lordship's Command, in the room of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Norman M<sup>c</sup>Leod."

M<sup>c</sup>Leod returned to the Half-Pay list of the late 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. without further active service. *The Gentleman's Magazine* for Oct. 1797 reported his death writing "[August] 28. At Gruel, in the island of Sky, Norman Macleod, esq. Late of the 69th foot." His obituary noted MacLeod was "...A gentleman possessed of many amiable qualities, and deservedly regarded by all his friends and acquaintances. A sacred regard to truth, which he was never known to violate, could ever induce him to swerve, a generous and manly openness of heart, combined with a placid serenity of temper; these principles formed the tenour of his conduct and were distinguishing features of his character."

Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Leod is sometimes confused with Lt. Normand MacLeod (Cyprus) above and with Ens. Norman MacLeod, younger of Talisker, who served as an Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. during the French and Indian War and was promoted into the 80<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Gage's Light Infantry).

Commissions: Ens. May 19, 1759 (69<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Colville's Foot); Lt. June 2, 1761 (69<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Half-Pay 1763 (69<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Aug. 25, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. – declined); Lt. Half-Pay Dec. 16, 1775 (69<sup>th</sup> Regt.).

**References:** *The Associated Clan MacLeod Societies Genealogical Resources*, The Associated Clan MacLeod Societies, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2000; *Scottish Exodus: Travels Among a Worldwide Clan*, James Hunter, Random House, New York, 2011, Google e-book; Army List for the 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. for the Years 1759 and 1763 in *A Narrative of*



*the Historical Events Connected with the Sixty-Ninth Regiment*, William F. Butler, W. Mitchell & Co., London, 1870, Google Books, pp. 117, 118; TNA, Half-pay list of the 69<sup>th</sup> Regt. in the *War Office, Printed Annual Army List* for 1767 at WO65/17; *The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D. and the Journal of His Tour to the Hebrides*, Vol. V, James Boswell and Ed. Henry Morley, George Routledge and Sons, New York, 1885, Google Books, pp. 184-185; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Oct. 24, 1775; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Dec. 16, 1775 at WO 4/95, p. 221 (f. 111); *Gentleman's Magazine*, Sylvanus Urban, London, Oct. 1797, Google Books, p. 891; *Brave Sons of Skye*, Lt. Col. John MacInnes, Eyre and Spottiswoode, Edinburgh, 1899, Google Books, p. 149.



**McNiven**, Ens. Donald. Born about 1761, McNiven (also sometimes listed as McNevin) was initially commissioned Ensign on July 28, 1779 in the Western Regt. of Fencible Men (Argyle Fencibles). This regiment was raised by Lord Frederick Campbell for duty in Great Britain only and embodied in Glasgow in Apr. 1778. McNiven advanced to Lieutenant in that regiment in Feb. 1780.

McNiven resigned from the Western Fencibles in Nov. 1781 and was serving in the Royal Highlanders in America as a Volunteer when he was commissioned Ensign in May 1782 in place of Ens. James Alston who was promoted. Ens. McNiven served in Capt. John Smith's Company and travelled with the regiment to Nova Scotia at the end of the American War in Oct. 1783. After service in Nova Scotia he returned to Portsmouth, England with the regiment in Oct. 1789.

On Nov. 27, 1790 the War Office announced McNiven's Lieutenancy in place of Lt. James Stewart who was promoted and McNiven is noted as being on recruiting service on the Isle of Mull in 1791. While stationed at the Castle in Edinburgh, Lt. McNiven married Katherine Heriot, daughter of Mr. Thomas Heriot from Edinburgh, on Oct. 20, 1791.

Four years later, on July 4, 1795, the War Office announced "*Colonel Nicolls's Regiment. To be Captains...Lieutenant Donald McNiven, from the 42d Foot...*" Col. Oliver Nicoll's Regt. would later be titled the 4<sup>th</sup> West India Regt. McNiven spent about a year assigned to Nicoll's Regt. but there were a significant number of officer absences in the regiment. Only eleven officer were present with the regiment at a Muster taken Nov. 11, 1795. Ten months after that muster, in Sept. 1796, McNiven obtained a Company in the 63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt.



A 19th-century painting depicting the battle of Bergen, 1799

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

While serving with the 63<sup>rd</sup> Regt., M<sup>c</sup>Niven was wounded at the Battle of Bergen, Holland on Oct. 2, 1799 and was promoted to Major in that regiment in Feb. 1801. He retired from the regiment seven months later on Sept. 17, 1801. M<sup>c</sup>Niven's son, Lt. Thomas MacNiven, was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1812.

M<sup>c</sup>Niven's death in 1802 was recorded in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* on Mar. 9. The notice read: "DEATHS... On the 15th february last at Clifton, where he had gone for the recovery of his health, Major M<sup>c</sup>Niven, late of the 63d regiment of foot."

Commissions: Ens. July 28, 1779 (Western Regt. of Fencible Men); Lt. Feb. 23, 1780 (Western Regt. of Fencible Men); Resigned Nov. 16, 1781 (Western Regt. of Fencible Men); Ens. from Volunteer May 4, 1782 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Nov. 24, 1790 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. July 1, 1795 (Col. Oliver Nicolls' Regiment – later the 4<sup>th</sup> West India Regt.); Capt. Sept. 6, 1796 (63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt.); Maj. Feb. 19, 1801 (63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt.); Retired Sept. 17, 1801 (63<sup>rd</sup> or the West Suffolk Regt.).

**References:** General Orders, New York, May 4, 1782; *London Gazette* for July 13, 1782 p. 3, Nov. 23 –27, 1790, pp. 2-3, June 30-July 4, 1795, pp. 5-6, July 21-25, 1795, p. 5; Jan. 17-21, 1797, pp. 1-2, Oct. 14, 1799, pp. 4-6, Mar. 14-17, 1801, pp. 1, 3 and Sept. 22-26, 1801, pp. 1-2; "The Early History of the West India Regiments 1795-1815" Doctoral Thesis by Roger N. Buckley, McGill University, Montreal, 975, pp. 87-88; *Register of Marriages for the Parish of Edinburgh, 1751-1800*, Ed. Francis J. Grant, Scottish Record Society, Edinburgh, 1922; Obituary for Gen. Oliver Nicolls in *Gentleman's Magazine*, Jan. 1830, Sylvanus Urban, J.B. Nichols and Son, London, Google Books, p. 85; "The House of Argyll and Argyllshire Regiments" Maj. Gen. David Stewart of Garth, in *Celtic Monthly*, Vol. XII, Ed. John MacKay, Celtic Monthly Office, Glasgow, 1904, Google Books, p. 112; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Mar. 9, 1802, p. 160.

*Oliver Nicolls Capt. 42;  
Lt. Col. in the Army*

**M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of Bleaton**, Brevet-Lt. Col. Duncan. Born about 1736, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was the son of Donald Macpherson of Breakachy (a Captain in Cluny's Regt. during the '45) and his wife Christian (daughter of Lauchlan Macpherson of Cluny). Donald Macpherson of Breakachy (and his forebears back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century) only held the duthchas (communal land holding) of Breakachy and Crubinmore by virtue of a right of ancient possession and thus were never addressed as "*Laird*." Breakachy is directly south of the Cluny estates on the opposite side of the River Spey. Duncan's brother was Lt. Lauchlan "*Lucky*" Macpherson who served with the 78<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. in the French and Indian War.

In Oct. 1759 Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was commissioned Captain in the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Morris' Highlanders), which was sponsored by the Duke of Gordon. He was part of the second division of the regiment under Maj. Hector Munro which sailed from Portsmouth in May 1760 and landed at the Bombay Presidency in Jan. 1761. After extensive service in India, he likely was present on Oct 27, 1764, when Maj. Munro, with 1500 European troops and 5500 Indian troops, routed the confederated princes of Hindostan at the Battle of Buxar in Behar. In May 1765 M<sup>c</sup>Pherson embarked with Munro on the transport *Bute* for the return trip to Britain.

*The Gentlemen and London Magazine* for Jan. 1766 recorded the return of Munro and the 89<sup>th</sup> Regt. to Ireland noting "Wed. Jan. 1. The *Bute* Indiaman, Capt. Maitland, from Bengal, put into Crookhaven, having on board Major Monro, with a detachment of the 89th Regiment of Foot, who have been long in that service."



Margaret Macpherson, Sister of Duncan Macpherson of Cluny

Photo courtesy of the Clan Macpherson Museum, Newtonmore, Scotland

Out of the army on Half-Pay after returning from India, Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson married his first cousin, Margaret (Peggy) Macpherson, daughter of Ewan Macpherson of Cluny (Ewan of the '45). Margaret's older brother was Capt. Duncan Macpherson of Cluny, also known as "*Duncan of the Kiln*," Chief of Clan Macpherson and later a Maj. of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser Highlanders). Margaret's grandfather was Simon Fraser, 11<sup>th</sup> Lord Lovat who was tried and executed for his role in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 and her uncle was Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser, Master of Lovat, and later Colonel of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.

Duncan and Margaret M<sup>c</sup>Pherson had five sons, all born before M<sup>c</sup>Pherson joined the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Lt. John Macpherson, born around 1768, served in the Honorable East India Company and died at Madras in 1796

and Simon Macpherson was the first officer on an East Indiaman and drowned at sea in 1802. Ewen Macpherson died young and Lt. Adam Macpherson of the 3<sup>rd</sup> West Indies Regt. died in 1797 at St. Vincent. Lt. Gen. Robert Barclay Macpherson was born in 1774 and was later Colonel of 88<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Connaught Rangers).

In a letter dated Mar. 23, 1770 M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was mentioned in correspondence as the manager for his cousin and brother-in-law, Duncan Macpherson of Cluny. The two Duncans may have had a falling-out soon after this as Duncan (Breakachy) wrote to a Mr. Duncan Grant on Oct. 22, 1770 requesting letters and documents by Cluny in connection with reflections made upon his character writing *"As Cluny by his Last letter to his friends has attempted / by whose influence you may guess, & I shall soon make it appear to be publick/ to hurt my Character, I am now left to build upon my own bottom, support that Character which has most innocently been injured, and defend my interest..."* In 1773, after a vigorous court battle with the Duke of Gordon, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, his wife and father were evicted from Breakachy.

While on Half-Pay, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was appointed Major *"in the Army"* on July 23, 1772. Three years later on the outbreak of the American war, Brevet-Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson offered his services to the War Department and Secretary at War Viscount Barrington wrote him on Aug. 17, 1775 that *"The King has been pleased to appoint you Captain of a Company to be forthwith raised and added to the 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup> at present in N<sup>o</sup>. Britain. I ought to apprise you that the King's Intention in bringing You again into one of His Regiments is that You should serve in it; and therefore You must not consider this Appointment as a Means of selling out of the Army."* M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's commission was dated Aug. 15, 1775.

Apparently not knowing of the Secretary's letter, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote the War Department on Aug. 21 and Deputy Secretary at War Anthony Chamier replied to M<sup>c</sup>Pherson *"at Bleaton, near Coupar Angus"* on Aug. 29 that *"In the Absence of the Secretary at War, I am to acquaint you, in Answer to your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, that you are appointed to a Company in the Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot & that you are immediately to join your Reg<sup>t</sup> in N<sup>o</sup>. Britain."* Coupar Angus is a small town located about thirteen miles northeast of Perth.

About the same time of M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's appointment, the Secretary at War wrote Lord Murray on Aug. 29 that His Majesty *"having been pleased to direct that the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot under your Command, shall be further augmented with two additional Companies to be raised in Great Britain... I have the honor to send your Lordship a list of Officers appointed from half Pay to One of the additional Companies... 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment Captain Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of the late 89<sup>th</sup> Foot..."*

As commander of an Additional Company, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was quite successful in recruiting. He wrote on, April 26, 1776 that *"His Majesty was lately pleased to appoint me to the command of a Company to be raised, and added to his 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>., & in consequence thereof, I was ordered upon the Recruiting Service, to which I gave such attention that I have been one night in my own house from that period to this day."* An earlier letter dated Dec. 11, 1775, from one of his recruiting competitors, William Tod (factor of the Duke of Gordon) complained that he would not likely be successful raising recruits for Capt. Hamilton Maxwell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. because *"...Major Macpherson of the 42<sup>d</sup> has been employed on the Recruiting Service in this Country for several Months past, and as he made use of all legal means to engage the Men here, there are but few remaining - he takes them of all ages & sizes, and I'm told, does not scruple five Guineas of Levy Money..."* Another letter from Lachlan Macpherson dated Jan. 7, 1776 reported that *"...Capt. MacPherson of Breakachie had uncommon success in the braes [hills]..."*

The 1776 and 1777 annual Army Lists showed M<sup>c</sup>Pherson to have a date of rank in the army as Major on July 23, 1772. However, the *London Gazette* issue providing the list Army promotions to Major for July 23, 1772 does not include M<sup>c</sup>Pherson. The War Office may have erred in its announcement on Jan. 16,

1776 “*Captain Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, of 42d, Foot, to be Major in the Army.*” Army rank, however, did not take precedence in the regiment and M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was ranked behind most of the other Captains.

On Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>, just prior to sailing for America, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote from Greenock to the War Office to complain that Lord John Murray had transferred him from his additional company, which was to remain in Scotland, to a battalion company embarked for America. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote from “*On Board the Minerva Transport*” that “*When it was known that the additional Companies were to remain in the Country, Lord John Murray wrote me a Letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup> last ... In that Letter His Lops [Lordship] desires to know whither I chose to continue Additional, or be appointed in the Battalion, as he had power in the 1758 to change Officers from the One to the Other – I wrote His Lordship in course of post that my attention to the Service I was on put it out of my power to settle my Affairs before the Regiment would be ordered Abroad, therefore that I preferred remaining in the Additional until I shou<sup>d</sup> settle my Affairs; From this friendly correspondence, I continued basic on the recruiting duty, satisfied at the same time that I was to continue in the Country – On the 17<sup>th</sup>. March 1776 last I received the following order – Glasgow 7<sup>th</sup> March 1776 ‘It is Lord John Murray’s orders that all the Officers of the Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup> on the “recruiting Service be ordered to Glasgow, on or before the [hidden in binding] Instant, leaving the Noncomissioned Officers, & what men are absolutely for that duty at their respective recruiting Quarters, & to continue to the outmost of their power to get Recruits till they get contrary Orders, the rest of the Men to join the Reg<sup>t</sup>. forthwith, And those Officers intended to continue with the Additional Companies will be then appointed, & ordered to return, & the other Officers to join the Battalion.’ – I had no reason to suspect from this Order but that I was to return, & in obedience thereto, I got to Glasgow on the 25<sup>th</sup>. and to my very great surprise I was told that Captain [Alexander] Donaldson on several days before then, & before any of the Officers on the recruiting Service arrived at Glasgow was appointed in my place...*”

Unsuccessful in his appeal to remain in Scotland, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson traveled with his company to America on the transport *Minerva*, and served in a line battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777. He was wounded at the Battle of Harlem Heights, New York, on Sept. 16, 1776. The nature and severity of his wound is not recorded, but a regimental status report dated six weeks later at White Plains, New York on Oct. 31, 1776 recorded that “*All the Officers present Except ... Cap<sup>ts</sup>. {Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson Major Wounded, at New York...*”

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson recovered sufficiently from his wound to take part in the Battle of Fort Mifflin, New York on Nov. 16, 1776 where the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. attacked up steep terrain to get at the flank of the Rebel lines. Lt. John Macdonald described M<sup>c</sup>Pherson at that battle writing “*Whether my son landed before or after me, it is certain we lost each other in scrambling up the rocks... After mounting the hill, and firing ceased, to capitulate, our party sat down under trees to rest. I soon observed to Colonel Macpherson ... that we had better look for our Regiment. He answered, as there seemed nothing to be done, we were as well there for the present. I replied, My dear Duncan, you have no son on the Island this day...*”

Ten weeks later M<sup>c</sup>Pherson commanded about 200 soldiers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at a major skirmish with rebel troops on Feb. 1, 1777 at Drake’s Farm near Metuchen, New Jersey (eight miles northwest of Perth Amboy). Chap. James M<sup>c</sup>Lagan described the skirmish in a May 31<sup>st</sup> letter to Lord Murray writing “*... Foraging Parties had many Skirmishes with the Enemy in almost all of which the latter had the worst of it, on the first of Feb: S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Erskine Commanded a party of this kind, wherein were above 200 of your Lops: Reg<sup>t</sup> being a little Separated from the Rest, a Column of 500 Rebels approached them in front & 500 more Attempted to Seize the Forrage in their rear the former 500 being yet at Some distance the Highlanders commanded by Major M<sup>c</sup>Pherson seeing them at hand, wheeled about & gave them a very Smart Fire, which killed many and put the rest to Flight, a corps of Hessians at some distance viewing the Shots-man, /of whom they are very fond / engaged with Such numbers, flew to their assistance, and fired*



*on the Enemys left Flank as they were Flying, when the rest of the rebels saw this Column flee, they all fled together. S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Erskine who at some distance saw this smart brush, came up to the 42<sup>d</sup> when it was over and after saluting the Officers, turned to the men and said 'Indeed my Lads ye have fought very well: But were na ye glad to see us coming to your assistance! however ye beat them yoursels before we came, By my Soul ye're very fine Bodies'..."*

Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was wounded again during the pursuit of retreating rebels after the May 10, 1777 Battle of Piscataway, New Jersey as described in a letter from Lt. Col. Stirling back to Lord John Murray which read *"Major Macpherson got a Slight scratch on the head from one of our Light Infantry who was Drunk and took him for a Rebel..."* M<sup>c</sup>Pherson continued with the regiment through the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 and on Sept. 6, 1777 the War Office announced, *"His Majesty has been pleased to appoint... MAJORS... Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, of 42<sup>d</sup> Foot...To be LIEUTENANT-COLONELS in the Army."*

Hessian Jäger Capt. Johann Ewald's description of the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, 1777 indicates a *"Captain M<sup>c</sup>Pherson"* commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company and the Advance Guard for Lord Cornwallis' column during that battle. There were two *"Captain M<sup>c</sup>Phersons"* in the regiment at the time of the battle and one of them, Capt. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, was in Scotland on the Recruiting service. Accordingly, if Capt. Ewald correctly identified the Advance Guard Commander, Brevet-Lt. Col. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson may have commanded this detachment, clearly outranking the other Light Infantry commander, Capt. William Scott, 17<sup>th</sup> Regt. However, as Capt. Hon. George Mackenzie, commander of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Infantry Company, was still present with the regiment during the battle and as Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson would traditionally be called *"Colonel M<sup>c</sup>Pherson,"* Capt. Ewald more than likely confused the name of the Captain of the Highlanders.

Brevet-Lt. Col. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson remained with the regiment after the taking of the rebel capitol of Philadelphia and during the return to New York in June 1778, which included the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Six months after the regiment returned to New York from Philadelphia, General Orders on Jan. 5 1779 announced *"The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following appointment. Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment to examine and settle the affairs of the General Hospital."* A return of absent officers for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. dated Feb. 1779 listed *"... Capt<sup>n</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>Pherson/ Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Colo<sup>l</sup>/ appointed to examine the affairs of the Gen<sup>l</sup>. Hospital..."* As part of this responsibility M<sup>c</sup>Pherson questioned a Hospital Board on what staff would be required to support the troops in Georgia and received a response from Dr. Michael Morris.

Later that year, however, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson appears to have lost interest in his Hospital position, which was said to be worth 20 shillings per day to him, and wanted to rejoin the regiment. Capt. John Peebles wrote on Sept. 11, 1779 *"...Lt. Col: McPherson desir'd to join his Regt. some days ago in a very ungracious manner no other having come out Director Genl. of all the Hospitals british & foreign – much murmuring & complaint of Hd. Qrs. throughout..."* During this period he also served on a board of general and field officers to examine the conduct of the British forces defending the post at Paulus Hook, New Jersey during an attack by the Rebel army on Aug. 19, 1779.

On Dec. 13, 1779 M<sup>c</sup>Pherson made his first attempt at promotion in the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. asking to be considered for a vacancy due to the death of Lt. Col. Hon. John Maitland. He memorialized Commander-in-Chief Gen. Sir Henry Clinton writing *"... That your Memorialist having formerly preferred to Your Excellency memorials setting forth his Services &c., he hopes it is unnecessary at present to trouble you with a repetition of them. – That the Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonelcy of the [1<sup>st</sup> Bn.] 71<sup>st</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. being vacant by the death of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Maitland, Your Memorialist humbly submits to Your Excellency's consideration how far twenty years Service, & a numerous family of young Boys intitles him to it. – Your Memorialist is /and he trusts not improperly/ led to point more directly at this vacancy, as it has happen'd in a national Corps,*

*and that his getting it, will not he flatters himself disoblige, or give Offence to the Army ...”* M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was, however, unsuccessful in his attempt as the Lt. Colonelcy went to Maj. Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Donald of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt.

While Gen. Clinton and the main army were engaged in the siege of Charleston, South Carolina, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. remained in New York, and M<sup>c</sup>Pherson led a 300 men detachment (including 100 men of the regiment under Capt. David Anstruther) on an expedition out of the city on March 22-23, 1780.

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson’s mission was to attack rebel forces in Paramus and Hackensack, New Jersey. The mission was successful in taking 64 prisoners and destroying a courthouse and several dwellings used by the rebel forces. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was thanked in General Orders on Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> which stated “ *Order, Headquarters, New York 25 March 1780 His Excellence Lieutenant General [Wilhelm] Von Knyphausen requests that his approbation be made known in published orders to [Capt. and] Lieutenant Colonel [John] Howard of the [1<sup>st</sup> Regt. of Foot] Guards, Lieutenant Colonel McPherson of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment , and the officers and men under their command, for the good conduct on the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month during the fatiguing expedition to Paramus and Hackensack, and although it was not as successful as might have been wished, due to unavoidable circumstances, it still provided honor to the troops...*”

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson sailed with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to reinforce Gen. Clinton at the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina in April 1780 and because of his Army rank served as one of the field officers of the line. In that siege Gen. Sir Henry Clinton chastised him for not having prevented the troops from firing during a false alarm in the trenches. Sir Henry wrote on Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> “... *At one o’clock an alarm. False, however, and owing to the TROOPS NOT BE STEADY ENOUGH; in short, FIRST A SECOND PARALLEL FIRED: THE OFFICERS, I FEAR, WERE NOT AT THEIR POSTS. Col. Hope and MacPherson of the 42<sup>nd</sup>... Explained to ...Maj. [Charles] Graham [Commander, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] my wishes that all firing should stop; that if they could answer for it, I had no objections to the troops’ being loaded. They seemed not to wish that. I therefore ordered them not to load...*” The next day Clinton noted his interrogation of M<sup>c</sup>Pherson writing “*Examined, not formally however, Col. Hope, Col. MacPherson of 42; it appears that part of the second parallel did fire; they both confess it. Col. Hope says it was the Hessians, Col. MacPherson does not know which. I did not think it right publicly to condemn, though these gentlemen must have been very NEGLIGENT to have suffered such INFAMOUS CONDUCT...*”

Despite this chastisement, Brevet-Lt. Col. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was promoted in General Orders to Major of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. on Feb. 8, 1781 (effective Dec. 31, 1780), in place of Maj. Patrick Ferguson, who had been killed at the battle of King’s Mountain, South Carolina. In New York at the time, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson did not immediately join his new regiment which was then serving in the Southern colonies. He sailed about four months later from New York on June 15<sup>th</sup> on the ship *Loyalist* to carry Gen. Clinton’s dispatches for Lord Cornwallis. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson delivered his dispatches to Lt. Gen. Charles, Earl Cornwallis soon after July 12<sup>th</sup> and joined his new regiment in Virginia.

While serving with his new regiment at Yorktown, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson gave a confident description of the army’s ability to take on the rebels and their French allies. He wrote on Aug. 31, 1781 that “...*a small Boat is this night to be dispatched for New York to acquaint the Commander in Chief of the arrival of twenty five French Ships of War in the Bay the day before yesterday – Three of them are anchored in our view – They drove in our Cruisers & took the Loyalist Sloop of War, after a most obstinate Battle with two of their Frigates for two hours, in which, the Loyalist lost her Main:Mast by the Board, & her fore & mizen top masts ... Nothing but hard Labour goes on here at present in constructing & making Batteries toward the River, & Redoubts towards the Land – The troops are in perfect health & high Spirits & if our Enemies are polite enough to give us three day’s grace, we shall be able to receive the Count d’ Grass & his friend the Marquiss in a proper manner... We most heartily dispise in our present situation the united force of the Yankees & the emaciated west Indiamen [French troops] lately landed, our position being*

*naturally so strong, & assisted with the greatest skill by Art, a fine train of Artillery well manned – The Enemy are incamped nine Miles from – two miles below Williamsburg – It's my own opinion they are not inforce ...*” M<sup>c</sup>Pherson’s assessment of the French and Rebel army was incorrect and the Allies began a vigorous siege against the British positions at Yorktown..

The French and Rebel troops stormed the two redoubts on the night of Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, and M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, who commanded Redoubt 9, was nearly captured by the French attackers before retreating back to the British lines. Low on artillery ammunition, and with the unanimous opinion of his council of war, Lord Cornwallis surrendered the posts of Yorktown and Gloucester on Oct. 17, 1781. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson and the other paroled officers of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. sailed for New York on the transport *Lord Mulgrave*, which was initially thought to be lost, but later turned up in Charleston, South Carolina. Unlike the other officers from the *Lord Mulgrave* who eventually returned to New York in mid-December, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson remained in Charleston before sailing to Britain the next year to wait out his exchange from parole. *The Remembrancer* for 1782 recorded his return writing “*Extract of a letter from Dover, August 4. Arrived the ship Lord Germain, Captain William Thouburne, in six weeks from Charles-Town, South Carolina. In her Lieutenant-Colonel Macpherson, of the 71st...*”

After receiving orders issued by the War Office in April, on Sept. 10, 1782, General Orders were issued in New York for restructuring the two battalions of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt. into two separate regiments. The troops in America and Additional Companies still in Newfoundland were titled the “71<sup>st</sup> Regt.” under the command of Maj. Gen. Thomas Stirling and the excess officers in America and the men of the Additional Companies in Scotland were named the “2<sup>d</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment” and commanded by Lt. Col. Commandant Earl Balcarres, a former Captain of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Brevet-Lt. Col. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was ranked second of the two Majors of the regiment in America.

The War Office announced M<sup>c</sup>Pherson’s promotion to Colonel “*in the army*” on Nov. 26, 1782 and although already in Britain, he was the senior British Lt. Colonel in the spring 1783 “*Local*” Army List published in New York City. On Dec. 2, 1783 the War Office announced his Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> retirement from the army writing “*71st Regiment of Foot, Captain George Don, of the 51st Regiment, to be Major, vice Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson.*”

After returning to Scotland, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was quite well off financially, being owner of Wester Gask in Strathnairn, Bleaton near Coupar Angus, and Etteridge in Glen Truim. However, he appears to have gotten mixed up with the notorious “*Black Officer*,” John Macpherson of Ballachroan, (formerly Lt. in Johnston’s Highlanders) and lost his estates, finally living at a house in Kinguissie, Inverness shire “*...toward the east end on the upper side of the road.*”

To satisfy his debts, in Nov. 1794 he auctioned off his estates of Easter Bleaton (on the River Skee in Perth County), Wester Plough of Gask (Inverness County), and two ploughs of the lands of Flichity (Inverness County) amounting to rents estimated in total at £230 per year.



Tomb of Col. Duncan M'Pherson of Bleaton, Old St. Columba's Churchyard in Kingussie

Picture Source: Photo courtesy of the Clan Macpherson Museum, Newtonmore, Scotland

Duncan M'Pherson died in 1810 and was buried at the Cluny and Breakachy burial-place within a railed enclosure in the Old St. Columba's Churchyard in Kingussie. M'Pherson's grave marker reads: "*Col DUN<sup>n</sup> M'PHERSON, departed this life Decr 12<sup>th</sup> Ano Domini 1810, aged 74.*" On a marble tablet in the monument, surmounted by the coat of arms of the clan, there is the following inscription: "*Sacred to the memory of Colonel DUNCAN MACPHERSON of Bleaton, who died at Kingussie the 12th day of December 1810, aged 75 years; and his wife, MARGARET MACPHERSON, who died 6<sup>th</sup> November 1808, aged 66, and daughter of the late EWEN MACPHERSON, Esq. of Cluny, and Chief of Clan Chattan. This monument was erected by their youngest and only surviving son, Colonel ROBERT BARCLAY MACPHERSON, C.B. and K.H.*"

Portraits of Margaret Macpherson and Lt. Gen. Robert Barclay Macpherson hang in the Clan Macpherson Museum located in Newtonmore, Scotland.

Commissions: Capt. Oct. 19, 1759 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt. – Morris' Highlanders); Capt. Half-Pay 1765 (89<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Maj. "*in the Army*" July 23, 1772; Capt. Aug. 15, 1775 (Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Apr. 26, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Col. "*in the Army*" Aug. 29, 1777; Seconded to oversee the General Hospital Jan. 5, 1779; Returned to 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. before Mar. 22, 1780; Maj. Feb. 8, 1781 – effective Dec. 31, 1780 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Maj. Sept. 10, 1782 –effective Dec. 31, 1780 (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Col. "*in the Army*" Nov. 20, 1782; Retired Nov. 24, 1783 (71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.).

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October 3<sup>d</sup>. 1782" at War Office, *Military Headquarters, North America: Entry Books, Returns* at WO 36/3, f. 92; *Remembrancer; or Impartial Repository of Public Events, for the Year 1782. Part II*, Printed for J. Debrett, London, 1782, Google Books, p. 239; *The Old Church and Churchyard of Kingussie (St. Columba's)*, Chapter V in Creag Dhubh No. 33, *The Annual of the Clan Macpherson Association*, Ed. Archy Macpherson, M.A., LL.B., West Lothian, Scotland. 1981; *Edinburgh Advertiser* Jan. 23, 1776; *Edinburgh Evening Courant* for March 9, 1787 and Aug. 1, 1796; "The MacPherson's of Breakachie" in *Antiquarian Notes, Historical, Genealogical, and Social* (Second Series), by Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, F.S.A. Scot., A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, 1897, p. 362; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Nov. 7, 1794; *Letters of Two Centuries, Chiefly Connected with Inverness and the Highlands from 1616 to 1815*, Ed. by Charles Fraser-MacIntosh of Drummond, A. & W. MacKenzie, Inverness, 1890, Google Books, p. 281.

James Macpherson  
Capt. 42<sup>d</sup> or R. H. Regt.

**M<sup>c</sup>Pherson**, Brevet-Maj. James. Born about 1725 and called "Jamie" by his family, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was the son of Alexander Macpherson, a drover from Glenfyne and his wife, Isobel Campbell. Glenfyne, Argyleshire is located about eleven miles northeast of Inveraray Castle. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was apprenticed to a Glasgow merchant in his teens with the intention of following a trading career and was the brother-in-law



of Duncan Campbell of Glenure (and later Barcaldine), husband of his sister Mary. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson lived at Brenchyle (also called Brenchoile, Brennachoil and Brianchoil) near Ellen's Isle on Loch Katrine.

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was initially commissioned as a Lieutenant in one of the three additional companies of the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Montgomery's Highlanders) in 1757 and arrived in North America for the French and Indian War in the spring of 1758.

In Oct. 1761, Maj. Gen. David Græme, Younger of Gorthie and private secretary to Queen Charlotte, raised two battalions of the 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Highlanders) and M<sup>c</sup>Pherson obtained a Captain's commission in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. After they were raised, both battalions of the Queen's Highlanders were posted to Ireland where they served until disbanded in 1764. His regiment reduced, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson went out on Irish Half-Pay as the senior Captain of his battalion in 1764.



Reproduction 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt. Uniform Button

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson returned to active service in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as a Captain when a Light Infantry company was ordered to be added to each of the foot regiments on Sept. 18, 1771. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson did not, however, command the new Lt. Infantry Company as shown in the Regimental review at Dublin on May 14, 1774 where the new company was commanded by Capt. Hon. George Mackenzie.

As the regiment in Scotland was preparing for the American war, the Secretary at War issued an order for the regiment to add two Additional Companies to remain in Scotland on the Recruiting Service. Secretary at War Viscount Barrington wrote Lord Murray on Aug. 29, 1775, ordering “ [His Majesty] *having been pleased to direct that the 42<sup>d</sup> /or Royal Highland/ Reg<sup>t</sup> of Foot under your Command, shall be further augmented with two additional Companies to be raised in Great Britain, each consisting of One Captain, [Two] Lieutenant<sup>s</sup>, One Ensign, five Serjeants, five Corporals, two Drummers, & 100 private Men, ...I have the honor to send your Lordship a list of Officers appointed from half Pay to One of the additional Companies. The Officers for the other Company will be appointed by regular Regimental Promotion, your Lordship will therefore be pleased to send me the recommendation of this Succession...* ” Lord Barrington had selected Capt. Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson from Half-Pay to command the first company and Lord Murray initially selected Capt. Lt. John Smith for the second company. However as the regiment got closer to embarkation, Lord Murray informed Lord Barrington on Mar. 14, 1776 of changes in the company writing “*I have the honor to inclose the list of Officers for the two additional Companys, as they are now placed, in obedience to your Lordships orders ...Names of the officers of the two additional Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot First Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. Alexander Donaldson...2 Company Cap<sup>t</sup>. James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson...* ” An Oct. 31, 1776 letter from Lord Murray to the War Office indicated M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's company was located at Glasgow.

While posted at Glasgow in Dec. 1775, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser in an attempt to get his son Jamie an Ensigncy in Fraser's new 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt, but his attempt was unsuccessful.

On Sept. 6, 1777 the War Office announced “*His Majesty has been pleased to appoint CAPTAINS... James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, of 42d Foot...To be MAJORS in the Army.* ”

Hessian Jäger Capt. Johann Ewald's description of the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, 1777 indicates a Capt. Macpherson commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company and the Advance Guard for Lord Cornwallis' column during that battle. This officer was not James M<sup>c</sup>Pherson, who did not travel to America during the war.

Six months later, a detachment of three additional companies from the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regiments were ordered to reinforce the garrison of Newfoundland, Canada. Scotland's Adjutant General, Col. Robert Skene, wrote to the War Office on Mar. 30, 1778 indicating *"In consequence of your very obliging letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> the 400 men for Newfoundland will be ready to embark as soon as the Official order for that purpose arrives under the Command of Major M<sup>c</sup>Pherson a Captain in the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment."* Likely because of Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's pending retirement, the command of the three companies for Newfoundland was soon changed to Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Donell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.

M<sup>c</sup>Pherson and his wife, Mary, had at least four sons, named Jamie, John, Peter and Alexander (Sandie). He wrote of his family from Glasgow in a letter to Alexander (Sandie) Campbell, Younger of Glenure, on Jan. 15, 1778 where he indicated *"... I thank you for the Offer made to either of my sons I have had Offers in two Corps for Lieu<sup>t</sup>cy<sup>s</sup>. and in One an En<sup>sc</sup>y. but the Mother having two Sons already abroad She cannot think to part w<sup>t</sup> Jamie ..."* While still in the army and continuing after his retirement on June 5, 1778, Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson provided uniforms to Highland regiments in partnership with a textile manufacturer.

When Lord John Murray raised the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in 1779-1780, M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's son John, was commissioned Ensign effective Mar. 27, 1780. Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was not satisfied with his son's date of rank as he explained in a letter to the Secretary at War dated at Perth on Mar. 21, 1780. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson wrote *"Permit me to use the freedom of informing you that Lord John Murray about a month ago did a son of mine the honor of appointing him an Ensign in his 2<sup>d</sup>. Bat: – A few days ago I waited of His Lordship here and in the course of conversation he was pleased to inform me that as my Son was the last En<sup>s</sup>. appointed by him to his 2<sup>d</sup>. Bat: that of course he must be the youngest in the Bat: – As it is your province to Settle the rank of the Army may I presume to inform you that my son was for some time a Volunteer in one of the Additional Companys of his Lordship's 1<sup>st</sup>. Bat: – which in my weak opinion Should intitle him to Rank preferable to those never in the Service or at least equal chance with them – in this I may be wrong but cannot help having an opinion – therefore begs leave to submit the fate of my Son to you Sir – who is the fountain head for Settling these matters ..."* The War Office referred M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's request to Lord Amherst, but commented that his son could expect little credit for service as a Volunteer in an Additional Company. Ens. John Macpherson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., was later killed in India at the Siege of Mangalore in 1783.

By Sept. 1789 M<sup>c</sup>Pherson was writing from Lochfinehead where he had moved for his health. Lochfinehead (also Loch Fyne Head) is located at the northeast end of Loch Fyne, Argyle. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's wife died at Lochend, Perthshire in Sept. 1795 at age 70 and *The Edinburgh Annual Register* recorded Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Pherson's death in March, 1810 writing *"...17. At Calendar, Major James Macpherson, formerly of the 42d regiment..."* Callander is located about sixteen miles northwest of Stirling.

Commissions: Lt. July 31, 1757 (77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt: Oct. 18, 1761 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt. - Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Highlanders); Capt. Irish Half-pay 1764 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 105<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. Sept. 1, 1771 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Mar. 14, 1776 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Co., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. *"in the Army"* Aug. 29, 1777; Retired June 5, 1778.

**References:** "The Impact of the Military Profession on Highland Gentry Families, c. 1730 – 1830," Stana Nenadic, *The Scottish Historical Review* 85.1, Edinburgh Univ. Press, 2006, pp. 75-99; *Sons of the Mountains*, Vol. II, Ian

Macpherson McCulloch, Purple Mountain Press, Fleischmans (NY), 2006, p. 70; TNA, Half-pay list, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. 105<sup>th</sup> Regt., *War Office, Printed Army List* for 1767, p. 214; Order Forming 42<sup>nd</sup> Light Infantry Company in Ireland, Sept. 18, 1771 in *Historical Records of the 40th (2nd Somersetshire) Regiment, now 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment.) From its Formation, in 1717, to 1893.*, Capt. Raymond Henry Smythies, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. P.W.V., A.H. Swiss, Devonport, 1894, Google Books, pp. 547-548; TNA, Review of 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Dublin, May 14 1774, *War Office, Adjutant General, Inspection Returns, Irish* at WO 27/32; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Aug. 29, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 217-218, f. 111; James McPherson to Simon Fraser, Glasgow, Dec. 28, 1775 in *The Laing Collection*, LA.II.506, Edinburgh University, Special Collections, p. 179; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Oct. 31, 1776 at WO 1/993; *Peebles' Journal* entry dated July 6, 1777; *London Gazette*, Sept. 2, 1777, p. 1; TNA, Robert Skene to Mathew Lewis, Mar. 30, 1778 at WO 1/999; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Sir James Adolphus Oughton, Apr. 15, 1778 at WO 4/102, p. 322; General Orders, Philadelphia, June 17, 1778; NRS, James McPherson, to Alexander (Sandie) Campbell, Jan. 15, 1778, *Papers of the Campbell Family of Barcaldine* at GD170/1969/7; NRS, Mary McPherson to Duncan Campbell of Glenure, Aug. 18, 1763 at GD170/1356; TNA, James McPherson to Charles Jenkinson, Mar. 21, 1780 at WO 1/1009, p. 323; *Edinburgh Magazine or Literary Miscellany for October 1795*, p. 322; *Edinburgh Annual Register, for 1810*, Vol. Third – Part Second, Printed for John Ballantyne and Co., Edinburgh, 1812, Google Books, p. 359.

**Mitchell**, Surgeon's Mate James. Mitchell's record as a Surgeon's mate in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. is confused by a Mar. 28, 1778 Philadelphia muster report indicating he was "*Appointed 13 Sep<sup>r</sup> 77 Promoted in 37<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1777.*" This last date is either in error or represents a backdated warrant as Mitchell was appointed Mate of the 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. on Apr. 4, 1778. He subsequently obtained an Ensigny in that regiment on Nov. 10, 1780. The Succession book for that regiment lists him as a Volunteer at the time of his commission. The 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. served with Sir Henry Clinton's main army in the New York area until the end of the war and on June 12, 1781 was ordered to relieve the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the garrison of New York. The regiment also took part in the unsuccessful attempt to relieve Lord Cornwallis before his surrender at Yorktown in Oct. 1781.



Reproduction 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. Uniform Button

Mitchell continued in the 37<sup>th</sup> or North Hampshire Regt. through the end of the American war when General orders issued at New York on Aug. 17, 1783 directed that "*It is moreover ordered that the 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry 33<sup>d</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 42<sup>d</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> are to hold themselves in readiness to Embark for Nova Scotia where they are to remain till further Orders ...*"

After serving in Nova Scotia, Mitchell was promoted to Capt. Lt. in Feb. 1795 and on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> of that year the War Office announced "*37th Regiment of Foot...To be Captains of Companies, Captain-Lieutenant James Mitchell, vice [Joseph] Baird...*" Mitchell carried forward his date of rank as a Capt. Lieutenant of Feb. 13, 1795. Just two months later, however, on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> the War Office announced "*Royal Garrison Battalion, Captain James Mitchell from the 37th Foot, to be Captain of a Company.*" Mitchell's date of rank in the Garrison Battalion was Sept. 1, 1795.

The Royal Garrison Battalion was reduced in about 1803 and the annual Army List for 1803 records Mitchell's status as "*Officers of Reduced Corps receiving Full Pay... Late Royal Garrison Battalion. Captain... {James Mitchell do [1 Sept. 1795]}...*" The *Edinburgh Advertiser* of Mar. 1, 1822 recorded Mitchell's death writing "*DEATHS... At Kennoway, on the 11th ult [Feb.], Captain James Mitchell, of the late Royal Garrison Battalion.*" Kennoway, Fife is about fifteen miles southwest of St. Andrews.

Commissions: Surgeon's Mate Sept. 13, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Surgeon's Mate Apr. 4, 1778 (37<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Ens. Mar. 1, 1781 – effective Nov. 10, 1780 (37<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. May 7, 1783 (37<sup>th</sup> or the North Hampshire Regt.); Capt. Lt. Feb. 13, 1795 (37<sup>th</sup> or the North Hampshire Regt.); Capt. Sept. 1, 1795 – effective Feb. 13, 1795 (37<sup>th</sup> or the North Hampshire Regt.); Capt. Sept. 1, 1795 (Royal Garrison Bn.); Captain “*Officers of Reduced Corps receiving Full Pay*” 1803 (Late Royal Garrison Battalion).

**References:** Early commission history in the 37<sup>th</sup> Regt. provided by Dr. John Houlding based on notes from Paul Kopperman; *London Gazette* for July 14-17, 1781, p. 1 and Feb. 24-27, 1795, p. 3, Sept. 8-12, 1795, p. 7, Nov. 3-7, 1795, p. 8; *Edinburgh Advertiser*, Mar. 1, 1822, p. 13.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex. Munro Lt. 42 Regt." The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

**Munro**, Lt. Alexander. Born about 1735, Alexander Munro was a close kinsman of Capt. George Munro, 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Montgomery's Highlanders), who was the son of George Munro of Culcairn. Alexander Munro served as a Volunteer with the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. during the French and Indian War and was wounded in Maj. James Grant's abortive attack on Fort Duquesne, Pennsylvania in Sept. 1758. Munro may be the subject of a note from Lt. Alexander Robertson to Sir Henry Munro of Foulis after the attack when he wrote “*Alexander and Hugh, cadets, were upon all the duties of Honor this campaign. I hope they will both be in Commission this season.*” If Alexander Munro was the subject of this note, Lt. Robertson's wishes came true and Munro received his commission as an Ensign in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. shortly after the battle. After being promoted to Lieutenant in that regiment in Sept. 1762, Munro went on half-pay in Dec. 1763 at the end of the French and Indian War when the 77<sup>th</sup> Highlanders were reduced.

Twelve years later, on Oct. 11, 1775, as the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was increasing the number of Lieutenants to meet the new establishment, the Secretary at War wrote to Lord John Murray indicating “...*I herewith to answer to your Lordships a List of Notifications for your Regiment which have been issued from this Office, and beg leave to add the following Observations on your Papers...1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company Captain Duncan M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of late 89<sup>th</sup> Foot Lieutenant Alexander Munro...*” The annotated War Office copy of the annual Army List for 1775 is noted with “*1<sup>st</sup> Add<sup>l</sup> Co... Lieut. Alex: Munro do [15: Aug<sup>t</sup> 75]...*” The Regimental Succession Book lists him as “*Alexander Munro /of late 77<sup>th</sup> F./*” Assigned to an Additional Company, Munro would have been employed in the recruiting of soldiers to raise the regiment to its new larger establishment for the American war. However, by Mar. 14, 1776, Munro had been removed from the 1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company and assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company under Brevet-Maj. William Grant.

Munro travelled to America on the transport *Thames* arriving at Halifax, Nova Scotia on June 24, 1776 after Gen. Sir William's Howe's departure to New York. Munro and the Grenadiers finally linked up with the regiment at Staten Island, New York in early August. On Aug. 5, 1776 Morning Regimental Orders for Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> announced “... *Lieu<sup>t</sup> [Harry] Gilchrist is appointed to the Grenad<sup>r</sup> Company in room of L<sup>t</sup> Munro who is appointed to Cap<sup>t</sup> [Archibald] Erskines...*” Munro would have acted as the commander of Capt. Archibald Erskine's Company during the New York/New Jersey Campaign of 1776-1777 as Archibald Erskine had been assigned as a Major of Brigade, and was not serving with the regiment.

Also while at New York, Lt. John Robertson and Lt. Normand M<sup>c</sup>Leod (of Cyprus), 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., wrote Gen. Sir William Howe for assistance in correcting an issue regarding the date of Lt. Alexander Munro's commission. They claimed to be senior to Munro, but he had produced a commission dated a month

earlier than theirs. Robertson's date of rank appears to have been correct as the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Succession Book shows his commission date as "29<sup>th</sup> Aug" and Munro's as "2<sup>d</sup> Sept."

Grenadier Lt. John Peebles wrote in his journal on Mar. 30, 1777 about a cask of wine he received as a present that was shared "...betwixt Sandy Monro & I..." As "Sandy" is a common nickname for Alexander, it appears Munro was called "Sandy" by his fellow officers.

Munro moved from Capt. Erskine's Company to Gen. Lord Murray's Company between Apr. 1777 and March 1778 and participated with Maj. William Murray's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778. However, Army General Orders dated Oct. 26, 1777 announced a staff appointment as "... Lieut Munro, 42<sup>d</sup>. Regiment, an Overseer of the King's Works in the Engineer Department." It cannot be confirmed to which Lt. Munro (Alexander or Harry) this appointment applies. It may have been Lt. Harry Munro who was noted as being ill earlier that year and may not have been capable of the vigorous service of a line infantry battalion. Conversely, the next muster of the regiment at "Philadelphia 23<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1778" showed both lieutenants present with their companies, but the muster at "Camp at Bedford 27<sup>th</sup> July 1778" showed Alexander Munro away on duty (possibly with the engineers), while Harry Munro was listed a present for the muster. A Sept. 26, 1778 advertisement for a lost horse in the *Royal Gazette* also places Lt. Harry Munro with the regiment in camp near Bedford, Long Island.



Original Gilt Officer's Button of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.

Picture Source: Copyright D. Dorgan-1781 Jersey Militia, with permission.

In Jan. 1778, the city of Glasgow, Scotland began to collect contributions to pay for the raising of a regiment which was later called the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. or Royal Glasgow Volunteers. It was the custom for those raising new regiment without expense to the government to be able to select the officers of the regiment with the later approval of the War Office. On Apr. 8, 1778, Glasgow Baillie George Milne wrote to the Secretary at War recommending Lt. Munro for a Company in the *Royal Glasgow Volunteers*. He wrote "*The Committee being informed, that Captain Gould of the Royal Glasgow Volunteers (being in a bad state of health) has given in his resignation, And your Lordship having in your Letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> of February last mentioned His Majestys most Gracious inclination to provide for Lieu<sup>t</sup> Alexander Munro of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, incase of a vacancy, I now beg leave in name of the Committee to hull your Lordship in mind of this Gentleman. – His being at present abroad on Service we hope will be no Objection to his promotion, As his friends will Assist in Recruiting the regiment.*" The War Office quickly approved the recommendation for Munro as noted in Baillie Milne's confirmatory letter to the War Office on Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup> which indicated "*I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Letter to me of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Curr<sup>t</sup> acquainting us that His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to accept of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> Munro of the 42<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup> to succeed to a company in the Royal Glasgow Volunteers, For which favour the Committee will alwise retain a grateful sense ...*" Munro's date of rank was listed as Jan. 23, 1778 in the 1779 Army List.

The Secretary at War notified Gen. Sir William Howe, in a letter dated May 18, 1778 that "... Lt. Munro named for a company in the Glasgow regiment..." In response to the War Office letter, Gen. Sir Henry Clinton's Orders from New York on Oct. 24, 1778 directed "...The following off<sup>rs</sup> having been promoted in Europe are to take the Earliest opportunity of joining their Respective Corps ...42<sup>d</sup> L<sup>t</sup>: Munro..."



Munro's new regiment was fully equipped in the spring of 1778 and although Munro had not returned in time to participate, the *Glasgow Mercury* of July 2, 1778 reported "*On Tuesday evening Major-General [Robert] Skene arrived in town, and yesterday (1st July), he reviewed in the Green the Glasgow Royal Volunteers. The General was highly pleased with the appearance of the regiment, and expressed his warmest acknowledgments to Lieut. Col. Fotheringham and the other officers for their having brought such a number of men in so short a time so forward in their exercise as to be nothing short of veteran troops. The exactness with which they performed their different manoeuvres received the General's high approbation, and gave great satisfaction to a vast crowd of spectators. The corps was about 900 strong, and only one or two rejected. After the review the General gave an elegant entertainment to the magistrates of the city, and many other gentlemen.*"

In April 1779 the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt was ordered on foreign service and newspapers reported "*Glasgow, April 1779.—The first division of the Glasgow regiment marched from Dundee on Monday, and the last division on Tuesday, for Burntisland, in order to embark on board the transports lying there ready to receive them.*" Burntisland is a seaport directly across the Firth of Forth from Edinburgh.

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. was ordered to proceed to the Channel Islands of Jersey and Guernsey on May 7, 1779. About seven months later, on Jan. 1, 1780, the War Office announced Munro was appointed to be "...*Major of Brigade to the Forces in the Island of Guernsey.*" Guernsey is located about 30 miles west of the Cherbourg Peninsula of France. As a "*Major of Brigade*" Munro was the primary staff officer of a brigade or area commander. He retired from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. later that year on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.

An officer named Alexander Munro was appointed to Capt. and later Maj. to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Fencibles (later the Breadalbane Fencibles) on June 15, 1793 and Dec. 31, 1794 respectively, but it cannot be confirmed it is the same Alexander Munro discussed above.

Commissions / Appointments: Ens. Sept. 21, 1758 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or First Highland Battalion); Lt. Sept. 28, 1762 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or First Highland Battalion); Lt. (Half-pay) Dec. 24, 1763 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or First Highland Battalion); Lt. Aug. 15, 1775, corrected to Sept. 2, 1775 (1<sup>st</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Mar. 14, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Company); Aug. 8, 1776 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Oct. 18, 1778 – effective Jan. 23, 1778 (83<sup>rd</sup> Regt. or Royal Glasgow Volunteers); Major of Brigade Jan. 1, 1780 (Forces on the Island of Guernsey); Retired Dec. 8, 1780 (83<sup>rd</sup> Regt.).

**References:** See also note regarding Engineer Department assignment under Lt. Harry Munro; TNA, *Commission Book* at WO 25/32, p. 245; TNA, Viscount Barrington to Lord John Murray, Oct. 11, 1775, *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/94, pp. 384-6 (ff. 195-196); TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Mar. 14, 1776, *War Office, In-letters* at WO 1/993; Morning Regimental Orders, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Staten Island Aug. 8, 1776; *Peebles' Journal* entry for Mar. 30, 1777; TNA, Undated Memorial of Lt. John Robertson and Lt. Normand MacLeod to Sir William Howe from approx. Jan-May, 1778, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers* at WO 34/188; *London Gazette* for July 21-25, 1778, p. 2, Dec. 28, 1779 to Jan. 1, 1780, p. 1; Dec. 19-23, 1780, p. 2, June 11-15, 1793, pp. 3-4 and Jan. 6, 1795, pp. 2-3; *Scots Magazine*, July 1793, p. 360; General Orders, Philadelphia, Oct. 26, 1777 and at New York, Nov. 5, 1778; *Sons of the Mountains*, Vol. II, Ian Macpherson McCulloch, Purple Mountain Press, Fleischmans (NY), 2006, p. 77; TNA, George Milne to Viscount Barrington, Apr. 8 and 23, 1778 at WO 1/997; Viscount Barrington to Sir William Howe, May 18, 1778 in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. I, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty's Stationary Office, London, 1904, Google Books, p. 253; *Glasgow Past and Present*, Vol. III, by Senex, David Robertson and Co., Glasgow, 1884, Google Books, p. 166, 169-170; *London Gazette*, July 21-25, 1778, p. 2 and Dec. 19-23, 1780, p. 2; General Orders, New York, Oct. 24, 1778; *Peebles' Journal* Entry dated Oct. 26, 1778; *Scots Magazine*, 1780, Vol. 42, Brymer, Murray and Cochran, Edinburgh, 1780, Google Books, p. 676; Message from Todd Braisted, posted on Jan. 13, 1779, Subject: 83d Regt in America on [Revlist@yahoo.com](mailto:Revlist@yahoo.com); *Reports of cases Upon Appeals and Writs of Error in the House of Lords During the First Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom 53 GEO.III, 1813*, Vol. I, P. Dow, Esq., W. Clark & Sons, London, 1814, Google Books, pp. 439-440, 447-448; *History of Nairnshire*, George Bain, Telegraph Office, Nairn,



**Munro, Lt. Harry.** Born Aug. 8, 1739, Munro was the son of Alexander Munro of Milntown of Alness (a branch of the Munros of Foulis), Commissary and Deputy of Inverness, and his wife Katherine Fraser (daughter of Alexander Fraser, Baillie of Inverness and his wife Elizabeth). Alness is located about nine miles northeast of Dingwall near the Cromarty Firth. Munro's younger brother was Simon Munro, a merchant in Sunbury, Georgia, who served as a Volunteer with the 60<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Georgia and as Lt. Colonel of the Loyal Georgia Militia.

Harry Munro was commissioned Ensign in the 78<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders) in July 1757 during the French and Indian War. He fought at Louisburg in 1758, at the battle of Quebec in 1759 and was promoted to Lieutenant in Dec. 1759. Wounded at the Battle of Sillery near Quebec in April 1760, Munro went on Half-Pay in Dec. 1763 when the regiment was disbanded at the end of the war.

Instead of immediately returning to Scotland, Munro applied for 2,000 acres of land in Georgia writing that *"...he had faithfully served his Majesty in his army in North America during the late War, being a Lieutenant in the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment, since disbanded. That his Majesty had been graciously pleased to order certain quantities of land to be granted as a reward for such disabled Officers and Soldiers..."* His first petition, approved Apr. 3, 1764, was for *"...One thousand Acres on the great Ogechee River to be laid out next above Land applied for by Peter Blake Esq<sup>r</sup> and to be run five hundred Acres on the South Side and five hundred Acres Opposite on the north side the said River..."* Munro's second petition, approved Jul. 2, 1765, for 1,000 acres on the South side of the Altamaha River about a mile below Fort Barrington in St. David Parish (now Glynn County.). This petition indicated *"...that he was entitled to 2,000 acres of land as a reduced officer of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment and that he had already received 1,000 acres."* Fort Barrington was located about twenty miles above the city of Darien, on the east side of the Altamaha River. Just two months after this petition was approved Munro transferred the land to his brother, Simon Munro in a deed which read, *"30 Sept. 1765 Lieut. Harry Munro of Savannah, gent. to Simon Munro of Savannah, merchant, gent. 1,000 acres on South side of River Altamaha in St. David Parish bounded North by the River."* This transfer may indicate that Munro was preparing to return to Scotland about this time.

Thirty-six year old Munro returned to active service in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as a Lieutenant from Half-pay in Aug. 1775 as the regiment was preparing for the war in America. He was assigned to Capt. John Smith's company and sailed for America in the transport *Oxford*. Sailing in company with the transport *Crawford*, carrying a company of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlanders, *Oxford* was captured by the rebel Brig *Andrew Doria* on May 29, 1776. *Andrew Doria* was a converted merchantman with 14 four-pound guns and a ship's compliment of 112. The log of the brig shows the two transports were taken at Latitude 42° 19' North and Longitude 57° 12' West.



Rendering of *Andrew Doria* © 2006

Picture Source: *Andrew Doria - The First Salute, Inc.*  
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Capt. Nicholas Biddle of *Andrew Doria* relocated the Highlanders from the two transports. Lt. Harry Munro and Ens. John Campbell were transferred to *Andrew Doria* while Capt. John Smith and Lt. Robert Franklin were placed on the *Crawford*. The soldiers from both transports were placed on the *Oxford*. *The Virginia Gazette* later published an article on the arrival of the *Andrew Doria* at Newport, Rhode Island on June 14, 1776 writing “NEWPORT... June 17. Friday last [June 14<sup>th</sup>] arrived here from a cruise the brig *Andrew Doria*, Capt. Biddle, who about 14 days before took two transport ships from Greenock, having on board each 100 Scotch troops; Capt. Biddle took out the officers, navigators, and sailors, to the number of 40; with all the small arms and baggage of value, manned the ships with his own men, and kept company with them 13 days, when, being a little without Nantasket shoals, they were chased by five vessels, one a pretty large man of war; upon which he ordered the prizes to steer different courses, and though the man of war chased him, night coming on, he soon lost sight of them. The prisoners brought in were landed here on Friday evening, and report that they were part of 33 sail from Greenock.” An article dated June 22<sup>nd</sup> in the *Rhode Island Providence Gazette* reported “Wednesday last [June 19] the Officers taken by Capt. Biddle out of two Transport Ships from Scotland... arrived here, and have since been conducted to a Place of Safety in the Country...”

Munro and Campbell were held in New England about seven months until exchanged. Just prior to his release Munro was required to sign a subsistence receipt for his expenses which stated “*Providence February 1<sup>st</sup> 1777 The Subscribers acknowledge that they have been subsisted at the Expence of the Country since they were made Prisoners. Harry Munro L<sup>t</sup> 42<sup>d</sup> or Rolay Highland Reg<sup>t</sup> ...*”

Lt. Munro embarked with Ens. Campbell on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at Providence, Rhode Island on the cartel (or exchange) ship *Nancy* to sail to Newport to be exchanged. An exchange report noted “*Providence February 1<sup>st</sup> 1777... List of Officers in his Britannick Majesty’s Service sent in the Carteel Sloop Nancy to Newport under the Direction of M<sup>r</sup> John Innis Clarke Harry Munro Lieutenant of the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment...*” There may have been a delay in sailing as the *Nancy* did not arrive at Newport until Feb. 7.

Orders concerning the exchanged prisoners were issued in Rhode Island by Maj. Gen. Earl Percy on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> directing “*The men who arrived in the Cartel yesterday are during their stay to be under the Command of the Officers, who came with them. Lieu<sup>t</sup> Munro 42<sup>d</sup> regiment will apply to Major [John] Innes [Royal Artillery], for Arms, cartridge boxes and Ammunition...*”

Munro likely became ill or was injured during captivity as noted by Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., to Lord John Murray in March 1777. Stirling wrote "*L' Chisolm is very ill, nor do I Expect much Service out of L' H. Munro...*" Once exchanged, Munro served with the line battalion in the New Jersey campaign of 1777 and the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-1778.

General Orders dated Oct. 26, 1777 announced a possible new assignment for Lt. Munro appointing "... *Lieut Munro, 42d. Regiment, an Overseer of the King's Works in the Engineer Department.*" However, it cannot be confirmed to which Lt. Munro (Alexander or Harry) this appointment applied. It may have been Lt. Harry Munro who was noted as being ill earlier that year and may not have been capable of the vigorous service of a line infantry battalion. Conversely, the next muster of the regiment at "*Philadelphia 23<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1778*" showed both lieutenants present with their companies, but the muster at "*Camp at Bedford 27<sup>th</sup> July 1778*" showed Alexander Munro away on duty (possibly with the engineers), while Harry Munro was listed a present for the muster. A Sept. 26, 1778 advertisement in the *Royal Gazette* for a lost horse also places Lt. Harry Munro with the regiment in camp near Bedford, Long Island.

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was in Philadelphia after the successful campaign to capture the rebel capital, Lord John Murray wrote to the Secretary at War Viscount Barrington on Feb. 25, 1778 about Lt. Munro indicating "... *I had the honor to Acquaint your Lordship, when at London, that I had wrote for Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Harry Munro from America to join the Additional, in place of Lieu<sup>t</sup> [William] Rose deceased.*" Lord Murray, however, had trouble prying officers loose from Lt. Col. Stirling in America, and Munro did not return to Scotland to recruit as ordered.

Lord John Murray tried several times during the war to win approval to raise a second battalion to his regiment. After one attempt, in Apr. 1778 he responded to questions from the War Office on his selection of officers and discussed his selection of Lt. Munro to be a Captain in the new battalion. Lord Murray wrote "... *The reasons of the proposing to prefer Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [George] Mackenzie and Munro is that they are much older Officers in the Army, and have also greater intrest in the Highlands to raise recruits than Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [Robert] Potts.*" The second battalion was not approved at that time, and Munro continued to serve with the regiment in America.



Reproduction 71<sup>st</sup> (Fraser's) Highland Regt. Officer's Uniform Button

On May 22, 1779, General Orders in New York announced Munro's promotion to Capt. Lieutenant of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders) with a date of rank of Feb. 2, 1779 in place of Capt. Lt. Alexander Sutherland. Subsequent to Munro's promotion in America, the War Office took issue with Munro's advancement writing to Sir Henry Clinton on Nov. 2, 1779 that "... *List of promotions approved excepting succession to Capt. Munro of the 71<sup>st</sup>; for which the proposal of Lieut. Sutherland or Lieut. Duncanson lies over till letters are received...*" The War Office's concerns were apparently addressed and its records indicate that "... *Successions in 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> submitted for His Majesty's Approbation in Sir Henry Clinton's Letters of the 2<sup>d</sup> April & 20<sup>th</sup> July 1779, and which are now approved by His Majesty... Capt, L' Alex<sup>r</sup> Sutherland to be Captain, vice [George] Munro deceased - 2<sup>d</sup> feb<sup>y</sup> 1779 L' Harry Munro of 42<sup>d</sup> Foot, to be Capt. L' vice Sutherland d<sup>o</sup>...*"

During the Siege of Charleston, South Carolina, General Orders announced Munro's next promotion. Orders for Apr. 18, 1780 read "... *The Commander in Chief is pleased to make the follow<sup>g</sup> Promotions...*

71<sup>st</sup> Regiment [1<sup>st</sup> Battalion] ...*Cap<sup>t</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> Munroe to be Cap<sup>t</sup> vice [Norman] M<sup>c</sup>Leod prom<sup>d</sup> 2 Feb. 1779...*” Based on Army regulations, Munro’s date of rank as Captain was back dated to his date of rank as Capt. Lieutenant.

Capt. Munro signed his will in Charleston on Nov. 14, 1780, indicating he was not present with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. which was then campaigning near the Broad River in South Carolina. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, under Maj. Archibald M<sup>c</sup>Arthur, was heavily engaged and captured in Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton’s defeat at the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina on Jan. 17, 1781, however Munro was not in the battle. He was listed as a member of a court-martial board at Charleston, South Carolina from Mar. 28-31, 1781 with Maj. M<sup>c</sup>Arthur (taken at Cowpens) and two other Captains of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.

Later in 1781 Munro submitted a Memorial to Sir Henry Clinton to sell his Company in the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. and retire. Accordingly, General Orders dated at New York on Feb. 2, 1782 recorded his replacement’s promotion and showed Capt. Munro’s retirement date. The orders indicated “... *The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following Promotion 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>mt</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> James Innes from 16<sup>th</sup> Regiment to be Cap<sup>t</sup> vice Munroe who retires } 1781 1 Dec<sup>r</sup>...*”

Capt. Munro was living in St. John the Evangelist Parish, Westminster, London when he died around 1788. Some records indicate he left his estate to members of a New Jersey family of unknown connection to Munro including “...*Leg: son Gilbert Van Mater; eldest daughter Caty Disbrough, wife of Henry Disbrough; daughter Sarah Van Mater; third daughter Micah, wife of Daniel Polleamus; the children of Benjamin Van Mater.*” However, a later review of the records indicate that was a clerical error in the original record where children of another individual were listed under Capt. Munro. Munro left his lands in Georgia to his brother Simon. However, Simon Munro was attainted by the rebel-controlled State of Georgia as a traitor due to his service to the Crown and was banished from the state.

Simon Munro’s banishment was removed and Capt. Munro’s estate in Georgia was transferred to the heirs of Simon Munro (who had died in 1790) by an act passed by the Georgia legislature titled “*An act for the relief of the heirs of Simon Munro, Deceased*” and signed by Gov. Jared Irwin on Feb. 8, 1797.

Commissions: Ens. July 23, 1757 (78<sup>th</sup> Regt. or Second Highland Bn.); Lt. Dec. 12, 1759 (78<sup>th</sup> Regt. or Second Highland Bn.); Lt. Half-pay Dec. 14, 1763 (78<sup>th</sup> Regt. or Second Highland Bn.); Lt. from Half-Pay Aug. 26, 1775 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Capt. Lt. May 22, 1779 – effective Feb. 2, 1779 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Apr. 18, 1780 – effective Feb. 2, 1779 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.); Retired Dec. 1, 1781 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 71<sup>st</sup> Highland Regt.).

**References:** “Descendants of Alexander Munro,” Marie Fraser, *Clan Fraser of Canada*; “Lieutenant Harry (Henry) Munro of the 78th Regiment” Charlotte deVult Elder, *Munro Eagle* (Newsletter) (vol. 12, Winter 1981-82), Clan Munro America, pp. 19-21; *Newspaper Clippings Georgia Gazette* Vol. II, 1774-1785, p 50, Abstracted, compiled, and published by Elizabeth Evans Kilbourne, Savannah, 2000; *Clan Fraser Society Newsletter*, Marie Fraser, Genealogy/Newsletter Editor, Clan Fraser Society of Canada; John Smith to Robert Van Rensselaer, New York, June 30, 1776, at *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*, Vol. 5, William J. Morgan Ed., Washington, 1970, pp. 836-837; *Virginia Gazette*, Dixon and Hunter, Williamsburg, July 6, 1776, p. 1; *Providence Gazette*, June 6, 1776, p. 3; “*Return of Officers, Non Commissioned Officers, Drummers, Rank & File, of the Following Corps Prisoners with the Rebels*” 1776, Frederick Mackenzie Papers, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan, transcribed by Todd Braisted; Subsistence Receipt by 42<sup>nd</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment and Naval Officers Held Prisoner at Providence, Rhode Island, Feb. 1, 1777; Council of War Papers, Exchange of Prisoners and Miscellaneous Papers, 1775-1781, Rhode Island Archives, in *Naval Documents of the American Revolution*, Vol. 7, Ed, William James Morgan, Naval History Div., Dept. of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 1976, pp. 1079-80; General Orders, Feb. 8, 1777, *General Orders Rhode Island, December 1776 – January 1778*, Ed. Don N. Hagist, Heritage Books, Westminster (Maryland), 2007, p.30 from TNA, *War Office, Entry Books, American Revolution, Orders Rhode Island* at WO 36/2; General Orders, Philadelphia Oct. 26, 1777, New York, May 22, 1779, Williams’ House, near Charleston, South Carolina Apr. 18, 1780, and New York on Feb. 2, 1782; Thomas Stirling to Lord John Murray “*Piscataqua in the Jerseys 3 Miles from Brunswick on the road leading to*



*Amboy 13<sup>th</sup> March 1777*” in the *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Lord John Murray to Viscount Barrington, Feb. 25, 1778, War Office, In-letters at WO 1/997; TNA, Lord John Murray to War Office Apr. 1778 at WO 1/997; Manuscript Collection Book 42, folio # 27, *Brooklyn Historical Society*; Summary of Letter from Charles Jenkinson to Sir Henry Clinton, Nov. 2, 1779 in *Report on American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Vol. II, Historical Manuscripts Commission, His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London, 1906, Google Books, p. 56; TNA, King George III’s Approval of Promotion of Lt. Harry Munro, 42nd Regt., *War Office, Out-letters* at WO 4/274, f. 155 (p. 308); TNA, Charles Jenkinson to Sir Henry Clinton, July 4, 1780 at WO 4/274, pp. 307-308 (ff. 154V-155); TNA, King George III, Promotion of Lt. Harry Munro, June 22, 1780, *War Office, Baron Jeffrey Amherst, Commander in Chief, Papers, Commissions recommended to the King* at WO 34/246, p. 342; Promotion Recommendation Harry Munro, Mar. 25, 1780, *Sir Henry Clinton Papers* 89: 44, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan, transcribed by Todd Braisted; “Memorials and Recommendations to be attended to,” after Sept. 1780, *Frederick Mackenzie Papers*, transcribed by Todd Braisted, W. L. Clements Library, Univ. of Michigan; TNA, *War Office Commission Books (series I)* at WO 25/34, p. 253; *London Gazette* for July 15, 1780 p. 5 and May 18, 1782 p. 5; TNA, Will of Capt. Harry Munro, *Prerogative Court of Canterbury and related Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers* at PROB 11-1167; Return of the prisoners taken at Cowpens 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 1781 in the *Thomas Bradford Papers*, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, p. 66; TNA, “Court Martial of Lt. Anthony Allaire,” *War Office, Judge Advocate General’s Office, Court Martial Proceedings, Marching Regiments*, at WO71/93, pp. 287-311 and at The On-Line Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies; TNA, Memorial of Simon Munro late of the Province of Georgia, *Audit Office, American Loyalist Claims, Series II* at AO 13/26, folios 785-786, also shown at The On-Line Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies; Will errors are explained in *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. 162, Whole Number 645, January 2008, p. 77; *Georgia, Comprising Sketches of Counties Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form*, Vol. II, Ed. Allen D. Candler and Gen. Clement A Evans, State Historical Association, Atlanta, 1906, Google Books, p. 58; *North American Wills Registered in London, 1611-1857*, Compiled by Peter Wilson Coldham, Genealogical Publishing Co., 2007, Google Book preview, p. 70; *The Revolutionary Records of the State of Georgia*, Vol. I, Compiled by Allen D. Candler, The Franklin-Turner Co., Atlanta, 1908, Google Books, pp. 627-628; TNA, Will of Harry Munro, Captain 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot of Charleston, South Carolina, June 23, 1788, *Records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury*, Calvert Quire Numbers: 298 - 344 at PROB 11/1167.



Lt. Gen. Lord John Murray, circa 1759 by Allan Ramsay

Picture Source: *Chronicles of the Atholl and Tullibardine Families*, Vol. III, Ed. John, 7<sup>th</sup> Duke of Atholl, 1908, opp. p. 370.

Signature source: TNA, *War Office: Baron Jeffrey Amherst Papers at WO 34/126*, f. 272.

**Murray**, Gen. Lord John. Born on Bond Street, London on Apr. 14, 1711 and the Godson of Queen Anne, Lord John Murray was the eldest son of John (Ian Cam) Murray, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Atholl, by his second wife, Mary Ross (daughter of William, Lord Ross of Haukhead). Lord John was educated at a Swiss school in Little Chelsea and was the younger half-brother of Lord George Murray, a General of the Jacobite Army in the Rebellion of 1745.

On April 10, 1727, Maj. Gen. George Wade, famous for the building of military roads in the Highlands of Scotland, wrote Secretary of State Viscount Charles Townshend about a commission for Lord John Murray indicating that “...*I must likewise put your Lordship in mind of two persons I had the honour to mention to you, the one is the Lord John Murray, the eldest son of the Duke of Athol by his second marriage; he has been educated in England, is a youth of good parts, very desirous to serve in the army,*

*and will be very pleased with a Colours in the Foot Guards having very little to depend on...*” On Oct. 7, 1727 Lord Murray was commissioned Ensign in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regt. of Foot Guards (now the Scots Guards), commanded by his cousin John Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Dunmore. Lord John advanced to Lieutenant in the Guards in 1733. Also that year, at age 22, Lord John Murray purchased the moderate estate of Pitnacree from his half-brother James, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Atholl. Pitnacree was described in a 1775 newspaper advertisement as “... *THE Mansion House of PITNACREE, consisting of a neat parlour, eight bed-rooms, a kitchen, with several other apartments for servants, all completely furnished. Pitnacree lies on the north side of the Tay, eight miles above Dunkeld, and 8 below Taymouth...*”

In 1734, the Duke also helped Lord Murray secure a seat in the House of Commons from Perthshire which he retained until 1761. The *Supplement to the Gentleman’s Magazine for the Year 1740* recorded Lord Murray’s ongoing service writing “...*An exact LIST of the House of COMMONS elected in 1734 as it stood in their last Session, Dec. 31, 1740... SCOTLAND. Shire of... Perth - Lord John Murray of Pitnacree...*” During this period Lord Murray lived in a still existing townhome in London at 12 Cleveland Row, located about 500 yards northeast of Buckingham Palace.

In Apr. 1737, *The Gentleman’s Magazine* published “*A LIST OF PROMOTIONS for the Year 1737...*” which included the listing “... *Lord John Murray – Capt. Lieut. in the third Regiment of Foot-Guards, in room of Capt. Ingram – Colonel...*” The next year Lord Murray was again promoted as reported in the periodical *Exposition on the Common Prayer* which read “*WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1738 [Julian Calendar] LONDON... Last Thursday [Dec. 14] ... As was the same Day the Lord John Murray, Captain-Lieutenant, of the third regiment of Foot-Guards, to the Lord Cavendish’s Company in the said Regiment...*” Lord Murray’s date of rank as Captain was Dec. 15, 1738 and as was the custom for Guards officers, this promotion also made Lord Murray a Lt. Colonel in the Army.

In 1743 there was a mutiny and desertion of over a hundred soldiers of the Highland Regt., caused by rumors they were to be sent to the disease-ridden West Indies. Capt. and Lt. Col. Lord Murray wrote his brother, the Duke of Atholl, on May 26, 1743, requesting his assistance in gaining the Colonelcy of the 43<sup>rd</sup> or Highland Regt. Lord Murray wrote “... *I wrote last post of the Highland Deserters having surrendered themselves to Brig: Blaikney in Sudberry Wood in Northamptonshire, and L<sup>d</sup> [Hugh] Semple told me he would be extreamly glad to have an other Reg<sup>t</sup>., which he has asked for, and belive he will get, as there is two vacant at present. They have been so much spirited up for some reason or other, tho’ their complaints have appeared very frivelous, that he says he can never have any satisfaction in commanding them. I have therefore, by good advice, made application to [Thomas Pelham-Holles] the Duke of Newcastle and M<sup>r</sup> [Future Prime Minister Henry] Pelham to succeed his Lop: [Lordship], as I am an elder Lieutenant-Colonel then S<sup>r</sup> Robert Munro, and your Interest in the Highlands far superior to his. I must therefore beg the favour of you to write to Gen<sup>l</sup> [Jaspar] Clayton to Reccomend me for that Reg<sup>t</sup>., whoes oppinion will have great weight...*”

Two months later and apparently independent of Lord Murrays’ attempt at the Colonelcy of the Highlanders, *The London Gazette* carried a Whitehall announcement dated July 9, 1743 which read “*The King has been pleased to constitute and appoint, John Earl of Loudoun, Lord George Sackville, Lord John Murray, Roger Townshend, Esq; and Robert Douglass, Esq; to be Aids de Camp to his Majesty.*”



King George II at the Battle of Dettingen, 27 June 1743, by John Wootton

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Lord Murray wrote his brother the Duke on July 7, 1743 to report “Yesterday the Duke of Newcastle told me he had just Rec<sup>d</sup> an express from L<sup>d</sup> [John] Carteret that the King had been pleased to appoint me on of his Aid de Camps... I am in a great hurry getting horses, which will be very expensive, as I must have seven, with the addition of 1 or 2 more Servants. Col. Townsend goes with me; we propose setting out this day sevensnight....” At the time King George II was personally commanding the British Army in Flanders.

It was not until 1745 that Col. Hugh, Lord Sempill left the 43<sup>rd</sup> or Highland Regt. to take command of the 25<sup>th</sup> Regt. and Whitehall announced on Apr. 30 that “The King has been pleased to constitute and appoint... Lieutenant Colonel Lord John Murray to be Colonel of His Majesty’s Highland Regiment of Foot, late under the Command of the Lord Sempill...” Lord Murray’s commission was dated Apr. 25, 1745. Lord Murray’s new regiment was heavily engaged at the battle of Fontenoy on May 11, 1745, but he had not yet joined the regiment as he noted in a letter to the Duke of Atholl from Gravesend on May 15<sup>th</sup> that he was embarking that night to join the army.

Lord Murray later wrote a memorandum of his services (at Spa, Belgium in 1783) and indicated that he “... immediately joined the army in Flanders, under the command of the Duke of Cumberland.” Soon after his arrival the 35-year old Colonel was assigned by the Duke to defend the pass between Lessines and Grammont with a force consisting of his regiment, 500 Hussars and some of the Foot Guards with orders “to defend it to the last.” Lord Murray repulsed the French which attacked during the night and the Duke publicly honored him the next day “... a very particular manner.” Lord Murray and his Highlanders were assigned to a position of honor in the Rear-Guard to cover the retreat of the British forces.

Just four months later, on Aug. 19, 1745, Charles Edward Stewart (*Bonnie Prince Charlie*), son of James Stewart (*the Pretender*), raised his standard on the shore of Loch Shiel, near Glenfinnan, to lead the Jacobite Rebellion to place his father on the throne of Britain. Lord Murray and the 43<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders were ordered back from France with ten other regiments in Oct. 1745. Although three newly raised companies of the Highland Regt. took part in suppressing the rebellion, Lord Murray and the main body

of the regiment were employed on the coast of Kent to block any potential French invasion in support of the Jacobites.



Engraving Showing the Uniform of the Highland Regt. in 1746, by "In<sup>o</sup> Sebastian Müller"

Picture Source: *The Military History of Perthshire, 1660-1902*, facing p. 56.

During the War of the Austrian Succession, with Lord Murray at their head, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders took part in the Sept. – Oct. 1746 raid on Lorient on southwest coast of Brittany, France.

Following the raid on Lorient, the Highland Regt. sailed from Quiberon Bay for Cork, Ireland where a newspaper reported their arrival writing "...on Saturday the 4th of November. Lord John Murray's regiment of Highlanders marched in here with his Lordship, the colonel, at their head, who, with the whole corps of officers and men, were dressed in the Highland dress."



Model of Bergen op Zoom in 1747



Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons by Menno Fokke.

On Apr. 27, 1747 the Highlanders again sailed for Flanders, to rejoin the Duke of Cumberland's forces. Lord Murray's memorial indicates that in 1747 he *"was at the Siege of Hulst, and after Fort Zanberg was taken."* He commanded the rear guard of the army on its march to Ellewisdike where he *"was attacked, and again repulsed the enemy."* He was then ordered to join the force of Austrian Prince Joseph of Saxe-Hildburghausen and was placed at the head of the British troops in the lines of Bergen-op-Zoom, and afterwards at the camp of Oudenhost, where he received a letter from the Secretary-at-War Henry Fox, providing the King's *"...approbation of his conduct during all that campaign."*

Col. Charles Russell wrote his wife on Aug. 15, 1747 reporting on Col. Barrington's visit to Bergen in Holland. Russell wrote *"He dined with Lord John Murray and Lord Loudoun, the former of whom commands the two Highland regiments there. They live very comfortably, being the only two regiments who dont go on duty into the town, and the enemy having brought no forces against the lines since they left off their attack on Fort Rover."* Russell was not quite correct as only Lord Murray and a few officer volunteers of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders were present in the city with Loudoun's Highlanders. Lord John Murray's Highlanders were at South Beveland (then an island) west of Bergen-op-Zoom.

In Nov. 1748 Gen. James Oglethorpe's 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Fort Frederica, Georgia was ordered to disband and the 43<sup>rd</sup> or Highland Regt. moved up in the army precedence to become the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Highland Regt. and in Dec. 1748 the regiment returned from Flanders to a garrison assignment in Ireland. Dr. Richard Pococke, a church dignitary, wrote of meeting Lord John Murray near Bryansford (about 87 miles north of Dublin) during his tour of Ireland in 1752. Pococke wrote *"I here met L<sup>d</sup> John Murray brother and heir apparent to the Duke of Athol, a Colonel of the High-land Regiment in this kingdom, a most accomplished fine bred Gentleman..."* Three years later on Mar. 18, 1755 Whitehall announced *"The King has been pleased to constitute and appoint John Murray, Esq; commonly called Lord John Murray ...To be Major Generals of all His Majesty's Forces."* Lord Murray commission was dated Feb. 16, 1755.

In the spring of 1756 the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. sailed for America for the French and Indian War under Lt. Col. Francis Grant and Maj. Duncan Campbell. Maj. Gen. Lord Murray volunteered his services for the wars in America and Europe, but the War Office did not select him for a command in those theaters of war. On hearing the news that Maj. Gen. William Braddock, Commander-in-Chief in America, was killed in Pennsylvania in 1755, Lord Murray offered to take his post but was not successful in obtaining that position. Although Lord Murray did not serve with the regiment in America, he showed a particular interest in the welfare of the soldiers of the regiment. As an example, when the Highlanders wounded and discharged after the bloody Battle of Ticonderoga, New York in 1758 arrived in London to be examined by the Pension Board at Chelsea, the *Westminster Journal* reported *"That the morning they were to appear before the Board, he was in London, and dressed himself in the full Highland uniform, and, putting himself at the head of all those who could walk, he marched to Chelsea, and explained their case in such a manner to the Commissioners, that all obtained the pension. He gave them five guineas to drink the King's health, and their friends with the regiment, and two guineas to each of those who had wives, and he got the whole a free passage to Perth, with an offer to such as chose to settle on his estate, to give them a house and garden."*

Independent of the Highland Regt.'s heroism at Ticonderoga, the regiment received a significant sign of Royal approval in 1758. Lord Murray wrote his brother the Duke from London on June 22, 1758 reporting *"...This morning my L<sup>d</sup> [Gen. John] Ligonier told me that yesterday His Majesty was pleased to honour the Reg<sup>t</sup> under my command with the Title of 'Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>,' & to order it to be augmented with seven companys."*



Banner Cross, Sheffield

Picture Source: *The Bagshawes of Ford, a Biographical Pedigree*, by William H. G. Bagshawe, Mitchell and Hughes, London, 1886, opp. p. 507.

Lord Murray married Mary Dalton on Sept. 13, 1758, and through her inherited the estate of Banner Cross, (about three miles southwest of Sheffield). The Hon. Henry Drummond wrote to Mr. John Murray of Strowan from Banner Cross on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> to describe the marriage and estate. He noted “... *I take the first opportunity that I could find, without breach of trust, to inform you of what I am sure will give you great pleasure, which is that L<sup>d</sup> John Murray is upon the point of being married to a very sensible pretty young woman, of about 26, with a very great fortune, which is generally call’d in this country £3000 p: annum, and the very lowest I have heard is £50,000. I was sent for by L<sup>d</sup> John the very day I wrote you from London, and arrived here (along with the Dutchess of Gordon) about two hours ago, and by the little I have seen of her I have no reason but to think she deserves the above character. The day is fix’d for Wednesday next the 13th ins<sup>t</sup>. Lord John has done me the honour to desire me to be his best man upon that day. I forgot to tell you her name, which is Dalton, and her estate lays chiefly in this county and Derbyshire, which, as I am informed, has mines & many other valuable things upon it, and very capable of great improvement, which I beleve will answer as well to his Lordship at Pitnacree...Y<sup>rs</sup> ever most sincerely, Henry Drummond.*”



Huntingtower Castle, near Perth

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons by Brian D. Osborne.

Lord Murray and his wife were staying with his mother, the Dowager Duchess of Athole at her home of Huntingtower near Perth when his only daughter and heir, Mary was born on Oct. 7, 1759. About six years later, Lady Murray, died on May 21, 1765 at age 33. In 1770, eleven-year old Mary was noted as attending Mrs. Denis Boarding School in Queen Square, Ormond St., London. Lord Murray also had an illegitimate son, John Murray Robertson, who joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. as an Ensign when the battalion was raised in 1780.

Two years after his wife's death, Lord Murray advertised in *The Caledonian Mercury*, to auction off his home in Edinburgh writing *"To be Sold, by public voluntary roup, within John's coffeeshouse in Edinburgh, upon Thursday the 7th day of July next, between the hours of four and five afternoon, That LARGE HOUSE and GARDEN, with offices, stable, and farm adjoining, called the Blackfriars, situated on the north side of the town of Perth, separately and distinctly by themselves, the property of Lord John Murray..."*

Lord Murray was promoted to Lt. General in Jan. 1758 and he memorialized that promotion by posing for a portrait in his Lt. General's uniform by famous Scottish artist Allan Ramsay in 1759.

In late 1769 Lord Murray learned the Governorship of the Colony of New York was vacant and wrote a series of letters requesting that post to the Sec. of State for the Colonies, Wills Hill, Earl of Hillsborough. Lord Murray wrote *"...When I heard of the Government of New York being Vacant, waited for your Lops arrival at London to make my application which I only heard last night, I presume to ask the favour of your Lordship to Reccom<sup>d</sup>. me to His Majesty for that Government, which if it is His Royal Pleasure to Confer on me Shall faithfully Discharge my Duty to the utmost of my Power, and on all occasions Shew my gratitude to your Lordship, and punctually Obey Your Commands."* After being rejected Lord Murray wrote a conciliatory response on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> indicating *"... I Know His Majestys Determination not to Conferr his Civil Governments in America upon Officers in the Army in Actual Commission. because as I understand, His Majesty has found it prejudicial to his Service in the Army."*

After losing his bid for New York, Lord Murray made another request to get a more profitable dragoon regiment or a military governorship. He wrote the Earl of Hillsborough again on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> describing his efforts noting *"...I have Sent inclosed to [John Manners] the Marquis of Granby [Commander on Chief of the Forces] a memorial to the King [George III], and am in hopes of having the promise of a Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Dragoons, or a Military Government when a Vacancy happens."*

Murray was promoted General in April 1770 and made a final bid three years later to regain his old Perthshire Parliament seat, but had to withdraw due to lack of support. Recognizing his political career was finished, he sold most of his Scottish estates and made no further effort to enter Parliament.

Although Lord Murray is often described as fiercely dedicated to the Royal Highlanders, in Aug. 1773 he sent a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland stating his long and faithful services in the army, and praying for the command of a regiment of dragoons or command of government installation should a vacancy occur. Dragoon regiments, with their additional equipment, were known to offer better financial opportunities for their Colonels. The Lord Lieutenant, however, did not act on his request.

In April 1775 Lord Murray again tried to obtain the Colonelcy of a Regt. of Dragoons. He wrote the Secretary at War *"I took the liberty of writing to your Lordship above a year ago, when the [Gen. William Kerr] Marquis of Lothians death was reported, as its now again mention'd in the Papers, Should it prove true, I beg leave to Renew my Application, that your Lordship will be so kind, as to take the first opportunity of laying my Services in the most humble manner before His Majesty, and if Graciously Pleas'd to conferr on me the Eleventh Regiment of Dragoons, would make me very happy with this mark of Royal Favour..."* Lord Murray was unsuccessful in his attempt as Maj, Gen James Johnston was appointed Colonel of the 11<sup>th</sup> Dragoons on Apr. 27, 1775.

Undeterred by his unsuccessful attempt to obtain the 11<sup>th</sup> Dragoons, Lord Murray again wrote the Secretary at War just a month later for one of the prestigious Troops of Horse Guards. He wrote Viscount Barrington from Queen's Square Blooms berry on May 26<sup>th</sup> that *"... as I am very diffident in Speaking of my Services my Self, if your Lordship would be so kind as to do it in a favourable manner to His Majesty, as you have Such frequent opportunities, I shall not doubt of Success, when a Troop of Horse Guards becomes Vacant, Which I shall ever acknowledge with the Utmost Gratitude, and have the honor to be with the Greatest Respect and Attachment..."* Lord Murray was again unsuccessful in obtaining this new assignment.

About two months after the American War for Independence broke out in Massachusetts in Apr. 1775, the Secretary at War notified Lord Murray on June 29<sup>th</sup> that the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. would be augmented to 1000 private men in ten companies for the American war. The next month, on July 24, 1775, the Royal Highlanders left Ireland for Scotland to recruit to the new higher establishment. Two months later on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> the War Office notified Lord Murray that two Additional (or recruiting) Companies would be added to the regiment to sustain the strength of the regiment while it was deployed to America.

Lord Murray left London on Aug. 3, 1775 to travel to Glasgow to supervise the raising of the regiment to its new Establishment. His departure was recorded in *Lloyd's Evening Post* of London which wrote *"Friday, August 4... Yesterday there was a Court and Drawing Room at St. James's, at which the Marquis of Caernarvon, Lord John Murray, the Solicitor General, Lord Cantalupe, the Prince of Waldeck, the Imperial, French, Spanish, and Prussian Ambassadors, the Countesses of Egremont, Delawar, Holderness, &c. attended... Yesterday Lord John Murray took leave of their Majesties at St. James's, previous to his setting out for Scotland to recruit his regiment."*

Although headed for Glasgow to join the Highlanders, Lord Murray did not give up on obtaining a more lucrative assignment. He wrote Viscount Barrington unsuccessfully from Derby on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> that *"...as I am informed Lieu<sup>t</sup>. General Irwine is to have the Royal Hospital near Dublin vacant by General Dilkes, I hope your Lordship wont think it too presuming in me to apply for the Government of Londonderry which in that case will be vacant. I am not certain of the proper Channell to make my humble application for it to His majesty, if it is His Pleasure to conferr it on me, as its an Irish Government. The Earl of Harcourt*

*transmitted a Memorial to the King, to the Earl of Rochford three Years ago, of my Services, when I was at Dublin, but hope your Lordship will please mention me for this if you judge it proper... ”*

Lord Murray was heavily involved in recommending new officers for the regiment, but his efforts were not well received by his Lt. Colonel, Thomas Stirling, Younger of Ardoch. Stirling complained of the quality of the officers brought in to the regiment in a Feb. 8, 1776 letter to Capt. and Lt. Col. James Murray (Strowan) that *“Lord John I find is very keen for a 2<sup>d</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup>, but they and we must be gone before that can happen, and if he arranges his Officers as ill for it as he did for the Augmentation, it will go but poorly on, I have nothing but a paper War with him since I came here, which with a neglect & want of Countenance from above has made me Sick of my profession, and I do think will give it up when the service we are going on is over ... ”* Stirling’s complaints may have partially resulted from the War Office filling some of the positions with officers from the half-pay list of other regiments, independent of Lord Murray’s recommendations.

As was common for Colonels of British regiments, Gen. Lord Murray did not serve with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in the American wars, leaving field command to the Lt. Colonel. Several times during the American war, Lord Murray wrote to the War office to confirm his ability to direct changes in officer assignments in his regiment. This was likely as result of Lt. Col. Stirling’s resistance to Lord Murray’s requests to move officers. On Feb. 7, 1776 Lord Murray wrote *“...I presume I have the same permission to Change Officers to and from the Additional Companys for the good of the Service, as I had when the regiment was ordered last Abroad...”* The War Office replied on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> that *“...It is intirely in your Lordship’s breast to fix upon the officers who are to remain at home with the Additional Companies of your Regim<sup>t</sup>, and to change them from time to time as you may find expedient – You will be pleased to send me a List of them as soon as convenient.”* Lord Barrington again addressed Gen. Murray’s command authority in a letter to Lord John dated Mar. 2, 1776 which indicated *“...With respect to the Questions stated in Your Lordship’s last Letter, there is no doubt but every Colonel may take the Command of his own Regiment; But how far his interfering in the detail may be expedient for H. M’s. Service, is a Matter of which I am not the proper Judge; Your Lordship has referred it to the Duke of Argyll, and you could not have put it in better hands.”* The Duke of Argyle was the Commander of British Forces in Scotland.

By April 1776 all preparations for the expedition to America were complete and Lord Murray reported to the Secretary at War on Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> that *“I have the honor to Acquaint your Lordship that in consequence of L<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>r</sup>. Ja<sup>s</sup>. Ad [James Adolphus] Oughton orders the battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Foot marched this Morning to Greenock about 24 miles where they were ordered to embark on their arrival this day. I have the Satisfaction to inform your Lordship they marched from this in great Spirits, amongst a great concourse of people; the battalion compleat of Officers & Soldiers, Except Lieu<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Rose of the Battalion, who has not joined Since his Appointment from half pay...”*

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was in America, Lord Murray’s command authority over assignment of officers was again challenged by Lt. Col. Stirling. A letter from Capt. John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh to Lord Murray, dated Apr. 2, 1779 explained Stirling’s resistance. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh wrote *“I did my Self the honor of writing your Lordship the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, in answer to yours of the 5 Decem<sup>r</sup> Requesting me to go home, and take the Command of the Additional Company; I told your Lordship I had no objections to go home – But that at present Colo<sup>l</sup> Stirling would not allow a Capt<sup>n</sup> to go home as he says one of the Additional Company is at Newfoundland – till your Lordship gets this matter Cleened up at the War Office. I must Remain with the Reg<sup>t</sup>...”*

During the period of 1780 to 1781, communications between Maj. Charles Graham, then commanding the battalion in America, and Lord John Murray were so strained that Lord Murray complained to Secretary at War Charles Jenkinson. On Sept. 15, 1781 Lord Murray wrote that *“I have wrote to Major Charles*



*Graham who has Commanded the first Battalion of my Regiment above a year ago, and desired him at different times, to send me Monthly returns of my first Battalion, and what Arms and accoutrements were lost in Service and otherwise, or if he could not do it, to mention in his letters to me, which I desired every Opportunity, the Numbers that then were, and other Extraordinary's, but have not had any Answer from him to my different letters, and imagined they could not all have miscarried. I have wrote to him again the 10<sup>th</sup>. Inst<sup>d</sup>: of it. & that I should be under the disagreeable Necessity of troubling you with his neglect; in not writing according to my orders, & sending returns, which I m sorry to do, but I believe you'l observe the Necissity of my knowing it."* The Secretary at War again endorsed Lord Murray's command authority writing on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> that *"...I need not acquaint your Lordship that a Colonel of a Reg<sup>t</sup>: is fully empowered to give such Regimental Orders as he shall think requisite for the carrying on of His Majesty's Service, & to enforce the Obedience of them without the necessity of any Interference of Office. As is so late as the 15<sup>th</sup>: inst. that You signified to Major Graham your Intention of acquainting the S. at W. with his neglect, I am not without hopes that Your Lordship will soon receive such an Answer from the Major, as may be entirely satisfactory to you, & under any further Application unnecessary."*

Lord Murray made several offers to raise a second battalion for his regiment beginning in 1776. The War Office contacted him in 1779 to accept his offer. Lord Murray replied in a letter to Lord Amherst dated July 26, 1779 writing *"My Lord I am honoured with the receipt of your Lordships letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> only last night and take the Earliest opportunity to Acquaint your Lordship that I most willingly Agree to raise a Second Battalion to the Forty Second, or Royal Highland Regiment, without any Expence to Government, and shall punctually Obey the other terms contained in your Lordships letter..."* The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. sailed from Portsmouth in Mar. 1781 in a secret expedition against South Africa and then proceeded for service in India. That battalion never served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in America and in lieu of being reduced was renumbered as the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. in August 1786.

Gen. Lord Murray became seriously ill on London on May 10, 1780. His daughter recorded his illness in her journal writing *"...Wednesday, May 10.—Breakfasted at 9 o'clock. General [Robert] Skene came to see my father while we were at breakfast... My father was out all the forenoon, and dressed to go to Court, but was too late. Several gentlemen of fashion called upon him after they came from Court, but he did not let them in. At four o'clock he went into the dining-room to dinner, and I came soon after, when I found him sitting at table with a basin before him. He was seized with a fit, between apoplectic and paralytic, vomited a great deal, and his eyes were terribly turned."* Two senior officers, Maj. Gen. James Grant and Lt. Gen. Lord Adam Gordon both wrote Lord Amherst that month, recommending themselves to take over the Colonelcy of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. Gordon wrote of Murray's condition saying *"My Letters of this morning, describe Lord John Murray, as given over"* and Grant wrote *"As Lord John Murray, still continues to be dangerously ill, Your Lordship I flatter myself, will excuse the Liberty I take in renewing my Application to your Lordship to move His Majesty to appoint me, to the Command of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> in the Event of Lord John Murrays Death."* Unfortunately for these Generals Lord Murray recovered from his illness.

On Oct. 28, 1780 Lord John Murray wrote to Gen. Lord Jeffrey Amherst to request the Governorship of the Fort at Berwick-upon-Tweed on the English-Scottish border. Murray wrote *"... I Presume your Lordship has laid before the King My Humble Application, for a Government when it should become Vacant. I am now Assured the Government of Berwick is vacant I flatter my self His Majesty Will be Graciously pleased to Confer that Government on Me..."* Lord Murray was not, however, successful in obtaining that government.

While the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders were still in America, Lord Murray again wrote to the Commander-in-Chief in London on Mar. 13, 1782, to transfer from the Highlanders to command either a prestigious troop of Horse Guards or a vacant Irish governorship. Lord Amherst replied the same day writing *"My Lord, I*

*had the honour of receiving Your Lordships's Letter of this day, and took the earliest moment of laying it before The King but His Majesty has not given me any Commands either as to the Second Troop of Horse Guards, or the Government of Duncannon. I have the honour to be My Lord &<sup>ca</sup> Amherst."*

In 1783 Lord John Murray was advised to go to Spa, Belgium (about thirty miles southwest of Aachen), for his health. After the season in Spa, Lord Murray spent the winter of 1783-1784 in Brussels, then traveled about 350 miles to Dijon, France and then another 157 miles to Berne, Switzerland. While at Berne he wrote his son-in-law, Capt. William (Foxlowe) Murray, on Feb. 5, 1785 to ask him and his daughter to join him.

A year before his death, Lord John wrote to his daughter Mary to make arrangements concerning his estate and her future. He wrote her from Paris on Aug. 25, 1786 indicating "...Be very obedient to your husband, and submissive in all things, which is ordained by God Almighty. It is your own fault if you are not happy. I am very old—seventy-six years of age, and I will give you for pin-money £100 a year, and £50 for the rent of another house, provided you use your husband very well. Otherwise I shall order you nothing. Banner Cross is an old house, which I shall keep in my own hands for my life. You will soon come to it, as soon as I die, which cannot lie long. ..."



Arms of Lord John Murray

Picture Source: *The Bagshawes of Ford, a Biographical Pedigree*, by William H. G. Bagshawe, Mitchell and Hughes, London, 1886, after p. 538.

*The Scots Magazine* for July 1787 recorded Lord Murray's death writing "...May ...26. At Paris, Lord John Murray, the eldest General in his Majesty's service." Maj. Gen. Hector Munro of Novar, K. B., replaced Lord Murray as Colonel of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.

Thomas Foxlowe (a member of his son-in-law's family) wrote his father from France on the day after Lord Murray's death and described his last days. Foxlowe wrote "*My Lord John Murray, I observed in my last, had been often to see us lately. On Tuesday [May 22] last he came to take a family dinner, as he had done before, but was taken ill upon the road, and was with some difficulty got out of his coach. He was not, however, so ill but he insisted on walking up stairs, that is, he would not submit to be carried.*"

*He eat next to nothing... but fancied himself better before he went home. The next morning I called upon him, and found him, as he said, perfectly recovered. In the afternoon of the same day I accidentally fell into company with the Duke of Gordon, to whom I gave my Lord John's address. He called to see my Lord, with whom he staid some time, and my Lord's valet has taken it into his head that the pleasure he received from his visit, and the exertions he made, caused some extraordinary revolution in his frame, in short, he became unwell immediately on his leaving him, and yesterday was so much worse that the man sent for Lord and Lady Findlater, who live very near. The man had before got a physician, and Lord Findlater also sent for his own, who at once pronounced that he could be of no use whatever, that nature appeared entirely exhausted, and that probably he could not survive many hours. As the physician foretold, he died at eight o'clock in the evening, I believe without a struggle..."*

Commissions: Ens. Oct. 7, 1727 (3<sup>rd</sup> Regt of Foot Guards); Lt. and Capt. Apr. 11, 1733 (3<sup>rd</sup> Regt. of Foot Guards); Member of Parliament Perthshire 1734-61; Capt. Lt. July 10, 1737 (3<sup>rd</sup> Regt. of Foot Guards); Capt. and Lt. Col. Dec. 15, 1738 (3<sup>rd</sup> Regt of Foot Guards); Aid-de-Camp to the King July 1743; Col. Apr. 25, 1745 (43<sup>rd</sup> Regt. or the Highland Regiment of Foot – Later 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regt.); Maj. Gen. Feb. 16, 1755; Lt. Gen. Jan. 21, 1758; Gen. Apr. 30, 1770; Died May 26, 1787.

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Anderson, Blair Castle to Mr. Ed. Brumby, Elgin, Scotland enclosing documents related to Highland recruiting (undated – about 2000), item: 65(2) 26; John M<sup>c</sup>Intosh to Lord John Murray, Apr. 2, 1779 in the *Lord John Murray Papers*; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, July 26, 1779, *War Office: Baron Jeffrey Amherst Papers, Miscellaneous Letters from Lord Amherst* at WO 34/153 Pt. 2, f. 625 and Pt. 1 f. 195; TNA, James Grant to Lord Amherst, May. 20, 1780 at WO 34/163 f. 331; TNA, Lord Adam Gordon to Lord Amherst, May 12, 1780 at WO 34/163 f. 197; TNA, Lord John Murray to Lord Amherst, Oct. 28, 1780 at WO 34/168 f. 399; TNA, Charles Jenkinson to Lord John Murray, Sept. 20, 1781 at WO 4/114, pp. 380 (f. 190) and May 5, 1779 at WO 4/106, p. 70 (f. 35); TNA, Lord Amherst to Lord John Murray, Mar. 13, 1782 at WO 34/238, f. 268; “Redcoat Images, No. 1,645” by Gregory J. W. Urwin, Aug. 20, 2011 (privately produced).



Wax Sculpture Portrait of Maj. William Murray, circa 1773-1774, by Samuel Percy, Dublin

Picture Source: *National Gallery of Scotland* at  
<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/art-and-artists/3362/william-murray-1737-1778-soldier>

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wm. Murray" on the top line and "Major & Lt. Col." on the bottom line.

**Murray**, Brevet-Lt. Col. William. Born on Nov. 30, 1737, William Murray was the second son of John Murray of Lintrose and his wife Amelia Murray (his cousin, the daughter of Sir William Murray, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bart. of Ochertyre and Catherine Frazer, daughter of Hugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Lovat). Lintrose is about twelve miles northwest of Perth. Half the estate of Lintrose is in Perthshire while the other portion with the mansion house is in Angus.

At the age of 18, in Dec. 1755, William Murray was commissioned Ensign in the 34<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Earl of Effingham's). Murray described his early life in the army in a memorial forwarded by Lord John Murray to the Secretary of War on Mar. 19, 1776. Murray wrote "*That your Memorialist was appointed an Ensign in the 34<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot in the Year 1755. That he joined his Regiment at Gibraltar soon after. The 34<sup>th</sup> Regt. had been involved in the defense of Fort St. Philip, Minorca in Apr. 1756, before moving to Gibraltar in June 1756. After a brief period at Gibraltar, the regiment returned to England and encamped during the summer of 1757 on Barham Downs under the Duke of Marlborough.*

Ens. Murray advanced to Lieutenant in the 34<sup>th</sup> Regt. in Sept. 1757 and the next year the regiment moved to the Isle of Wight (about four miles off the southern coast of England).

Maj. Murray continued in memorial that "*...in the Year 1758 went upon an Expedition to the East of France under the Command of His Grace the Duke of Marlborough...*" Embarking from the Isle of Wight on June 1, 1758, the 34<sup>th</sup> Regt. was part of Maj. Gen. Granville Elliot's brigade in the Duke of Marlborough's attack on the French coast at Cancale, 230 miles west of Paris. After taking Cancale, the expedition attempted to attack several other French coastal cities, but was thwarted by severe weather and the troops returned to the Isle of Wight on July 4<sup>th</sup>.





*Plan of the fortified British camp at Cancale in June 1758, by Chevalier Marin, Engineer of the Place of Saint-Malo in 1758.*

Picture Source: Project SYW, kronoskaf.com.

Maj. Murray's memorial also described his promotion into the Royal Highlanders writing "... *When he returned from that [Cancale] Expedition he was appointed Captain to a Company in the second Battalion of the 42<sup>d</sup>, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot...*" Murray joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in July 1758 as seven new companies were added to the regiment. Murray's Memorial described his initial service in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. writing "...*That your Memorialist went immediately to North Britain & raised fifty Men, being his proportion as Captain, & in the Month of October embarked at Greenock & landed in the face of the Enemy at Guadaloupe in the latter end of the Year 1758...*"

An incident during the amphibious landing at Guadeloupe displayed Murray's temper. On Feb. 14, 1759, the assault was initially stalled and the assault troops, including the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders in flat-bottomed boats were ordered to return to their transports. As Murray's boat reached Capt. William Harman's 64-gun *HMS Berwick*, Harman ordered, "*Don't give the damned cowardly fellows a rope.*" Murray quickly climbed up onto the ship and challenged the Commodore saying "*Capt. Harman we are under command and were forced to obey but rest assured you shall answer to me for the expression you have used.*" Harman quickly apologized indicating he had been speaking about the British Marines, but Murray was so indignant he ordered his boat to shove off.

Murray's Memorial also discussed his service in Canada and his return to the West Indies indicating "*In the Year 1759 he went to North America & was in the Field until Novem<sup>r</sup> – In the Year 1760 he was under the Command of Jeffry Amherst at the Reduction of all Canada\_ In the years 1761 & 1762 Your Memorialist was at the reduction of Martansee [Martinique] & the Havanna, at the last of which place, he was taken ill of a Malignant Fever which Confined him to his Bed above Eight Months...*" During the 1760 campaign, Capt. James Murray, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. wrote about assignments to command the flank companies of the battalion, noting on June 11<sup>th</sup> that "...*The Light Infantry Company and mine are compleated to 100 Rank & file each, the former of which Capt. Will: Murray has got..*"

Murray returned with the regiment for Pontiac's Rebellion, fighting in the Battle of Bushy Run, Pennsylvania in Aug. 1763 as he described in his memorial writing "... *"In 1763 Your Memorialist served a very Fatiguing Campaign under the Command of Colonel Bouquet, against the Savages..."*

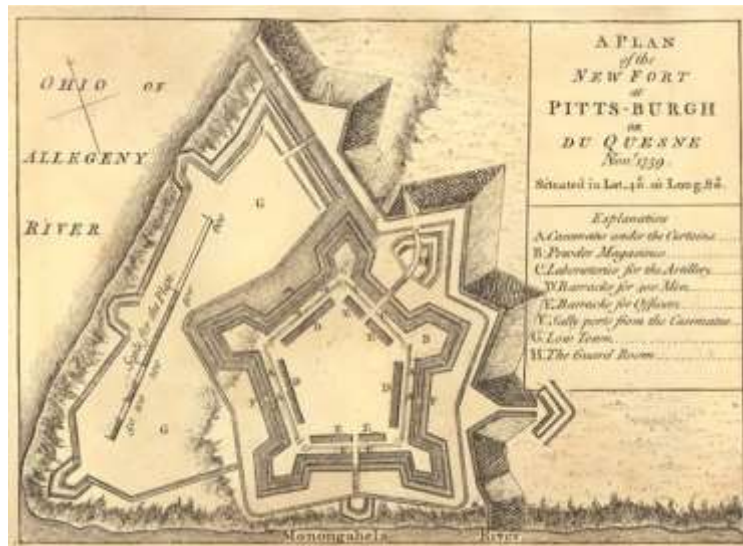
In Jan. 1764, Capt. Murray commanded three companies of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Carlisle, Pennsylvania about 125 miles west of Philadelphia. On the 29<sup>th</sup> Gov. John Penn ordered Murray to march about 57 miles to the southeast to Lancaster to protect peaceful Native Americans from enraged residents of the county. Gov. Penn ordered Capt. Murray "... *I was in hopes I should not have had occasion to exert the power the General has put into my hands, but the publick Security & the preservation of His Majesty's Peace now lays me under the disagreeable necessity of doing it, and of desiring that you will, immediately on the receipt hereof, March with all His Majesty's Forces under your Command, with the greatest Expedition, down to the Burrough of Lancaster, where you are to take Quarters in the Barracks, & there remain till you shall receive my further Orders, holding yourself always in readiness to march from thence to such places and on such Services as the preservation of the Publick Peace..."*



Detail of Portrait of Col. Henry Bouquet, 1759, by John Wallaston

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

Murray played a key role in Col. Henry Bouquet's punitive expedition against the Native Americans to Muskingham, Ohio, which departed from Fort Carlisle in Aug. 1764. For that campaign, Bouquet issued orders on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> that "...*The Commander in Chief having been pleased to appoint Cap<sup>t</sup>. Marcus Prevost of the 60<sup>th</sup>. and Captain William Murray of the 42<sup>d</sup>. Regiment Majors for the Campaign, they are to be acknowledged and obey'd as such...*" Murray's also described these actions in his memorial writing that "...*in 1764 Served a Second Campaign against the Savages & penetrated into their Country which obliged them to beg for Peace – During that campaign had a brevet from General Gage to act as Major – Your Memorialist returned with the Army to Fort Pitt where he remained Commanding Officer...*"



Plan of Fort Pitt, Pennsylvania, 1765, drawn by John Rocque

Source: Wikipedia

Col. Bouquet wrote to Maj. Gen. Thomas Gage from Fort Pitt on Nov. 30, 1764 reporting the completion of the Ohio expedition noting “...*The Army returned the 28<sup>th</sup> Instant to this Post... Fort Pitt is garrisoned by Five Companies of the 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. under the command of Cap<sup>t</sup>. William Murray...*” The mission of the Highlanders was to enforce the Proclamation Line of 1763, which prohibited illegal settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Mathew Clarkson (who was later the Mayor of Philadelphia), described meeting Capt. Murray during his visit to Fort Pitt in Aug. 1766 writing “*Monday, Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>...Got to Fort Pitt after dark... As soon as I arrived, I waited on Capt. William Murray, commander of the garrison, and delivered his letters... Tuesday, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>... Met with Maj. Murray, who had been at the store to wait upon me with an invitation to dine with to-day. Was extremely polite and obliging...Dine with him at the mess-room... Monday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> – Rode with Major Murray, Mr. M’Coy, and Mr. Hall, to view Braddocks’s Field; could discover nothing of the ruins of that campaign, on account of the thickness of the weeds...*”

Commander-in-Chief Maj. Gen. Thomas Gage described a 1767 expedition by Capt. Murray to enforce the restrictions on settlements in the area that is now Morgantown, West Virginia (about 75 miles south of Fort Pitt). Gen. Gage wrote Sir William Johnson, the Indian Superintendent on June 28<sup>th</sup> that “...*M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan will inform you, as he has me of the discontent of the Indians at Fort Pitt: which Intelligence I have likewise received from Captain Murray They are greatly incensed against the People of Virginia who have killed some Indians returning from war by the Frontiers of that Province... Cap<sup>t</sup>. Murray is gone to Cheat River, and Redstone Creek to remove those Lawless Settlers, and has taken Some Indian Chiefs with him. In which I am to hope he will succeed, and shew the Indians that it is at least the Inclination of the King and his servants to be at Peace with them and do them all the Justice in our Power. And if they do at length retaliate upon the Virginians, I shall endeavor to keep their Resentment confined there only and prevent a general war with all the Provinces as much as possible...*”

On Aug. 24, 1767 the main body of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. arrived at Cork, Ireland after departing Philadelphia following service in the French & Indian War and garrisoning frontier posts after the war. The remainder of the Regt. arrived at Cork on Oct. 5, 1767 but Capt. Murray and his detachment that had been garrisoning Fort Pitt in Western Pennsylvania, did not arrive in Ireland with the rest of the 42<sup>nd</sup>

Highlanders. A letter from Brevet-Lt. Col. John Reid (Half-pay, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.,) to Lt. Gen. Lord John Murray (Col., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.) from New York City on Oct. 17, 1767 reported on Capt. Murray's departure noting "... *This will be delivered to your Lordship if at London, by Captain William Murray, who has lately been relieved from his Command at Fort Pitt, and with Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [Alexander] Makay and Ensign [Thomas] Hall, goes home to join their Regiment.*"

In early 1771 Capt. Murray commanded the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Ireland in the absence of the Lt. Colonel and Major. Ens. William Leslie described Capt. Murray's movements following riots in Dublin in a letter to his brother from Belfast on Mar. 1, 1771. Leslie wrote "... *there was a riot in Dublin, pulled the members out of their Chairs broke noses, gave blue eyes & tossed their wigs in the air... C<sup>t</sup>. Murray who brought two Companies from Drogheda, will be obliged to pay for the mens quarters here, out of his own pocket as the Government have refused it. It seems the G<sup>t</sup>. never allows quarters when troops are sent to quell riots. will be very hard on Murray about 40 £ ...*"

Capt. Murray was advanced to Major on Sept. 7, 1771 in place of Maj. Thomas Stirling, Younger of Ardoch, who became the Lt. Colonel of the Royal Highlanders. At the time of this promotion, the Irish Establishment was obligated to have a regiment supply their Major, a surgeon's mate and four companies to garrison the Isle of Man. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders assumed this duty beginning Sept. 26, 1770. Maj. Stirling was commanding this detachment at Douglas, Isle of Man, when promoted to Lt. Colonel in Sept. 1771, and Maj. Murray would have relieved Stirling to command the detachment which was reduced to three companies in Nov. 1772. Murray's detachment was relieved by the 27<sup>th</sup> Regt. as described in *Saunders's News-Letter* on May 21-24, 1773 which wrote "*Three companies of the 27th regiment embarked [off edge of page] Isle of Man, in order to relieve four companies [off edge of page] (Highlanders) that are to come in Dublin [off edge] which are to be joined by the remainder of the [off edge] from Galway.*"



While stationed in Dublin Maj. Murray was the subject of a wax sculpture portrait by Samuel Percy. This wax portrait can be dated fairly accurately to between May 1773 when the Maj. Murray returned from The Isle of Man to Dublin and May 1774 when the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. left Dublin for Waterford, Ireland. The previous assignment of the Highlanders to Dublin from 1769-1770 predated Shelby's active period which began in 1772.

Maj. Murray was recognized by the city of Waterford, Ireland, as reported by *Saunders's News-Letter* on Apr. 12, 1775. That newspaper announced "*Waterford, April 7. On Monday last Theodore Cooke, Esq; town clerk, presented the freedom of the city to major Murray, of the royal Highland regiment, and to Capt. Bligh, of his majesty's sloop of war Wasp. At the same time Mr. John Courtney, on behalf of the merchants of this city, presented each of those gentlemen with a silver box, for their conduct in defending the trade of this port.*"

In Jan. 1776, as the regiment prepared for service in America against the rebel colonists, Gen. Lord John Murray recommended Maj. Murray to command a proposed second battalion to his regiment saying, "*Major William Murray to be Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel, who went a Captain to America, and since his Return purchased the majority, and above Twenty years in the Service...*" Unfortunately for Maj. Murray, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was not raised until later in the war.

Maj. Murray prepared a Memorial for promotion to Lt. Colonel with an account of his long service, writing "*Your Memorialist is now under Orders to serve again in America. & as there are younger Majors, who have obtained the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel by purchase or otherwise – He humbly Prays Your Lordship will please recommend him to His Majesty for the Rank of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel in the Army ...*" Maj. Murray's Memorial was forwarded by Lord John Murray to the Secretary of War on Mar. 19, 1776 suggesting a brevet promotion to Lt. Colonel in the Army. The Secretary at War denied Lord Murray's suggestion writing him on Mar. 26<sup>th</sup> that "*I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lordship's Letter, enclosing the Memorial of Major W<sup>m</sup> Murray of the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, in answer to which... I am to acquaint your Lordship that it is not the King's intention at present to grant any Brevet Commissions.*"

On Apr. 15, 1776 Lord Murray again wrote the Secretary at War with an offer to raise a second battalion to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and indicated "*I have taken the Liberty of inclosing to Your Lordship the names of Field officers & Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Should your Lordship think it for His Majestys Service to Recommend it to the King to add a Second Battalion at this time to the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under my Command, and what Officers your Lordship judges to be left out or Others in their places, I humbly Submit to Your Consideration... Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel William Murray – Major in 42<sup>d</sup>. or Royal Highland R...*" Once again Lord Murray's request for a second battalion was denied and Maj. Murray and the rest of the officers continued their preparations for the voyage to America.

On Apr. 29, 1776, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. set sail with the 71<sup>st</sup> Regt. (Fraser's Highlanders) for America under convoy of *HMS Flora* with Maj. Murray's company on the transport *Thomas*. The convoy was broken up in storms and the transports made their way to America singly or in small groups. A July 8<sup>th</sup> letter from an officer at Staten Island to his friend in Edinburgh reported "*We arrived here safe, and very agreeably situated. The number we have is about 8000 men, all in good health and high spirits. The only officers of the 42d. that are arrived Col. Stirling, Major Murray, and Capt. [Archibald] Erskine.*" The rest of the regiment arrived at Staten Island by early August.

Soon after the regiment arrived at New York, General Orders issued on Aug. 6, 1776 directed the "...42<sup>d</sup> Regiment to be formed into two battalions under the command of Lt. Col. Stirling." Accordingly the line companies of the regiment were split into two smaller battalions of about 400 men each. Maj. Murray was appointed to command the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and commanded his battalion in the New York/New Jersey campaign of 1776-1777.

Chap. James McLagan, wrote about a close encounter Maj. Murray had on the day the army landed on Manhattan Island at Kip's Bay in 1776, noting, "*On the 15<sup>th</sup> of September the General & Army followed them, and under the fire of some frigates Landed without opposition, ... In the Dusk of the Evening two Rebel Officers got hold of Major William Murray as he was looking for the best place for Sentries in the*



*struggle he fell but got up again, drew the Sword of one of themselves and gave him a Stab with it, upon which they both fled under the favour of night, had one person been with him, he would have taken them both."*



Artist's Rendition of Royal Highlanders' attack at Fort Washington

Picture Source: *The Black Watch, The Record of an Historic Regiment*, Archibald Forbes, Cassell and Company, Ltd., London, 1910, Google Books, facing. p. 106.

Gen. David Stewart account of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders heroic attack on Fort Washington, New York on Nov. 16, 1776 includes an anecdote about Maj. Murray. Gen. Stewart wrote *"Major Murray being a large corpulent man could not attempt this steep ascent without assistance. The soldiers, eager to get to the point of their duty, scrambled up, forgetting the situation of Major Murray, when he, in a melancholy supplicating tone, cried, 'Oh soldiers, will you leave me?' A party leaped down instantly, and brought him up supporting him from one resting rock to another till they got him to the top."*

Murray continued to commend his provisional battalion in New Jersey during the spring of 1777, as Gen. Howe tried to bring the American Army to battle. In a letter to Lord John Murray in July 1777, Maj. Murray resisted an offer to make him a Brevet-Lt. Colonel, writing *"...I must observe getting me Brevet Rank as Lieu<sup>t</sup> Co<sup>l</sup> would not be in my favor at Present, as I am the oldest Major in America, and therefore has reason from my Service, to be promoted to the first Lieutenant Colonelcy that falls vacant, whereas were I a Brevet Lieu<sup>t</sup> Co<sup>l</sup> I might be told I had got the Rank, and a Younger Major Might be made Lieu<sup>t</sup> Co<sup>l</sup> to a Reg<sup>t</sup> and it would be looked upon as no injury done me."* Despite Murray's concern the War Office announced on Sept. 6, 1777 *"His Majesty has been pleased to appoint...As likewise MAJORS...William Murray, or 42d Foot...To be LIEUTENANT-COLONELS in the Army."*

Brevet-Lt. Col. Murray sailed with the regiment to the Chesapeake on July 8, 1777 and commanded his battalion through the beginning of the Philadelphia campaign including the Battle of Brandywine on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, where his battalion of Highlanders served in the Reserve for Lord Cornwallis' Division and as Gen. Sir William Howe's personal guard. About two weeks later his battalion took part in the taking of Fort Billingsport, New Jersey to clear the Delaware River for Naval shipping.



Badge of the 27<sup>th</sup> or Inniskilling Regt.

Picture Source: *The Historical Record of the 27<sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Regiment*, W. Copeland Trimble, Wm. Clowes and Sons, London, 1876, Google Books, title page.

Just two days after the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders returned to the main army from their mission to take Billingsport orders were issued from “*Head Quarters Camp at German Town*” on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> that “*The Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following Promotions... 27<sup>th</sup> Regiment – Major William Murray, from 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel vice [Lt. Col. John] Maxwell removed} 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1777.*” Lt. Col. Murray wrote his older brother Mungo Murray of Lintrose of the assistance he had in getting the promotion saying: “*By the friendship of my good friend Lord Cornwallis I am now appointed L' Colo to the 27<sup>th</sup> Regt.*” Soon after his promotion Murray wrote his brother that “*I take this opportunity by the assistance of a friend to acquaint you that I have been very bad of a fever but am now perfectly recovered....*”

Just a week after writing his brother, Lt. Col. Murray died of fever on Nov. 2, 1777 and was buried in Christ Churchyard in Philadelphia. He is buried next to Anne Grant, wife of Brevet-Lt. Col. William Grant, his longtime comrade in the regiment

Commissions / Appointments: Ens. Dec. 31, 1755 (34<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 26, 1757 (34<sup>th</sup> Regt.); Capt. July 18, 1758 (2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. Sept. 7, 1771 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Maj. (Commander) Aug. 6, 1776 (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.- in America); Brevet-Lt. Col. “*in the army*” Aug. 29, 1777; Lt. Col. Oct. 5, 1777 (27<sup>th</sup> or Inniskilling Regt.); Died Nov. 2, 1777 (27<sup>th</sup> or Inniskilling Regt.).

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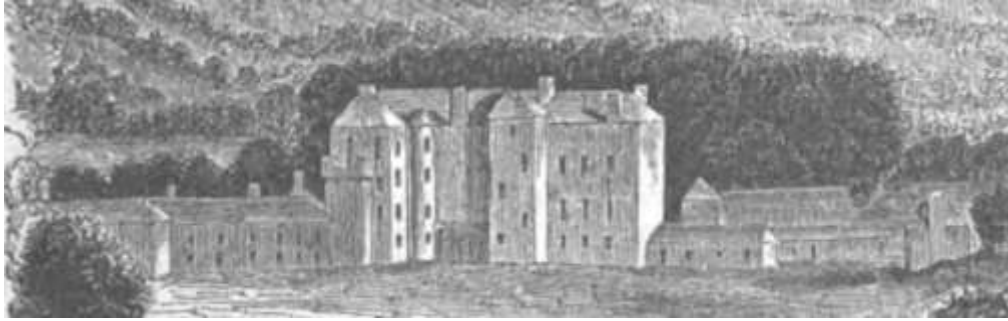


Detail Showing Lord William Murray and Lady Murray from the Print  
“Promenade in the State Side of Newgate” Nov.7, 1793, by William Holland

Picture Source: *The British Museum* (Creative Commons Lic. - Not for Commercial Use)

*W Murray Lt. Col. Regt.*

**Murray**, Lt. Lord William Murray. Born March 20, 1762 in Dunkeld, Perthshire, Murray was the fourth son of John Murray, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Atholl (the son of Lord George Murray, Lt. General in the Jacobite army of 1745) and his wife Lady Charlotte Murray, Baroness Strange. William’s older brother was John, 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Atholl. Lord William Murray was 13-years old when was commissioned an Ensign in an Additional (or recruiting) Company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. in Aug. 1775. At age 31 Lord William was described as “5/11 Blue eyes Black hair Sallow Complexion...”



Blair Castle, Seat of the Duke of Atholl, circa 1862.

Picture Source and Note: *The Scottish Nation*, Vol. I, William Anderson, A. Fullerton & Co., Edinburgh, 1862, Google Books, p. 165. This print represents the castle after transformation to a Georgian mansion by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke after the '45. It predates the current restoration of the castle to its castellated form.

The Colonel of the Royal Highlanders, Gen. Lord John Murray, initially recommended Lord William for a Lieutenancy instead of an Ensigncy. The Secretary of War wrote to Ens. Lord Murray's brother, John Murray, 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Atholl, on Oct. 1, 1775 to explain why a Lieutenancy was not issued. Viscount Barrington wrote "*...When Lord John Murray proposed Lord William for a Lieutenancy in the 42<sup>d</sup> Regiment, I reminded him that no body of any rank had been allow'd to come into establish'd Regiments otherwise than as Ensigns... Lord John not satisfied by my reasonings appealed to the King and received from His Majesty thro' me much the same answer which I had given; accompanied by the strongest expression of regard for the Athol Family, and declaration of willingness to do for any branch of it, what could be done for Men of the first Quality and Importance in the Island. Some time after this Lord John recommended his Nephew for an Ensigncy, and obtained'd it immediately...*"



Lady Charlotte Murray, Baroness Strange

Picture Source: *Chronicles of Atholl and Tullibardine*, Vol. III, p. 413

Lord Murray's mother did not approve of his joining of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. nor of the role Gen. Lord John Murray played in the affair. Baroness Strange wrote to the Duke on Nov. 27, 1775 that "*... It seems odd to me to hear he (L<sup>d</sup> Will<sup>m</sup>) has got a commission and it can't be got out, nor has never been in the newspapers, but had you wrote me you had desired it and should send it me as soon as you could I should*"

*have been satisfied. With regard to a commission being bought for him, I am totaly against it at present, as I think anything of that kind would be much more proper when he is of fit age to attend the regiment, besides in my opinion it looks like flying in the face of the King and saying my son shall have a Lieutenancy whether you will or not. I warn'd you once before of Lord John—belive me, if not as your mother at least as your friend, he is one of the worst of men, and will draw you into scrapes if he can."*

Lord William was listed in a letter from the Secretary at War to Lord John Murray dated Oct. 11, 1775 where Lord Barrington wrote "*...I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Instant, with an annexed List of Officers of the Royal Highland Regiment of Foot, under your Command... 2<sup>d</sup>. Additional Company Captain John Smith, was Cap<sup>t</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> in 42<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> Lieutenant Patrick Graham, was Ens<sup>n</sup> in D<sup>o</sup> Ensign Lord William Murray...*"

Lord John Murray wrote his nephew's son, the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke, regarding Lord William's career on Jan. 4, 1776 saying "*...Not having had the honor of an answer to my letter, sometime ago inclosed to Lord Cathcart I beg your Grace will please lett me know if you have or intent writing to some in Atholl of your desire of having some recruits for Lord William ... As its probable, some further Augmentation, may be made to the 42<sup>d</sup> or Royal Highland Reg<sup>t</sup>, after this is fully completed, I should be glad to know if its agreeable to your Grace & the Duchess Dowager, I should again apply to Lord Barrington, to Recommend to His Majesty Lord William for a Lieutenancy, his Lordship in answer to mine some time ago wrote me he believed he had Satisfied your Grace about it if you think proper to inform me of it, I shall be better able to judge if a Second application would be proper."*

Required to raise men to obtain Lord William's commission, the Duke's factor Capt. James Stewart of Urrard reported problems recruiting to the Duke on Feb. 4, 1776 saying "*...I am sorry to inform Your Grace that we have not been at all Successfull in recruiting for Lord Will<sup>m</sup> – All we have yet got amongst us are 8 Men & not one of these above the pass they will not list except they are compelled & that we can not do...*" The Duke issued further recruiting instructions to Urrard and Commissary Bisset to raise the required number of men. Bisset replied from Dunkeld on March 3<sup>rd</sup> that Frederick Crerar, gamekeeper at Dunkeld and an active recruiter, had "*...marched for Glasgow on Fryday with Lord William's recruits, thirteen in number, of which I made six in my low country Department. Till Frederick returns we shall not know if there will be time for raising any more."*

Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling was concerned about Lord William's youth as he wrote in a letter to Col. James Murray of Strowan on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> saying "*...my chief reason for troubling you is to know what you propose – or wish to be done with your Nephew Lord Will<sup>m</sup>, I believe he is too young to go out with us, and as it happens, by our order for camp Equipage, that only ten Comp<sup>ys</sup> are to go out he can easily be left behind with the Additional Companys untill you can get him removed to something better..."*

On Apr. 2, 1776 as the regiment prepared to embark for America, Lord John Murray wrote to the Secretary at War that "*... Ensign Lord William Murray, & Alex<sup>r</sup>. Stewart, have by their Friends interest got 15 men, or more for their Appointments... I beg leave that application be made to His Majesty, if your Lordship thinks proper, for Six months leave to each..."*





Old Royal Military Academy at Woolwich

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, by George Rex, 2010.

Lord John Murray wrote to the Secretary at War on Oct. 31, 1776 regarding the status of the officers in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Additional Companies including Ens. Lord Murray noting “... *All the Additional Officers have been Sometime at their Stations, except Lieutenants [George] M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie and [John] Grant Recruiting, & Ensign Lord W<sup>m</sup> Murray at Woolwich...*” Ens. Lord Murray was one of 48 cadets in 1776 at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich which was established in 1741 to educate the military branch of the Board of Ordnance to produce officers for the Artillery and Engineers.

Ens. Lord Murray transferred from the Additional Company in Scotland to the regiment in America in May 1777, and arrived in New York on the frigate *HMS Liverpool* on July 5, 1777, having traveled on that ship from Portsmouth, England with Lt. Gen. Sir Henry Clinton and Francis, Lord Rawdon. Maj. William Murray, Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., wrote to Gen. Lord John Murray in July 1777 that “*Lord W<sup>m</sup> Murray is Likewise come out joined us, and is appointed to my Company.*”

Fifteen-year old Lord William served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in the Philadelphia campaign of 1777 and was promoted to Lieutenant on Oct. 31, effective Sept. 1777, in place of Lt. Dougal Campbell of Craignish, who retired. The Succession Book shows Lord Murray’s commission as Lieutenant was issued three times to correct errors in the date. It was initially dated Oct. 27, 1777, then Sept. 27, 1777 and finally Sept. 27, 1778, which was obviously in error.

After Gen. Sir William Howe’s army took the rebel capitol of Philadelphia in the campaign of 1777 the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. moved into Winter Quarters near the city. By January of 1778, Lt. Lord William Murray had fallen into debt and wrote his uncle Capt. and Lt. Col. James Murray, 3<sup>rd</sup> Guards Regt for help. Lord William wrote from Philadelphia on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> “*Dear Uncle,—I am very sensible of my bad behaviour for this some time past contrary to your advice, but pray you to try me once more, and I shall endeavour to behave in the best manner possible for the future. I own I do not deserve that indulgence from you, I have so often broke my promises to you before now, but I hope you will grant it, as it was all through the advice of bad company, who I shall now avoid. I likewise ask your pardon for never coming to see you and take your good advice during your late illness. I am now thourally convinced that you are the best friend I have, and that all your advice was meant for my good, which shall be thrown away no more. I am your aff<sup>te</sup> nephew and sincere penitent, W<sup>m</sup> Murray.*”

At age 16 Lord Murray would have been the senior officer in Capt. Archibald Erskine’s Company at the evacuation of Philadelphia and the march to New York in June 1778 as Capt. Erskine was serving as a

Brigade Major outside the regiment at that time. Accordingly Lord William likely commanded the company in the major engagement with Gen. Washington's rebel army at the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

In late 1777 Lord William's older brother, John Murray, 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Atholl, began to raise the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Atholl Highlanders), which was embodied at Elgin in April 1778. Lord William's uncle, James Murray, was selected as the Lt. Colonel Commandant of the regiment. A strength report of the regiment reported "*State of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Comm<sup>dt</sup>. Murray's Highland Regiment As Inspected By Major General Skene – At Linlithgow, 29<sup>th</sup>. of April 1778...Absent Officers The Hon. Col<sup>o</sup>. James Murray On Service in America Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lord William Murray ditto...*"

After the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. returned to New York from Philadelphia, Lord William returned to Britain on Aug. 30, 1778 in order to join his brother's regiment in Ireland.



Dublin Castle, Ireland, 2009

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, by Donal dytong

In late 1780, 18-year old Lord William got into a serious scrape in his new regiment. Lt. John Farquharson wrote on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> from Dublin "*My Dear Sir, In my last letter to you I wished to prepare you for what I then feared might happen to Lord William. His Lordship most unfortunately lately happened to have the Castle Guard when some officers of the 36th Reg<sup>t</sup>, now in Barracks here, occasioned a Riot at a Gaming-house of very bad character. The officers upon being worsted by the Watch, who came to the relief of the people of the house, denounced vengeance and went away. Informations are sworn to and lodged that they went to L<sup>d</sup> William's Guard and immediately returned accompanied by Lord William and some soldiers. The windows of the house were soon broke, the furniture destroyed, and a great tumult ensued. The consequence was that the Watch gathered from all quarters, headed by some magistrates, and the officers were worsted and much hurt. The two officers of the 36th Reg<sup>t</sup> were instantly sent to Newgate, and there remain. They are to be tried by the 'Whiteboy Act' for gutting houses, &c, and I am told that no Bail will be accepted of for them, their case being Felony. Some days ago I bribed one of the clerks in the Crown Office to shew me the Information lodged, and there the story is told much to the same purpose as I have given it to you, and L<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> is charged as being accessory, under the name of William Murray, commonly called L<sup>d</sup> William Murray. This is the story told against him; but his own account is that the Townspeople and the officers of the 36<sup>th</sup> had a dispute, and he went there to make up matters, and try to get the officers brought out of the scrape. I know that there may be much in this last account, and that the first one may not be strictly true, as such folks as those*

*concerned here will swear anything. Yet, L<sup>d</sup> William was there, absent from his guard, contrary to the orders he received. Soldiers, too, were concerned, and the presumption is, that his influence with them might have prevented the mischief. For all these reasons his friends here, and even the commander-in-chief, for the time wish to have him out of the way. He is therefore sent to Scotland, and has promised to go directly to you. I hope you will find somebody to go with him to Dunkeld, and for God's sake see to give the thing the best gloss you can to his friends. We give it out here that a near relation of his is dangerously ill! I am, &c, &c, John Farquharson."*

After the incident in Dublin Lord William never rejoined his regiment and remained for some time in England with his mother, the Baroness Strange. In Feb. 1783 the 77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt. was ordered to march in four divisions from their quarters in Surrey to Berwick, Scotland, where they were to be reduced. Capt. Lord William Murray's company was disbanded on Apr. 20, 1783 and he went out on Half-pay.

After going out on Half-pay Capt. Lord Murray decided to travel to India on an "East Indiaman" as documented by records the East India Company that read "*Lord William Murray, a captain in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, having obtained His Majesty's permission to serve in the East Indies will proceed on the Duke of Athol at his own expence.*"

On arrival in Madras (now Chennai), India, Maj. Gen. James Stuart appointed 22-year old Lord Murray as Brevet-Major of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt. (MacLeod's) pending official approval of the War Office. Lord Murray was also in command of the regiment in the absence of the Lt. Colonel. However, the officers of the regiment protested his assignment in a memorial to the War Office, likely due to the senior captain, Sir David Baird, still being held prisoner by Hyder Ali. Baird was released in March 1784 and the War Office later refused to approve the permanent promotion of Lord Murray because at the time of the appointment no actual Major vacancy existing in the regiment.

On July 30, 1784, Maj. Hon. Charles Cathcart, 98<sup>th</sup> Regt., informed Lord John Murray of a report from India of a complaint by Maj. Gen. Ogle that Lord William had defrauded him regarding a watch. Lord William reacted to the charge by challenging the general to a duel, for which Lord William was placed under arrest. Lord William and Maj. Gen. Ogle resolved their differences, with the provision that Lord William should give up the command of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders and return to Britain. The officers of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt., however, objected to this arrangement, demanding a court martial be held to resolve the complaint and Capt. James Robertson offered to prosecute Lord William. Internal squabbles in the Madras Government in India interfered with the prosecution and the affair was dropped.

Lord William's problems in the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regt. did not improve after the Ogle affair as described in a detailed letter to Mr. George Stewart by Lord William after he returned to Britain. Lord William explained in a letter from his mother's house in Newton on Oct. 23, 1787 that "*...Early in the year 1784 I found myself attacked by a party in the 73<sup>rd</sup>, who, on account of my promotion, were determined to do me every injury in their power. I found it necessary to vanquish them by some means or other. I tried lenient, but so far from having the desired effect, it only cemented the confederacy against me. I then, from my own observation, and the advice of my best friends, found a different course must be pursued. I accordingly begun by calling on Captain [James] Robertson, who I had many reasons to consider a leader. He met me, and after exchanging a shot, gave me every satisfaction I could wish. This happened, I believe, in May; but previous to our meeting, Capt<sup>n</sup> [John] Hamilton informed me that by calling on Capt. Robertson I had made the whole corps my enemies, and that I should have to fight them from right to left. It was in my own tent, where a brace of loaded pistols were lying on the table. I told him, if he liked it, I would begin with him, and that it would be better to finish the business immediately. He declined my offer, saying he was not the first for duty, but that it should be settled by lot. I told him they would always find*

me prepared and ready to meet the officers of the corps either singly or collectively. All was quiet, and I heard no more of them till the end of August at Arcot; but I always used the precaution of going well armed to prevent a surprise. At that time news arrived from England that I was not confirmed in the Majority of the corps. The day of this being published in orders, I was engaged on a shooting party, and found at my return that Captain Baird, to whom the command of the Regiment had devolved, had, during my absence, in a most unmilitary and ungentlemanlike manner, entered my house, taken out the colours of the corps and withdrawn the guard. Early next morning I made a complaint to Gen<sup>l</sup> Home [East India Company], who commanded the cantonment. He said he conceived him to blame, but that he being an officer in his Majesty's service, he could not interfere. That very night I set off for Madras, and next morning waited on Gen<sup>l</sup> Campbell with a formal complaint. His answer was, that as I was now on half pay he knew nothing of me, but that if I found myself injured with Capt<sup>n</sup> Baird's behaviour, I probably did not want spirit to resent it. I knew what he meant, but for many reasons did not wish to have a personal settlement with Capt. Baird. The same night I left Madras for Pondicherry, where I arrived in two days, and took my passage on board a French ship for Lisbon; but a few days before she was to sail I received letters from some of my friends that Capt. Baird and others (conceiving I had left India), were aspersing my character in a most infamous manner. I immediately set out for Arcot, but on my arrival there found it necessary to go to Madras to settle some private business before I took further notice of any other circumstance. It was late in October before I returned to Arcot. I called out Captain Baird, who touched me slightly, and made an apology, which he was afterwards so infamous as to retract. We parted, and I found the next person who had insulted me greatly to be Mr. [Lt. Gilbert] Waugh, a person who I had countenanced and pushed forward in the corps, and who had ever enjoyed my friendship and outmost confidence. I thought that he had behaved so as not to deserve being treated like a gentleman. I horsewhipped him. The natural consequence was a challenge from him. We met and tossed up for the first fire; I gained, but told him I had received sufficient satisfaction, and desired him to fire. He did so, and only grazed my hair. I then fired – Such is the outline of this unlucky business. I was 14 or 15 months in arrest, and could not get a trial. Let me know as soon as possible what I am to look for from the Father, and when I am to settle with my agent. Comp<sup>s</sup> to M<sup>rs</sup> Stewart, and remain Your most ob<sup>t</sup> humble Sv<sup>t</sup>, W<sup>m</sup> Murray.” Lt. Waugh was badly wounded in the duel and died three days later. Lord William was placed under arrest for over a year, before the charges were dropped and he returned to Britain.

On June 22, 1789 *The Caledonian Mercury* published the wedding announcement of the marriage of Half-pay Capt. Lord William Murray to the daughter of Mr. James Hodges of the Madras Civil service from Massulapatam, India. The paper wrote “*On Monday was married by special license, at the Seat of Joseph Bullock, Esq; at Caversfield, in Oxfordshire, the Right Hon. Lord William Murray (son of the late and brother to the present Duke of Athol,) to Miss [Mary Ann] Hodges, grand daughter of the late Sir James Hodges.* Lord William and his wife had one son, Vice Adm. James Arthur Murray, born in 1790 and one daughter Mary Anne, born at Dunkeld, Perthshire around Apr. 1791.

The Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 1791 edition of *The London Gazette* included the announcement of Murray's return to active service writing “*Commissions signed by His Majesty for the Army in Ireland...70th Regiment of Foot, Captain Lord William Murray, from Half-Pay of late 77th Foot, to be Captain, vice Johnston, exchanged. Dated October 31, 1790.*” Lord William sold his Company just a few months later on May 31<sup>st</sup>, the date of rank of Capt. Charles Irvine, who purchased his Company.

The same year Lord Murray left the army he was arrested for debt, owing between £13,000 and £14,000. Mr. Hodges, his father-in-law, offered the creditors half the money he had pending for a claim against the government in India and the creditors approved the release of Lord Murray for one year.

On Jan. 11, 1792 Lord William was arrested for a debt of £99. The arrest resulted in a separate court case over how long the Sheriff kept Lord William in a “spunging-house” which was a temporary holding

location used to allow the debtor to make payment before being sent to prison. The Sheriff had allowed the longer stay because Lady Murray was with her husband and gave birth in the “*spunging-house*.” The name of this child, if it lived, is not known as the Murray’s only known children were born in 1790 and 1791.

Lord William’s debts were not resolved to the satisfaction of his creditors as the family history noted that in 1793 “...*This spring Lord William was in the King’s Bench prison at the instance of his creditors.*” King’s Bench Prison (named for the adjacent court, King’s Bench) was located in Southwark, London about three and a half miles east of Buckingham Palace.



Detail from "A West View of Newgate" by George Shepherd

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons, [PD-1923]

In early July 1793, Lord William conspired with several other prisoners to attempt to escape from King’s Bench Prison while several of the guards were distracted playing “*Rackquets*” against one of the walls of the open parade area in the prison. Lord Murray’s plan was to pay a couple of the other inmates to overpower the remaining turnkeys to force them to open the gates for a number of prisoners to escape and then to lock the gates again to prevent any pursuit. The plot was discovered and Lord Murray and three other conspirators were transferred to the more secure Newgate Prison. The details of Lord William Murray’s imprisonment for debt are provided in App. H of this Volume.

In 1796 Lord Murray received a patent for a speculative process for making hair powder, which would avoid the tax on flour used for that purpose. His patent read “*Specification of the Patent granted to WILLIAM MURRAY, Esq. (commonly called Lord William Murray;) for his Invention and Discovery of extracting Starch from Horse-Chestnuts, by a new and simple method, at present unknown to any one but himself. Dated March 8, 1796.*”

Lord William Murray died at Newgate Prison on Dec. 30, 1796. The coroner’s inquest performed that day determined “...*That about ten days since the deced was taken ill with a complaint in the Bowels which continued to increase daily and at last turned to a mortification – That he continued to get worse daily and kept his Bed this week past – That he departed this Life about nine this Morning...*”



*The Gentlemen's Magazine* described his death in prison writing "...in 1796, Dec. 31. At his apartments in Newgate the Right Hon. Lord William Murray, 2d brother of his Grace the Duke of Athol. He was removed, nearly three years since, from the King's Bench to Newgate, for aiding in the riotous attempts to blow up the walls of the former prison. Lord Murray and his wife are buried in St. George's Cemetery, Tyburn (now St. Marylebone).

Commissions: Ens. Aug. 27, 1775 (2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Company, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Transfer to regiment May 22, 1777 (42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.); Lt. Sept. 27, 1777, corrected from Oct. 27; Capt. Dec. 30, 1777 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or Atholl Highlanders); Capt. Half-Pay Apr. 1783 (77<sup>th</sup> Regt. or Atholl Highlanders); Local Maj. India 1784 (73<sup>rd</sup> Highland Regt.); Capt. Oct. 31, 1790 (70<sup>th</sup> or the Surry Regt.); Retired May 31, 1791 (70<sup>th</sup> or the Surry Regt.).

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