

I was 16 when my father died. My mother took no interest in past history but her sister, (doubly my aunt, for she married my father's younger brother) took the greatest interest in matters about our ~~ancestral~~ ancestral history and was the special confidant of my father. My father had entrusted her with certain papers and documents which were to be handed to me when I was of sufficient age. These papers, however, which were locked away in a dispatch box, were lost owing to the theft of the box and so I never came into possession of them. I next met my aunt in 1922 four years before her death. It was then that I heard of the loss which had taken place some six or seven years before. I will refer to that conversation later.

The tradition that I remember hearing when I was a child, both from my father and my aunt was as follows :- I give mainly what struck in my mind for it will be readily understood that as a boy, uninterested in matters of ancestry I would fail to remember much because of lack of interest and was was remembered would possibly be muddled as a school-boy does muddle things. My memory probably therefore only held matters which aroused interest because of their adventurous nature. The tradition went something like this :-

Our family once occupied the very highest position in Scotlant and were of Royal descent. But misfortune gradually reduced the family fortune and first our "old home" which had been in the family for hundreds of years had to be sold, but a new hall was built in which the family lived, but this too had to be sold.

Note:- The name Craigiehall was very familiar to be but I deliberately omitted stating that the old home was Craigiehall. Confirmation about Craigiehall will be mentioned later. This first memory that a "new hall" was built has significance from what we now know, viz. that after the sale of Craigiehall, Newhalls was built.

To resume :- Our ancestor about that time was a peculiar old man, very self willed, quarrelsome and unpopular, very harsh with his children, in fact his stern ways and unforgiving nature

nature estranged his sons from him, in short, he did not appear to be quite right in his mind.

It was owing to this that his sons left him and our branch came down into England. One of his sons, David, (I remembered the name because my father was also named David) who was the eldest was in London where he was managing business or otherwise engaged there on behalf of his father. He was a wild young man, as young man in those days were apt to be, and not only did he run into debt and play the fool generally, but he also picked up with an actress girl and refused to marry some girl the father had selected for him His brother John also got into trouble with the father for backing David up. (Remarked because my father's younger brother was a John). He was recalled from London by his father but instead he went off to Ireland with the girl. She left him as soon as his money was done and then David went off to the West Indies where he had some cousins. He got into trouble there also over a woman and had to clear off to America.

From America he tried to make it up with his father and his cousin Dundas helped him. (I remember the name Dundas because of a boy who was nicknamed that in school). His father agreed atlast to forgive him and he was brought back to England by his cousin or uncle who accidentally discovered him through being attracted to a fight in progress between two men and found that one of them was David. But his father refused to have anything to do with him or even to see him so he parted from his father for good.

The family had always had connection with the West Indies and my grandparents continued to do business there. My great-grand father and grandfather had estates or big interests out there but the abolition of slavery hit the family fortunes hard and a very great loss was sustained owing to the sinking of the boat which my grandfather (great grandfather ?) owned. My grandfather coming from the West Indies to India in his own boat was lost at sea owing to the sinking of the boat and with him went down a lot of money treasure and diamonds which he had from sale of things (estates ?) in the West Indies. He had one arm only and was last swimming with (presumably) a bag of diamonds in his teeth towards the rescue boat but before it could reach him he sank. Owing to this added

Charles
g-parents
= D.T.S.
+ Franco M

ggf = XT Shipwright

no - lost
travelling in a
Commercial Steamer
up the coast of
India

13. Jan 1871

added misfortune the houses etc which we owned had to be sold, just as in the old days the old hall had to parted with but it was up to me and my children to remember our motto of RESURGAM and once again to bring the family back to the high position it occupied before, for I as the only son of my father who was the only surviving senior of the family right down from the old days, would be the senior of the family.

That the senior of the family always held a ring which once belonged to great great ~~xx~~ grandmother Bessie and which she enjoined should never be parted from no matter what adversity the family encountered; the ring to go to the wife of the eldest son always so long as she remained his wife and did not part from him. Note: This ring is in my possession and was given to my wife by my mother.

I was also shown the coat of arms but I remember practically nothing about its details. All I remembered as a child was something which looked like rowing boats from above, not good representation and not much like boats but I assumed them to be boats because of the rescue boats which failed to reach the grandparent who was lost at sea.

John Jack.

Note: - My cousin son of my aunt who had the papers and with whom I got into contact a couple of years ago remembered enough to describe the coat of arms which he saw in the papers. His description absolutely accurately fits the coat of arms as registered by Alexander Stewart of Craighall.

The crest and motto I know well. I had seen it on old papers of my great grandfather and grandfather. It was used by my father too and was stamped on cutlery and glass as well as note paper and until a few years when it was lost, I used the same die. The crest and motto to my positive knowledge been used for 150 years at least for I have seen it on old letters. Another tradition was that the "impossible old man" from whom his sons parted, that remote ancestor was so upset by the evil ways of his sons that he although he forgave them in the end, would not agree to see them and before his death prayed to God that in order to save them he be permitted after death appear to them and particularly to the eldest and his

*DT
DTS*

and his descendants five years before their end so as to warn them that they had five years in which to over a new leaf and life god-fearing lives. My grandfather and father are supposed to have seen the vision and had their warning.

DTS
+ DH Mrs

I also remember my father saying that we were connected with the Stewarts of Appin when he recounted to me stories of the '45 and the part played by the Appin Stewarts.

I was told what part of Scotland we had come from but I did not remember it; and that I was called Charles Edward to break the tradition of David being the name of the eldest for it brought no luck and merely perpetuated the bad luck of the family (my father as well as my grandfather and great-grand-father were Davids) but to continue the name he got my uncle John (his younger brother) to call his eldest son David (the name has done him no good for he is an out and out rolling stone and is lost to sight somewhere in Australia; last heard of on a sheep farm. He was a Captain during the war in an Indian Regiment) and the next son if any John, the third Benjamin.

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About the year 1921-23 I met my aunt (my father's special confidant) over a scrape David had got into. It was then that I heard of the loss of the family papers. In the course of our talk she asked me where I intended to retire and I said I had not made up my mind since it was a long way off but that I would probably buy a house somewhere in London. She said if I could ever afford it I should try and buy back Craighall or build a place and call it Craighall in memory of our old place or get some land near Edinburgh or in Fife since we were connected with that part of Scotland. The matter did not interest me at the time and I did not discuss old history with her as my time was limited and both of us were more concerned about getting David out of trouble, particularly she, to think of other matters. I never had the chance to see her again. She died a few years after.

In 1932 I made up my mind to join the Stewart Society and for the first time took an interest in my name. I ~~was~~ called and stayed with Lt.Col.Stewart of Achnacone and told him of the Appin tradition and later met Mr. J.K.Stewart C.B.E.the hon; Sec.of the

of the Stewart Society and first learnt from him that Craighall was not merely the name of a mass of rubble and bricks as I had always thought but the name of one of the oldest branches of the house of Stewart, and he kindly put me into touch with Col. W. Burton Stewart himself a Craighall but who like myself at that time was not quite clear as to which branch of the Craighalls he came from.

I wanted to be dead certain of my facts due to life long or at least 26 years of legal training. Memory can be tricky thing as I know from dealing with witnesses and corroboration where possible is necessary before a thing can have evidential value. As a start I sought ~~xxx~~ corroboration of the name Craighall. I asked my wife who knew my aunt and had stayed with her if she had heard of Craighall and my wife remembered hearing of it as well as of the traditions I had heard from my aunt as a child, but she like my-self in my boy-hood days, much interested. As she can be held to be an interested witness I sought further evidence.

Then I remembered that my father's youngest brother's widow was alive but I had never met the lady nor knew of her whereabouts I accordingly advertised for her and so got into touch with her. She not only affirmed that Craighall once belonged to us but even went so far as to say that my great grand-grandfather ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxx~~ knew the place well, and that either he or his father was actually there. (This I think is a mistake she must have meant near Craighall, but it has a queer support, I wont say corroboration, as will be shown later on).

This aunt also gave me further details of fairly modern interest viz that my grandfather ^{DTS} had one arm and was lost at sea coming from the West Indies towards India. This corroborated what I knew of the tradition but it finally disposed of my idea that perhaps my family was from John Stewart brother of Archibald Stewart of Hewhalls who died in the West Indies and who also was lost at sea, and about whom nothing is known beyond the fact of his loss and who is said to have been unmarried.

That a sister (Fanny) of my father was certainly alive in 1921 for she had letters from her and that she was a Mrs. Whinfield having married into that family, a well known Newcastle one.

what was
her
name?
Alice Louisa
Nichols

J.T. Shipwright

-NO-
Cochin → Bombay

Frances Ann
Turnbull,

Mrs Fanny
Whinfield
of Newcastle area,
aunt of C.E. M.S.
& sister to D.H. M.S.

I informed Col. Burton Stewart of this and he found a Mrs. Whinfield in Newcastle and called on her. This lady apparently had married a nephew of my father's sister. She informed Col. W. Burton Stewart that up to as late as 1921 she had been living with her a Miss Ellen Stewart ^{Miller nee Turnland} who died at the age of 90 who was my grand father's sister and that this lady often talked of Craigiehall and Dalmeny. This provided all corroboration necessary that my memory from a child about Craigiehall being mentioned was correct and that when it was stated as I remembered that a "new hall" was built undoubtedly referred to Newhalls at Queensferry. It also lent support to what my aunt said about my great grandfather having lived at or near Craigiehall otherwise how could Ellen Stewart remember and speak about it and Dalmeny if her father (my great grandfather) was not in some way there for however brief a time.

I wrote to Mrs. Whinfield ^(E.H.P.) and she mentioned that the old lady ^{DTS} Ellen Stewart often mentioned her brother my grandfather of whom she thought a lot and that he was a wonderful inventor (my grandfather was granted two patents one for a cotton spinning machine and another for a stone-crushing machine) and had one arm. He was connected with the West Indies and that Mrs Whinfield still had an old sea chest which once belonged to him.

This made it still more certain that my aunt widow of my father's youngest brother Benjamin was right in saying that my grandfather was drowned at sea coming from the West Indies to India thus disposing of the theory of descent from John of the Newhalls family who was lost at sea in exactly the same circumstances and whose name I seem to have a dim sort of memory about because of my uncle John.

My aunt ^{Alia} also mentioned that my grandfather had a horse Joey Jones which won the Northumberland plate in 1860-61, for until very recently she had an old satin print of the animal with inscription of the name and my grandfather as owner. This also proved to be correct. I get this down to show that her information generally was correct.

She also mentioned about the yacht Fanny which sunk in a

XXXXXXXXXX

NO

ORYES Saifg

NO
Stewart
Mr Miller

Mrs Ellen (Turnland)
Miller

Miller
nee Turnland
b. 1837 Scotland

The Carnarvon
in a collision on the way to be sold. Enquiry has found this to be correct for the Fanny described as of Liverpool was damaged by the Carnarvon. A point of interest in this is that when Col. W. Burton Stewart enquired from the authorities at Ushaw College where my father and his brother John were educated the college reported that the brothers David and John had come from Liverpool. To the best of my recollection I had never heard mention of Liverpool but interest arises from the fact that Col. ^{Burton-} Stewart discovered that a cadet of the Craigiehall Newhalls family whose name I don't remember was a cotton spinner and lived at Liverpool. Facts therefore appear to indicate that for some reason my grandparents upto where we definitely know i.e. my great grandfather kept up a connection with the West Indies which the Craigiehalls also maintained. That they were somehow, not determined yet, in contact with Dalmeny and Craigiehall. The Liverpool connection may be but chance because of its being a port and large cotton business but it is significant that a cadet should be there and appears to point that in those days the various branches of the Craigiehall kept up some sort of a connection with each other, family ties as it were.

The connection, if such it was, was broken by my father who after the death of his father at sea came to India and his brother John and Ben followed him.

The fact in issue i.e. whether my early memory of Craigiehall in the tradition and which I was reluctant to put in saying instead "the old home" from the several and independant sources of support justifies the presumption that it was Craigiehall that it was spoken about as the old home.

Further support of this comes from the tradition. I understand that up to very recently the belief obtained that Archibald Stewart surgeon in the Navy was the direct in descent senior of the Craigiehalls and that it was only very recently that Col. W. Burton Stewart and the Rev Neil Sunderland discovered entries and papers which showed that John Stewart of Newhalls husband of Jean Charmichael had three sons older than the Archibald who came in for what remained of the estates. That these sons were named

There were more sons born in fact.
Ja

named David, John and Alexander who appear to have parted from the father. Further it is revealed that David was in London, having a falling out with his father, went to America from where he wrote both to his father for forgiveness and also to his cousin Dundas of Duddingstone.

This discovery is almost word perfect to the tradition. Put in this way, that I knew of these facts 38 years ago and my father knew of them 50 years ago and more at the very least shows that the recent discovery of a few years ago only must have been known in my family as part of family records and probably found mention in the papers which were lost by my aunt.

It is not certain which of the three brothers was the eldest from the recent discovery but I think that the fact that David was in London bearing certain responsibilities for his father in which he failed points to the fact that he must have been the eldest of the three. It is natural for the son and heir to be entrusted with responsibilities obviously. Whether my memory merely absorbed the doings of David more than of the other sons, if mentioned at all, because of his more adventurous career or whether my family history centered around him I cannot say. It may be a bit both. Our tradition accounts for him as coming back from America but the papers recently discovered do not contain any mention of his return. The papers discovered however are only two letters. One from David to his cousin Dundas and the other from America to his father asking forgiveness.

*One I found in the
S.R.O. dated
9th Sept. 1712.*

I should say that the tradition is correct about his return, after some years. It is clear that he was begging for pardon, he longed to return and after all what was there after this to prevent him from returning. If not soon after the time of his letter then at least when his father died.

Anyhow that his history should be featured almost word perfect in our tradition is not without significance. My father as I said was named David and claimed to be of the senior branch. His father and grandfather likewise were Davids, a possibility exists therefore that my branch of the family is descended from the disinherited David, son of John Stewart and Jean Charmichael of

of Craighall and Newhalls, or perhaps from some other David o. Craighall family.

Alice

The mention by my aunt (wife of my father's youngest brother) of Fife and Rosyth, together with Craighall and the testimony of Mrs. Whinfield of Dalmeny and Craighall makes matters a bit confusing. The Stewarts of Rosyth were Craighalls also.

Our enquiries are getting on. We have traced back to an Isabella Stewart who married a James Turnbull in 1807. Her marriage certificate is being looked up to see the name of her father. My great grandfather was David Turnbull Stewart and his mother was Isabella Stewart Turnbull. Possibly she was the daughter of the Isabella Stewart who married James Turnbull. If Isabella married in 1807 she must have been about 17-20 years of age and her father at least 25 years of age which would carry the record back to 1762 or thereabouts and therefore very near to the period back to the period of interest i.e. the year round about 1762 when David the disinherited possibly was alive for according to my calculations David was born in 1693. He would then be about 69 years of age and his son, assuming that the son was the father of Isabella would be about 26 years of age.

+ WRONG LINE

*no. Wm Stewart
+ Jean
Anderson.*