

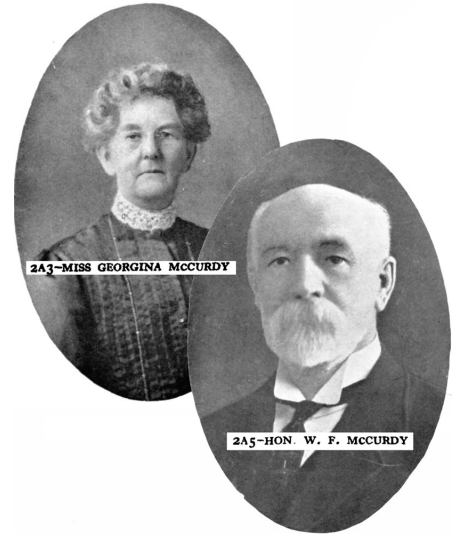
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A McCurdy Family History
Including The McCurdys of Nova Scotia 1668 - 1931
and The Ancestral McCurdys from c1489
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CD Publication Notes:

While the books reproduced on this CD provide an excellent history of the McCurdy family, research into the family origins - and its development - has continued. We became aware of the following additional information during our publication process. This is not intended to be a comprehensive record of recent research into the McCurdy family - simply some information which came our way and which appeared to be relevant to the books contained here:

As the experience of genealogical researchers grows they learn to look for corroboration of any isolated historical "fact" they discover. While we are sure the author of these family histories was a careful and experienced researcher, the facts contained in his books do represent just a single information source and so stand in need of confirmation.

One of many active researchers of the McCurdy family, Mr. "Rannie" Blanchard, has been kind enough to allow us to reproduce the following comments and notes on the background and accuracy of the facts to be found in this book:

"Over the last twelve years, I have received queries as to where the sources for the material, especially the Ancestral book, can be found and either checked or copied for that person's research but with most of H. Percy's research notes being lost or destroyed after his death (4 June 1939), I could not give any direction to the source material. I know there were two letters from McCurdy members regarding family and I have a copy of one.

I have found that many authors of that time period may have included errors in their text as a means of showing their copyright.

I have the obituary of one of F.B.'s twin daughters, Ann P. who is on page 108, number 283811. She died in Sept 1997 and it shows her sister as Joan CLAYTON, of Toronto, and 3 half-brothers, one of who is in Halifax."

And on a web page <<http://genforum.genealogy.com/mccurdy/messages/57.html>>:

"My great grandfather, H. Percy Blanchard (1862-1939), had written the book "The McCurdys of Nova Scotia" (1930) and I would like to know of any errors and/or omissions in the book, as well as any adding information to update this material. Every piece of printed matter may have discrepancies which, if not correctly verified with accurate research references, will continue to mislead the reader.

One error (or misprint) I have noticed in the book, is on page 61, concerning the children of Daniel and Margaret J.S. REID. It gives the birth of 25441- Annie Morton Sutherland as September 12th 1889. Her younger sister, 25442- Sarah Margaret, was born March 8th, 1889. This leaves me to think that 25441- Annie may have been born in 1887 although I have not confirmed it.

I would be pleased if anyone could address such issues here remembering and, as has been put to myself so often, to give the name of any reference material, if any, for assistance to others can do offline researching."

Rannie Blanchard

And a recent addition by Rannie on that same forum:

"In regard to page 209: In the last couple of years, other Blanchard researchers and myself have taken on DNA testing and it has shown that Joseph of 1637 and Thomas of 1639 could not have been brothers as the book states."

A great resource for obtaining information on the McCurdy name can be found at:

<<http://genforum.genealogy.com/mccurdy/all.html>> the source page for the message quoted above.

GENEALOGICAL RECORD &
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

of

THE McCURDYS
OF NOVA SCOTIA

Compiled and Edited by
H. PERCY BLANCHARD

Published for
THE HON. F. B. McCURDY
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

by
THE COVENANT PUBLISHING COMPANY
6 Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1

1930

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THE McCURDYS OF NOVA SCOTIA

ALEXANDER McCURDY, THE "PIONEER"

ALEXANDER McCURDY, the "Pioneer," with whom these records begin, was born in 1734, in all probability at Bellyhelly or Ballintoy, both within ten miles of the famous city of Londonderry at the head of Lough Foyle in the County of Antrim, North Ireland. In any event, Bellyhelly was the home of his father Daniel McCurdy some thirty years later. He was the eldest child of Daniel McCurdy and Rachel (McGill) McCurdy ; Daniel himself being the fourth child of James and Jerusha (Murray) McCurdy.

In the neighbourhood, in the Parish of Withstrow, was a family by name of Guthrie. When Alexander was a child, his cousin Archibald (son of his Uncle John) had married one of this family by name of Jennet. But Cousin Archibald's wife evidently had in the Guthrie homestead an attractive young niece born in 1738, and similarly named Jennet. This latter lady was destined to become the wife of Alexander. A great deal of confusion has been caused to those who have failed to note that this popular name, so often repeated in the McCurdy generations, belonged to two persons ; one of whom was the wife of cousin Archibald, and the other the wife of the much younger Alexander. In passing, it may be noted that this wife's name (and her namesakes) has many forms of spelling.

The summer of 1762 finds Alexander McCurdy on shipboard, bound for America. With him, *it has been assumed*, is his bride Jennet ; for there is a tradition that they two made *the voyage to Nova Scotia* their wedding tour. Accompanying him is Peggy McCurdy, his sister. Their first port would be Boston.

One must remember that such an adventure as this was not rashly to be undertaken. Rationally, it cannot be assumed that a man of Alexander McCurdy's disposition would take so serious a step without careful investigation. Doubtless letters frequently coming to



2261 STANLEY TUPPER MCCURDY

INTRODUCTION TO INDEX

To assist the reader in the use of this Book, the Arlington System of notation has been applied, and has been explained in the Editor's Note at page xvii. It is urged that this system be studied thoroughly, as a clear knowledge of the same will give a better understanding of the different genealogies, avoid confusion in similar names, and add the significance and guiding value of the numerals preceding the names.

Certain lines of the Archibald family are connected closely with the McCurdys, and it has been deemed well worth while to devote a separate chapter to such members of this family. Not only so, but the Arlington Notation belonging to the Nova Scotia branch of this family has been in some instances included. This particular Archibald Notation is shown in italic figures in parentheses. Do not confuse the two separate McCurdy and Archibald Notations. They are distinct both in printer's type and in reference. Additional to the maiden name, a name in parentheses is the surname assumed on marriage.

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As to significance of numerals preceding names, study introduction to Index.

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THE ANCESTRAL McCURDYS

THEIR ORIGIN AND REMOTE HISTORY

BY
H. PERCY BLANCHARD

LONDON
THE COVENANT PUBLISHING COMPANY
6 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1

1930

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THE ANCESTRAL McCURDYS IN THE OLD COUNTRY AND THEIR REMOTE HISTORY

THE intention of this little volume is twofold : first, to seek in the distant past the generations, circumstances, and beginnings of the McCurdy Clan ; and second, to group and rearrange the various members of the family as known in Scotland and Ireland from whom are sprung those families of the name now of North America.

In fulfilling the latter intention, it is not so much a matter of original research as an endeavour to adjust and collect for easier reference and study (with the elimination of any obvious errors) facts already known, but existing now in a somewhat scattered state.

It is decidedly not the intention to carry down the Irish generations beyond the known "Pioneers" who crossed the Atlantic, except where this course is desirable for clarity of contact with names appearing in biographical records now in print.

Among these biographies may be specified *Family Histories and Genealogies covering Genealogical and Biographical Monographs on the Family of McCurdy and others*, by Edward Elbridge Salisbury and Evelyn McCurdy Salisbury, in 1882 ; *Historical Genealogy of the McCurdy Family*, compiled by D. E. McCurdy and published by W. D. McCurdy, of Dennison, Ohio ; and the latest publication, *Genealogical Record and Biographical Sketches of the McCurdy Family Associated with the Province of Nova Scotia*, published by the Hon. F. B. McCurdy, and compiled and edited by H. Percy Blanchard, and which latter volume goes back no further than Alexander McCurdy, who came as a pioneer to Nova Scotia in 1762.

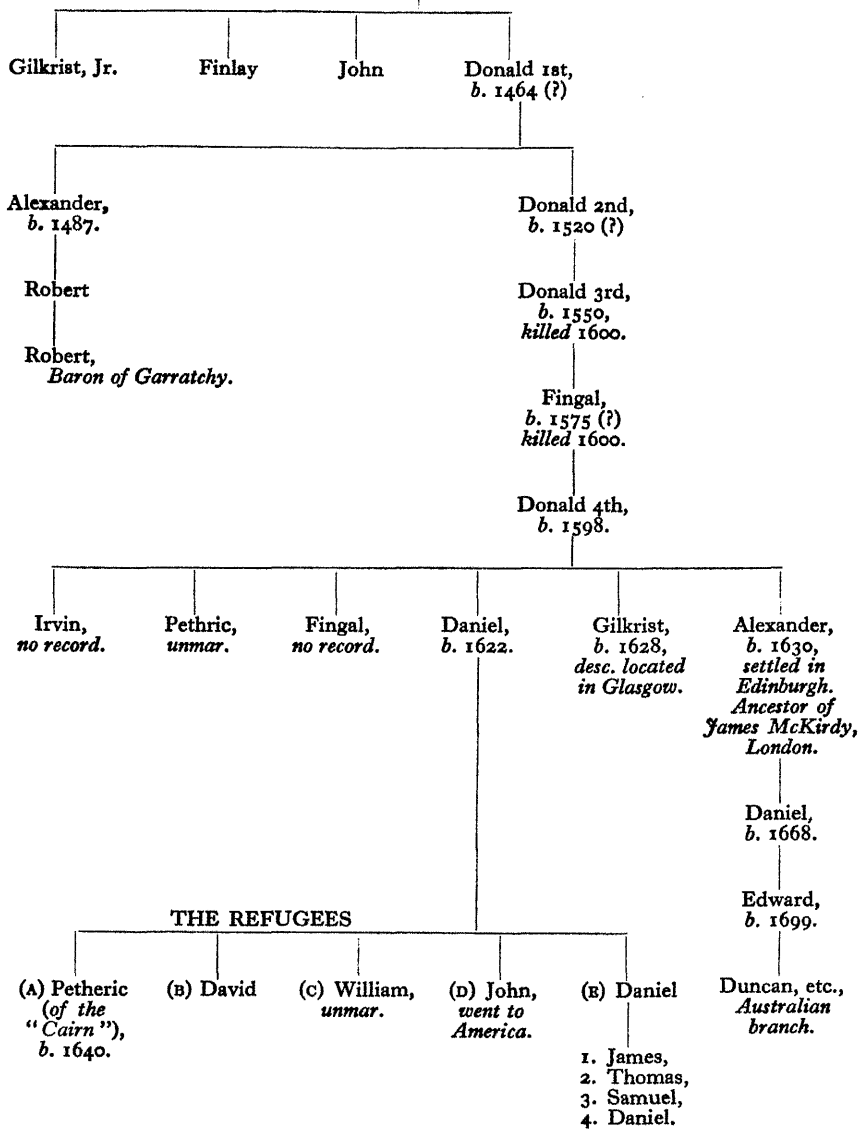
This present work then will serve as a preface and prelude to the several McCurdy biographies now existing.

The writer might perhaps fittingly add that, while closely connected with some members of the McCurdy family, he yet cannot trace back his own ancestry to the McCurdy Clan itself ; and that therefore any conclusions herein arrived at do not affect him personally.

H. PERCY BLANCHARD,
The Editor.

ELLERSHOUSE,
NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA.

CHART ONE
CHIEF GILKRIST MAKURERDY.



CHAPTER II

THE COMING TO SCOTLAND OF THE SCOTS LED BY THE PRINCE OF
MCCURDYS: DERIVATION OF THE NAME

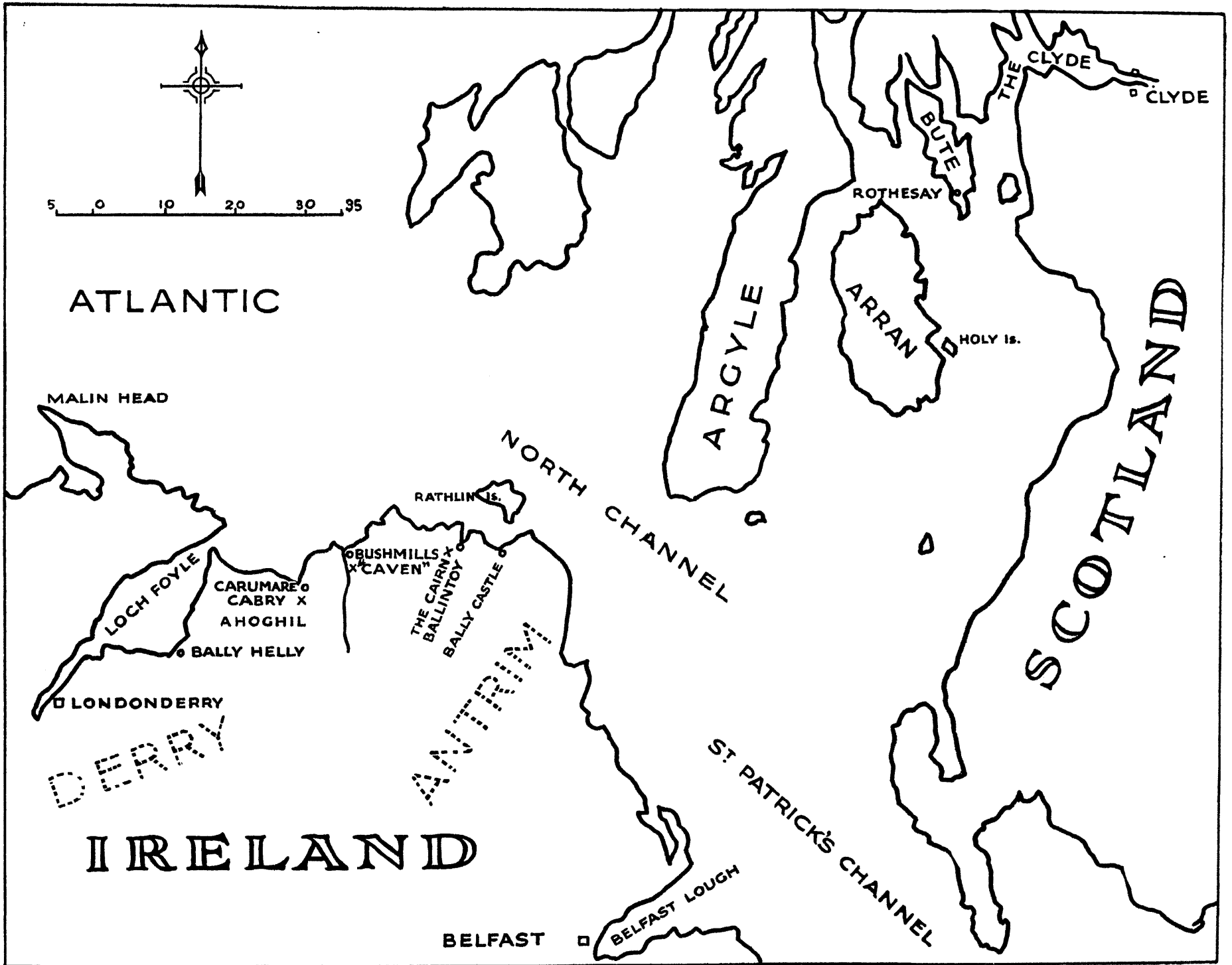
FROM what has already been said, it may fairly be accepted that not only were the McCurdys of a family characterized for centuries back by a high mental development and belonging to an ancient civilization, but that they differ in almost every respect from the Picts or Highland people, among whom they were found in 1666, when they left Scotland. The conclusion, if for no other reason, is compelled that they are not Picts at all, but belong to that race now found in North Britain known as Scots.

The origin of this name "Scots" has long puzzled many scholars. It is asserted that Ammianus Marcellinus first used the word in his works written in A.D. 368: "Scoti per diversa vagentes multa populabantur." This, however, is far from correct. One cause for confusion is that the name "Scoti" is not only a racial name, it is also a word of designation or description, and is kin to "Scythæ" or "Scuthoi" of the Greeks; and by some subconscious suggestion, the above quotation carries its own key. For the word "Scoti," like "vagentes," means "wanderers." The word itself, as shown elsewhere, goes centuries further back, for the second daughter of King Zedekiah of Judah, escaping the Babylonian invasion from Judea by sea, was named Scota. History relates that she married one Baruch and settled in what is now Belgium; while her younger sister, Tea Tephi, "The Tender Twig," came to Ireland in flight, married King Heremon (also called Eochaidh Heremon) and was buried at Tara.

Pinkerton, in his *History*, observes:

"Long before Christianity was settled in Ireland, perhaps indeed before the Birth of Christ, the Scots or Scythæ, who conquered Ireland, had lost their speech in that of the greater numbers of the Celts, the common people."

Browne, in his *History of Scotland*, seems to doubt this as an unusual thing regarding language, but he fails to note, or is unaware, that these Scots, these "Wanderers" who "conquered" Ireland,



5 0 10 20 30 35

ATLANTIC

MALIN HEAD

LOCH FOYLE

CARUMARE
CABRY X
AHOGHIL

BALLY HELLY

LONDONDERRY

DERRY

IRELAND

RATHLIN IS.

BUSHMILLS
CAVEN

THE CAIRN
BALLINTOY

BALLY CASTLE

ANTRIM

BELFAST

BELFAST LOUGH

NORTH CHANNEL

ARGYLE

ARRAN

HOLY IS.

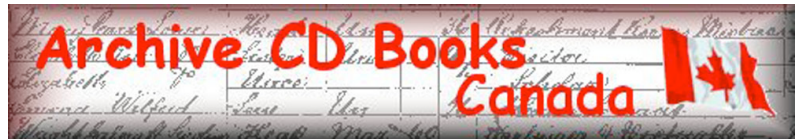
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ROTHERSAY

THE CLYDE

CLYDE

SCOTLAND



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