



A giant rain cloud against the sunset made for an incredible scene above Edinburgh this winter. Photo: Caters News Agency. Tom Foster, a 26-year-old physician, was photographing the Scottish capital when he captured the brilliant scene above. To some it appeared to be the “red dragon” of King Arthur while others thought of Armageddon. (thanks, Randy Seale)
The Clan Campbell Society leadership are all geared up for the midyear meeting in Charlotte April 15-16 and pray that this is not an omen for our deliberations!

The fateful year 1685: When the Argyll Campbells were either executed or banished and the family name was nearly abolished!

Lord Neill Campbell (c. 1630-92) and his brother the 9th Earl of Argyll (1629-1685)

Lord Neill, born c. 1630, was a younger son of the 8th Earl and 1st Marquess of Argyll by his wife, the former Lady Margaret Douglas, daughter of the 7th Earl of Morton. Lord Neill’s father, the Marquess, was executed face up on the guillotine called “The Maiden” in 1661 for treasonous cooperation with Oliver Cromwell by order of Charles II.

On 28 January 1668, Lord Neill married Lady Vere Kerr, third daughter of the 1st Earl of Lothian and by her was the father of five children: Charles, Archibald (later Bishop of Aberdeen), Mary, Anna, and Jean. Lady Vere died in 1674, so Neill afterward married Susan Menzies, daughter of Sir Alexander Menzies of Weems and had four more children: Neil, Alexander, Christian and Susan.

Lord Neill Campbell was brought before the Privy Council of Scotland on 1 August 1684 for “questioning” as a Covenanter and was, upon posting £5,000 bond, required to remain within six miles of Edinburgh, and to appear when summoned before the Council upon six hours’ notice. Meanwhile, his brother, the 9th Earl of Argyll, led the abortive Rebellion in favor of the Duke of Monmouth against James VII and II in Scotland, was captured at Inchinnan on 18 June 1685, and on 30 June 1685 was executed, like his father, on The Maiden in Edinburgh. His property was confiscated and his son, the 10th Earl, fled to Holland. Lord Neill himself and his two older sons were also banished from Scotland. **Sentiments turned against the Campbell family to the point that a movement arose to present a bill in Parliament to abolish the family name altogether!**



The 9th Earl of Argyll's town home, the Argyll Lodging on the Castle Wynd in Stirling, a fully furnished 17th century mansion, is a landmark in the town.



The Drawing Room with the Campbell tourists in 2014

On 24 June 1685, King James VII and II issued a proclamation against traitors and fugitives in which Neill Campbell's second son Archibald, among others, was named with a price of 1,800 Scottish merks offered for his capture. It was shortly after these events that Lord Neill Campbell and son prepared to voyage to America.

On 13 August 1685 Campbell purchased of the Viscount Tarbat one quarter of one twenty-fourth share in East New Jersey, and that same day he was given power of attorney by Sir John Dalrymple to act as Dalrymple's agent in America. On 24 August, Lord Neill was also given power of attorney by Robert Blackwood, an Edinburgh merchant. In the fall of 1685, Lord Neill Campbell and 53 others, including his son Archibald, arrived in Perth Amboy, the capital of East Jersey and a center of Scottish settlement.

The incumbent deputy governor of East New Jersey, Gawen Laurie, was under investigation in 1686 by the East Jersey Proprietors for "secretive reportings," so, on 4 June, absentee Governor Robert Barclay issued a commission to Lord Neill Campbell as deputy governor in

the event Lawrie needed to be replaced. By September 1686 the decision was made to remove Lawrie from office, and on 5 October Lord Neill presented his commission from Gov. Barclay as deputy governor to the East New Jersey Provincial Council, who confirmed and recognized the appointment. (As Barclay never actually visited East New Jersey, Lord Neill Campbell was the de facto governor of the colony.) Ex-deputy governor Lawrie was then commissioned a member of the Council.

Lord Neill's reign was a brief two months because "urgent business" called him back to Britain and so he in turn nominated Councilor Andrew Hamilton as replacement deputy governor on 10 December 1686. The next day Lawrie was the only councilor to register a protest and vote against confirming Hamilton, who would become Governor of both West and East New Jersey in 1692. (Hamilton would later be removed from office *because he was a Scot!*)

Lord Neill Campbell left for Scotland and did not return to the New World. Back in good graces after the Glorious Revolution overthrew King James in 1688, he reclaimed his Campbell estates and died four years later in April 1692. His nephew Archibald, 10th Earl, was created the 1st Duke of Argyll in 1701 by King William III.

Lord Neill's second son Archibald (the later Bishop of Aberdeen, d. 1744) had accompanied his father to East New Jersey in 1685. When his father returned to Scotland and remained after the Restoration, Archibald presumably stayed behind to manage his affairs. After Lord Neill's death, Archibald inherited his father's American holdings and was named "son and heir" in many East New Jersey land transactions. He probably left America for Scotland sometime around 1708 after selling off his large hereditary estate on the Raritan River in New Jersey.

ARGYLL'S LODGING

It is uncertain who built the first house that developed into the stately residence eventually known as "Argyll's Lodging," located in Castle Wynd on the uphill approach to Stirling Castle. It is assumed that the house was built originally by the wealthy merchant **John Traill** and comprised two stories with a hall on the first floor and a kitchen on the ground floor. In 1559 Traill sold it to **Adam Erskine**, the Commendator (or lay administrator) of nearby Cambuskenneth Abbey. Erskine converted the dwelling into an L-shaped tower house comprising four floors with a small south wing and west wing, the latter containing the kitchen. In 1604 Erskine sold the house to a relative.

In 1629 **Sir William Alexander**, whose family was related to the Campbells of Argyll, bought the house

from the Erskines. (The house adjoined property of the Campbells who had owned several houses in Stirling since the fourteenth century when they were Chancellors of the realm. Around 1600 their residence stood on the corner of Broad Street and Castle Wynd.) Sir William Alexander was able to buy the Erskines' home because he was related to the family, his wife being Janet Erskine.

Sir William was born in 1577 in Menstrie, a village lying a few miles to the northeast of Stirling. He was one of several tutors to James VI's son Prince Henry, heir to the Scottish throne. In 1603, when the crowns of Scotland and England were united, he followed King James VI and I to London. He was knighted in 1609 and was in 1626 appointed principal Secretary for Scotland for life. (He is chiefly remembered today for his settlement of the colony of Nova Scotia in North America under a royal charter granted in 1621.) In 1630 he was elevated to "1st Earl of Stirling and Viscount Canada."



Above: High Dining Room fireplace from 1630's; below:



canopied bed from My Lady's Closet.

Sir William had his Stirling home redecorated when he realized that King Charles I intended to come to Stirling for his Scottish coronation in 1633. He

had the house remodeled into a small palace with public and private suites and a grandly decorated exterior. Sir William died insolvent in 1640, leaving the house to his son Charles, but the town of Stirling claimed the property in lieu of his unpaid debts. The town council wanted to furnish it as a guesthouse, but this plan was never realized, and in the 1660s, it was sold to the 9th Earl of Argyll.

Archibald Campbell, 9th Earl of Argyll was born in 1629. He was a staunch supporter of the monarchy and a firm Presbyterian. In 1666 he bought the house that would become known as Argyll's Lodging and built it outwards to the north and south, while enclosing the courtyard behind a screen wall with an elaborate entrance gate. He also had the interior walls decorated with paintings, some of which have survived.

In 1680, the Earl opposed the oath attached to the Test Act, intended to ensure the loyalty of the holders of public office to King Charles II, because it also demanded conformity with the king's ideas on forms of church government and religious worship. The earl's refusal to take the oath led to him being declared a traitor in 1681. He was imprisoned in Edinburgh Castle, but escaped, disguised as a woman, and fled from the port of Leith to the Netherlands. His estates were confiscated.



The Earl (*right*) had possessed the foresight, however, to have an inventory drawn up of all the belongings in his house in Stirling and had then assigned them to his wife, Lady Anna Mackenzie, daughter of the Earl of Seafield, whom he had married in 1670. Due to the fact that her first husband, the Earl of Balcarres, had remained loyal to King Charles, the latter had granted her a pension and allowed her to keep her personal property, including the Lodging.

In February 1685 Charles II died and was succeeded by his brother as James VII and II. Lord Argyll returned to Scotland intending to lead a rebellion against the King to coincide with the Duke of Monmouth's revolt in England. In June, shortly after landing, he was captured, taken to Edinburgh, and beheaded in the town's Grassmarket.

The house remained in the hands of the Campbells for the best part of a century. In 1746, during the Jacobite Rebellion, **Prince William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland**, resided in the house while in Stirling.

Trip Update: As of March 15, 2016, 29 persons have signed on for the CCEF tour to Scotland in July 2017.

The May eNewsletter will contain the news from the midyear meetings of the Society and Foundation, April 15-16, in Charlotte, North Carolina. **As the meeting is held on the anniversary of Culloden, we will enjoy a film and lecture on the battle by Past President Col. Joseph McD. Campbell, USAF retired.**

The “Guid Cause”?: A Refresher on the “Bonnie Prince” Charles Edward

Following the 1715 and 1719 attempts to reseal the Stuarts on the throne of Great Britain, there were many other “putative” tries, but they were all betrayed to British intelligence by spies or frustrated by the reliable “Protestant wind” that kept the ships from sailing.

Most agreed that the “Old Pretender”—**Prince James Francis Stuart (James III)**—was the greatest liability to the Jacobite Cause, for his residence in Rome and Papal pension were politically disastrous to a “Restoration” in Protestant Britain. Also, James’ breakdown marriage to the neurotic and depressed anorexic Polish princess **Clementina Sobieska** was an embarrassment, as she became a nun. Moreover, to complete the double bind, James could not wrest the crown from the House of Hanover without foreign troops, but to use them would be to open him to the charge of foreign invasion. France and Spain cynically gave ear to Stuart pleas for aid not because they wanted the Restoration, but because they planned to use the Jacobite Cause to distract the British with a Highland rebellion or civil war.



[Charles Edward Stuart](#), by [Allan Ramsay](#), painted at [Holyrood Palace](#) in [Edinburgh](#), late autumn 1745. Collection of [Earl of Wemyss](#), [Gosford House](#)

Enter **Prince Charles Edward Louis Philip Casimir Silvester Severino Maria Stuart**, born in 1720 and baptized by the Pope himself. “Bonnie Prince Charlie” (as many know the “Young Pretender”) is a fascinating while deeply flawed personality. Charles’ name in Gaelic—*Thearlaich*—sounded like “Charlie”, hence his immortal sobriquet. Charles Edward (25 years old at the time of the 1745 Rebellion) was charming in his own way and extremely personable when he wished to be. His looks came from his mother, and he was described as “debonair, tall, blonde, hazel-eyed, oval faced, free and easy in manner.” He was also healthy, in contrast with others in his family, and could handle horses, falcons, and dogs. A natural linguist, he was fluent in speaking French, Spanish, Italian and English (which he spoke with a brogue!) and picked up Gaelic during the ‘45 campaign. He was an excellent shot, and skilled in fencing, tennis, and badminton. He played the ‘cello and danced elegantly—but “in intelligence he was less than gifted.” Irreligious, and with a strong “scientific bent,” he converted from the Roman Church to Protestantism in 1750, too late for it to help the Stuart Cause. Subsequently, he was received back into the Catholic Church on his deathbed. “Charles had the gift of making those with whom he interacted feel good about themselves, hence his success in the Highlands.”

However, Charles was also opinionated, obtuse, and functionally illiterate. He was overly vain of his looks and appearance and was a chronic boozier, which may have proved his undoing during the ‘45 campaign. This especially told when he was filthy drunk and indecisive at Culloden. It is very possible also that he had a problem relating to women.

“Charles’ activities during the battle [of Culloden] are open to speculation. Some accounts that were written for his father state that he ‘rode up and down the ranks spurring his men on.’ He most certainly did not do this. There is evidence he left the battle soon after he changed horses...[and was 20 miles away by the time it was finished]. He certainly did nothing at all during the first 20 to 30 minutes of the battle, while Cumberland’s guns were slaughtering his men. The Jacobite ranks waited for the order to advance, but it did not come. Charles wanted full command of the Jacobite forces, but now that he had it [after dismissing Lord George Murray] he did not know what to do with it... ‘That’s it, run, you damned, cowardly Italian,’ his bodyguard commander and boyhood friend Lord Elcho yelled as Charles fled.” —David Alan Johnson, “Culloden Moor” in *MILITARY HISTORY* (April 2004)