

HISTORY OF THE GLASGOW FAMILY

The following was written by Melanchthon Glasgow

The early history of my paternal ancestry is involved in some obscurity. It dates back, however, to the heroic period of the sixteenth century in Scotland. Those were stirring times in the history of the world, and an epoch in the annals of the church when men freely gave their lives in defense of the truth of God, and for the rights of Christ upon the earth. Many of my ancestry sacrificed all for the honor of their blessed King and Saviour. Their hands and hearts were in the trying scenes of the Second Reformation in Scotland and Ireland. The luster of their lives and the nobility of their characters can best be understood when we consider the fact that they died for those precious Bible principles which have revolutionized the world.

The United States of America is especially indebted to the Covenanting Presbyterians of Scotland for the civil and religious liberty now enjoyed.

In the times of the terrible persecution in Scotland, many of the persecuted Presbyterians fled into the North of Ireland. They settled in the district known as Ulster, comprising principally the counties of Londonderry, Tyrone, Antrim, Down, Armagh, and Monaghan.

Here they enjoyed brief periods of tranquility, but were frequently molested by their blood-thirsty foes. Being of the true Scotch Presbyterian blood, they indignantly repudiated the appellation of "Irishmen", as that term rightfully signified the Irish Catholics.

My ancestry were in every sense SCOTHMEN, and not Irishmen. With this understanding of the condition of the people, and their relative standing, it is with great pride that I can point back to these staunch Presbyterian Christians as my ancestors.

Authoritative tradition says that the family name was not Glasgow but CAMERON.

Their residence was in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, and they were devoted followers of the Calvinistic theology and Gameronian principles so costly disseminated in Great Britian. The family name of Cameron was perpetuated until about two hundred years ago. They were men of commanding appearance, indomitable courage and unswerving convictions. They were large in physique, and of a military turn of mind. Thus qualified they made brave soldiers. And we are not surprised to find many of these fearless men in the army as officers and privates.

In the galaxy of noble martyrs we find the names of some of this family and their record are spread before us in the "History of the Church of Scotland", "Scotch Worthies", "Cloud of Witnessess", "Faithful Contendings", etc.

The most illustrious service which the Cameron men rendered for the cause of the truth was their willingness to carry their principles into practice in defense of God's Word. They were of the noble 10,000 troops sent over from Scotland to

relieve these Protestants in Ireleand, who were suffering in the siege of Londonderry, April, 1689. This city was not properly situated to sustain a siege and those who defended themselves against their Irish Catholic enemies were a body of inexperienced and undisciplined Protestants who had fled hence for safety. Of the sufferings and privations of these besieged Christians, the reader is referred to "Fox's Book of Martyrs". It was during this siege, and the final victory over King James that the Cameron soldiery displayed their greatest bravery, and manifested most conclusively their devotion to the casuse of Christ.

They were known as "THE GLASGOW MEN". "You Glasgow Men" was a frequent expression with reference to them, because they came from the city of Glasgow. This appellation was not only distinguishing, but was generally accepted by all and adopted by the men, and has consequently been the legal and established family name since that notable period. Henceforth the name is not Cameron, but Glasgow.

After the setttlement of affairs at Londonderry, and the discharge of many of the troops, some of them remained or returned to the North of Ireland. Among these was (1) William Glasgow.

He subsequently was joined by others of his kindred, and the family became established in their adopted country.

The male members of the family were weavers, and plied this trade, as well as that of tilling the soil. They soon became prosperous, and were distinguished for their thrift and frugality. They still clung to their convictions of truth, and played an important part in the history of that country. Marrying, they gradually separated, and followed different vocations, as well as established scattered homes.

(2) John Glasgow, son of William, found a home in Country Tyrone. Here he reared a large and useful family. Among his sons was

(3) Hugh Glasgow, my great-great-grandfather, who was born in the County Tyrone about 1706. He was a weaver by trade, and followed this vocation. A little circumstance in his life is recorded to show how trifling transactions may determine our future place of residence. When a young man he had an unavoidable difficulty with a neighbor which resulted in a personal combat. Being a strong and agile youth, he severely punished his dishonest debtor, in consequence of which he fled from the community, and found a resting place in the County Londonderry.

He was soon employed at his chosen vocation by a man by the name of McCullough. He immediately gained the confidence of his employer, for undoubtedly the young man was a food workman. The aged weaver, however little suspected that the young man was falling desperately in love with his charming daughter. But such was the case; and the sequel was that Hugh Glasgow and Margaret McCullough celebrated their marriage in 1733. To them were born in due time, three sons, John, Robert, and Hugh. The youngest child

(4) Hugh Glasgow was born in the County Londonderry in 1739. He was reared in the strictest manner and taught the peculiar tenets of his fathers. While he followed to some extent the trade of his father, yet he turned his attention somewhat to farming. Thus passed away childhood and youth about the rural home, until he felt constrained to secure a home for himself.

In 177, he married Sallie Blair, who proved to be, in every respect a worthy companion. As the fruit of this union were born to them five sons and two daughters, viz: - John, Clatworthy (commonly called Tatty), Hugh and Nancy (twins), Alexander, Mary, and Rovert. Hugh and Nancy, twins, lived to be eighty-eight years of age, and both died the same year.

The sons were all very large and corpulent, and were capable of enduring much hard labor. Hugh, however, gradually became so useless, by reason of his enermity, that he was derricked in and out of bed, and spent hsi leisure time reading his familiar Bible. Hugh died in 1824, aged 85.

The eldest son, my grandfather.

(5) John Glasgow was born on the farm in County Londonderry, not far from the town of Pirtglenone, April 28, 1780. His parents were consistant members of the Syned of Ulster, and he was carefully trained by his pious parentage. His schooling was not extensive, but he received sufficient education to fit him for transacting all his monetary affairs. The family determined to seek their fortune in the New World, and emigrated to America in August, 1796, landing at New Castle Delaware. They left many a kin and acquaintance behind, and mingled feelings of joy and sorrow filled their hearts as they contemplated the success in the new and bid adiew to scenes and associations of the Old World. Their first resting place was in York County, Pennsylvania, some five miles from Little York. Here they secured a farm and followed the honorable calling of husbandmen for five years.

In 1802, they migrated to Washington County, across the mountains where they remained but a short time. They finally determined upon a permanent place of residence in Deer Creek Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, some sixteen miles north of the city of Pittsburgh. Here a good farm was bought, consisting of 106 acres, and they moved upon it in March 1803. In coming to this country, the family had become dissatisfied with the Presbyterian Church and joined the Associate Reformed body. John was now in full manhood, twenty-three years of age, and began to think and act for himself. They were all passing through untried experiences in a new country, and were adopting methods and means which would, to a great extent, determine the course of their future. John was still an admirer of the faithful Covenanters, and when he thought upon their former struggles, he resolved to find his church home among them. During the pleasant summer season of 18-3, John walked from Deer Creek to the forks of the Yough to attend a Covenanter Communion conducted by the Revs. John Black and Samuel B. Wylie. His expectations were fully realized. He then and there connected with the Covenanter Church and was enrolled as a member of the Ohio congregation under the ministry of Rev. John Black. At this same communion came a maiden from the Deer Creek community, who was a native of the Redstone District, whose father was a Presbyterian elder. She also was convinced of the truth of principles and connexed with the Covenanter Church. Between these young persons meeting at the Lord's Table for the first time, sprung up an acquaintance that speedily ripened into love, and culminated in the happy marriage of John Glasgow and Peninnah Thomas in 1804.

They settled down upon a farm in the neighborhood of their parents. In 1807 they came under the ministry of the Rev. Matthew Williams of the Pine Creek congregation. In 1822 John Glasgow was chosen a ruling elder, and served in this office until his death. He stood faithfully to his principles during the controversy and division of the Covenanter Church in 1833, although his pastor at that time, the Rev. Thos C. Guthrie, and about one-half of the congregation abandoned them. Among those who left the church were many of his kindred and friends, but no natural attach-

ment had any consideration with him when principles were at stake. He was faithful in the discharge of every official and parental duty.

He died in faith after much severe suffering from acute rheumatism, at his home near Bakerstown, Allegheny Co., Pa., August 28, 1840, and his remains lie buried in the silent graveyard of Pine Creek awaiting the resurrection. Thus ended the earthly pilgrimage of my paternal grandfather.

My grandmother, Peninnah Glasgow, was a remarkably pious woman. She was ready at the family altar or in the society meeting to take her part in conducting the worship, or to give instructions to the young concerning the plan of salvation. She entered upon her eternal rest in 1849, and her remains were interred beside those of her husband.

To John and Peninnah Glasgow were born eight children, four boys and four girls, four right-handed and four left-handed, viz: Hugh, Alexander, Sarah, Moses, Robert, Nancy, Mary, and Amy. All these children became members of the Covenanter Church when they came to years of maturity and understanding.

Hugh became a carpenter and builder, and spent nearly his whole life in Cincinnati, Ohio. He died on a visit to his brother and sister in Pittsburgh, in the winter of 1880. Alexander followed farming and moved to Sharon, Iowa, where he was a useful deacon in the church. He died in 1857, leaving a large family, who are now principally residing in Iowa. Sarah married Moses Anderson, and is still living at her home in Freeport Pa. She became a member of the U. P. Church, in which her now deceased husband was an honored elder for many years. She also has a large family scattered over the country. Robert is still living on Mt. Washington, Pittsburgh, and is an elder in the Pittsburgh Covenanter Church. He never married. He was a pattern-maker, but now has retired from his work. Nancy married William McConnell and is dead many years ago (1847). Mary and Amy never married, and lived with their brother Robert in Pittsburgh. Amy died in 1878, leaving the brother and sister still together. Thus four of the family are still living, all advanced in life.

The fourth child and third son of John Glasgow was my father

(6) Moses Thomas Glasgow born on the paternal farm near Bakerstown, Pa., October 29, 1809. He received the rudiments of an education at home, and attended the primitive schools of his neighborhood a part of the time. He found sufficient recreation upon the farm, clearing away the primeval forests, plowing the rooty ground, garnering the grain, or going to a far distant grist mill upon horseback. Thus he was employed until his seventeenth year. His father placed him under the care of Mr. Phillip Mowry, who says that the lad attended church and society meetings. He became an apprentice to Rice and Beatty, blacksmiths on Penn Avenue, near 8th street. Under these circumstances, it is needless to state that he attended regularly upon the services of the Rev. John Black, D.D., at the Oak Alley Covenanter Church. In 1830, he resolved to try his fortunes in another city. He went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and a few months thereafter went on horseback to visit his uncle, Mr. Thomas Moses, near Danville, Illinois, on the Vermillion River. While he had no attachment for this wild and malarious country, yet his regard for this uncle was so great that he ever afterward adopted his full name.

In the fall of 1831, he returned to Cincinnati and began the carpenter and builders' trade with his brothers Hugh and Robert. Here he connected with the Covenanter Church under the ministry of the Rev. Chas. B. McKee.

At the division of the church in 1833, he stood fast to her principles while near-

ly every member abandoned them, and held the church property in the New School body. In the fall of 1834, he took shipping on the steamer "paragon" for Columbia, Arkansas. He crossed over the river into Mississippi, where he was engaged in building cotton gins. He returned to Cincinnati in May 1835, for a visit, but went South again the same fall. He remained in and around Jackson, Mississippi for four or five years and around Jackson, Mississippi for four or five years and from New Orleans, returned to Cincinnati in June, 1839, where he made his permanent home, and followed the business of carpenter and builder.

He married Miss Mary J. Pierce of Cincinnati, November 5, 1839. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Samuel McKinney. Mr. Glasgow was chosen a ruling elder in the Cincinnati Congregation and ordained to this office in August 1844. The following year the Theological Seminary was removed hither from Allegheny, Pa., and in the welfare and management of this institution, he always took a deep interest and an official position.

To Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow were born three children - Lois Ladd, Robert Finley and John Cameron. The latter died at age of five months. Mrs. Glasgow died of consumption, March 14, 1846, in the twenty-sixth year of her age. Her two small children were left motherless, but were taken care of by Aunt Mary Glasgow of Pittsburgh. Mr Glasgow married Miss Martha W. Thompson of Pittsburgh, in 1848. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Thomas Sproull. Taking the children, the family continued to reside in Cincinnati. In 1851, they removed to Northwood, Logan Co., Ohio, to the seat of the Church Seminary and College, with which he continued closely connected in interest and office.

To Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow were born three daughters and one son, viz: Mary J. Clara T., Peninnah T., and William M.

Mr. Glasgow was installed a ruling elder in the First Miami Congregation and continued in this relation until his resignation in 1877. In 1857, the family removed to a farm one and one-half miles west of Belle Centre. Here mother died of erysipelas, December 1, 1862. The following April, the family removed into the town of Belle Centre, where the old home has since been maintained. We temporarily lived in Northwood from 1875 to 1880, while I was attending College, but removed back to Belle Centre. Father was married the third time, in August 1879, to Miss Mary Cavin of McKeesport, Pa. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. M. Milligan of Pittsburgh. In 1881, they removed to Bellefontaine, where they have since resided, and my sisters occupy the old home in Belle Centre. Father died January 13, 1892.

A cursory account will be given of the children.

Lois Ladd was always frail and delicate. She inherited the disease of her mother, and died of consumption in June, 1870.

Robert Finley was a rugged energetic lad, and was destined for the ministry. He received his education in Geneva College, at Northwood, but at the breaking out of the Civil War, he longed to manifest his youthful patriotism by going into battle for the defense of his country. He left college rather unceremoniously, and, being too young, was not allowed to enlist as a soldier. Not being thwarted in this attempt, he succeeded in getting into the navy as a sailor. He was unheard of for month until he revealed his whereabouts as a sailor on the United States Steamer "Kenwood" of the Mississippi Squadron.

Until the close of the War in 1865, he remained in his country's service, and

was rewarded with the office of Quartermaster of the vessel. He subsequently turned his attention to teaching, as his plans for the ministry were now frustrated. He taught for some years in Ohio and also in Minnesota. In 1869, he took up his residence in his native city of Cincinnati, where he became connected with the Daily Star. In 1874, he removed to Boston, Mass., where he kept a store consisting of general Household goods. He married Miss Laffay Butler of Michigan, Mich., on Lake Superior, April 27, 1875. In 1883, he transferred his business to St. Paul, Minn., but returned to Boston the following year. In 1886, he returned to Cincinnati and was again connected with the Times Star as traveling agent. He was chosen an elder in the Cincinnati Congregation the same year. He engaged in the furniture and carpet business. He is an elder in the Topeka Congregation. He has two daughters, Mary A. and Margery.

Mary J. never married, but remained at home as the faithful guardian of the younger children and conducted the household duties in the absence of a mother. She has been in delicate health for some years.