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Lauder family

The ancestry of Sir Harry Lauder (1870-1950)

A summary of which was made at the Society's 2006 AGM
by Gregory Lauder-Frost, F.S.A.(Scot).



Harry Lauder's history as the world's highest-paid performer in 1911 (*The Times* 24 July 2005), the first British entertainer to sell one million records, in the pre-mass electronic media age, and "Scotland's greatest-ever ambassador" (Sir Winston Churchill), is well-known. His ancestry is not, and doubtless will be of interest to many people, especially genealogists, and all those who write to the author to say they are relatives!

This family are descended from the famous feudal barons, the Lauders of The Bass [see Sir Harry Lauder, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'*, 1927, p.26], and were long settled at Morham in East Lothian, parts of which had, prior to c1640, been held by the Bass family.

In the testament of Robert Lauder of The Bass (d.June 1576) he mentions one of his younger sons, Patrick (d. bef. 28 March 1588) as having sasine of Bass's lands "of 'Gervat'" [a colloquial mis-spelling of Garvald – refer *Great Seal* indices], the adjoining parish to Morham. Robert's grandson, George Lauder of The Bass (b.1597 – d. after 1641), is recorded as owning 14 husbandlands [364 acres] in Gervat.

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transportation registers from 1787-1870 a microfilm of which is in the NAS. HH.11 is the warding and liberation book for the Edinburgh Tolbooth 1657-1816, extracts from the earliest of which appear in the *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club* volumes 4-6, 8, 9, 11, 12. For more detailed information refer to: *Scottish Ancestors; Tracing Scottish Local History*. For details of some published lists, including soldiers taken prisoner, see *Scottish Trades*.

Privy Council – was the chief administrative body before the Union of Parliaments in 1707 and dealt with a wide range of topics. The register has been printed from 1545-1691 and is indexed so is easily consulted. For the period 1692-1695 the original registers have to be consulted see NAS repertory PC2, and minute books survive for 1696-1707, repertory PC4.

Professional directories – Over the years many directories of professionals have been published. It is worth consulting the catalogues of local libraries. However, the copyright libraries and larger research libraries, such as the Central Library in Edinburgh and the Mitchell Library in Glasgow are likely to have the best collections. Many professional directories are noted in *Scottish Trades*. Looking further a-field, as many Scots found work south of the border, consult *British Directories to 1950*, Gareth Shaw and Allison Tipper, Leicester U.P. 1988. A useful website for English directories is www.historicaldirectories.org A useful reference work published by the Federation of FHS is *Occupational Sources for Genealogists*, 2nd edition, Stuart A. Raymond, 1996.

Professions & Occupations – are frequently mentioned in connection with marriages and deaths either in the statutory registers or in old parish registers. Many occupations are still familiar to us today or are easily understood, but others may be less familiar as they are for jobs of which we no longer have a need. Rather than make a purchase from a colporteur (travelling book-seller) we would now go to a book shop; with the advent of computers and photocopying machines there is little call for pantographers (enlarger or reducer of diagrams using a pantograph); and road makers are unlikely now to be referred to as causey men. For those wishing to discover more about old occupations the following works may be found useful: *A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations*, Colin Waters, Newbury 2002; *Dictionary of Old Trades and Occupations*, Andrew & Sandra Twining, Australia 1995; *Occupations - a Preliminary List*, Joyce Culling, Federation of FHS, 2003; *The Book of Trades or Library of Useful Arts*, R. Phillips, London 1811-1818 (Reprinted by the Wiltshire FHS). R.E. Cochran-Patrick's *Mediaeval Scotland*, Glasgow, 1892 gives an interesting insight to: agriculture, manufacturers, factories, taxation, revenue, trade, commerce, weights and measures. Many books have been published relating to specific trades or guilds, such as *The Govan Weavers' Society 1756-1956*, Harry McNab, Govan 1956. This and many more are listed in *Scottish Trades*. A variety of inexpensive and illustrated books on various professions are published by Shire Publications www.shirebooks.co.uk

(doubtless the superiority of the same property which his uncle previously had possession of), and also "lands and acres in Morham", as well as "two Temple-lands in Morham" (which had originally belonged to the Knights Templars). In a vast charter incorporating the new Barony of Drem for Thomas Hamilton, Lord Bynning, Secretary of State for Scotland, there are long lists of Templelands all over the country including those in both Tynningham and Morham, Haddingtonshire, which are mentioned as being "formerly possessed by the Lord of The Bass". [Refer: published *Great Seal* confirmations dated 30/7/1614, no.1100, 15/11/1641, no.1021, 18/1/1634, no.16, and Edinburgh Sasine vol. xxiii, fol. 54, 1634].

A charter [NAS RH6/3512] dated 5 February 1598, relates to a marriage contract whereby James Hepburn of Mainshill (a grandson of Sir Patrick Hepburn of Waughton, who d.1548/9) and Margaret Sinclair his wife, on the occasion of their daughter Elizabeth's marriage (now passed), to John Lauder son to Maurice Lauder in Belhaven (d. 8 August 1602, a grandson of Sir Robert Lauder, Knt, of The Bass, who d. bef. Feb.1508), invests John and Elizabeth in the lands of Mainshill of which James Hepburn had held the 'wadset', and which his wife had "of the fee and liferent" (presumably from Francis Stewart, now forfeited Earl of Bothwell) consisting of 5 husbandlands and a third [139 acres] in the lordship of Morham. Amongst the witnesses was Archibald Hepburn, (Burgess of Haddington), the granter's brother. James Hepburn (d. after May 1603) signed in person.

When the Hearth Taxes were collected circa March 1691 a **John Lauder** (b. c1630) in Morham village is recorded with one hearth. He, and his wife Grissel Aitcheson, were buried at Morham, she predeceasing him on the 3rd September 1695. [ref: *A History of Morham Parish* by Mary Stenhouse, (Garvald & Morham Community Council, 1986) and *East Lothian Hillfoot Villages M.I.s*, compiled by A & A Mitchell, SGS, 2004]. They had at least five identifiable children:

- (1) **David**, b. 23rd and bapt. 24 November 1650 Haddington (OPR, 709/1).
 - (2) **John**, bapt. 23 April 1654, Haddington. (died young).
 - (3) **John**, bapt. 3 November 1655, Haddington, buried Morham 1695. Married 10th August 1686, Whittinghame, East Lothian, Elizabeth Broun, with issue.
 - (4) **James**, bapt. 30 October 1658, Haddington.
- (1) Margaret, born 16 January 1664, Haddington.

The above **David Lauder** is found in the *Rentall of Traprain & Morham 1682* (NAS RH9/3/89) as paying rent on two husbandlands (52 acres) at Morham (one cannot help but wonder if these were the same two Templelands mentioned above, the superiority of which had now passed from The Bass family). He was liable for tax on three hearths at Morham in March 1691, and on 27th December 1692 was a witness to his nephew John's baptism in Haddington, which had been "transmitted from Morham" (OPR, 709/1). John Lauder "son to David Lauder, farmer in Morham" died in 1701 aged 16 and was buried at Morham.

The same "David Lauder, farmer in Morham" was a witness to a Tack (lease) by Robert Hepburn of Bearfoord (1655-1718) to "William Lauder, indweller in the town of Morham, his heirs and executors" of the lands of Northrig (excluding the mill) in the parish of Morham, dated 9th September 1698 [Books of Council & Session, RD2/85, p.682, 25th August 1701]. This William Lauder, probably David's son, became an Elder of Morham Kirk. A debt of £2/13/0 was paid to William Lauder "for his account rendered" on 14 March 1730 by Mr. George Turnbull, the Factor of Col. Francis Charteris. [Book No.1 of Francis Charteris's Factor's Accounts - Earl of Wemyss' Private Archives]. Charteris bought the Bearfoord estate.

Interestingly, a tenant living in Northrig farm in 1740 (NAS,CH2/167) was a William Aitchison, who subsequently purchased a tenement of land in the Poldrate in nearby Haddington in 1744, from Charles Lauder, Writer, the son of the late Provost, James Lauder (NAS B30/13/9), who had been Factor to the Bearfoord estate (C & S: Mack 48/235). The Aitchesons had long farmed at Morham, and in 1841 James Aitcheson, Esq., still possessed West Morham.

We are concerned with:

GEORGE LAUDER, (b. bef.1690, d. after 1735), in South Westfield, Morham, the evidence suggests a son of said David and brother of William, the Kirk Elder. David, William, and John, were favoured Christian names through several generations of George Lauder's descendants. For instance, when George's first son named William died young, a further boy(s) born later were again named William: on 30 May 1714 the OPR records that mortcloth dues were paid for the burial of an infant William Lauder, possibly the first-born son of George Lauder.

In the front of the Morham Old Parish Register mention is made of money given to the church upon the marriage by an Archibald Lauder to a (unnamed) sister of George Lauder. She had subsequently died and a dollar was remitted to George on 23 March 1712. The Haddington Sheriff Court Registers (SC40/57/11) contain a Protest, dated 10 May 1731, by George Turnbull, factor to Col. Francis Charteris of Amisfield, against George Lauder, tenant in South Westfield of Morham, who had owed £27 Scots from 16 May, 1730 and was late in repayment.

George married at Morham 25th November 1713, a Jane Lauder. A witness to the first proclamation was Patrick Knox, maybe a member of the family of John Knox, the Reformer, who had also farmed in Morham parish. Witnesses to the marriage of George and Jane Lauder were James Paxton, and William Lauder (the Kirk Elder).

The Statistical Account of Haddingtonshire (Edinburgh 1841) states that the earliest date in the Parochial Records for Morham is 22 February 1712. However, there is also a gap in the Morham Old Parish registers from late in 1714 until 1720.

George Lauder almost certainly would have had children (probably 3 or more if later patterns are anything to go by) during this period but the records appear to be lost.

The Morham Kirk Session Books record that in April 1724 George Lauder paid 13/4d for a headstone, probably for one, or more, of his children.

George & Jane Lauder had at least seven known children (but the parish records are wanting for the period late 1714 - 1720), all baptised at Morham.

(1) **George**, buried 27th October, 1718 (M.I.)

(2) **David**, bapt. 3rd November 1722.

(3) **William**, bapt. 18th April, 1725 (died young).

(4) **William**, bapt. 13th April 1735, *of whom below*.

(1) Margaret, bapt. 9th October 1714 (buried before 1719).

(2) Mary, bapt. 3rd March 1727, m. 16th June 1756, at Garvald, **Alexander Downie** (he d. after 11th September 1774).

(3) Christian, bapt. 11th July 1731.

The fourth known son, was

WILLIAM, of Colstoun Wood House (baptised 13th April 1735, Morham – died November 1812, Haddington), opposite West Morham farm, and who was later a feuer in Nungate, Haddington. It is probable that this William, along with siblings, attended Morham School, and so may have been taught by James Hogg who was schoolmaster there until 1742, when he took up a new appointment at Whittingehame, (see *The Seven Ages of an East Lothian Parish - Whittingehame* by Rev. M.B. Lang. Edinburgh, 1929). For about 6 years William lived at Leith, but returned to Haddingtonshire about 1770 where he resumed residence there in Bara, a small parish sandwiched between the parishes of Garvald, Morham, and Yester. The Bara church was originally consecrated in 1242 and was united with Garvald parish in 1702. Worship there ceased in 1744 when the roof fell in. There is nothing left of the church but along a farm lane about a quarter of a mile north of Bara farm there is a secluded kirkyard with some interesting carved stones dating back to 1659. William Lauder married 16th February 1763, at South Leith Church of Scotland, Janet (bapt. 25th December 1737), daughter of William Crease in Temple parish, Midlothian, by his spouse, Mary McDougal. They did not follow the traditional naming patterns when they had their seven children:

(1) **David**, bapt. 5th February 1769, South Leith.

(2) **John**, joiner, and tollkeeper in Broughton, Midlothian, born 5th September 1774, Bara parish, East Lothian, - died 21st November 1857, Canongate, buried in The Grange cemetery, Edinburgh. It is possible this is the John Lauder who, with a William Crease and James Taylor in Edinburgh, was seised in a tenement of land in Eyemouth on 21 June 1820. He married Isabella Lyall (1772 – buried 13th October 1841, Dalkeith), and had issue:

(1) William, (born c1798 – died 5th January 1869, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), a currier. He married, 1st January 1827, St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, Margaret, daughter of James Foreman in Musselburgh. They had:

(a) Isabella, b. 1828, Dundee.

(b) John Brown, b.1830, Scotland – d. 9th April 1893, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, a carrier. In 1871 he was served heir to his great-grandfather William Lauder (d.Nov.1812) in the property in Nungate, Haddington. He m.[1] 15th September 1856, Wallsend parish church, Northumberland, Jane (1827-1878) dau., of Robert Archer, [2] 27th September 1879, St.Andrews, Newcastle. Frances ((b.1839) dau. of Nicholas McKay.
(c) Marjory Taylor, bapt. 3rd June 1840, Kirriemuir, co.Forfar. Witness on her brother John's marriage certificate.

(2) John, bapt. 24th February 1799, Haddington.

(3) George, baptised 24th January, 1810, South Leith. By 1851 had emigrated to North Carolina.

(1) Christian, (bapt. 30th July 1808, South Leith, - died 15th March 1889,

Edinburgh. Married 26th April 1830, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh. Henry Clow:

(3) George, of Inverleith Mains, of whom below.

(1) Jean, bapt. 26th February, 1764, South Leith. Still alive April 1841, unmarried, and living with her nephew David Lauder in Edinburgh.

(2) Beatrix, bapt. 7th April, 1765, South Leith.

(3) Mary, bapt. 24th May, 1767, South Leith.

(4) Janet, born 29th May, 1771, Bara, East Lothian.

GEORGE, of Inverleith Mains, farmer, (born 5th August 1776, Bara parish, East Lothian – died 22nd August 1824, Inverleith Mains, Midlothian). Testament dated 30th August 1814, proved 24th February 1826 at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. Held the lease of Inverleith Mains, of which, in the last year of his life, he agreed to a small reversion with his superior landlord, James Rocheid, for (the initial) 11.5 Scots acres (a Scots acre is 6150 square yards whereas an English acre is only 4840 square yards) to be detached from his farm for the establishment of the Royal Botanical Gardens, which opened in May 1824. George was feuar of numerous properties in Stockbridge including the St.Bernards Well lands; he was also the Tacksman of Tolls for the City of Edinburgh from which he accumulated considerable wealth and where he also employed his brother, John.

“Henry Raeburn of St Bernards, as heir to Sir Henry Raeburn, Knight, Portrait Painter, Edinburgh, his father, was seised on 19th March 1824 in a piece of ground for the purpose of making a communication by a stone bridge across the Water of Leith from the New Street called Atholl Street, now India Place, to the grounds of St Bernards, parish of St Cuthberts, on disposition by George Lauder residing at Inverleith Farm, to the said Sir Henry Raeburn 28th June 1823, and by Retour of General Services [as feudal superior] 17th November 1823. (PR 1007.180). Registered 22 March 1824.” It would appear here that Raeburn is buying back a small piece of the lands which had previously been feued to George Lauder, along with St.Bernards Well.

George married, 20th July 1799, Canongate church, Edinburgh, Christian (born 13th

January 1777, Aberlady, East Lothian, - d. after May 1832, when still living, in Mary's Place, Stockbridge) daughter of William Richardson, in Dirleton, (but formerly of North Berwick), East Lothian, by his spouse Helen Blake. George & Christian Lauder had issue:

(1) **George**, (bapt. 25th April 1798, Aberlady, - d. 6th September 1822, Stockbridge) named in his father's Testament but died before him. Admitted as a Burgess of Edinburgh, 13th September 1821. He married 23rd June 1821, St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, Janet (d. 14th June 1854, Edinburgh), daughter of John Spence (c.1767 - 1812) by his spouse Janet Ingram (c.1764 - 1833). They had one child: **George** (1822-1841, s.p.), surgeon in Edinburgh. All buried at St. Cuthberts.

(2) **William, of Inverleith Mains, and St. Bernards**, farmer, (bapt. 11th November, 1800, Aberlady, - died 2nd September 1858, Saunders Street, Stockbridge, Edinburgh). A named beneficiary in his father's Testament. The 1826 *Edinburgh Post Office Directory* records him as "William Lauder, farmer, Inverleith". The 1832-33 edition designates him "of St. Bernards Well", (one of his father's properties). He was not formally served heir to both his father, and his nephew George (the surgeon), until 27th April 1841. He was subsequently sued by all his siblings, in the Court of Session in 1842, for non-division of both estates. He is buried in the private Dean cemetery, Edinburgh. He married, 7th August 1826, at St. Cuthberts, Edinburgh, Helen (b. 1808 - 10th November 1875, Saunders Street, Stockbridge), daughter of John Bishop. They had issue:

- (1) George, (bapt. 24th November 1837, Haddington - d. 18th June 1894, Edinburgh), a lithographer. Married 19th November 1869, Edinburgh, Catherine (1845 - 27th March 1881, Edinburgh) daughter of Alexander McIntosh by his wife Jane Beattie. They left issue, at least four children:
 - (a) William, (born 3rd May 1870, Edinburgh), Commercial Clerk, married 28th March 1890, Free Church, Edinburgh, Mary Ellen, née McRitchie (c.1870 - 20th November 1950, Edinburgh) with issue,
 - (i) George (28th November 1891, Edinburgh, - 3rd January, 1968, 114 Ark Lane, Glasgow), m. 16th September, 1922, Edinburgh, Agnes, née Robertson (1891-1973), with issue.
 - (b) Alexander McIntosh, 1876-1895, unm., lithographer.
 - (c) Helen Bishop, b. 22nd February 1874, Leith.
 - (d) Jane Beattie, b. 4th November 1878, Leith.
- (2) Helen, (28th June 1827, Inverleith Mains - 13th June 1902, Edinburgh). Living with her uncle John Lauder, on "bank interest", in April 1851. Married 26th April 1878, David Pennycook (d. bef. 1902).
- (3) Isabella Harper Lauder, (28th July 1833, Edinburgh - 8th May 1893, Edinburgh). Also living with her uncle John, on "bank interest", in April 1851. Married 14th June 1872, Edinburgh, Robert Stirling Falconer, wine merchant, (b. 1832, Edinburgh) of 29 York Place, Edinburgh.

- (4) Christian, b.1839. Alive April 1841.
- (5) William, bapt. 24th June 1840, Haddington. Alive April 1841.
- (6) Ann Scott Lauder (bapt. 17th September, 1844, St.Cuthberts, Edinburgh), married 24th September 1874 at Edinburgh, Peter Lothian.
- (7) Jessie Carrick Lauder (1850 – 15th December 1918, Edinburgh) a photographer. Unmarried.

(3) **David**, bapt. 20th February 1803, Aberlady, died before May 1807.

(4) **David**, bapt. 2nd May 1807, Fala & Soutra, Midlothian, - died before 1858, Edinburgh, a named beneficiary in his father's Testament. David was a baker resident at 165 Rose Street, Edinburgh. Married 20th November 1837, St. Cuthberts, Catherine (d. 17th August 1857, Edinburgh) daughter of James Hogg, farmer of Aurive, Ettrick, Dumfries. They had:

- (1) George, (1839 Edinburgh – 22nd July 1870, Glasgow), who married 31st December 1858, Edinburgh, Margaret (b.c1838), daughter of William Robertson by his spouse Mary McGregor. They had issue:
 - (a) William, born 20th December 1861, Edinburgh.
 - (b) David, 1859-1862.
 - (c) Mary McGregor, 1864-1867.
- (2) James Hogg, b.December 1840, Edinburgh. Informant on mother's death certificate, 17th August 1857.

(5) **John**, youngest child, of 4 Rose St., Edinburgh, *of whom below*.

(1) Helen, bapt. 3rd February 1805, Prestonpans, East Lothian, "daughter of George Lauder, farmer, residing at Inverleith". A named beneficiary in her father's testament. She married 14th December 1822, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, **Robert Hutchison** (spelt Hutcheson in the marriage entry) a builder living at 104 High Street, Edinburgh. (See also NAS Deed: RD5/686, pps.1 - 18). She was living in Wimbledon, Surrey, in April 1871. They left issue:

- (1) Robert Walker Hutchison (b. before 1836); descendants in New South Wales.
- (2) George Lauder Hutchison (b. Pentland, Midlothian), was the informant on the Death Certificate of his aunt Isabella Lauder's husband, Alexander Harper, in February 1888, where George is described as his "son-in-law", but in fact George was a nephew, then residing in Holloway, North London. In April 1891 he was resident in Hackney, London.

(2) Janet (Jessie), bapt. 26th June, 1810, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, and married there 5th March 1827 to **Andrew Carrick**, Agent in Cronstadt, Russia. She was a named beneficiary in her father's Testament. They had at least two known children: (a) George Leon, bapt. 7th January 1841, and (b) Jessie Mary, bapt. 18th March 1843 both at the Russia Company Chaplaincy, Kronstadt.

(3) Isabella, bapt. 25th June 1812, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh – 28th September 1861, Paisley, co.Renfrew. A named beneficiary in her father's Testament. Married 30th March, 1829, St.Cuthbert's, **Alexander Harper** (b.c1807, Thurso, Caithness – d. 4th February 1888, Molong Villa, James Street, Dunoon, Argyll) H.M.Excise & Inland Revenue Officer. They had issue:

- (a) Jessie Carrick, (bapt. 7 July 1836, St.Ninians, Stirling), married 23 September 1859, Church of Scotland, Paisley, co.Renfrew, **James Fraser** (b.16 November 1823, Abernethy & Kincadine parish, co.Inverness – d. before April 1881), Chief Constable and Procurator Fiscal of Argyll. They had issue: two sons, James (1860), and Alexander (1861).
- (b) Ellen, (b.19 March 1857, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire), married 11th October 1888, Church of Scotland, Dunoon, James Cameron (b.1845) a widower and a timber merchant.

(4) Christian, bapt. 5th December 1814, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, – d. between 1855 - July 1862, Melbourne, Victoria. Not named in father's Testament (written 30th August 1814), but included under the clause which stated "and any other child or children that may be procreated between my said wife and me" and, in addition, "and share my property equally amongst my children". She married 4th November 1833, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, **John Matthew Maver** (1797, Perthshire - 1st July 1862, Tallarook, Collingwood, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia), a builder. They left issue: 9 children.

We now return to:

JOHN, 9th and youngest child, (born 18th July 1818 at Inverleith Mains - died 13th August 1888, Leith Hospital). Not named in father's Testament (written 30th August 1814), but included under the clause which stated "and any other child or children that may be procreated between my said wife and me" and, in addition, "and share my property equally amongst my children". In 1842 he and his siblings sued their elder brother William for their share of their father's estate. John subsequently purchased from the Police Commissioners a large house at 4 Rose Street, Edinburgh, the site of which is now occupied by the rear of *Jenners* famous department store. He was living there with his wife and children, and two of his brother William's daughters, Helen & Isabella, when the April 1851 Census was taken. He let this property in late 1851, relocating briefly to Musselburgh, and by June 1854 had sold it and removed to 2 Ramsay Lane, Portobello, opposite the Town Hall, where he was still living in 1870. John Lauder married 1839/1840, Mary (bapt. 29th July 1810, Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland, - d. 4th February 1870, Portobello), 7th child of John Curry (1775 – 28th December 1857) and Margaret née Wilkinson (c1774 – 23rd February 1845), in Kirkwhelpington. They had issue:

- (1) **George**, born 21st September 1840, Gateshead, co.Durham. Alive April 1851.

(2) **John**, born and died March 1846, buried St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.

(3) **John Currie**, *of whom presently*.

(1) Isabella, b.1844, Edinburgh – d.31st March 1897, St.George's parish, Edinburgh, (died from consumption). Informant on her father's Death Certificate, August 1888. She had a natural child: Isabella Mary Smith Lauder, born 15th September 1867, Edinburgh, who had also died from consumption 29th August 1892, in Colinton, Edinburgh.

(2) Mary, b.1849, 4 Rose St., Edinburgh. Alive April 1851.

(3) Jane M, b.1854, Portobello. Alive April 1881, Fulham, London.

JOHN CURRIE, second son, (born 1851, Musselburgh, Edinburghshire, - d. 20th April 1882, Newbold, nr.Chesterfield, Derbyshire, where buried in churchyard). (Note how the English spelling of Curry has become Currie). A Master Potter and porcelain designer, employed firstly at the famous Portobello pottery, then at Pearson's pottery at Newbold. He was still living with his father when he married, 26th August, 1870 (Free Church ceremony), at her father's home at 4 Bridge Street, Portobello, Isabella Urquhart McLeod (b.1853 Arbroath, co.Forfar – 18th November 1905, Hamilton, Lks.) eldest daughter of Henry McLennan (b.Jan. 1829, Ferintosh, Black Isle, Invernessshire – d. 26 August 1899., Hamilton, Lanarks.) by Elizabeth (1827- 29th July 1870, at 4 Bridge Street, from consumption), daughter of Alexander McBurnie in co.Down, Ulster. (Isabella married secondly on 15 May 1885, at the Free Church of Scotland, Hamilton, Alexander Miller (b.c1850), with issue: 2 girls, Mary and Betsy).

John Currie Lauder and Isabella née McLennan had issue:

(1) **HENRY** (Sir Harry) *of whom, below*:

(2) **Matthew Currie**, (17th February 1872, Musselburgh – 20th April 1933, Los Angeles county hospital, buried: Inglewood Lawn Cemetery, L.A.). Although aged just 10, he signed his name as the informant on his father's Death Certificate. A deep mine fault consultant, & landscape company proprietor. In 1891 living with brother Harry in Portland Square, Hamilton, Lks., afterwards had property in Hamilton, London, and Eagle Rock, California. On 3rd September 1902, he was initiated into the Masonic Lodge No.233, Hamilton, passed on the 2nd and was raised on 19th November respectively. He thereafter travelled extensively as a colliery fault consultant, including the USA (Penn.), South Africa (Witbank), New Zealand (Greymouth), New South Wales (Kurri Kurri), and England (Yorkshire). Following The Great War he purchased a landscaping business in Los Angeles, which specialised in golf courses and large estates (one famous client: Douglas Fairbanks, *Pickfair*), and parks (*Forest Lawn, L.A. &c.*). Regularly in UK, notably with his entire family for Lady Lauder's funeral, but died suddenly in California from an intestinal obstruction.

Matt married 31st December 1891, at St Johns Free Church, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, (with brother Harry as Best Man) Catherine Swanstone Limerick (1874-1945), second

daughter of James Limerick Vallance (1855-1936), a colliery manager, and Mary, (1856-1937), daughter of William Kerr (1830-1860) in Hamilton. (Catherine was the next younger sister of Harry's wife). They had issue, all bar the youngest born in Hamilton, Lanarkshire: John Currie (1892-1980), James Limerick Vallance (b & d 7 Dec 1895), Matthew Currie (1899-1972), James Vallance (1901-1932), Henry McLennan (1902-1951), Thomas Vallance (1908-1915), and one daughter, Mary Kerr (1893-1977), with living descendants of the two eldest surviving sons only.



The two sisters, Ann ('Nance' - wife of Harry) and Catherine (wife of Matt), with their children in London, about 1906. Ann's only child John is tallest. Next to him are Mary and John, while in front (L to R) are James, Matt jnr., and Henry (Harry II).

(3) John Currie, (8 May 1873, Musselburgh, - 27 February 1938, Sydney, New South Wales). Buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Stockton, Newcastle, N.S.W. Sir Harry Lauder visited John on several occasions, the last being a private vacation in 1936, when he arrived at Newcastle Station on Christmas Eve, (see *Newcastle Morning Herald*). John had married in 1917, at Kurri Kurri, N.S.W., Mary McLean Bell, but they had no issue.

(4) **Alexander McLennan**, (8 April 1875, Musselburgh, - 19 July 1934, Hamilton, Lks.). Married 1st March 1895, Hamilton, Lks., Elizabeth (20 May 1876, Hamilton, - 12 August 1961, Lauder Ha', Strathaven, Lks.), daughter of James Horne & Elizabeth née King. Both buried in Bent Cemetery. They had issue:

- (a) Elizabeth Buttercase King (11 June 1895 Hamilton, - 16 January 1968, Ayr), buried Bent Cemetery. Married 22 August 1922, Hamilton, **George James Neary**, s.p.
- (b) Isabella McLennan (18 December 1896 Hamilton, - 15 March 1963, Stonehouse, Lks.). Upon the death of Sir Harry Lauder, Isabella shared a legacy of £20,000 with her sister Elizabeth and their mother. She married 18 November 1925, Hamilton, **William McDonald Muir Fraser** (29 August 1896, Edinburgh, - 15 March 1963, Stonehouse, Lks.). William also received a legacy of £500. They had issue:
 - (1) Elizabeth Lauder (15 September 1926, Hamilton), a schoolteacher. She married 13 August 1965 at Hamilton, **John Hamilton** (b.1927). No issue.
 - (2) Margaret Lauder (12 October 1930 - 7 May 1997, Hamilton). Unmarried. Buried in Bent Cemetery.
- (c) Margaret (*Greta*) Horne, M.B.E. (1948), (23 July 1900 Hamilton - 18 January 1966, Lauder Hall, Strathaven), unmarried although she was engaged for some time to the British Magistrate at Jos, Nigeria, Willoughby Smith. Sir Harry Lauder's niece, who became his secretary following his wife's death, she was the principal beneficiary in his Will. Buried in Bent Cemetery, Hamilton.

(5) **George Currie**, (12 October 1877, Glasgow, - 17 November 1910, Queen Street, Dunoon). Cause of death: T.B. Buried in Bent Cemetery, Hamilton. Married 1st

January 1902, United Free Church, Arbroath, co. Forfar, Mary Ann (b.9 July 1881, St. Vigean's parish, Arbroath), daughter of James Falconer and Stewart née Mather (both d. before 1902). They had issue, a daughter: May Falconer Lauder (6 November 1902 - Hamilton, Lks., - June 1970, Los Angeles, California; her cremation casket is interred in Bent Cemetery Hamilton.) She married a Mr. Tate: issue, if any, unknown.

(6) Isabella McLennan, (22 November 1880, Musselburgh - 21 September 1959, Hamilton, Lks.) Married 19 March 1897, Free Church, Hamilton, **John Wardrop** (c) (30 December 1877, Wishaw, Cambusnethan Lks., - 5 February 1961, Shotts, Lks.). They had issue: four sons: John, Henry, James, and Matt, and a daughter, Isabella.

(7) Jane Millar, (29 May 1882, Arbroath - 22 August 1946, Hamilton). Posthumous birth. Married at the Church of Scotland, Hamilton, 6 June 1902, to **David Ross Allan** (24 August 1883 - 28 July 1951, Hamilton). They had issue: a son, William, and a daughter, Isabella.

We now return to our subject of whom a few words on some less well-known aspects of his life are here mentioned:

(1) SIR HENRY (Harry) , of 'Laudervale', Dunoon, & 'Glenbranter', both in Argyll, and Lauder Hall, Strathaven, Lanarkshire, Knight Bachelor (1919).

(b. 4th August 1870, in maternal grandfather's house, 4 Bridge Street, Portobello, - d. 26th January 1950, Lauder Ha' or Hall, Strathaven), was named after his mother's father, Henry McLennan. Contrary to some stories, Harry's surname was Lauder from birth (see birth certificate 684/01 - 0106). Both parents signed the birth certificate as informants, which is unusual.

A songwriter and natural vaudeville entertainer of wide popularity, he toured worldwide for three decades, and was much-loved in North America, which he toured 21 times. Amongst other ceremonies over a long career, he laid the Foundation Stone of the American Music Hall in San Francisco on 12th January 1910.

He was a favourite of Kings Edward VII and George V, performing at Sandringham and Balmoral. Sir Thomas Lipton, Bt., also described Harry as "my great friend". Lipton had grown up in Glasgow and by the age of 27 was also well on the way to fame and fortune, (see *Leaves from the Lipton Logs*, 1931).

Henry McLennan Lauder was initiated into the Masonic Lodge *Dramatic No.571* (Glasgow) on the 28th January, was Passed 11th February, and Raised on the 26th February 1897, and took his Mark Degree the following year.

During The Great War he established the Harry Lauder Million Pound Fund for Scottish Soldiers & Sailors, to raise funds for disabled war veterans. He toured the Western Front during that conflict, under fire, and performed there for the troops. On 24 November 1927 he received the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh where he affirmed that both his father and his grandfather were natives of Edinburgh. The following year he met the famous writer, H.V.Morton, in Aberdeen, who described Harry as "small, sturdy, and smooth of face. He wore hexagonal glasses and smoked a six-inch briar pipe. His Glengarry was worn at a jaunty angle and, as he walked, the almost ankle-length Inverness cape which he wore exposed a bit of a MacLeod [sic] kilt. The superior person will perhaps sniff if I suggest that no man since Sir Walter Scott has warmed the world's heart to Scotland more surely than Sir Harry Lauder. His genius is a thing apart."

A now possibly forgotten event occurred on Monday 3rd February 1936 when Sir Harry performed the opening ceremony for the brand new and then rather splendid Embassy Cinema at 146-150 Kilmarnock Road, Glasgow (now demolished). During World War II he again engaged in patriotic functions and, despite his age, made guest performances over the wireless with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. He was described by Sir Winston Churchill as "Scotland's greatest ever ambassador".

Harry Lauder was living with his brother Matt in Portland Square, Hamilton, in 1891.

He purchased in the late 1890s, Athole House, Longley Road, Tooting, in South London (still extant with blue plaque on front wall saying "Sir Harry Lauder lived here"), and soon afterwards the Victorian mansion and park &c., which he renamed *Laudervale*, south of Dunoon (now demolished), Argyll. Prior to The Great War he purchased the highland estate and mansion (later demolished by the next owners, the Forestry Commission) of *Glenbranter*, above Loch Eck, Argyll, and in 1932 the small estate at Strathaven, Lanarkshire, where Lauder Ha' or Hall still stands. This was a victim of 65% Death Duties, and so was sold by the family to John & Isobel Russell in 1967, who still own it.

Sir Harry Lauder made three successful British feature films: *Huntingtower* (1928) (silent), *Auld Lang Syne* (1929) and *The End of the Road* (1936). He also wrote a number of books which ran into several editions, including *Harry Lauder at Home and on Tour* (1912), *A Minstrel in France* (1918), *Between You and Me* (1919), *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* (1927 autobiography), *My Best Scotch Stories* (1929), *Wee Drappies* (1931) and *Ticklin' Talks* (c.1932). Of works on him by other authors there is *Great Scot!* by Gordon Irving (1968) and *Harry Lauder in the Limelight* by William Wallace (with Gregory Lauder-Frost, 1988). The Sir Harry Lauder Road at Portobello is named after him, as is the Harry Lauder Memorial Garden beside Portobello Town Hall, opened on 4th August 2001 by his great-nephew Gregory Lauder-Frost. On the 30th November 2005, BBCTV (Scotland) featured a special St. Andrew's Day programme: *Something about Harry*, in honour of the great man.

Possibly sensing his own time was near, Sir Harry went to visit his father's grave at Newbold churchyard, nr Chesterfield, for the last time on the 17th July 1948 (*Derbyshire Times*). At Sir Harry's funeral service in Hamilton's Cadzow Parish Church the following February the Lesson was read by the Duke of Hamilton, and all shops and businesses in Hamilton closed for the day, for what was said to be that town's most memorable funeral ever. It was covered by *Pathe News* and wreaths were received from all over the world, including one from Queen Elizabeth (the late Queen Mother, who shared her birthday with Sir Harry) and another from Mr & Mrs Winston Churchill. Despite his well-known wish to be buried with his beloved wife at Glenbranter, Sir Harry was buried with his mother and brother George in Bent cemetery, Hamilton, Lks.

Harry Lauder married (with brother Matt as Best Man) at Hamilton, Lanarkshire, on 19th June 1891, Ann (*Nance*), (b.12 June 1873, Hamilton, Lks., - d. 31 July 1927, Glasgow, and buried next to her parents and the memorial plinth to her son, John, at Glenbranter), eldest daughter of James Limerick Vallance (1855-1936) a colliery manager, by his wife Mary (1856-1937), daughter of William Kerr (1830-1860) in Hamilton, Lks. Two of Harry's most successful songs: *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* and *I Love a Lassie* were written by him especially for Ann. (Ann's sister Catherine subsequently married Harry's brother Matt). Sir Harry Lauder had an only child:



John Currie Lauder (b. 19 November 1891, Hamilton, – killed in action 28 December 1916, Poiziers, and buried at Albert Road Cemetery, Ovilliers, France; memorial plinth at Glenbranter). Educated at the City of London School, John matriculated into Jesus College, Cambridge, on 22 October 1910, reading Political Economy and Law, graduating with a B.A., 14 June 1913. He stayed at Cambridge University for an additional BA Special Syllabus year reading Music, passing those exams in Easter term 1914. He was enlisted for The Great War, firstly as a Lieutenant, then Captain, in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He died unmarried.

Lauder Family

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2006

- 9 September Saturday - Gateshead, Co. Durham Family History Fair.
14 September Thursday - Ordinary Meeting: Dynasties and clusters, Dr Maurice McCrae, F.R.C.P.E.
16 September Saturday - Renfrewshire Family History Fair - Greenock.
22 Sept 2007 Friday - Fife Family History Fair: More information from Yvonne Boni, Library Supervisor (information), Cupar Library, Tel: 01334 413216/412285.
16 October Monday - Ordinary Meeting: The Top Twenty Pre-1855 Sources for Family History, Peter Wadley.
13 November Monday - Ordinary Meeting: Recording Rosebank Cemetery, Ken Nisbet, B.A.

New Register House Research Evenings:

June: 15th, 29th September: 7th, 14th 21st November: 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th
July: 13th, 27th October: 5th, 19th December: 14th
August: 11th, 25th

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