



# *Carswell Connection*

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## **Allen Carswell of the Parish of Mearns, Scotland**

Allen Carswell married Katherine Ferguson (b. July 26, 1725) on January 11, 1751 at Darnley in Eastwood Parish, Scotland.

Known children are:

Katherine Carswell b. April 26, 1752

Agnes Carswell b. March 16, 1760

William Carswell b. 1764 d. 1852 b. Symington, Scotland d. Glasgow

James Carswell b. 1771 d. 1856 b. Symington, Scotland d. Glasgow

The family used the Scottish naming patterns so I have to think that the names of the first 2 sons and first 2 daughters came from the grandparents. That means that Katherine born April 26th, 1752 was named after her mother's mother. They were married on January 11, 1751 Since Katherine was the first born in 1752, there were probably up to another three children born before Agnes came along on March 16, 1760. Then another child was born before William in 1764 and finally perhaps another two or three children by the time James was born in 1771. That would mean a family size of up to a dozen or more children but all this needs to be verified. From their mother's final will in the early 1800s, these are the only named surviving children. After their marriage in the Parish of Eastwood where Katherine Ferguson was born and raised at Darnley, they settled in Symington, Ayrshire where they farmed at Spittlehill Farm, Symington, Ayrshire, down the road from Kilmarnock. The two sons were apprenticed to Alexander Gulliland who was a trained Wright and builder and as a result they eventually set up for their own account in Glasgow in 1790, first working as joiners (site managers). Eventually, they bought tracts of land and began a life of building for their own account.

# Scottish Wills - Carswell

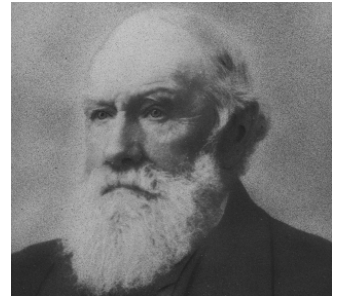
1513 - 1901

## Various Details from Scottish Wills – Part Five (101 - 125)

- 101 Carswell, Alexander, Farmer at Kirkton, Neilston, d.29/11/1900 at Kirkton
- 102 Carswell, William of Duncarnock, Parish of Mearns, Renfrewshire, d. 16/09/1895 at Duncarnock afterwards residing there, d.12/05/1889 at Poulton, Edinburgh
- 104 Carswell, Robert Shipbuilder, sometime at Dowanayr, Troon, thereafter at 107 Eldon Street, Greenock, d.07/02/1901 at Jamestown near Maybole
- 105 Carswell, William of Duncarnock, Parish of Mearns, Renfrewshire, d. 16/09/1895 at Duncarnock aforesaid, testate
- 106 Carswell, Adam maltman in Gorbals, parish of Govan Docs processed 26/09/1738
- 107 Carswell, William sometime Flesher, Main Street, Barrhead, thereafter residing at Northpark there, d. 08/04/1900 at Barrhead
- 108 Carswell, David of Rathillet, d. 03/08/1882 at Perth
- 109 Carswell, John, Commercial Traveller, 296 Maxwell Road, Glasgow, d. 10/12/1899 at Glasgow, intestate
- 110 Carswell, Eliza, Mrs, or Buchanan, relict of John Fell Carswell, residing in Glasgow, previously residing in Paisley, Docs processed 15/09/1848
- 111 Carswell, Ann, Residenter, 83 High Street, Paisley, d.19/10/1878 at Paisley
- 112 Carswell, John, Timber Measurer, Greenock, d. 24/01/1885 at Greenock
- 113 Carswell, Janet Mrs, or Abercromby, wife of Allan Carswell sr, builder in Glasgow Docs processed 01/01/1800
- 114 Carswell, James, merchant, residing in Victoria in Colony of Vancouver Island, spouse of Elizabeth Carswell, Docs processed 14/12/1872
- 115 Carswell, James Steele, Assistant Surgeon, 3rd Regiment of Scinde Horse, d. 14/03/1873 at Leoce Scinde
- 116 Carswell, William, builder in Glasgow, spouse of Eliza Glasgow Kirkwood; Docs processed 16/09/1863
- 117 Carswell, Allan, Farmer in the Parish of Neilston Docs processed 03/03/1836
- 118 Carswell, Jane or Fisher, Storie Street, Paisley, d. 05/02/1886 at Paisley
- 119 Carswell, William Jenkins, C.A., Glasgow, d. 02/02/1885 at Busby
- 120 Carswell, Ann, 83 High Street, Paisley, Docs processed 28/02/1880
- 121 Carswell, James Shepherd, Property Agent, Gordon Street, Glasgow, d. 20/12/1861 at Cardross
- 122 Carswell, Thomas, Farmer, sometime at Neilston, thereafter at Wraes, Parish of Neilston,, d. 16/02/1879 at Wraes
- 123 Carswell, Janet, alias Abercromby, wife of Allan Carswell, Sr. builder in Glasgow, residing at 14 Sandyford Place; Docs processed 18/05/1870
- 124 Carswell, William, Joint Tenant, Hillend Farm, Parish of Shotts, d.16/07/1877 at Hillend Farm
- 125 Carswell, John, Timber Measurer and Shipowner, Greenock, d. 10/09/1893 at Greenock

# James Carswell's diary, 1866

Following is the fifth of monthly entries from the 1866 diary of James Carswell, Miller, at Dalbeattie, Kircudbrightshire.



## May, 1866

1 Tuesday. Still frosty in the morning and a very cold wild day with some heavy sleet showers. Some few bones going away. I had a letter from the "Express" today. She passed Tobermoray on Thursday last.

2 Wednesday. Still white frost but more mild this morning, but through the day some slight sleet showers. Thomas at Dumfries. Our horse at Elliot's putting in potatoes. I have McGinn today putting in some beds of potatoes and W Butters is cutting stones.

3 Thursday. Still white frost in the morning and the Dubs covered with ice. Leading bones to the station today with our own horse. Elliot has got his chimney nearly finished – about two feet to go on it.

4 Friday. Still very white frost with ice as thick as a penny. I went down to Scaur to a sale of wrecked Poynters. Dissolved bones and Poynters manure. It was in the vessel 4 days covered with water. It sold pretty well. The real market value of it when sound is about 10/- per bag, and it sold somewhere about 6/- per bag where it lay all wet, and sold for ready cash. I bought none.

5 Saturday. More mild this morning and has been a good shower through the night which will do a deal of good. A good deal of bones going away today and yesterday.

6 Sunday. Fine mild morning. Some slight showers in the forenoon. Mr Elliot got his boiler yesterday, and is up till it seats. No place from home. Kerwins, woodforester, is commenced last week to thin the plantations at Barr. I see by the papers that McKie (Ernespie) has got a pair of young ones last week and likewise John Ritchie's wife gave birth to a son.

7 Monday. Dry and mild. McGinn away filling lime at Palnackie. This week will nearly grind up all the bones we have at present. Thomas at Castle Douglas. I hear today that William Clerk has gone to the Old Lawn Quarries to work as common labourer.

8 Tuesday. Dry and mild in the morning but came on rain in the afternoon, and wet the most of it. I have not heard today yet what statement the Chancellor of the Exchequer made last night in regard to the Franchise of Scotland, but it will be in the papers today. The budget this year is of no great importance.

9 Wednesday. Dry and mild through the morning but some heavy showers through the day. Thomas at Dumfries. Sent away a good deal of bones today. We are getting fast through the rough bones. This week we will nearly finish them. Our Scotch Franchise is the same as England - £7 for the burghs, £14 county. There has been a tremendous crash in the iron trade – fallen within the last week from 80/- to 55/- and 56 for pig iron, and discounts at the bank was raised on last Thursday from 6 to 7 and today from 7 to 8, and even expected higher very rapidly. Cotton has fallen 6d per ton within this short time. Grain markets steady and fully dearer. Very quiet in Parliament just now.

10 Thursday. Mild and dry; wind from the west. The "Express" is detained at Kyleakie owing to the Captain being bad with a sore leg. I have McGinn today again putting in some larger beds potatoes.

11 Friday. Very wet morning and has been wet a great part of the night. Turned out a good day. A great deal of bones went away today. Nearly close filling [(Nearly finished bagging up)

12 Saturday. Mild and dry. Still a great deal of bones going away. Another day will grind up all the rough ones we have till we get some more. Got the invoice of a cargo from Dublin two or three days ago, but no word of them arrived yet.

13 Sunday. Dry but rather cold wind from the north yesterday and today. No place from home. My wife away at Porterbelly. Mrs Neilson gave birth to a little girl on Friday morning.

14 Monday. White frost this morning and rather cold. Thomas at Castle Douglas. We opened our bowling green tonight. It is in pretty good order but rather rough. I see by the papers tonight that discount at the Bank of England is 10 per cent which is uncommon(ly) high. There has been some tremendous failures within this last few days owing to over(too much) speculation.

15 Tuesday. Very white frost this morning. Still a good deal of bones going away. We got yesterday

from Murphy between 6 and 7 tons, but will grind all up tomorrow and we have not more than 1000 bushel on hand.

16 Wednesday. Mild and the wind still from the east. We finished all our bones today till more comes. We have still a few ground ones. Thomas at Dumfries. My wife still at Porterbelly & bank discount 10%. I see by the papers that Rindepest has again broken out in Dumfriesshire, and likewise cholera has taken away a few about Liverpool & Birkenhead. William Clerk still working at Old Lawn quarries.

17 Thursday. More mild this morning and the wind more to the south. Still no word of bones, but not many going away. My wife came home tonight.

18 Friday. Dry and mild and wind from the south. I hear that Hugh Mitchell has summoned R Anderson for £10 which Hugh supposed was paid him but when he went home was deficient. I suppose that R. A. has at least one witness who saw him paid the money. William Clerk still working at Old Lawn quarries.

19 Saturday. Mild and dry. Wind from the south. No word of any bones yet. Old Mr Brown, Waterford, came here last night to sell a cargo of bones which we bought to ly (have) on hand. I hear today that Hugh Mitchell had a bad case at Court – it was taken to avizandum.

20 Sunday. Dry and rather bask today. Wind into the east and blowing hard, and weather glass rising. Still no word of bones as yet.

21 Monday. Still dry and bask & strong east wind. Thomas at Castle Douglas. We sent away 200 bushels bones to Caigton today with our own carts.

22 Tuesday. Still dry and bask. No word of bones. They are all gone that we have. I hear that a new quarry was opened yesterday in the plantation above Dalbeattie by a new company – Carson (is) Foreman.

23 Wednesday. Still dry and bask – and no word of bones. Mrs Thomson (Ettingham) & John Nish's sister was buried yesterday. I hear that a daughter of Chapelcroft's died on Monday morning.

24 Thursday. Still dry and bask, and no appearance of a change of wind. Help here -> We are going entirely miss this season( Not have the sales) with our bones not coming in. They will in all probability lie on our hands.(Remain in Stock)

25 Friday. Still bask and dry. There was a complimentary dinner & present of a gold watch and chain to Mr Patterson, baker, last night. There were about 40 attended and all went off very well. G Thomson, Dumfries, in the Chair and Dunlop, Glasgow, croupier. All spent a very merry night. There has been some woodcutters thinning the plantation at the back of our house, and they finished off today, except a little bark to take in.

26 Saturday. Dry but not so bask. Wind still in the east. Fine day for people flitting, which are many. I was over and saw the new quarry last night. In my opinion, it looks very bad as yet. Also, it will be a great length of time before they get anything like solid rock.

27 Sunday. Still dry but not so bask. Wind from about west and looks like a shower. No place from home. Cold at night.

28 Monday. Still no rain. Wind from the south west. We should hear of some vessel very soon now. Thomas at Castle Douglas.

29 Tuesday. Some sleet showers this morning. I got my manure put in yesterday for my turnips and will sow them today. Thomson Schoolmaster has come last night about the subscriptions. Bowls – (I) beat Jardine at 7 shots. We ground a few bones yesterday and grinding them out today. They were a few we got from Dumfries, but they were very raw. There is one vessel come into the river today and will get up tomorrow.

30 Wednesday. Still dry and warm but looks like a change. White frost in the morning. I was at Dumfries today. I hired two girls – one for Elliot and one for myself. Nothing fresh about Dumfries. The bones got up today and we commenced to discharge them, but got none of them ground.

31 Thursday. Some slight showers. Still leading bones. They are rather a rough cargo, as is generally the case late in the season. The other cargo is likewise come in – it is the "Hero." She has upward of 70 tons (from) Brown, Waterford, at £5 – 7/6 delivered. 4 months bill.

## Editor's note.

In Edition 22 of the Carswell Connection, dated August 2010, the story of Reverend James Carswell appeared. In the confusion of my computer crash, I used an old version of the Reverend James Carswell article.

Bob Carswell in Toronto was kind enough to provide updated information on the Reverend.

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## Rev. James Carswell

Born 1849

Here is the basic story of 13 years ago. It includes verified sources in some cases and updates in others. Now a more accurate history can be offered which answers some of the earlier questions. Like all bits of research, however, it also creates others things to research in the future. The journey goes on.

This entry is in memory of a man I never knew. Believed to have been born in Glasgow, Scotland, James Carswell attended university there and completed a Masters degree in 1877. Information obtained from the records of the University of Glasgow where he also won an award. In the following year he received his calling to the clergy and an appointment to a small church congregation in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Documented story confirmed by a church brochure celebrating the 100th anniversary of the church. He married Sarah Elizabeth Jobson, more than likely related to Jane Jobson, the wife of Sir Walter Scott II, and daughter-in-law to the famous writer. Although I am still trying to confirm this connection, the existence of a family story supported by evidence, confirms this connection without actual physical proof.

This connection still has to be established. Here is how close I may have come. We have Jobson as a family line. Our Jobson married a Scott. This Scott was the daughter of a Walter Scott (II) who was the son of a Walter Scott (I). It was written in a book that Sir Walter Scott the writer had a favourite Uncle Walter Scott who lived just south of the border in England. Our Walter Scotts farmed just south of the Scottish border in what is now a provincial park. Could this be the family connection? Back in those days marriages were often arranged by parental introductions to "girls of good families" who they or close friends knew. Could this be the reason why Sir Walter Scott and our Scotts also connected with the Jobson families?

It was known that Sir Walter Scott, the writer, wanted to perpetuate the name Scott but neither of his two sons had male offsprings. My aunt tells the story passed on to her by my great aunt that the name Scott came down through our family of Carswells after the Reverend's generation because it travelled through the Jobson line from the beginning. The story goes that it was decided the middle name of the eldest daughter of the eldest son would be Scott. My aunt is Lois Scott Braidwood, nee Carswell. My great aunt Peg, as she was called, was actually Margaret Scott Carswell and her mother was Sarah Elizabeth Jobson. Great Aunt Peg told Aunt Lois that the money left as the incentive to carry on the name ran out with her aunt.

Therefore I suspect I will find a sister to my great grandmother who carried the Scott name. Someday, I hope to make the connection right back to Sir Walter Scott. In the event that this does not occur, perhaps someone will someday come across this memorial and find the important information it contains.

Now the story is clear. Our Walter Scotts were direct ancestors in our family. All that remains now is to make the connection with Sir Walter Scott. That may happen one day.

Rev. James Carswell retired from the church due to ill health in 1890. Where they went from there in retirement, is not yet known but will someday come to light. Rev. Carswell had two children, William and Margaret Scott who died a spinster.

I cannot remember what took me to look in the Channel Islands for the Carswells. All I know is that they left Newcastle Upon Tyne and disappeared. It was by chance that I found a website that contained a 2% sample of the census for 1891 in Aldernay in the Channel Islands. There I found the name CARDWELL and only on further inspection realized that the 4 names and ages were those of the Reverend and his family. This explained where he had gone and it made good sense. In the 1890s it was common to go to a warmer climate and get the sea air to clear one's lungs. My next journey took me to Rothesay on the Isle of Bute in Scotland. The family had moved there because he had spent many wonderful days there with his grandfather and since both he and his wife had now inherited enough money to live comfortably without depending on a church ministry for an income, he could pick and choose what he did with his days. At the same time he fitted nicely into the social fabric of Rothesay and could volunteer to fill in for Sunday services in outlying churches when there was a need for a replacement due to illness or vacations. It suited him and their lifestyle. No doubt he was the darling at the local garden parties of the rich in the Victorian period when inviting the minister was considered the thing for women of local standing to do.

William Carswell, his son, moved to Canada in 1908 and became a very successful businessman in Montreal. He married Edna Mary McKinley of Ottawa and they lived most of their lives in Montreal. They had three surviving sons, all of whom went to war and returned, and one daughter who went to McGill University in Montreal.

Like my grandfather, I was also born in England (during WWII) whereas my father and son were born in Canada. Both my father and I married English girls. Now my son lives in England too so who knows where these global family lines will go next.



Seasons  
Greetings

*And Best Wishes for 2011*