

The relationship of **Elizabeth Ingram McKenzie** to her parents, and their connections with the **Ingram** and **Bonney** families has been somewhat of a mystery that needed to be explored further. There are a number of conflicting points in the genealogy, but I hope that I can unravel some of that mystery here.

**Eliza Logan's** birth was the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1863<sup>i</sup>

Further information on the birth of **Elizabeth Logan** can be found in the Register of Corrected Entries, Vol. 2, page 3, 13<sup>th</sup> September 1864.

“In the 4<sup>th</sup> column of entry 922 in the Register Book of Births for the year 1863, before the name of the child's mother, insert **John Ingram**, Salmon Fisher on the authority of a certificate in the form of Schedule F to the following effect:”

“In an action relating to the paternity of a child named **Elizabeth Logan** born July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1863 at the instance of **Eliza Logan** residing in Aberdeen against **John Ingram** Salmon Fisher, Old Aberdeen. The Sheriff Court of Aberdeenshire on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 1864 found that the said child was the illegitimate child of the parties aforesaid.”<sup>ii</sup>

Now the mother **Eliza Logan** above is almost certainly the **Elizabeth Logan Bonney** who married **James McLaren McKenzie** in 1865, bringing her daughter **Elizabeth Logan** into the marriage, adopted by husband **James**. Their first legitimate child, **Mary Ann McKenzie**, was born in 1870<sup>iii</sup>, almost 5 years after their marriage.

And we know that **Elizabeth Logan Bonney** was the daughter of **Henry Logan Bonney** and **Ann McLeod** from her marriage certificate<sup>iv</sup>. But the question is, if she is the same person as **Elizabeth Logan**, named in the paternity suit, why does her name appear as **Elizabeth Logan**, and not **Bonny/Bonney** on the birth certificate for her illegitimate daughter? Was the stigma of the illegitimate birth so great that she chose to use her middle name as a surname? That doesn't seem likely, as unwed mothers were thick on the streets of Aberdeen at that time. And why the need for the Sheriff Court ruling on paternity? That's unusual.

Certainly the **Elizabeth Logan** that was the mother of **Eliza Logan** and the **Elizabeth Logan Bonney** who married **James** had a couple commonalities based on the two certificates. Both were domestic servants, and both were illiterate.

**Eliza Logan** was born at Milner's Court, 25 Guestrow in 1863. And **Eliza Logan Bonney** lived at 11 Carmelite Street at her marriage in 1865. But looking more closely at the 1861 census reveals the most likely possibility...**Elizabeth Bonney** living with mother **Ann** in Cromarty. She is almost certainly the woman who married **James McLaren McKenzie** <sup>v</sup>.

Because of that Ross-shire link, the **Bonny/Bonney** families looked most promising for further research. In 1861, **Ann Bonny**, aged 50, widowed and daughter **Elizabeth**, 22, unmarried lived in Cromarty. But they had both been born in Nigg, **Ann Bonney** is certainly the widow of **Henry Bonney**, Flesher, and **Elizabeth** at age 22 in 1861, she would have been born about 1837... a match for our **Elizabeth Logan Bonney**... but her birthplace conflicts with the 1871 and subsequent Aberdeen census' that give her birthplace as Perth. Now **Henry** did marry in Aberdeen, and **Elizabeth** may have been born in Perth, but at least three of her younger siblings were born in Cromarty. See the **Bonny/Bonney** section below for further details. Interestingly, there are IGI records of a **Bonny** family in Perth: **John Henry Bonny** and **Catherine Donaldson** had a son, **Alexander** there in 1838. Given the rarity of the name in Scotland, and the incidence of “Henry”, I suspect a link to the Cromarty **Bonny** families. More research to be done!

Now there's another interesting **Bonney** connection; that of the birth of **Robert Henry Bonny**, 8<sup>th</sup> January 1839 (baptized 5<sup>th</sup> June 1839) in St. Paul's Episcopal<sup>vi</sup> in Aberdeen. Parents were **Frederick and Sarah Bonny**...and who should be a witness but "**the widow Brebner**"! Is that **Margaret Milne**? And what's the connection here?

The 1871 Aberdeen St. Nicholas census<sup>vii</sup> has **James**, wife **Elizabeth** and daughters **Elizabeth** and **Mary Ann** at 4 Raggs Lane. Note that James' occupation was that of labourer...not baker (journeyman) as shown on his 1864 marriage certificate. What happened? This would certainly appear to be the correct family based on the ages of the parents and children. **Elizabeth's** age is shown as 30...ie born about 1839.

Checking the 1881 census, this is verified. **James** (once again shown as a baker) appears with his family at 36 East North Street, Aberdeen. Wife **Elizabeth's** birthplace is again shown as Perth. The baking business must have been a difficult one for **James**. At the death of his wife **Elizabeth** in 1915, he was employed as a boxmaker (Journeyman)<sup>viii</sup>.

### The McKenzie Family

In 1841 **Alexander McKenzie**, shoemaker, lived with wife **Margaret Wallace** and children **Elizabeth** (aged 5), **William** (aged 3) and **James** (aged 1) at Charles Court, Upperkirkgate, Aberdeen<sup>ix</sup>.

**Margaret** was one of at least three children to Peterhead shoemaker **David Wallace** and **Elizabeth Balmanno**, and married **Alexander McKenzie** in 1831 in Aberdeen<sup>x</sup>.

**Alexander McKenzie** was one of at least five children to **James McKenzie** and **Margaret Hay**...this link was fortunately uncovered after looking at the lair record for Nellfield Cemetery<sup>xi</sup> that gives the death of **Margaret Hay** in 1836. The OPRI gives their marriage in 1797 in Gamrie (with banns in Banff) so it would appear that **Margaret** was probably born in that area in about 1772.

I have not as yet traced the **McKenzie** family further...in that part of Scotland it's a daunting task!

Details of the **McKenzie** genealogy at <http://www.brebner.com/uploads/mck07337.pdf>

I am curious about **James McLaren McKenzie's** fortunes as a baker. From 1851, when he appears as a journeyman baker, to 1871 when he appears as a labourer, to 1881-1901 as baker and 1915 as a box-maker journeyman, it is a strangely staggered career path. Again, more research is needed. I have no contact with any of the **McKenzie** descendants of his family, so it is to be hoped that more information may be available from those sources.

### The Bonny/Bonney Family

This group has proved to be very elusive. From daughter **Elizabeth's** marriage certificate, it's known that her parents were butcher **Henry Logan Bonney** and **Ann McLeod**. As of yet, a search of the Scottish 1841 census on FreeCen has not found the family. But many parts of Scotland, including Perth and Ross-shire have not yet been transcribed. They are certainly not in Aberdeen in 1841 under any variation of the **Bonny** name. I feel confident that they will be found in Cromarty in 1841. **Henry** died before 1851...he's shown as deceased on daughter **Eliza Logan Bonney's** marriage certificate, and his wife Ann is shown to be widowed in the 1851 Cromarty census<sup>xii</sup>. But her mother **Ann McLeod** was shown to be still alive.

**Ann Bonney** is found in the 1861-1881 Cromarty census. Her death certificate in 1888<sup>xiii</sup> states that she was the widow of **Henry Bonney**, Flesher, but her parents are noted as **Donald Roy**, Ferryman and **Catherine Fraser**. In all her children's marriages, she is known as **Ann McLeod**, wife/widow of **Henry Bonney**, Flesher/Butcher/Inn Keeper.

However her son, **Henry Bonny** died at age 57 in 1898<sup>xiv</sup> ... and his death certificate does give his mother's name as **Ann Fraser**, not **McLeod**. Are there any other **Ann Bonneys** that died in Scotland from 1865? No! There is only one **Ann Bonney** shown between 1855-1955, that of **Ann Fraser** in Cromarty. I feel certain that **Ann McLeod** and **Ann Fraser** are one and the same. So did **Catherine Fraser** have a liason with a **McLeod** before she married **Donald Roy**? More research needs to be done to unravel this mystery!

There are fewer than 20 **Bonney** individuals whose deaths are listed pre-1955 in Scotland. Further proof of the link to this family comes with the death certificate of **Caroline Bonney**<sup>xv</sup>, aged 84 years in Glasgow in 1923. She was also a daughter of **Henry Bonney**, occupation "Inn Keeper" on her certificate, and **Ann McLeod**. She married<sup>xvi</sup> merchant seaman **William Fraser** in 1870 in Aberdeen, and had at least two children, **Caroline**, born 1872<sup>xvii</sup> and **Isabella** born 1874<sup>xviii</sup>, both in Aberdeen. She had actually had an earlier child, **Robertina Cormack**, born 30<sup>th</sup> December 1864, but that daughter lived with **Ann (McLeod) Bonney**. In 1881 the widowed **Caroline Fraser**, aged 40 and born in Nigg, ROC and her two daughters were living at 19 Church Street, Cromarty.

And the death of **John Bonney**<sup>xix</sup> in 1913 in Fearn shows that he is yet another child of **Henry Bonney** and **Ann McLeod**. **John** married **Jane Ross** and lived in Fearn in 1891<sup>xx</sup> with wife and daughter **Euphemia**.

**Henry Bonney** and **Ann McLeod** had at least four children between 1837 and 1847.

Details of the **Bonney** Genealogy at <http://www.brebner.com/uploads/bon02185.pdf>

I have checked the 1910 US census to see if any **Bonny/Bonney** family members there were born in Scotland...of the almost 1000 individuals, the vast majority were born in the US, and the others born in England or Canada. The 1901 Canadian census will be checked over the next few months.

### The Ingram Family and the Bonney Connection

**John Ingram**, whose unfortunate death by suicide by drowning near Kettock's Mills, Donside in Aberdeen 1879<sup>xxi</sup> was the son of (unidentified) **King** and **Elizabeth Torbit**. **Elizabeth** was the daughter of farmer **Robert Torbit** and **Catherine Torrence**<sup>xxii</sup>, born in Edinburgh between 1792 and 1802. **Elizabeth** subsequently lived with **John Ingram** (no marriage found), a brewer in Old Aberdeen, and the couple had 4 children. The first, **Jane**, was born in Edinburgh, the others in Aberdeen. The family lived at 99 High Street in Old Aberdeen, and **John's** sister **Jane** was the informant at his death. **John** was a salmon fisher, and in 1863 was 40 years old. Young **Elizabeth Bonney** was 25, and from the country. With poor economic prospects in Ross-shire, and the booming industrial economy of Aberdeen, I can imagine that she would have been an attractive target as a newcomer to the city. She had been in Cromarty as late as 1861, so her experience in the worldly metropolis of Aberdeen would have been limited. After the birth of their illegitimate daughter, **Elizabeth Ingram McKenzie**, the reason why the paternity would have been raised at the Sheriff Court is still a mystery. Still, it would appear that she had instigated that suit, so she may have lost a lot of that north-country innocence and revealed a feisty and practical side! Such births were very common in the Aberdeen of the 1860s... and there's no indication that **John Ingram** had either the monies or commitment to a marriage or child support. Still, if you look at the **Bonney** family, with **Elizabeth's** mother widowed and living in Cromarty, and **Elizabeth's** sister **Caroline** also having an illegitimate child (**Robina Cormack**, in 1864), family resources must have been stretched thin. The other question that has to be asked is that if she, as a single woman in the 1863 in Aberdeen knew the **McKenzie** family before this child with **John Ingram**. While we know that she lived at 25 Guestrow at the time of the birth of her child, I'd like to map out all the family addresses to see what sort of likelihood she had of contacting either the **McKenzie** family or other relations in the 1863-65 period. That's another project!

### The Balmanno Connection

One of the fascinating aspects of studying family history is that so often the discovery of one link opens up a series of connections that unfold into a story of their own.

Such is the case of **Margaret Wallace**, daughter of **David Wallace** and **Elizabeth Balmanno**. **Elizabeth Balmanno** (an uncommon name in the Aberdeen area) was from the family of **Robert Balmanno** (1732-1820) and **Elizabeth Buchan**. **Robert** was a merchant/farmer/burgess in Aberdeen in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. His lands, named after the family, Mannofield in Aberdeen, were situated a few miles west of the city at that time. He had built a substantial house in the area, and had drained much of the marsh from the area to make productive farmland that gave rise to the strawberry crops, said to have been exported to the London market. **Robert** died in 1820, and is buried in St. Nicholas Kirkyard. He was a Quaker (although a search of the Friends' Minutes for that period has so far been unsuccessful in turning up any further details), hence there is no marker for the grave. His son **John William Balmanno** emigrated to West Springfield, MA where he died in 1805. Son **Robert**, who had returned initially to London, married **Mary Hudson** in 1882 in St. Pancras, and they sailed for New York at some time before 1830. Both **Robert** and his wife were highly involved in the New York literary scene, and in about 1832, they had a son, **Alexander**. At about the same time, **Robert** bought a summer house in Geneva, NY on the Finger Lakes. Known now as Balmanno Cottage, I visited the property in 1999 and was impressed by the fine terraced gardens that swept down from the back of the house to the waterfront. Unfortunately, there were no artifacts from the **Balmanno's** short ownership of the property. Local stories, however, made the newspapers, and **Mrs. Balmanno (Mary Hudson)** was said to have been seen walking around town, dressed dramatically in black, and supporting their baby son on a black satin pillow. Her literary reviews can be found through an internet search.

**Alexander Balmanno** married **Annie Smith** about 1864 in Brooklyn, and had at least eight children, the descendants of whom are still in that area today.

Details of the **Balmanno** family at <http://www.brebner.com/uploads/bal01467.pdf>

*These thoughts are by no means complete, but as I've found in the past, as soon as I commit my speculations to paper and send them off to relatives, I'm sure to make additional discoveries that require additions and corrections.*

*Please accept this document as a work in progress!*

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<sup>i</sup> GRO(S) Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ref. 0922-1863, Image 06-0150.

<sup>ii</sup> RCE Vol. 2 page 3, 13<sup>th</sup> September 1864.

<sup>iii</sup> IGI LDSFS MAY 2003.

<sup>iv</sup> GRO(S) Aberdeen Old Machar, ref. 0078-1865, Image 03-0655

<sup>v</sup> 1861 Cromarty, ROC census, ref. 061/00 001/00 page 15, Image 06-0152.

<sup>vi</sup> St. Paul's Episcopal Baptist Register, page 66.

<sup>vii</sup> 1871 Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ABD census, 168/01, page 16, Image 06-0155.

<sup>viii</sup> Elizabeth McKenzie's death certificate, Aberdeen Rubislaw, ref. 0543-1915, Image 06-0158.

<sup>ix</sup> Aberdeen St. Nicholas census, ref \*\*\*

<sup>x</sup> OPRI Aberdeen St. Nicholas, 25 November 1831.

<sup>xi</sup> Nellfield Lair Records, Archie Strath Maxwell 19\*\*

<sup>xii</sup> 1851 Cromarty census; 061-00 District 3, Page 1, Image 06-0172.

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- xiii GRO(S) Cromarty, ref. 0014-1888, Image 03-0829.  
xiv GRO(S) Dingwall, ref. 0011-1898, Image 03-0828.  
xv GRO(S) Springburn Glasgow, ref. 0283-1923, Image 06-0160.  
xvi GRO(S) Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ref. 0247-1870, Image 06-0168.  
xvii IGI LDSFS, 24<sup>th</sup> July 1872, Aberdeen St. Nicholas.  
xviii IGI LDSFS, 5<sup>th</sup> March 1874, Aberdeen St. Nicholas.  
xix GRO(S) Fearn, ref. 0022-1913, Image 06-0162.  
xx 1891 Balintore, Fearn ROC census, page 5, Image 06-0163.  
xxi GRO(S) Aberdeen Old Machar, ref. 0458-1879; See also RCE Vol. 4 page 137, Old Aberdeen District.  
xxii Details from Elizabeth's death 7<sup>th</sup> March 1867, GRO(S) Aberdeen Old Machar (B), ref. 0164-1867, Image 03-0251.