

*Generation One*

1. **George Bremner** #970, b. c 1785-95? in SCT, d. before 1841 in Aberdeen, ABD, SCT, occupation Handloom Weaver.  
Possibly s/o James BREMNER/Mary WOOD in Inverness?  
1852: Son William's marriage certificate gives George's occupation as "Linen Manufacturer".

Married 25 NOV 1820 in Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ABD, SCT,<sup>1</sup> **Mary Sinclair** #971, b. c 1792 in Forres, MOR, SCT,<sup>2</sup> (daughter of **William Sinclair** #16002 and **Isabella Wood** #16003), d. 09 MAR 1884 in 11 Carden Place, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>3</sup> buried in Spital Cemetery, Aberdeen, ABD. **Mary**:  
1841: Lived as widow on Ann Street, Aberdeen; sons William and George shown.  
1851: Lived with sons William, George at 3 Mount St., Aberdeen.  
1861-71: Lived alone at 38 St. Nicholas St., Aberdeen.  
1881: Lived with son William, aged 89.

*Children:*

2.
  - i. **William Brebner** #963 b. 20 SEP 1821.
  - ii. **George Bremner** #972, b. 22 JAN 1825 in Aberdeen Old Machar, ABD, SCT,<sup>4</sup> occupation Porter.  
1851: Lived at 3 Mount St., Aberdeen with brother William. Worked as Light Porter to North of Scotland Equitable Loan Co.  
1861: Not found in Scottish/English census.

*Generation Two*

2. **William Brebner** #963, b. 20 SEP 1821 in Aberdeen, ABD, SCT, d. 29 MAR 1909 in 11 Carden Place, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>5</sup> buried 01 APR 1909 in Spital Cemetery, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>6,7</sup> occupation Secretary and Auctioneer.  
1851: Mother Mary and brother George lived with family, as did cousin Isobel Dick (21) and lodgers John Wilcox and David Brown (worked as manager to North of Scotland Equitable Loan Co. (& Pawnbrokers)  
1861: 11 Carden Place with family.  
1881-01: Lived at 11 Carden Place, Aberdeen; mother still alive at 89 in 1881.

Obituary, Aberdeen Journal, 30 MAR 1909:

"Mr. William BREBNER, a well-known citizen of Aberdeen, died at his residence, 11 Carden Place, yesterday. He was a native of the city, and was in his 87th year. Early in life, he entered the business started by Mr. High MACSWEIN, which was ultimately formed into the North of Scotland Equitable Loan Company, Limited, of which he became one of the principal proprietors, as well as the manager, retiring many years ago. Mr. BREBNER was a man of varied culture, and a student of French, German, philosophy, logic, mental science, history and German metaphysics. For some time he studied under Sir William Hamilton in Edinburgh. He was well known for his interest in the Mechanics' Institute, in connection with which he taught classes in the French language and literature, of which he had a thorough and accurate knowledge, and in order to perfect as possible his knowledge of foreign languages, he for many years visited the Continent annually. He published several text-books, one being entitled "Twenty Lessons in French". He also taught classes in German and history at the Institute, besides conducting private classes. In his methods he did not confine his teaching to book work, but frequently accompanied his scholars to the French fishing lugers coming to the port in order to give his pupils an opportunity of conversing with the crews. Mr. BREBNER was a member of the Aberdeen School Board from 1882 to 1885, but retired in order to take a post under the board as a teacher of French for the Grammar School. He took an interest in the Public Library, and presented it with a valuable edition of Goethe's works. For the past six years, Mr. BREBNER had not been much out of doors, but continued as long as he was able the pursuit of his favourite studies. He was predeceased by his wife, who was a daughter of the late Mr. Hugh MACSWEIN, but is survived by a son and two daughters."

Married 05 APR 1852 in Aughton by Ormskirk, LAN, ENG,<sup>8</sup> **Jane Rodger McSweine** #964, b. c 1826 in Aberdeen?, ABD, SCT (daughter of **William Rodger** #13233 and **Jane Lennox** #4310), d. 08 DEC 1861 in Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>9</sup> buried in Spital Cemetery, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT.<sup>6</sup> **Jane**:

1852: Residence when married: Aughton, LAN, ENG.

*Children:*

3.
  - i. **Hugh Brebner** #968 b. 31 JAN 1853.
  - ii. **George Brebner** #965, b. 29 JAN 1855 in Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ABD, SCT,<sup>10</sup> d. 23 DEC 1904 in 24 St. Michael's Park, Bristol, GLS, ENG,<sup>11,12</sup> occupation University Lecturer, Botany.  
1881: Student of Chemistry.  
1891: Student of Geology?... boarded with David LOW at 38 Orrington St., Chelsea, London.  
1901: Lecturer in Botany, lived at 27 St. Michael's Park, Bristol, GLS.. Left estate of GBP 258.

Aberdeen Journal, Saturday 24th December 1904

"Obituary-- Mr. George Brebner, Bristol University."

"Intimation has been received in Aberdeen of the death yesterday at his residence, 24 St. Michael's Park, Bristol, of Mr. George Brebner, lecturer on botany at Bristol University. Mr. Brebner had been in somewhat delicate health for some time past, but was able to perform his duties up till the beginning of the present university term, when he completely broke down, death resulting from an attack of dropsy. Mr. Brebner was a son of Mr. William Brebner, 11 Carden Place, Aberdeen, and was in his fiftieth year. He was a native of Aberdeen, and received his early education in the old Mechanics' Institute in Market Street, with which his father was connected, but as in early life he was troubled with asthma, he was sent to the Continent to finish his education, spending some five years at Stuttgart, in Germany, where he was greatly interested in the study of chemistry. Returning to this country, Mr. Brebner studied under Dr. Scott at South Kensington, and did a considerable amount of research work at Millport and Plymouth. Seven or eight years ago he was appointed as lecturer in botany at Bristol University, where he was very successful with his work as a teacher. He also kept up his research studies to some extent, and wrote a number of articles with reference to that work to the periodical "Annals of Botany". He also read a paper before the British Association on the occasion of that body meeting in Glasgow about three years ago. Mr. Brebner was married about a year ago, and is survived by his widow."

Married 1Q 1904 in Bristol, GLS, ENG,<sup>13</sup> **Mary Hunter** #60057, b. c 1871,<sup>14</sup> d. 09 FEB 1942 in Bristol, GLS, ENG.<sup>15</sup>

**Mary:**

Western Daily Press, Thursday 12th February 1942:

"Death of Mrs. M. BREBNER"

"The death has occurred of Mrs. Mary BREBNER of 22, Victoria Walk, Cotham, Bristol, late head mistress of St. Paul's Girls' School, Bedminster. She was at St. Paul's Girls' School from about 1904 to 1936, having previously been at St. John's School, Durdham Down. She married Professor BREBNER, lecturer at Bristol University, where she had been trained, and returned to teaching when he died a year after their marriage."

- iii. **William Brebner** #969, b. 22 FEB 1856 in Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ABD, SCT,<sup>16</sup> d. 06 JUL 1875 in 11 Carden Place, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>17</sup> buried 09 JUL 1875 in St. Peter's (King St., Aberdeen), ABD,<sup>7</sup> occupation Architect's Apprentice.
- iv. **Jane Brebner** #966, b. 02 FEB 1857 in Aberdeen Old Machar, ABD, SCT,<sup>18</sup> d. 22 SEP 1940 in 30 Woodhill Road, Aberdeen, ABD, SCT,<sup>19</sup> buried 24 SEP 1940 in Spital Cemetery, Aberdeen, ABD,<sup>20,7</sup> occupation Dressmaker. 1881-1911: At Home, 11 Carden Place. Unmarried. Note that informant at death was Helen F. FORBES, who was described on death certificate as "Intimate Friend". On the 1911 census, Helen was described as "Working Companion, Domestic".
- v. **Mary Brebner** #967, b. 31 DEC 1858 in Aberdeen Old Machar, ABD, SCT,<sup>18</sup> occupation Lecturer in German, d. 06 MAY 1933 in Aberystwyth, Wales.<sup>21</sup>  
1861-1891: Lived with family.  
1911: Visitor at Abel JONES and family household in Aberystwyth, WAL.  
Lived in Wales; at Nythfa, Mountain Lane, Penmaenmawr; Brynlllys, South Road, Aberystwyth; Holly Bush, Southgate, Penparke, Aberystwyth.  
1933: Left estate of GBP 246/2/6; executor nephew William E.S. BREBNER.

#### *Generation Three*

- 3. **Hugh Brebner** #968, b. 31 JAN 1853 in Aberdeen St. Nicholas, ABD, SCT,<sup>22</sup> d. 23 MAY 1920 in Bristol, GLS, ENG,<sup>23</sup> occupation Portrait/Landscape Artist.  
1878-81: Lived with wife at 27 Manderston St., Edinburgh.  
1901: Boarded in London at 6/7 Princes Court, St. Martin-in-the-Fields. possibly died Bristol in 1920. (verify)  
1911: Lived at 27 Edgell Road, Staines, MDX.

Married 20 SEP 1877 in Edinburgh Newington, MLN, SCT,<sup>24</sup> **Margaret Nicol** #4072, b. 28 SEP 1852 in Strachan, KCD, SCT,<sup>25</sup> (daughter of **George Nicol** #26745 and **Helen Ross** #26746). **Margaret:**

1878: Gave birth to daughter Margaret J.M.G.H BREBNER at New Cottages, Aboyne, ABD.

1901: Lived at 6, Rosebank Cottages, Edinburgh with son Ernest.

*Children:*

- i. **Williamina Jane Georgina M.H. Brebner** #28215, b. 30 APR 1878 in New Cottages, Aboyne, ABD, SCT,<sup>26</sup> d. 1879 in Liberton, MLN, SCT.<sup>27</sup>  
Full name: Williamina Jane Georgina Margaret Helen BREBNER.
- ii. **William Ernest Sinclair Brebner** #16005, b. 1882 in Edinburgh St. George, MLN, SCT,<sup>28</sup> d. 1962 in Edinburgh, MLN, SCT.<sup>29</sup>  
06 NOV 1900: Placed first in competition for a clerkship at General Register House, Edinburgh (Gazette Issue 27252, 30 NOV 1900).

Married 1915 in Edinburgh, MLN, SCT,<sup>30</sup> **Catherine L. Gunstone** #46559, b. c 1888,<sup>31</sup> d. 18 JAN 1950 in Edinburgh, MLN, SCT,<sup>32</sup> buried in Morningside Cemetery, Edinburgh, MLN.

---

<sup>1</sup> LDS OPRI fiche (two listings), M111686 1236 & 64.

<sup>2</sup> based on age at death; no OPRI record.

<sup>3</sup> GRO(S) Aberdeen Old Machar, ref. 1687/02 0215-1884; c/d: derangement of bowels, 5 days, old age; Informant: William BREMNER, Son.

<sup>4</sup> OPRI fiche.

<sup>5</sup> GRO(S) Aberdeen St. Machar, ABD; ref. 168/02 0371-1909; c/d: Cerebral thrombosis; Informant: Jane BREBNER, Daughter; (Image 11-0268).

<sup>6</sup> Photo and Transcription, MAY 2001; Image 01-1177, 01-1178, 03-1076.

<sup>7</sup> deceasedonline.com, February 2011, St. Peter's Churchyard.

<sup>8</sup> Lancashire Marriages and Banns, 1952, page 52, ref. 103; Witnesses: Catherine DOUGALL, Hugh MacSwein DOUGALL, George TUNSTALL; Minister: W. H. BOULTON, Rector, Aughton Parish Church.

<sup>9</sup> SDR Aberdeen Old Machar, ref. 0598-1861; c/d: Phthisis, upwards of 4 yrs; Informant: William BREMNER, Husband.

<sup>10</sup> OPRI CD; also recorded 10 FEB 1848 in Walls and Flotta, OKI.

<sup>11</sup> EDRI ref. 006a-0061; date from Aberdeen "In Memoriam", 1904.

<sup>12</sup> National Probate Calendar, Wills; ancestry.com; date.

<sup>13</sup> GRO index ref. 005a-0177.

<sup>14</sup> Age 70 at death in 1942.

<sup>15</sup> GRO index ref. 006a-0072.

<sup>16</sup> IGI CD,.

<sup>17</sup> SDRI Aberdeen Old Machar ref. 0495-1875; c/d: gunshot wound, 8 days; (suicide); meningitis, 2 days; informant: William BREBNER, Father.

<sup>18</sup> IGI fiche.

<sup>19</sup> GRO(S) Aberdeen Northern, ref. 1150-1940; c/d: Senility, cardiac failure; Informant: Helen K. FORBES, Intimate Friend; (Image 04-1564).

<sup>20</sup> Photo and Transcription, MAY 2001; Image 01-1177, 01-1178.

<sup>21</sup> EDRI ref. 011b-0068; Scottish Wills.

<sup>22</sup> LDS OPRI fiche, C111689 6105.

<sup>23</sup> SCDRI ref. 006a-1098.

<sup>24</sup> SWRI Edinburgh ref. 0414-1877; date from daughter Williamina's birth certificate.

<sup>25</sup> 1881 Edinburgh Census, age/birthplace; IGI LDSFS 2005.

<sup>26</sup> GRO-B Aboyne, ref. 0015-1878; Informant: Margaret NICOL, Mother; note registration Leith South ref. 0692-1878. (Image 05-2219).

<sup>27</sup> SDRI Liberton, ref. 0078-1879.

<sup>28</sup> SBRI Edinburgh St. George, ref. 1593-1882.

<sup>29</sup> GRO(S) Edinburgh St. Andrew, ref. 0267-1962; scotlandspeople.gov.uk index.

<sup>30</sup> SWRI Edinburgh Morningside, MLN; ref. 0390-1915.

<sup>31</sup> Age 62 at death in 1950.

<sup>32</sup> GRO(S) Edinburgh Haymarket, MLN; ref. 0047-1950.