

Chapter 1 : DONALD CAMERON OF LOCHIEL, CHIEF OF CLAN CAMERON (PART ONE) - Julia Branna

Donald Cameron of Lochiel (c - October), was an influential Highland Chief known for his magnanimous and gallant nature. He was the hereditary leader of Clan Cameron, traditionally loyal to the exiled House of Stuart, whose leaders had once been tasked with enforcing the King of Scotland's will in the Highlands.

You will probably heard of the Duke of Cumberland too, the Butcher of Culloden. He features in the Jacobite Chronicles as a minor character, but he was certainly not a minor character in the rising, nor in the affairs of his clan. He was born circa , the eldest son of John Cameron. After this battle, Sir Ewen returned home and in , now an elderly man, he handed most of his estate over to his son John. Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel As is often the case with a great man, however, the son did not live up to expectations, and although courageous, and certainly of some ability, John was not a good leader, with the result that after the Jacobite rising of John fled to France, where he remained in exile for the rest of his life, and his eldest son Donald became de facto chief of the clan in , at the age of He was an enlightened and educated man, and dedicated his time to improving his estates and the standard of life of his clanspeople. His father John had previously sold part of the forest along the north of Loch Arkaig, and in Donald known from now as Lochiel sold a good deal more of his woodland. This was a common practice in the day, but may also have been a necessity: Whilst away he left the affairs of his estate in the hands of his cousin, William Drummond of Balhaldie. The MacGregors and Camerons were thus linked by familial bonds and also by their unswerving loyalty to the exiled Stuarts and the Jacobite cause. On his return from France in , Lochiel married Anne, daughter of the Campbell laird of Auchinbreck. As part of the marriage contract, Lochiel had to improve on the house made of fir planks his grandfather had built in , and a summer house along with other buildings, gardens and an orchard were all added. The couple went on to have six children. Lochiel and his three younger brothers had a close relationship. The Camerons were Episcopalian by religion, but one of the brothers, Alexander, converted to Roman Catholicism, later becoming a priest. Dr Archibald Cameron, brother to Lochiel and a staunch Jacobite The Cameron lands were chronically overpopulated, and possibly in view of this, Lochiel built water mills on his estate and attempted to drain the Corpach Moss, presumably to help his clansfolk sustain themselves without having to resort to cattle theft, a traditional Highland method of keeping the wolf from the door. In an association was formed whose members vowed to do everything they could to restore the Stuarts to their rightful place. There were seven members, of which Lochiel was one. If he expected the Highlanders to flock to him in droves, he was to be sorely disappointed. The clan chiefs, in particular Lochiel had made it extremely clear that they would not fight for the prince unless he were to arrive with a significant French fleet in tow. The response he got was lukewarm at the very best, and the two great Skye chiefs, whose support would be crucial, both refused point-blank to come out for him. Those Highlanders who did come to see him only did so to advise him to go home. Charles, knowing that he desperately needed the support of a significant chief, sent a message to Lochiel summoning him to a meeting immediately. Having heard the circumstances in which Charles had landed, Lochiel was determined not to commit either himself or his clansmen, but thought himself honour-bound to explain his reasons to the prince in person, and to persuade him to return to France. Donald Cameron of Lochiel. There are no contemporary portraits of him. It has to be remembered that the Cameron clan had enjoyed relative peace for over 20 years â€” Lochiel had even discouraged the customary practise of cattle reiving with limited success , which often gave an opportunity to practise fighting skills. But he was in no way willing to risk himself and his men for such a risky venture as this. Nor, in all likelihood, were the clansmen eager to attempt such a risky attempt. The fact that they later did, and apparently without the sort of violent persuasion employed by some of the other chiefs, says much for their loyalty to their chief. And so it proved to be. He was no easy pushover. Charles knew that if Lochiel came out, then others would follow. Once Lochiel had agreed, he returned to Achnacarry, agreeing to rendezvous with Prince Charles at Glenfinnan on 19th August, when the prince intended to raise his standard.

Chapter 2 : Cameron of Lochiel, Hereditary Chief of Clan Cameron

Donald Cameron of Lochiel XXVII Chief of Clan Cameron: Biography: Message Board: Lineage: Contact: Archives: A "Sister Site" of Clan Cameron Online.

He waited there for over two nailbiting hours, before he finally heard the skirl of the pipes heralding the arrival of Keppochs and Camerons, led by Lochiel himself. With him were two of his brothers, Dr Archie, and the priest Alexander, who acted as chaplain. Prince Charles gave a short but inspiring speech, and a toast was given with brandy from the Du Teillay. In fact the Camerons had been involved in fighting before that, when along with a group of MacDonalds they ambushed and killed a number of the enemy under Captain Scott, taking Scott and several more prisoner. Lochiel allowed the wounded Scott to return to Fort William under parole. Lochiel admitted at the outset that he was not accustomed to armies and had no military experience, but seems to have been a quick learner. By the end of August his regiment had already suffered casualties in the unsuccessful attempt to storm Ruthven barracks. The Jacobites headed south, taking first Perth and then continuing to Edinburgh, where they found the town gates closed to them. Whilst emissaries from Edinburgh were going backwards and forwards trying to negotiate terms, Lochiel and his men approached the city in the early hours of the morning, hoping to find an opportunity to force an entry. Edinburgh, Parliament Close, late 18th Century By sheer good luck, just at daybreak a guard opened the Netherbow Port to let in a coach and Lochiel seized his chance, dashing through with his men and overpowering the guard. In this way Edinburgh fell to the prince without a shot being fired. Prince Charles had given the honour of the command of the right wing to the Camerons, not knowing that by tradition the honour belonged to the MacDonalds. Wisely Lochiel agreed to let the MacDonalds take the right, realising that it could have a significant impact on the outcome of the battle if he did not. The Jacobites won a resounding victory. Advance of the Highlanders to Prestonpans From there the army carried on southwards, crossing into England. The Camerons were with the army throughout and took part in all the action, but there is not much mention of Lochiel in person at this time, except for one incident when, having been assigned lodgings at a house in the north of England, he heard a strange noise coming from a cupboard. The landlady then fell to her knees, begging him to kill her, but not to harm her two children. Whig propaganda had stated that Highlanders killed and ate children, and no doubt she believed it! The Jacobites continued as far as Derby, before the council voted, against the will of the prince, to retreat. But perhaps the best is the account of him saving Glasgow from being plundered. Glasgow was a predominantly Whig town and the Jacobites were greeted in a very unfriendly manner by the citizens. The Highlanders were so annoyed by this that they were going to loot the town. Lochiel persuaded them not to, and the people were so grateful that they resolved that in future they would ring the bells whenever a Lochiel came to Glasgow. In March , Lochiel and his clan returned to his lands to lay siege to Fort William, which sat in the middle of Cameron country. It was at this time that the normally taciturn Lochiel, incensed by the barbarity of the neighbouring Campbells against his tenants, in which they burned houses, stripped women and children and destroyed their means of livelihood, wrote a letter to them. It betrays cowardice to a degree to vent their spleen against brutes, houses, women and children, who cannot resist. Lochiel gathered his men together as quickly as possible, and marched fifty miles in two days, arriving in Inverness on 14th. This did not happen, but instead of resting, on the night of 15th Lochiel, along with most of the Jacobite Army, walked the twelve miles to Nairn where the redcoats were based, hoping to launch a surprise attack. When it became apparent that they would not arrive before daybreak, they returned to Culloden, reeling with fatigue and hunger, only to have to fight after all, just a few hours later. Lochiel was wounded in both ankles towards the end of the battle, and was carried off the field by four of his men. In spite of his wounds, the following month, having refused to take ship to France, he attempted to continue the fight, as I describe in Pursuit of Princes. It was at some point during this time that the Duke of Cumberland offered him very favourable terms if he were to come over to him. Lochiel rejected this offer with disdain, and instead raised a number of men, hoping to continue the fight in a more guerrilla fashion until help came from France. This attempted continuation was thwarted by a huge number of redcoats being sent to Lochaber in a pincer movement. In fact at one point

Cumberland proposed that the entire Cameron Clan along with the MacGregors should be transported to the West Indies. This proposal was not taken up; but it shows the level of threat the Camerons were deemed to be to the Hanoverians, not least because of the integrity of Lochiel. There was an amusing moment when, back in France, Prince Henry greeted his brother Charles, throwing his arms around him. Lochiel, not knowing who the stranger was, and fearing an assassination attempt, drew his sword. Charles identified Henry, preventing a possible tragedy! Lochiel encouraged Charles to attempt another landing in Scotland, which King Louis said he would support, and was dismayed that the prince would accept nothing less than a full invasion of England. It has to be stressed that neither Lochiel nor Prince Charles himself could have foreseen the terrible vengeance Cumberland would take on the Highlanders if they failed. No one could have envisaged that the result would be the complete dismantling of the clan system. Lochiel, along with his wife and family and several other exiled chiefs, tried to accept their situation, and make the best of things in France. But it soon became apparent that relations between the French king and the Stuart prince were deteriorating rapidly, and this, along with the imminent peace treaty between France and Britain, cast the future of the exiled Jacobites into doubt again. In the autumn of 1745, the leading Jacobites met in Paris to discuss how to encourage the prince not to alienate Louis completely. Lochiel, being considered to be the only man that Charles might listen to, was charged with the task of meeting him and trying to persuade him to act cautiously. King Louis XV by Quentin de la Tour We will never know what the outcome of such a meeting might have been, because before it could take place, Lochiel died suddenly, probably of meningitis, on 26th October. His loyalty and integrity both to his clan and his prince were outstanding; but he never lost sight of his humanity, even in the most trying circumstances. He was respected by friend and foe alike, and although many other leaders of the rising were vilified by the press and the public, Lochiel was not, and this is surely due to his high sense of honour, which must always command respect, even from an enemy. In December of 1745 a poem was printed in the Scots Magazine at the time a Hanoverian-leaning periodical. I will end by quoting some of the lines. Firm to his word and faithful to his trust, He bade not others go, himself to stay, As is the pretty, prudent modern way, But, like a warrior, bravely drew his sword, And raised his target for his native lord. Humane he was, protected countries tell, So rude a host was never ruled so well. I wanted to write a little comment to support you.

Chapter 3 : Charles CAMERON XXI of Lochiel | Family Roots in the Cameron Clan

Clan Cameron is a West Highland Scottish clan, with one main branch Lochiel, and numerous cadet branches. Clan Cameron lands are in Lochaber and within their lands lies Ben Nevis which is the highest mountain in the British Isles.

After his father, a key participant in the Jacobite rising of 1745, fled into permanent exile in France, Donald Cameron assumed the role of acting Clan Chief at a time when the old customs were rapidly changing. The Highlands had historically been a society of contending groups each dominated by an elite which valued fearlessness and daring above all things; held wealth as cattle; used ostentatious ornamentation; and spent much time in drinking feasts where bards relayed great clan exploits. Being extremely status conscious, they attempted to cut a dash by purchasing clothes in the latest French fashion, elaborate homes, imported furniture, fine wines and other trappings of gentility rather than patronizing Gaelic bards, pipers and harpists as was the traditional way to distinction for a Chief. The expenditure strained their finances as the Highlands were among the poorest lands in Europe some tenants have been described as much poorer than Plains Indians [1] and clan chiefs sought to raise income from their territories. As loyal supporters of the Royal House of Stuart the Camerons had a formidable enemy in the huge Clan Campbell which was firmly allied with the British government. However, in 1746, Archibald Campbell, 3rd Duke of Argyll decreed that tacks were to be let out to the highest bidder rather than being given to a tacksman with family connections, consequently many of the older sort of tacksmen were dispossessed. Because they mustered the tenants, acted as officers and functioned as shock troops in time of war, Argyll had inadvertently made himself militarily weaker through breaking the traditional bond with tacksmen. As a consequence the Camerons possessed an enhanced potential to take a military initiative. He found that after coming out for the Stuarts in the 1745, and Jacobite risings the key chiefs showed no enthusiasm for yet another insurrection, most believed that taking up arms against the government without French support would end in disaster. Lochiel did attempt to convince the Prince to go back while he could. He argued that Jacobite forces with French support would be able to mount an effective defence against the English standby troops. Lochiel advanced to this position at Derby in December, when the Jacobites finally called off their march on London before turning back northwards. Lochiel was again wounded at the Battle of Falkirk in January 1746, and travelled north to Fort William where the government garrison still held out. This decision has been considered by some historians as playing into the hands of the British forces. Others maintain it was motivated by logistical considerations. Lochiel relayed a warning that his men "were becoming difficult to restrain and sought permission to charge" Charles Stuart eventually agreed, however his messenger was killed en route to delivering the royal command. At this point "and without orders from the by now unnerved Jacobite command" Clan Mackintosh in the centre of the Jacobite line charged. Led by Lochiel the Camerons started after them, other clans then joined in an uncoordinated and disorganized Highland charge. Many of those charging lacked targets, and failed to use their firearms. Lochiel got close enough to the enemy to fire his pistol; he was drawing his sword when grapeshot shattered his ankles. From where he lay he saw the charge achieve some initial success before Coehorn mortar shelling and devastating volleys of musket fire killed those who had broke through the redcoat line. Survivors of the charge carried him from the field. Despite attempting to persuade King Louis XV to mount a second landing, Cameron never returned to his native Scotland. Lochiel was also knighted by Bonnie Prince Charlie, [14] before dying at Bergues on 26 October 1746. He is buried in Bergues Cemetery where there is a memorial to him. It is notable that one of his acts whilst in charge of Edinburgh was to order that there be no reprisals against the Whigs for their opposition to the Prince. He had previously given orders to care for the prisoners after Prestonpans, and later he would ensure that Glasgow did not suffer any reprisals for its loyalty to George II. Such acts contributed to his reputation for humanity; he became known to both friends and foes as the "Gentle Lochiel", a name that carried into the romantic myths which would grow up around the Rising.

Chapter 4 : Donald Cameron of Lochiel - Wikipedia

Memoirs of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, chief of the clan Cameron, supposed to have been written by one John Drummond (Bannatyne Club,) Life of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, in appendix to Pennant's Tour in Scotland.

The Clan Cameron, which takes its name from the Gaelic cam-shron or "crooked hill", can trace itself back to medieval times. Thereafter, Camerons distinguished themselves at battles from Bannockburn to Prestonpans, and none showed more fighting spirit than their leaders. The Chief himself, however, earned the name "Gentle Lochiel" for having spared Glasgow when the Stuart army retreated north, and in gratitude the citizenry decreed that the bells of the Tolbooth should be rung whenever his descendants passed through the city. Having campaigned through the Second World War with the Lovat Scouts, he later commanded a territorial battalion of the family regiment, the Cameron Highlanders, first raised in and substantially enlarged by his grandfather in 1753. His principal concern, though, was the management of the Cameron estates, which by shrewd husbandry he increased to 10,000 acres, the largest landholding in Britain of any commoner. Cameron country is the wooded hills and glens around Fort William, north-west Scotland, and a prophecy holds that the Camerons will keep their land as long as there is snow on Ben Nevis. In earlier times, there were hot disputes over ownership of the area around Loch Arkaig between the Camerons and Clan Chattan. In King Robert II presided over a melee at Perth between 30 champions of each side, at the end of which the last Cameron escaped with his life by swimming the River Tay. Sir Donald had no such problems with the neighbours, and the four pillars of agriculture, stalking, forestry and holiday lets kept the estate profitable. Lochiel was one of very few landowners to have greater holdings than those of his ancestor a century before. He was also a most diligent Chief to his clan members, regularly travelling to gatherings in countries such as Australia, where more than 2,000 Camerons came to meet him. Although he thought such large convocations worked better abroad than in Scotland where he felt there was less interest in ancestry, he welcomed any Cameron who called at Achnacarry, his seat at Spean Bridge, Inverness-shire, which stood beside the castle burned down by the Duke of Cumberland in 1746. He also converted a former post office on the estate into the clan museum. Lochiel was a man whose considerable charm was matched by his unflagging energy and his high ideals of service to his clansmen and the people of Scotland. There was no finer example of a Scottish laird, and in the red of his Cameron kilt he very much looked the part as well as performing it. He was not born at Achnacarry as the castle had been let for the grouse season. Since the eldest son of every Lochiel has always been christened Donald. Both his father and grandfather had married the daughters of dukes; his father was also the first Knight of the Thistle not to be either a peer or a baronet. To mark this, the tenantry presented him with two gifts for the stalker: In 1800 Cameron had joined the Lovat Scouts, and although he then trained as an accountant, he kept up his military skills; and when war came he fought with the regiment, notably in Italy. By 1815 he was a lieutenant-colonel. He was awarded the Territorial Decoration in 1918. He was appointed Colonel in 1920 and awarded a military OBE in 1921. His father died in 1914, and the new Lochiel returned from London to live at Achnacarry which, during the war, had been used as a commando training centre and had been badly damaged by fire. Once back in Scotland, he was soon offered a good number of part-time jobs in public life. He married, in 1916, Margaret Gathorne-Hardy, a niece of the 3rd Earl of Cranbrook; they had two sons and two daughters.

Chapter 5 : Clan Cameron History - Scotland.

Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel (February - February) was a Scottish highland chief, the 17th Lochiel.

Others have defined clans as "those of common stock. The Clan Cameron has a recorded history from the fifteenth century, although unsubstantiated histories have its roots reaching back to the supposed first chief, Angus Cameron, living about the year 1400. The history of the Camerons, as a Scottish clan, is an extensive and often combative one, for that was how men learned to survive and live another day. Each tribe "owned" their dependence to their own immediate chieftain, but all agreed in owing allegiance to the Supreme Chief of the Clan. In ideal circumstances they looked upon it to be their duty to support him in all his endeavors. Clan Cameron is fortunate to have a hereditary chief, descended directly from the earliest days of Camerons living in Lochaber. Since the year the chief of Clan Cameron have been called "Lochiel. From the Gaelic "cam," which means "crooked," "bent" or "hook" and "shron," which means "nose. The "sh" and "o" are for the most part silent when pronounced. From the Gaelic "cam," once again meaning "crooked," "bent" or "hook" and "brun," meaning "hill. This sixteen green squares upon a red background sett, with a bright yellow bordering, is for general use by all members of Clan Cameron. If one tartan had to be singled out for general use by Camerons worldwide, Basic Clan Cameron would be the one. As is the case with most clan tartans, this is one from the Vestiarium of Scoticum in 1790, which was accepted by the then Lochiel. It very much resembles an old red and green square sett in the West Highlands Museum in Fort William, although there are some variations. This red and blue tartan is similar to that worn by the 18th Chief, Donald "The Gentle Lochiel" Cameron in a portrait hanging at Achnacarry. This is the personal tartan of the Chief and his immediate family; as a rule it should not be worn by clansfolk. Said to have been designed by the wife of Donald, 7th of Erracht in there are many theories as to its origin, none of which seem entirely satisfactory. This combination of the Cameron and MacDonald tartans uses a deep red, dark blue, green and a fine gold line. Regardless of its origin, this tartan has been in use by The Cameron Highlanders since their late-eighteenth century inception. It is often used as a day or "hunting" tartan, because of its "serviceable" colors. At times it has been strictly reserved for use among the regiment, but is now in wide use among Clan Cameron. This tartan was not created as a tribal clothing specifically for the Erracht Camerons. Therefore, if any Cameron ancestors owned this tartan, it does not mean that they were Camerons of Erracht. Quite the contrary, it probably indicates a regimental affiliation or even a school uniform, as some Highland academic institutions required students to dress in this tartan. With its soft shades of green and blue, this tartan is not listed as being restricted in its use. It was devised because the Basic Clan Cameron tartan was considered too bright for shootings, stalking and hiking. Designed in 1790, it was based on a description of the tartan worn by the clansmen who fought under Sir Ewen Cameron, 17th Chief, at the battle of Killiecrankie. These two crests, and their mottos on the surrounding strap, may be used by clansmen to denote their clan affiliation. In the past, when the old Dexter Arm crest was in wide use, the associated motto was "Pro Rege et Patria," translated as meaning "For King and Country. SONG While many songs have been associated with the Cameron Clan throughout the years, one tune stands alone as the most recognized: Now that you know the basics, the rest of Clan Cameron Online awaits your exploration!

Chapter 6 : Genealogy: Lochiel's Family - Clan Cameron Rocky Mountain Branch

Donald Cameron's in laws: Donald Cameron's father in law was Peter Kerr Donald Cameron's mother in law was Loris Kerr Donald Cameron's sister in law is Claire Fitzroy Donald Cameron's brother in law-by-marriage was James Fitzroy Donald Cameron's brother in law is Ralph Kerr Donald Cameron's son in law is Henry Trotter.

Chapter 7 : Lochiel Brewing

donald cameron of lochiel, chief of clan cameron (part one) If you know anything about the '45 you will have heard of Bonnie Prince Charlie, of Flora MacDonald and the dramatic escape over the sea to Skye, immortalised in the Skye

Boat Song.

Chapter 8 : The "Basics" of Clan Cameron

Colonel Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, KT, who died on Wednesday aged 93, was the 26th Chief of Clan Cameron and heir to one of the proudest lineages in all Scotland. The Clan Cameron, which takes.

Chapter 9 : Ewen Cameron of Lochiel - Wikipedia

Lochiel and his men managed to escape, but Lochiel's house and the houses of his tenants were destroyed. Cumberland's vicious retribution against the Camerons is a testament to how bravely they had fought against him, and perhaps how angered he was by Lochiel's refusal to submit to him.