

VINCERE VEL MORI

CLAN MACDOWALL NEWSLETTER

June Issue 2014

NEWS FROM THE CHIEF

"My second grandson Garnett Macdowall, heir presumptive to his elder brother Dougal younger of Castlesemple, collected, assembled and produced a handsome intramural review of published articles about the current primary home lands of Macdowall of Garthland in Renfrewshire, Scotland. This might be extended and described here in future by Garnett who also recently accepted from the Clan MacDougall Society of North America their Commissionership for the Canadian Province of British Columbia.

Most recently, on May 17 and 18, we were represented at the 151st Victoria Highland Games and Cultural Festival by Garnett, Dougal and their mother Sharon Hill-Macdowall who together set up and manned with their piper brother Elliott our joint Clans MacDowall and MacDougall canopy (tent). Their success was marked by their winning the Plaque for "The Best Clan Tent", for our second year running.

You may wonder about our Highland affinity, other than through our MacDougall allies and my wife Alexandra (Sandy) Macdowall (nee MacLennan). We all want to be colourful Highlanders with their tribal clans, tartans, kilts, bagpipes, whisky, crofts and Highland dancing. However, MacDowalls and other Lowlanders evolved in civil dress and bearing, with British-European houses orchestral music, arts and sciences, philosophy, religion and politics, who lived geographically Eastward and Southward of the diagonal Grampian Mountain range across Scotland.

Yet the modern trend has been to paint all Scots in Highland colours and to call Heads of ranking feudal Families "Chiefs of Clans". Perhaps this is to promote a National identity that was largely lost by the Union of the Crowns of Scotland and England in 1603 and by the governmental amalgamation of Scotland with England for economic reasons in 1707 three centuries ago. To follow suit with the more modern trend, when I found us designated as a clan I named it "Clan MacDowall" and registered it with my new Clan Tartan which Garnett (garnett_mac@hotmail.com) currently purveys to MacDowalls at cost. A law-bound Clan Association with a membership fee has not been instituted, with expensive organization, as it would deter the attention of the vast majority of MacDowalls whose interest we seek as free fellow Family members. Please pass the word along."

Cheers
Fergus.

**Pictures of our clan tent
From 2014 Highland games
are on Page 2**



News from the Chief continued from page 1



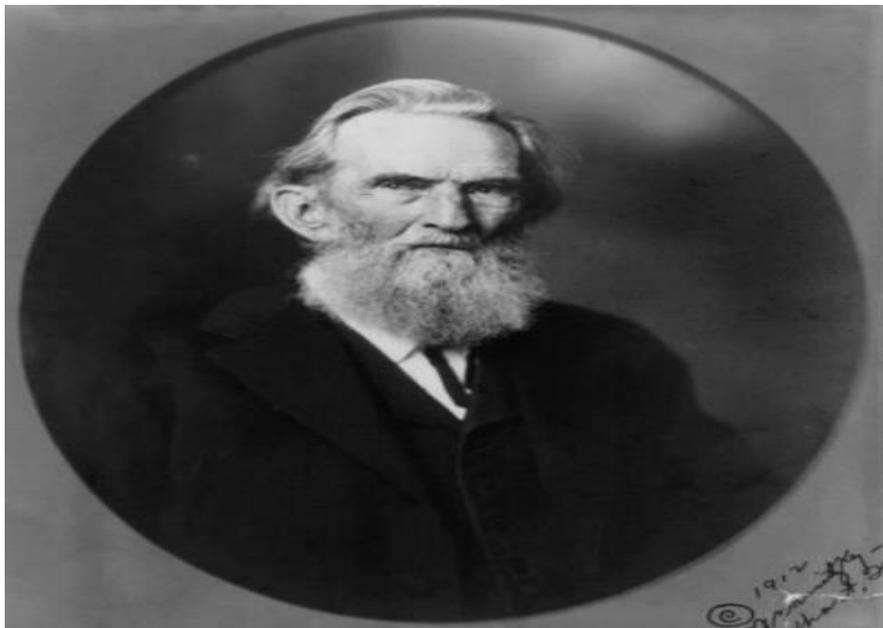
MCDOWELL, SAMUEL J. P.

TEXAS RANGER

MCDOWELL, SAMUEL J. P. (1824–1920). Samuel J. P. McDowell, farmer, county leader, and state legislator, was born on July 6, 1824, in Columbia, Tennessee, the son of Irish immigrants. In 1850 he met **Sam Houston**, then a senator from Texas, in Bolivar, Tennessee. Descriptions of Texas intrigued the young McDowell, and in 1853 he moved to Lockhart in Caldwell County. In 1855 McDowell served with the **Callahan Expedition** against outlaws and warring American Indians. He traveled back and forth across the Mexican border with Callahan until 1856. From 1856 to 1860 McDowell served as the county clerk for Caldwell County. He married for the first time to Cate L. Shropshire on June 25, 1857, in Lockhart; they had at least one child.

McDowell was elected to the Ninth Texas State Legislature and represented Caldwell, Hays, and Blanco counties until 1862 when he resigned to fight in the **Civil War**. He was captain of a company of Lockhart volunteers for a time then disbanded the company and went to Camp Terry on the Colorado River south of Austin to join the Seventeenth Regiment of Texas Infantry, part of **Walker's Texas Division**. McDowell was elected captain of Company K. He fought at Milliken's Bend in Louisiana and was wounded. After the Civil War, McDowell returned to farming and politics in Caldwell County. He was elected again to serve as county clerk from 1873 to 1880. He married for a second time sometime after 1881 to a woman named Rebecca. McDowell was a Presbyterian. When he was almost ninety years old, he was still riding horses and participating in the Caldwell County community. He died in 1920 in Lockhart.

Biography by: Lewis E. Daniell, *Texas-The Country and Its Men* (Austin?, 1924?). Family Search, "Samuel J. P. McDowell" (<http://www.familysearch.org>), accessed October 2, 2006



Brother Tillotson Beire McDowell has born VA abt 1815.

Samuel J. P McDowell .was born in TN in 1824.

1838 Samuel McDowell Was City Clerk in Bolivar, TN...LATER Samuel J. P.McDowell was Lockhart, TX City Clerk...

I found Samuel as City Clerk in Bolivar, Hardeman, Tn in 1838:

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/tn/hardeman/deeds/beard-thurman1837.txt>

Hardeman County Tennessee Deed Book E page 504

April 6, 1838 Know all men by these presents that I Sarah Beard of the County of Hardeman and State of Tennessee have bargained and sold to John L. Thurman one Negro girl named Ann for and in consideration of six hundred fifty dollars and I do warrant and defend the title of said Negro to him the said Thurman against the lawful claim of any person or persons whatsoever, as witness my hand and seal this ninth day of December 1837. Signed and sealed Sarah Beard Test. Robert C. Moore and J.H. Thurman Personally appeared before me SAMUEL MCDOWELL Deputy Clerk of the County court in and for said County. Robert C. Moore and Joshua H. Thurman the subsiding witness to the foregoing bill of sale, who after being each duly sworn, deposed and said they were personally acquainted with Sarah Beard the signer and bargained to the same, and that she duly acknowledged the execution of the same to be her _____ of deed, on the day it bears date, for all the purposes therein , given under my hand at office, in Bolivar this 6th day of April 1838.
Signed SAMUEL MCDOWELL, D. Clerk

Below is 1850 census for some reason only Isabella is listed on ancestry.com: This is where I guessed that Samuel and Isabella are the parents of Samuel James Polk, Tilloston Beire and Isabella Jane (married a Rufus Hardy and lived in Somerville, Fayette, Tn)
Hardy, Rufus married McDowell, Isabela Jane Sep 1847

1850 HARDEMAN, TN CENSUS

McDOWELL 80B-82B-127A

CENSUS YR: 1850 STATE or TERRITORY: TN COUNTY: Hardeman REEL NO: M432-881 PAGE NO: 125b REFERENCE: Enumerated on the 11th day of Octr, 1850 by M. A. Trice

127a 17 McDOWELL Isabella 60 Ireland pg0119a.txt

127a 16 McDOWELL Samuel 65 Ireland pg0119a.txt

16 842 842 McDOWELL Samuel 65 M . Farmer 1,500 Ireland

17 842 842 McDOWELL Isabella 60 F . . . Ireland

16 842 842 McDOWELL Samuel 65 M . Farmer 1,500 Ireland

17 842 842 McDOWELL Isabella 60 F . . . Ireland

Isabella Mc Dowell Age: 60 Estimated birth year: abt 1790 Birth Place: Ireland Gender: Female Home in 1850

(City,County,State): Hardeman, Tennessee

I have copies from Caldwell County Genealogical Society of two letter Samuel J.P. wrote home to Bolivar. They are wonderful. One is when he first arrived in Texas from Yazoo, MS.

Samuel J. P. wrote a letter to his brother in Bolivar, TN after he arrived in Lockhart, TX. He describes the trip from New Orleans to Indianola, TX stopping in Galveston to let some passengers off. They lost three or four passengers from Cholera on the trip. They arrived at Indianola, Texas the night of the 1st of December 1853 in time for the stage to Victoria. They left Mr. McNeil in Indianola . Samuel traveled with Miss Brown, Dr. Humphries, Lady and sister in law (sic) formerly of Denmark, TN and General Green and his family. He told of the team of small Spanish ponies and the road being very rough. The stage stalled every few miles and everyone was forced to get out and trudge through the wet grass and mud and very often put their shoulders to the mired wheels. At Victoria they hired a private conveyance and proceeded to Prairie Lea, the residence of Dr. Brown, Dr. Humphries, Dr. Dyrus, Miss Matie B's husband, Mrs. Owen Hardeman (Miss Sarah B.) and Mrs. Berry. Dr. Rogan (Miss Armour's husband) brought him on to Lockhart in his buggy were he enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. W. W. McNeil. He wrote the letter from Mr. Berry's law office.

This letter was printed in the Lockhart Post-Register in December ?8, 1933. The notes of the newspaper say that Constable CHARLES T. MCDOWELL brought the letter to the paper. The article says the letter is written on fine quality of paper in the style of stationery of those days opening at the side. The upper right hand corner is embossed with the MCDOWELL coat of arms brought they believe (newspaper) from Scotland. This information came from Plum Creek Almanac Vol. 18 No 2 page 161-163.

The second letter is to editor of paper in Bolivar:

The paper is The West Tennessee Democrat in Bolivar, Hardeman, TN.

He writes to the editor Mr. J. J. Neely his friend, about getting the paper in Lockhart. He is concerned with the health of an old friend W.O. Ferguson Esq. He tells about the country where he is in Texas. This came from Plum Creek Almanac Vol 14 No 1 Spring 1996 page 10.

mentioning a connection between Ms, Mo and TX. Samuel J. P. McDowell lived in Yazoo, Ms before moving to Texas. His wife Katie Shropshire also came from MS, but her family came from MO before moving to MS.

There is a wonderful diary on live by Emma Shropshire Lay about their lives. McDowell and Wither families are mentioned. I think this site is by Robert Lay. I can email you the diary.

As far as sources for Ireland as place of Samuel J. P.'s parents birth:

1850 Hardeman, TN

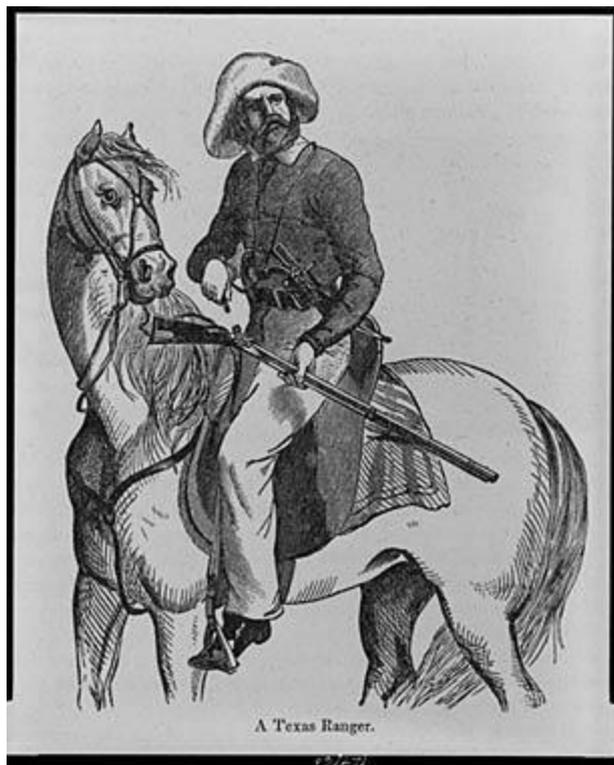
Samuel and Isabella McDowell Ireland

1900 Lockhart, Caldwell, TX

Samuel J.P. McDowell TN IRE IRE

I think Samuel and Isabella are the parents because the sister is even named Isabella Jane.

There is more information that says that Samuel J. P. was named after Their friends the James K Polk Family.



For More information for pages 3 see the links below

<http://historiatejashistory.blogspot.com/2011/11/invasion-of-mexico-1855-hunting-apaches.html>

http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/discover_history/vignette_details.htm?ID=10715

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmcsa>

Pages 4 and 5 were graciously shared by Margarett McDowell Stout this is her family.

Margarette's family are testing Members in the McDowell/MacDowall DNA Project .

If you think you would like to be a part of this Historic McDowell /MacDowall DNA project that is connecting Families world wide ?

Click on :

www.familytreedna.com

and ask to JOIN the McDowell* Project

Till next Time: share love and kindness

To one another, remembering our ancient paths.

Your Editor : Charlotte McDowell Baker



WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://macdowall.wix.com/clan-macdowall>

NOTE: As always ,to contact the Editor or to submit an article to review
for **Vincere Vel Mori** contact: charlotte_baker@tds.net

Find us on FACEBOOK: Clan MacDowall then like us and share us with your
MacDowall family.