

David Ballingall (1775-1859): A Tribute to His Life and Times
By His Fifth Great Nephew, Michael T. Tracy

The last child of George Ballingall, a tenant farmer, and his third wife, Janet Jelly, David Ballingall was born at the ancestral home of the family at Rameldry in Kettle Parish, Fife in 1775. He would eventually assume the familial tenancy of Rameldry and farm these lands for the rest of his life. Later, Ballingall held two nineteen year leases of Little Feddinch in Cameron Parish from 1807 until 1844 where he married and had a family of five children. He then with his younger son, John, took over the farm of Higham in Dunbog Parish on the Marquis of Zetland's estate and in 1858 the neighboring farm of Dunbog. In sport, he was a keen curler and a member of the Abdie Curling Club since 1845 up until a few years before his death. In his Last Will and Testament made a few years before his death, he gave his tenancy leases of the farms of Higham and Rameldry to his youngest son, John and appointed his cousins, James Buist of Kirktonbarns and George Ballingall of Cookston as executors of his will.¹ This then is the narrative of the life and times of David Ballingall, a farmer of Fife.

Early years

David Ballingall was born on Saturday, 30 December 1775 at Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife.² He was the sixth child of George Ballingall, a tenant farmer, and his third wife, Janet Jelly. He was baptized on Sunday, 31 December 1775 at Kettle Parish.³

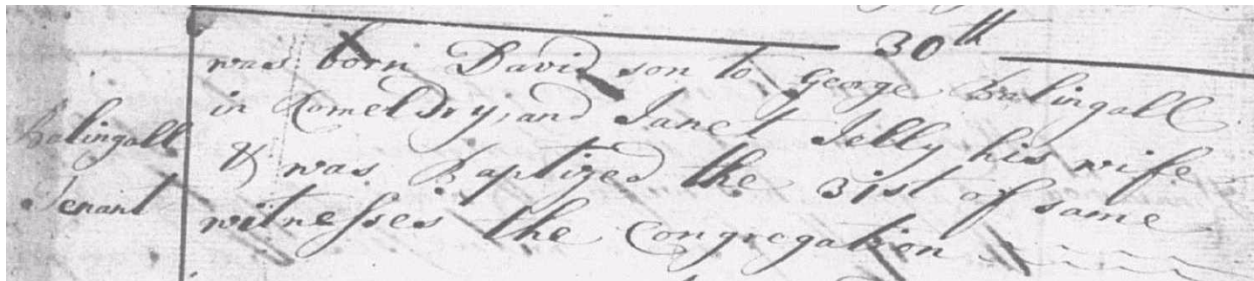


Fig.1. Baptismal Record of David Ballingall, 31 December 1775, Kettle Parish Records, Crown Copyright

¹ Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)

² Baptismal Record of David Ballingall, 31 December 1775, Kettle Parish Records, Old Parish Records, National Records of Scotland

³ Baptismal Record of David Ballingall, 31 December 1775, Kettle Parish Records, Old Parish Records, National Records of Scotland



Fig.2. Kettle Parish Church, Kingskettle, Fife, Scotland, Photograph Courtesy of Michael T. Tracy © 2010 Michael T. Tracy

He grew up on the ancestral farm of Rameldry where he learned how to farm with his father who lead a long and distinguished life while at Rameldry.



Fig.3. The Farm Fields of Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife, Scotland, Photograph Courtesy of Michael T. Tracy © 2010 Michael T. Tracy

(Little) Feddinch, Cameron Parish

Called Littler or Little Feddinch, this small farm was originally part of the Feddinch Estate which was owned and operated by William Lindsay, Esquire. The farm was located north of Feddinch.



Fig.4. View of Feddinch Estate, taken in 1979, Photograph Courtesy of Michael T. Tracy © 2010 Michael T. Tracy

According to the St. Andrews Commissary Court Deeds, David Ballingall began his tenancy there as a farmer on Monday, 9 November 1807 at the age of 32.⁴ The tenancy lease stated that David Ballingall held tenancy over the track of lands of North Farm of Feddinch from William Lindsay, Esq., Of Feddinch.⁵ Here he would farm these lands and held two nineteen year leases of the farm for the next 38 years.

Marriage and Family life

Sophia Hedderwick was born on Wednesday, 9 November 1785 at Cupar Parish, Fife.⁶ The young farmer met her most likely in Cupar and soon they began dating. On Tuesday, 20 December 1814 David Ballingall married Sophia Hedderwick at Cameron Parish.⁷ While residing at Little Feddinch they had five children who were all born there. They were:

⁴ St. Andrews Commissary Court Deeds, CC20/11/15 p.p. 284-91; B65/22/34

⁵ St. Andrews Commissary Court Deeds, CC20/11/15 p.p. 284-91; B65/22/34

⁶ Baptismal Record of Sophia Hedderwick, 17 November 1785, Cupar Parish Records, Old Parish Records 420/0030 0052

⁷ Marriage Record of David Ballingall, 20 December 1814, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0010 0384

Elisabeth born on Thursday, 19 October 1815;⁸
George born on Monday, 16 March 1818⁹ and died on Sunday, 22 November 1914;¹⁰
Janet born on Tuesday, 22 February 1820¹¹ and died on Friday, 21 October 1881;¹²
Sophia born on Saturday, 11 May 1822;¹³
John born on Monday, 27 December 1824¹⁴ and died on Wednesday, 25 September 1912.¹⁵

According to the *Fife Herald Newspaper* of Thursday, 2 March 1826 David Ballingall was on the jury that decided on the Friar Price of the grain crop in 1825 and listed him as a tenant at Feddinch.¹⁶ The family continued to reside and farm the lands of Little Feddinch until the year of 1844.

The Tenancy of Rameldry

When his older brother, George, died in 1827, David Ballingall took over the tenancy of the family ancestral farm of Rameldry in Kettle Parish. He also was the tutor and curator of his brother's young children. According to the Ordinance Survey of Scotland, written between the years of 1853-55 Rameldry is "a large farm steading with dwelling house and garden occupied by Mr. David Ballingall, the proprietor is John Balfour, Esq., Balbirnie."¹⁷

⁸ Baptismal Record of Elisabeth Ballingall, 4 November 1815, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0010 0272

⁹ Baptismal Record of George Ballingall, 28 March 1818, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0010 0283

¹⁰ Death Record of George Ballingall, 22 November 1914, Bowden Parish Records, Statutory Deaths 783/00 0005

¹¹ Baptismal Record of Janet Ballingall, 10 March 1820, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0020 00003

¹² Death Record of Janet Ballingall, 21 October 1881, Dunbog Parish Records, Statutory Deaths 423/00 0003

¹³ Baptismal Record of Sophia Ballingall, 28 May 1822, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0020 0011

¹⁴ Baptismal Record of John Ballingall, 14 January 1825, Cameron Parish Records, Old Parish Records 412/0020 0017

¹⁵ Death Record of John Ballingall, 25 September 1921, Dunbog Parish Records, Statutory Deaths 423/00 0003

¹⁶ *Fife Herald Newspaper*, 2 March 1826, p. 2

¹⁷ Ordinance Survey Name Book, Fife OS Name Books 1853-1855, Volume 16, OS1/13/16/16

16) *Parish of Kettle — Plan 17-D — Trace 2*

List of Names to be corrected if necessary	Orthography as recommended to be used in the new Plans	Other modes of Spelling the same Names	Authority for these other modes of Spelling when known	Situation	Descriptive Remarks, or other General Observations which may be considered of Interest
<i>Rameldry</i>	<i>Rameldry</i>	<i>Rameldry</i>	<i>David Ballingall</i>	<i>about 1 1/2 Miles, 13</i>	<i>This is a large farmstead</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>John Williamson</i>	<i>Occupier</i>	<i>Shains, S.W. of Chirnock with dwelling house and</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>Ph. School</i>	<i>Village of Kettle-garden occupied by Mr. David</i>	<i>Ballingall, the proprietor is</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>David Paterson</i>	<i>Newhall</i>	<i>John Ralford Esq. Ralburnie.</i>
		<i>— D: —</i>	<i>Johnston's 60 Map</i>		
<i>Rameldry Den</i>	<i>Rameldry Den</i>	<i>Rameldry</i>	<i>David Ballingall</i>	<i>about 1 1/2 Miles,</i>	<i>The den properly so called occ</i>
		<i>Den</i>	<i>Rameldry</i>	<i>S.W. of Chirnock Village occupies but a small part of</i>	<i>the word to which this name</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>John Williamson</i>	<i>Kettle</i>	<i>is given. In this word are a</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>Ph. School</i>		<i>number of old shafts of coal-</i>
		<i>Go</i>	<i>David Paterson</i>		<i>pike. It is the property of</i>
			<i>Newhall</i>		<i>John Ralford Esq. Ralburnie.</i>

Fig.5. 1853-55 Ordnance Survey for Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife, Photograph Courtesy of ScotlandsPlaces.uk



Fig.6. Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife, Photograph Courtesy of Michael T. Tracy © 2010 Michael T. Tracy

Rameldry is the ancestral home of the Ballingall family dating back to David's grandfather, Thomas Ballingall (1693-1752) and is located about 1 ¼ miles southeast of the village of Kettle, presently called Kingskettle. The 1855 Valuation Roll for Rameldry listed David Ballingall as the tenant and occupier of the property and the yearly rent or value of the property is listed as 387 pounds and 13 shillings.¹⁸

VALUATION				ROLL.		
County of Fife. Kettle Parish.				For the Year 1855-56.		
Number.	DESCRIPTION AND SITUATION OF SUBJECT.	PROPRIETOR.	TENANT.	OCCUPIER.	YEARLY RENT OR VALUE.	
					As Estimated by Assessor.	As Adjusted on Application of Apprs.
77	Blackburn or Ramorne Mill	J. M. Stewart Esq Ramorne	M ^r Dingswale	W ^m Forward	400	400 8
78	Waldmalcove	Do	Rich ^d Adamson	said M ^r Dingswale	370	370 6
79	Waldmalcove	Do	Do	said Rich ^d Adamson	2 10	2 10
80	Part of Strathmill farm	M ^r Gylfoun of Parry	Robert Wallace	said Robert Wallace	5 17	5 17 18
81	House & Land. Millers of Forth	M ^r James Bell Drumtochter	M ^r Robertson Millers of Forth	said M ^r Robertson	7 -	7 -
82	House & Messuage. Millers of Forth	M ^r John Campbell Millers of Forth	Do	Do	3 10	3 10
83	House & Land. East Robin	Mary Macdonald, East Robin.	Do	said Mary Macdonald	4 -	4 -
84	House East Robin	Do	Do	Do	1 -	1 -
85	Drachtonia	E. J. Amey Esq Kettleforth	W ^m Rams, Musthead	said Andrew Rams	16 15	16 18
86	House & Land. Musthead	William Bell Musthead	Do	said W ^m Bell	14 -	14 -
87	House & Land. Musthead	James Thomson, Mason, Musthead	Do	said Jas ^g Thomson	10 10	10 15
88	House Musthead	Do	Do	Do	7 10	7 10
89	House & Garden Musthead	George Latta Edinburgh	M ^r Potts, do. Musthead	said W ^m Potts	5 -	5 -
90	House & Garden Musthead	Do	Do	Do	1 10	1 10
91	House & Garden Musthead	James Thomson Musthead	Do	said James Thomson	3 10	3 10
92	House & Garden Musthead	David Dewar do. Musthead	Do	Do	3 -	2 5
93	Kilbrack Manse. House & Garden	M ^r Johnston Esq Kilbrack	Do	said M ^r Johnston	60 -	60 -
94	Kilbrack Home farm & Mayfield	Do	Do	said M ^r Johnston	5 20	5 20
95	Home of do. Kilbrack	Do	Alas Lorne do. Kilbrack	said Alex Lorne	185 -	185 -
96	Home of do. Kinlochary	Do	Do. Kinlochary	said W ^m Jackson	324 -	324 -
97	Plantation of Angle of land at Strath Kinlochary	Do	Do	said M ^r Johnston	12 -	12 -
98	Parish house island	Do	Do	said Maria Robertson	7 10	7 10
99	Plantations between East Strachan & West Strachan	M ^r Robert Thomson Kettle	Do	said Andrew Henderson	50 -	50 -
100	Bankheadhouse. House & Strachan	Do	Do	said M ^r Stewart	20 -	20 -
101	House & Land. Myreside	Robert Latta, Portenay, Myreside	Do	said Robert Latta	7 10	7 10
102	House Myreside	Do	Do	Do	2 -	2 -
103	Highland Park	Do	George Clephant	said George Clephant	18 -	18 -
104	Bankfoot house	Jas ^g Blair & Co. Glasgow	Jas ^g Henderson, Jefferson	said James Henderson	29 5	29 5
105	Home of do. Common	The Right Hon ^{ble} Earl of Glasgow	David Hay	said David Hay	40 10	40 10
106	Home of Forth & Forthhill	John Ballingall Esq. Bathone	James Thomas Warner, Forth	said James Thomas	735 15	735 18
107	Forth Arms Quay	Do	Do	Do	227 4	227 4
108	Home of Rameldry	Do	David Ballingall	said David Ballingall	387 10	387 13

Fig.7. 1855 Valuation Roll for Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife, Scotland listing David Ballingall (Line 108)

The Tenancy of Higham, Dunbog Parish

After deciding not to renew the tenancy lease at Little Feddinch, David, along with his youngest son, John took over the tenancy of Higham in Dunbog Parish, Fife in 1844. According to the 1845 Statistical Account of Scotland: "the parish of Dunbog is of irregular figure and diminutive extent. It ranges from southeast to northwest, its greatest length not exceeding 4 miles; its extreme breadth being about 1 ½, and its least not more, perhaps, than half a mile. On the north it is bounded by the parish of Flisk; on the east by a section of Abdie; on the south by Monimail; and on the west by Abdie... From the farm house of Higham, which is perched on the summit, it descends precipitously to the level carse land that borders the Tay from Newburgh to Birkhill, and which is generally known by the name of the Barony."¹⁹ Higham is described as "a large farm house two stories high with extensive offices and thrashing

¹⁸ 1855 Scotland Valuation Roll for Rameldry, Kettle Parish, Fife, Scotland (VR 101/1/78)

¹⁹ The Statistical Account of Scotland. Volume 9. Parish of Dunbog. Rev. Adam Cairns. Edinburgh: W. Creach, 1845, p.p. 205-06

machine; all in good repair. There is a garden and a large [unreadable] farm attached. Tenanted by David Ballingall. The property of Lord Zetland."²⁰

18000.—Nov. 1849, <i>Parish of Dunbog</i> No. 21. <i>Plan 5. 6. Trace 2</i>					
List of Names to be corrected if necessary	Orthography, as recommended to be used in the new Plans	Other modes of Spelling the same Name	Authority for these other modes of Spelling when known	Situation	Descriptive Remarks, or other General Observations which may be considered of Interest
<i>Higham</i>	<i>Higham</i>	<i>Higham</i> <i>Hig</i> <i>Hig</i> <i>Hig</i> <i>Hig</i>	<i>James Todd</i> <i>Farmer</i> <i>Cummore</i> <i>Ch,</i> <i>David Ballingall</i> <i>Farmer</i> <i>Higham</i> <i>Johnston, Esq, M.P.</i> <i>Johnston, Esq, M.P.</i>	<i>About 1/2 miles</i> <i>North of Dunbog</i>	<i>A large farm house two stories high, with extensive offices and steading machine; all in good repair! There is a garden and a large arable farm attached. Tenanted by David Ballingall the property of Lord Zetland.</i>

Fig.8. 1853-55 Ordinance Survey Name Book for Higham, Dunbog Parish, Fife (OS1/13/41/16)



Fig.9. Higham, Dunbog, Fife, Scotland, Photograph Courtesy of Mrs. Frances Black

²⁰ Ordinance Survey Name Book, Fife OS Name Books 1853-1855, Volume 41, OS1/13/41/16

The Valuation Roll of Higham

Valuation Rolls are records of property ownership compiled for collecting local taxation. The Lands Valuation (Scotland) Act was established in 1854. This law established a uniform valuation of landed property throughout Scotland and included the yearly rent or rateable value of each property; the name of the proprietor, tenant and occupier of the premises. Beginning in 1855 the farm of Higham was listed showing firstly David Ballingall as the tenant and occupier with the yearly rent or value of the property as being 582 pounds.²¹

VALUATION				ROLL.		
County of Fife, <i>Dunbog</i> Parish.				For the Year 1855-56.		
Number.	DESCRIPTION AND SITUATION OF SUBJECT.	PROPRIETOR.	TENANT.	OCCUPIER.	YEARLY RENT OR VALUE.	
					As Valued by Assessor.	As Adjusted on Application or Appeal.
1	Farm of Dunbog including part of Westside The Leas of Jethland	<i>Do</i>	<i>Thomas Russell Dunbog</i>	<i>said Thomas Russell</i>	773 10	773 10
2	Mansero House of Dunbog	<i>Do</i>	<i>Amareo Broers Mack' Glasgow</i>	<i>said Amareo Broers</i>	40 "	40 "
3	Dunbog Home Farm	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	<i>Do</i>	100 "	100 "
4	Part of Dunbog Home Farm	<i>Do</i>	<i>M^r Black, Leitham Dunbog</i>	<i>said M^r Black</i>	5 11	5 11
5	Part of Dunbog Home Farm	<i>Do</i>	<i>George Barclay farmer Arntson</i>	<i>said George Barclay</i>	324 18	324 18
6	Farm of Higham	<i>Do</i>	<i>David Ballingall, former Higham</i>	<i>said David Ballingall</i>	582 6	582 6

Fig.10. 1855 Valuation Roll for Higham, Dunbog Parish, Fife, Scotland listing David Ballingall

Death of Sophia Ballingall

David and Sophia Ballingall were married for 23 years and raised five children. On Wednesday, 1 March 1837 Sophia Ballingall died of consumption at the age of 52 at Cupar.²²

²¹ 1855 Scotland Valuation Roll for Dunbog Parish, Fife, Scotland (VR101/11/68)

²² Death Record of Sophia Ballingall, 1 March 1837, Cupar Parish Records, Old Parish Records 420/0050 0315

deaths

310

Year	Month	Name	Occupation / Description	Age	Cause of Death
1837	Jan	Adamson	Rev ^d Lawrence, D.D. First Minister of Cupar Parish,	69	Influenza
	"	Carstairs	And ^r , Farmer	62	Influenza
	17	Ramsay	Melen, Wife of Rob ^t Paterson. Sheriffman	70	Old Age
	18	Morrison	David, Sheriffman	73	Palsy
	19	Culbert	Lilias, Widow of Rob ^t McKie. Watchmaker	77	Old age
	20	Arthur	Alex ^r , Weaver	86	Old age
	21	Thomson	John, Laborer	77	Old age
	22	M ^r . Leods	Jean, daughter of Hugh M ^r . Leod. Laborer	4	Influenza
	23	Don	Lieut. Col ^l . Patrick, of Springfield	79	Old age
	26	Berwick (child)	Henry, son of Henry Berwick & Cath ^r . Tod	1	Inflammation
	27	Reid, (d ^r)	John, son of Rob ^t Reid & Christ ^r . Kungie	1	Influenza
Feb ^y .	6	Gray	John, Innkeeper. George Inn,	59	Brain fever
				(7)	out of frame
	7	Suttie	Ann, a stranger	22	Small-pox
	8	Yod	David, Blacksmith	16	Inflammation
	9	Taylor	Elizabeth, wife of David Robertson Shoemaker	68	Old age
	11	Henderson	Ann, wife of Tho ^s . Edgar. Vintner	45	Water in Chest
	17	Kalbray	James, Musician	30	Consumption
	"	Urquhart	Janet, wife of Alex ^r White Wright	53	Palsy
	22	Gardiner	Ann, daughter of Dav ^d . Gardiner Baker	4	Croup
	26	Kirk	John, Blacksmith	70	Old age
March	1	Heddorwick	Sophia, Wife of Dav ^d . Ballingall	52	Consumption

Fig.11. Death Record of Sophia Ballingall (Last Entry), 1 March 1837, Cupar Parish Records, Crown Copyright

The Census Records and Voters Lists

David Ballingall and his family are shown in the 1841 Scotland Census for Cameron Parish, Fife. According to this census David is listed as being 65 years of age and working as a farmer with the following children: Elisabeth age 20 [sic]; George age 20 [sic]; Janet age 20; and John age 15 [sic].²³

Parish of Cameron

1		2			3	4	
PLACE Here insert Name of Village, Street, Square, Close, Court, &c.	HOUSES Uninhabited or Building Inhabited	NAME and SURNAME, SEX and AGE, of each Person who abode in each House on the Night of 6th June.		OCCUPATION Of what Profession, Trade, Employment, or whether of Independent Means.	WHERE BORN		
		NAME and SURNAME	AGE Male Female		If Born in Scotland, state whether in County or otherwise.	Whether Foreign, or what Country Born in, and of what Parents.	
Langraue		Alexander Goudie	9				Y
Little Shedding	1	David Ballingall	65	Farmer	Y		
		Elisabeth da.	20		Y		
		George da.	20		Y		
		Janet da.	20		Y		
		John da.	15		Y		
		Betty Smith	20	C. S.	Y		
		Anna Greig	15	C. S.	Y		

Fig.12. 1841 Scotland Census for Cameron Parish, Fife, Scotland listing David Ballingall and Family

The 1851 Scotland Census of Dunbog Parish, Fife listed David Ballingall as being 75 years of age, widowed and working as a farmer on 431 acres, employing 16 servants and residing with his youngest son, John who is 24 years old.²⁴

No. of House	Parish of	Quoad Sacra Parish of	Within the limits of the Parliamentary Burgh of		Within the limits of the Royal Burgh of		Town or Village of	Whether Blind, or Deaf and Dumb
	Dunbog						Kergham	
	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	
1	Kergham Farm	David Ballingall	Head	wid.	75	Farmer of 431 Acres employing 16 Serv.	Kings Seat, Fifehire	
	Do	John Ballingall	Son	Widow	24	Farmer of Do. partly	Cameron Fifehire	
	Do	Ann Hough	Servant	Widow	24	Widow Servant	Collieston Fifehire	
	Do	Janet Watt	Do	Widow	16	Do	Ardenon Fifehire	

Fig.13. 1851 Scotland Census for Dunbog Parish, Fife, Scotland listing David and son, John Ballingall (Lines 1-2)

²³ 1841 Scotland Census for Cameron Parish, Fife, Scotland; Enumeration District 1, Page 4

²⁴ 1851 Scotland Census for Dunbog Parish, Fife, Scotland; Enumeration District Number 1, Page 1, Lines 1-2

The Fife Registers of Voters contain lists of individuals who were eligible to vote during the time the register is in force usually for a year. David Ballingall was first listed in the year of 1832 which records him as being a tenant farmer at Feddinch and registered to vote on Monday, 24 September of that same year.²⁵

REGISTER of VOTERS for the COUNTY of FIFE, in terms					of the Act of Parliament 2d and 3d WILLIAM IV. cap. 65—1832.			
No.	Date of Registering	Name.	Calling.	Proprietor or Tenant.	Description of Property, Land, House, Fen-duty, &c.	Name of Place, Village, Farm, &c.	County.	10.
				<i>Burnt</i>				
308	2 October 1832	Young John	Distiller (Orange)	Proprietor & occupant of one third	Island Contained Lands of Dollers & Colmanwell Park part of the Lands of Orange with the Distillery & the Buildings & Lands of Duncarn	Dollers Colmanwell Park and Duncarn	Fife	2 1/2
309		Young Robert	Distiller (Orange)	Proprietor & occupant of one third	Lands of Dollers & Colmanwell Park part of the Lands of Orange with the Distillery and the Buildings & Lands of Duncarn	Dollers Colmanwell Park and Duncarn	Fife	2 1/2
310		Young William	Distiller (Orange)	Proprietor & occupant of one third	Lands of Dollers & Colmanwell Park part of the Lands of Orange with the Distillery & the Buildings & Lands of Duncarn	Dollers Colmanwell Park and Duncarn	Fife	2 1/2
				<i>Cans</i>				
311	21 September 1832	Adamson Thomas	Miner	Occupant	Stone Garden & Glebe	Canisron	Fife	1 1/2
312	27 September 1832	Bogach John	Farmer	Tenant	Farm and Lands	Blackwells	Fife	1 1/2
313	24 September 1832	Ballingall David	Farmer	Tenant	Farm and Lands	Feddinch	Fife	1 1/2
314								

Fig.14. Fife Voters List for 1832 listing David Ballingall (Line 313)

He is again listed as registered to vote in the year of 1846 and is the tenant and occupant of Higham.²⁶

DENBOG.
 Barclay, George, tenant, tenant lands, Johnston.—22d September 1832.
 Ballingall, David, farmer, tenant and occupant farm and lands, Higholm.—1846.

Fig.15. Fife Voters List for 1846 listing David Ballingall

Ballingall is also listed in the 1852 Directory to Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats as residing at Higham.²⁷

²⁵ Fife, Scotland, Voters Lists', 1832-1894. Ancestry.com. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010

²⁶ Fife, Scotland, Voters Lists', 1832-1894. Ancestry.com. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010

²⁷ Directory to Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats. Edinburgh: Sutherland and Knox, 1852, p. 89

PART I.]		H E R—H I L		89
<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Post-Town.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>Occupant, &c.</i>	
Hermind	West Calder	Mid-Lothian	George F. Maitland	
Hermanston	Haddington	Haddington	Thomas Mausfield	
Hermiston	Hermiston	Mid-Lothian	Robert Oliver	
Hermiston	Maybole	Ayr	Alexander Kirkland	
Hermiston	Lilliesleaf	Roxburgh	Andrew Redford	
Hermiston Mains	Hermiston	Mid-Lothian	A. Stinnes	
Hermitage	Selkirk	Selkirk	George Roberts	
Hermitage	New Castleton	Roxburgh	Robert Elliot	
Hermitage, East	Edinburgh	Edinburgh	Mrs Millar	
Hermitage House	Edinburgh	Mid-Lothian	Thomas Hutchison	
Hermitage Park	Edinburgh	Mid-Lothian	C. Wood	
Hermitage, Upper	Edinburgh	Edinburgh	John Millar	
Herport	Carbost	Inverness	Norman M'Caskill	
Hotland Cottage	Dalton	Dumfries	Rev. Dr Buchanan	
Hevera	Lerwick	Zetland	Village	
Higham	Newburgh	Fife	David Ballingall	

Fig.16. 1852 Directory to Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats listing David Ballingall

Dunbog Farm, Dunbog Parish

In the year of 1858 David Ballingall received tenancy of Dunbog farm from the Marquess of Zetland. The farm comprised of 1,200 acres and would be the primary residence of his son, John.



Fig.17. Dunbog House, Dunbog Parish, Fife, Photograph Courtesy of Mrs. Frances Black

Abdie Curling Club

David Ballingall was the first known member of the family to become a member of one of Fife's oldest curling clubs, Abdie. According to the records of the Abdie Curling Club, Ballingall became an Occasional Member as early as 1845.²⁸

59

Committee, or Council of Management.

Taylor Cathcart	George Buist
Thomas Anderson	George Dun

Honorary Members.

Henry Buist	Rev. A. Cairns	James Ritchie
D.M. MakgillCrichton	Capt. Lyon	Alex. Meldrum
Dr Guthrie	David Martin	Dr Burton

Ordinary Members.

1.—Regular.

John Pitcairn	Andrew Brown	Rev. J. Duncan
Alexander Russell	A. W. Buist	Rev. J. Murray
George Buist	Hope Pitcairn	J. M. Sharp
George Dun	P. H. Paterson	William Guild
D. H. Lyell	James Thomson	John Adamson
Thomas Anderson	Henry Buist, jr.	Joseph Lyell
George Moodie	David Keay	Rev. J. Gilchrist
J. O. Dagleish	John Pitcairn, jr.	Robert Pitcairn

2.—Occasional.

Robert Walker	Rev. Dr Anderson	David Ballingall
James Walker	James Nicol	Robert Russell
David Pitcairn	James Tod	Oliver Russell
Alex. Simpson	Taylor Cathcart	Patrick M'Isaac
David Landale	James Wilson	David Anderson
James Buist	Francis Howden	— Raitt
George Russell	James Todd	George Thomson
F. L. Wedderburn	James Landale	Robert Russell, jr.
A. O. Dagleish	William Dingwall	William Guild
R. G. Wilson	Charles Hill	Robert Guthrie
John Lyell	James Maitland	George Ballingall
David Gillespie	John Lyell	

3.—AIRTH AND BRUCE CASTLE CLUB.

As at 1st November 1845.

County of Stirling—Post Town, Falkirk.

Instituted 12th Feb. 1841.—Admitted into the R. C. C. Club, 26th July 1842.

Dowager Lady SHAW STEWART, Patroness.

PATRICK STEWART, M.P. and WILLIAM GRAHAM, Presidents.

J. M. STRACHAN, and ARCH. MALCOLM, Vice-Presidents.

JOHN OSBORNE, and Capt. HOUSTOUN STEWART, R.N. Representative Members.

JAMES RUSSELL, Treasurer.

ROBERT TOWERS, Secretary.

Committee, or Council of Management.

James Coubrough	David Turnbull	Wm. Carmichael
John Turnbull	Peter Boyd	

Fig.18. 1845 Annual of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club lists David Ballingall, Photograph Courtesy of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club

²⁸ 1845 Annual of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club for 1845. Edinburgh: W. Forrester, 1845, p. 59

Ballingall would continue as an Occasional Member until the year of 1855 when he was no longer listed in the Annuals of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

The Will of David Ballingall

On Thursday, 31 August 1854 David Ballingall made out his Last Will and Testament.²⁹ Since David already helped his eldest son, George with securing Aytoun in Dunbog Parish he focused on his youngest son, John, by giving him the tenancy of Higham including all his furniture and effects there.³⁰ He also granted the new lease of the farm of Rameldry to John as well.³¹ Ballingall also appointed his cousins James Buist of Kirktonbarns and George Ballingall of Cookston as his executors.³²

The Death of David Ballingall

Ballingall was suffering for many years with intestinal abdominal disease.³³ He died on Monday, 8 August 1859 at the age of 83 at Higham.³⁴

Ballingall	1859	11. 8. 3	George Ballingall	Intestinal	Burying	David Ballingall	1859
David	August	8 th	Farm	abdominal	Ground of	David	Shugart
(Higham)	8 th Aul		(deceased)	disease - a length	Restlo		Capit B
				of time as certifi-	as certified by		Dunlop
				ed by W. Spence	Robert David		St. Paul Church
				Mr. W. Seton	Custodian		Higham Parish
				who em'd deceased			Registrar
				Aug. 7 th 1859			

"St. Paul Church Registrar"

Fig.19. Death Record of David Ballingall, 8 August 1859

According to the *Fife Herald Newspaper* "at Higham, on the 8th Inst., David Ballingall, Esq., in his 84th [sic] year."³⁵ He was buried in the Ballingall family plot in the Kettle Parish Churchyard in Kingskettle and his gravestone reads: "David Ballingall, Tenant of Rameldry died at Higham, Parish of Dunbog on the 8th Day of August 1859 age 83."

²⁹ Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)
³⁰ Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)
³¹ Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)
³² Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)
³³ Death Record of David Ballingall, 8 August 1859, Dunbog Parish Records, Statutory Deaths 423/00 0003
³⁴ Death Record of David Ballingall, 8 August 1859, Dunbog Parish Records, Statutory Deaths 423/00 0003
³⁵ *Fife Herald Newspaper*, 11 August 1859, p. 2



Fig.20. Grave of David Ballingall, Kettle Parish Churchyard, Kingskettle, Fife, Scotland, Photograph Courtesy of Michael T. Tracy © 2010 Michael T. Tracy

On Tuesday, 13 December 1859 an inventory was conducted on the estate of David Ballingall. The inventory showed that the total amount of the estate in Scotland was valued at 10,204.19.2 pounds.³⁶

³⁶ Last Will and Testament of David Ballingall, 31 August 1854, Cupar Sheriff Court (SC20/50/30)

David Ballingall was born into one of Fife's ancient agricultural families. His father, George, was a tenant farmer of Rameldry, Kettle Parish for 58 years and his grandfather, Thomas, was a tenant farmer of Kettle Parish for decades. David grew up on Rameldry and there he learned about agriculture. He would eventually assume the familial tenancy of Rameldry after the death of his older brother in 1827. Little Feddinch in Cameron Parish would be Ballingall's first tenancy and there he would farm the lands, marry and raise a family of five children. He held two nineteen year leases of Little Feddinch. Apparently the lands were not large enough and he decided not to renew the lease for Little Feddinch.

Along with his younger son, John, he took over the tenancy of Higham in Dunbog Parish in 1844 on the Marquis of Zetland's estate. David resided at Higham for the rest of his life and would continue farming there well into his 80s. In 1858 he likewise took over the tenancy of the neighboring farm of Dunbog. In sport, he was a keen curler and a member of the Abdie Curling Club since 1845. David Ballingall is warmly commemorated here in grateful esteem and recognition by his fifth great grand-nephew, Michael T. Tracy. This work is dedicated to the Memory of David Ballingall.

Memoratus in aeternum (Forever Remembered)

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