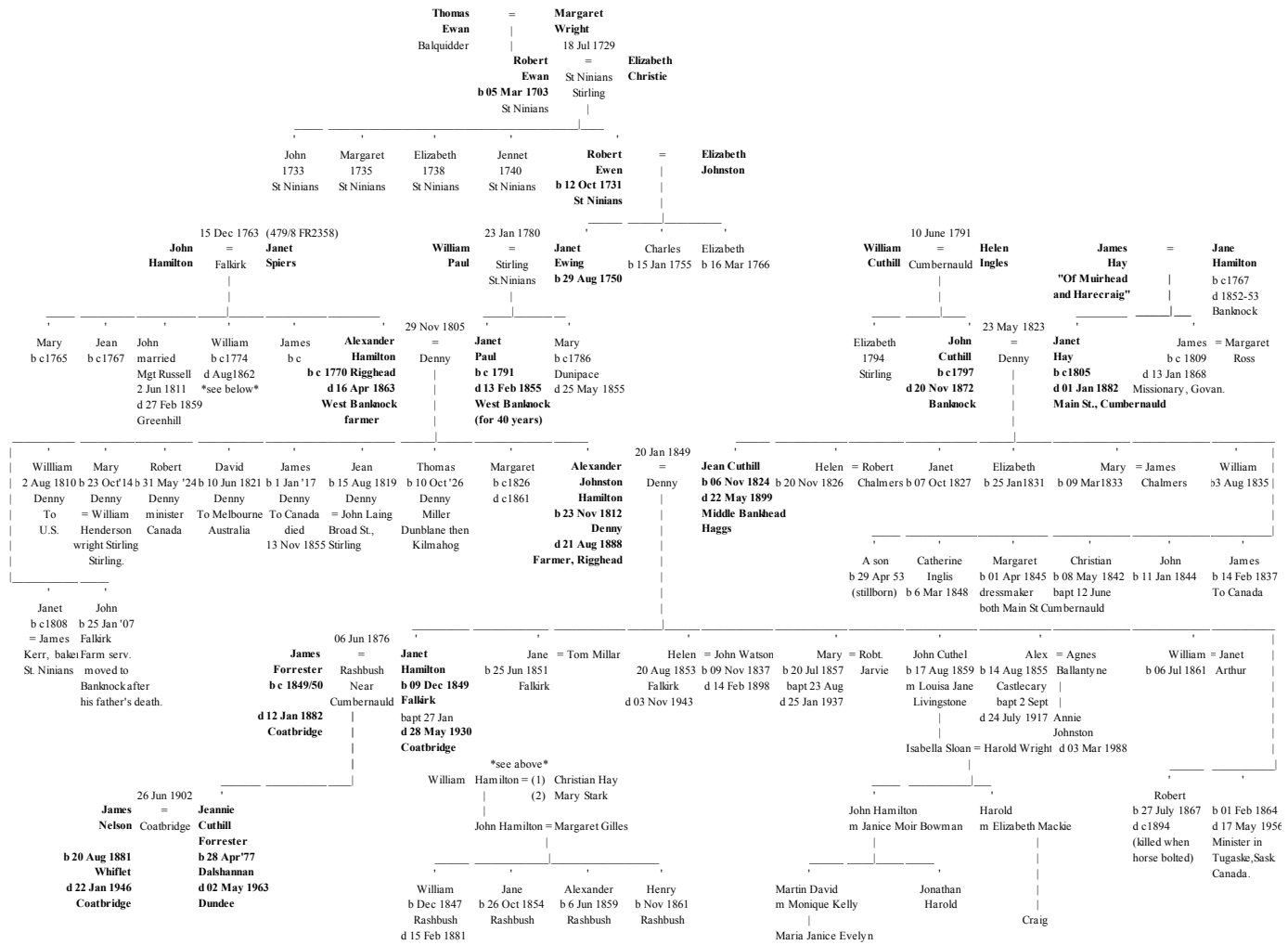


Alexander Hamilton and Janet Paul



Alexander Hamilton and Janet Paul

Alex. and Jean were married on Friday 29th November 1805:

O.P.R. Denny Parish 476/1 1805

Nov 1st. AH, servent Bankhead & JP, lawful daughter of William Paul residenter, Bellsbuts gave in their names in order to marriage and were proclaimed on the three following Sabbaths & married on 29th current.

The next information we have about this couple is the births of their children in the same parish. The earliest found in O.P.R.'s is that of William:

FR320 30th December 1810

William Hamilton lawful son to Alexander Hamilton and Janet Paul, Banknock was born on August 2nd last.

Prior to this, however, John had been born on 25 Jan 1807 (see Stirling, Falkirk FR CH2 v20) and Janet circa 1808. William's and Thomas's births are also recorded at Denny:

1824
June 27th

Robert Hamilton, lawfull son to Alex Hamilton and Janet Paul Banknock; who was born on the thirty first of May last.

12 Nov 1826

Thomas Hamilton, lawful son of Alexander Hamilton and Janet Paul, Banknock; born on the tenth of October last.

A complete list of their family is given on Janet's 1855 death certificate

Most of the children were away from home by the time of the 1841 census. John was a farm servant at Castlecary, Janet married James Kerr, a baker in St Ninians parish, William emigrated to United States, Mary married William Henderson, a wright in Stirling. Robert became a minister and went to Canada, David emigrated to Australia, James emigrated to Canada, Jean married John Laing of Stirling and Thomas became a miller in Dunblane and subsequently in Kilmahog near Callendar.

Although the family lived at West Banknock from at least 1810, the first usable census (1841) finds them at Righead, the farm on which Alex. himself had been born and which his son, Alex. later occupied for many years. (Notice that in this instance, all the males are listed first followed by the females then the female servant).

1841 495 book 18 page 3

| Righead | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----|--------|--|---|
| Hamilton | Alexander | 60 | farmer | | y |
| Hamilton | Alexander | 25 | | | y |
| Hamilton | Thomas | 12 | | | y |
| Hamilton | Jane | 40 | | | y |
| Hamilton | Margaret | 8 | | | y |
| McClay Janet | | 12 | FS | | y |

The Statistical Account of 1841 describes the parish of Denny as having a post office with an annual revenue of about £300, ten miles of turnpike road with, in winter, 22

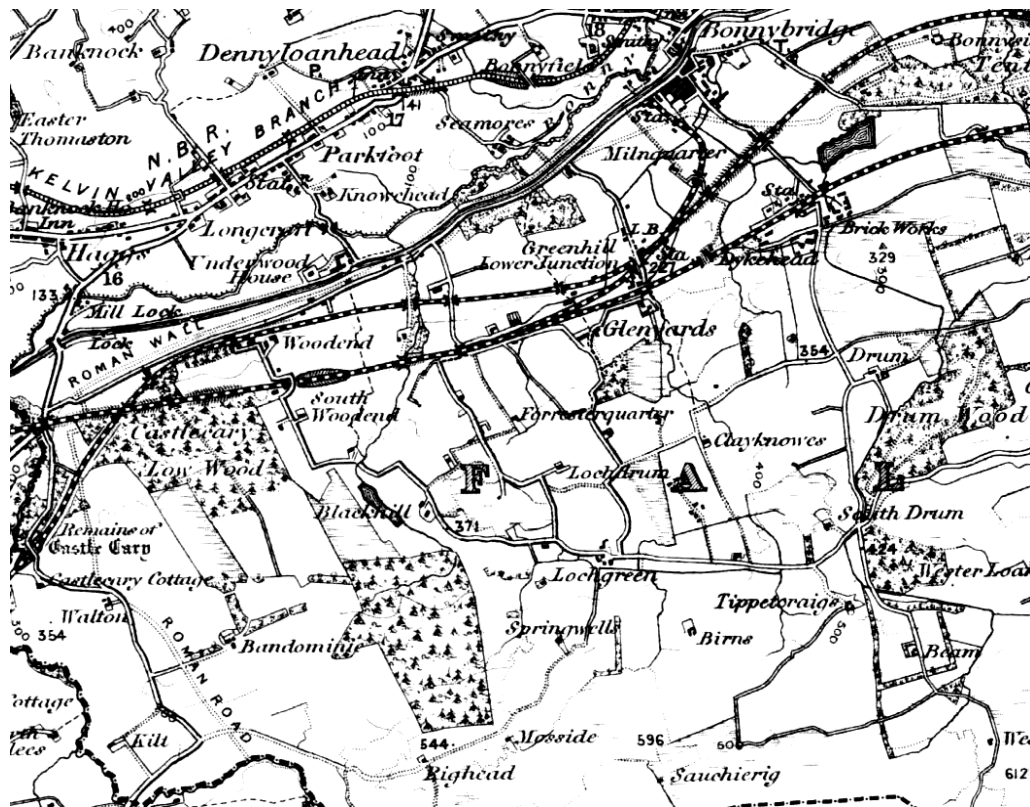
public carriages passing and re-passing each day. It also had a parish school where the teacher was paid £34: 4s: 4¹/₂d annually and nine other schools. There was a library and about fourteen Societies, including The Banknock Friendly Society. Apart from the Established Parish Church there were two Dissenting chapels, one being at Denny Loanhead, the church to which the Hamilton's belonged. It is described as "among the oldest and strongest in point of wealth, in the Secession Church". From 1831 Denny Loanhead Church had a Congregational Library with 500 volumes and dues of 1s. 6d. per quarter.

By 1851 the family are in their accustomed place at Banknock with only Margaret, the youngest still at home.

1851 census Denny, Hags 476 book 7 page3

Banknock

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|----|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Hamilton Alex | h m | 78 | Farmer of 15 acres land | Stirling, Denny |
| Hamilton Janet | w m | 61 | | Stirling, St. Ninians |
| Hamilton Margaret | d u | 19 | | Stirling, Denny |



Nearly four years later, Janet died of ascites (also known as Dropsy or Hydropsy which was fluid retention, probably caused by kidney failure or heart disease). She had suffered from this for twelve months.

Alexander erected a stone, inscribed as follows, in Dennyloanhead Churchyard:

MDCCCLVI
 Erected by
 Alexander Hamilton Banknock
 In memory of
 Janet Paul his spouse
 who died 13th February 1855
 aged 64 years
 also of
 James Hamilton their son
 who died 13 November 1855
 Aged years.

The stone was badly eroded particularly at the last line where the number was probably 37. By 2002, the graveyard had been converted into a car park and the stone had disappeared.

In view of the ages given in the 1851 census, Alex's death certificate and in his obituary, the age given in the 1861 census below is probably wrong.

1861 Census Denny, Hags 476 book 7 page 1

Banknock

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|----|--------------|-------------------|
| Hamilton Alexander | h m | 80 | retd. farmer | Stirling, Falkirk |
| Hamilton Margaret | d u | 24 | teacher | Stirling, Denny |

Following Margaret's death from gastric fever on 12th September 1861, Alex wrote a codicil to his will, recalling a legacy of £100 made to her. Thereafter Alex remained at Banknock until his death in April 1863. A family tale says that Alex, when aged over ninety, had never seen Glasgow. To remedy this, he set out and walked the eighteen miles there. He looked at Glasgow and the dirty water of the Clyde and was not impressed so turned and walked back home!

It has been suggested that he may not have completed the whole walk at one time but had perhaps stayed with friends and relatives on the way. Whatever the truth, it is said that he died shortly after completing this feat.

The following obituary was published:

IN MEMORIAM

We have to record this week the death of Mr Alex. Hamilton, of Banknock in the parish of Denny, at the ripe old age of 92¹/₂ years. The deceased was born at Rigghead, in the parish of Falkirk and was the son of Mr John Hamilton. He was a remnant of a very few of the original anti-burgers belonging to the Dennyloanhead United Presbyterian Church. In 1810 he was ordained an elder in the Secession, and since then up to the date of his death, discharged the duties connected therewith with distinguished earnestness and discretion. He was, what every elder ought to be, a regular attender of all the meetings of the kirk session, and he devoted a great deal of time to visitation and administering comfort both to the sick and the dying. Although seldom an advocate for innovations on what were generally understood at that time to be the orthodox principles of public worship, he witnessed the introduction and subsequent establishment of simultaneous communion, paraphrase singing, and other religious rites. These he was wont to describe as "hameward made things".

During his long eldership of fifty-three years, he sat under the ministry of four different clergymen vis. The Rev. Mr Walker, Dr Stark, Dr Edmond (now of Islington, London), and the present incumbent, the Rev. Mr Stevenson, by all of whom he was justly esteemed. Three years ago his jubilee was in the

mance of Dennyloanhead. When the deceased gentleman was presented by the Moderator, in the name of the kirk session, with a Family Bible, Psalm Book and Church Bible. At one time the Hamiltons were very strong in the session at Dennyloanhead, as many as many as four of them being members at the same period. Mr Hamilton had three brothers and two sisters, and, as will be gathered from the following, which is a complete list of there names and ages at their death, longevity seemingly has run in the family: - Mary aged 84 years: Jean aged 85 years: John aged 88¹/₂ years; William, aged 87¹/₂ years; James aged 72 years; and Alexander, she subject of our notice, 92¹/₂ years—united ages 507¹/₂ years. Last Sabbath Mr Stevenson, feelingly alluded to the death of Mr Hamilton and paid a tribute of respect to his memory.

It is interesting to note that Mr Ernest W Sutherland, F.C.T.L., M.R.S.T. organist and choirmaster of Erskine Church, Falkirk is a great-grandson of Mr Alex Hamilton.

Alex's sons, John, Alex, Robert and Thomas were appointed executors in Alex's will:

Sc 67/36/46 p550

Alexander Hamilton residing at Banknock in the parish of Denny, County of Stirling.

Died at Banknock 16 April 1863.

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| 1. Household furniture, bed and table linen napery & other effects belonging to the deceased conform to the Inventory & Valuations thereof by David Black licensed valuator, Falkirk dated 20 th May 1863. | | £17-12s-6d |
| 2. Rents due to the deceased current at the date of death as under. | | |
| John Dunshire | £ 4-0-0 | |
| Ro. Jarvie | £ 9-15-0 | |
| James Shaws | £ 12-0-0 | |
| | | £25-15-0 |
| 3. Interest on said rents from 15 th May 1863 to date of death hereto. | | <u>£ 0-8-2</u> |
| Total estate situated in Scotland | | <u>£43 15-8</u> |

Affidavit.....John Hamilton sometime farm servant at Seabegs now at Banknock eldest son of the deceased, Executor nominated along with Alexander Hamilton, farmer Righead, Castlecary, Robert Hamilton, minister in Canada West, Thomas Hamilton, miller, Dunblane.

Give grant & dispone to and in favour of John Hamilton farm servant at Seabegs and Alex Hamilton farmer Righead Castlecary both my sons equally between them share and share alike and to the heirs of their separate bodies upon failing to survive John Hamilton and Alexander Hamilton to their separate heirs and assignees of John Hamilton and Alexander Hamilton 2s 3d land of old extent in Banknock with houses, yards, tofts, crofts, outsets, pasturages. Infields, outfieldes, mosses, muirs, longerines privileges, parts and pendicles together with the liberty and priveliges of the common muirs lying adjacent to the said lands according to old extent of the said lands pro rata all lying within the Barony of Herbert As also all and whole the 3s 10d land of old extent of Banknock as a part of the 5s land of old extent anciently belonging to Robert Stark with houses, buildings, yards, mosses, muirs, meadows, pasturages grass, pendicles and whole pertinents there of being part of the £2 land of Banknock lying within the Barony and lordship of Cumbernauld Parish of Denny and Sherifdom of Stirling reserving to the superior of the hail foresaid lands the coal within the ground thereof with all liberties and privileges for working, winning and transporting the same as mentioned in the original rights and Infefments of the said lands which lands above disponed were purchased by the late John Hamilton my father from the trustees of the creditors of Alexander Bryson of Banknock and in the manner of the said Alexander Hamilton do hereby with and under the same burdens and others after written Give Grant and Assign and Dispone to and in favour of Robert Hamilton

minister Canada West and Thomas Hamilton Miller Dunblane both my sons equally between them share and share alike and to the heirs whom failing to survive the above heritably and irredeemably all and whole First all and hail that part of the lands of Wester Banknock being a thirty penny mail of land of old extent with the land thereof and houses biggins yards grass and whole pertinents and privileges of the same bounded in the north by lands which belonged to the deceased John Boyd on the east by the lands which belonged to the now deceased Alexander Adam on the south by the lands belonging to James Paterson and the deceased Thomas Russell's heirs on the west by the lands which belonged to the deceased John Martin together also with the seats in Denny Church and lairs in Denny Church Yard belonging to the said lands lying there the said subjects in the Barony of South Herbertshire parish of Denny and (second) all and whole of that part of the lands of Banknock called Calfward and Brae with the hail pertinents of the same lying in the Barony of South Herbertshire of Denny together with the whole parts pendicles privileges and pertinents belonging to the said lands But declaring always as it is hereby expressly provided and declared that the lands and others with the pertinents above specified are hereby disposed with and under the burden of the said John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Thomas Hamilton and their foresaids jointly and severally and the real burden on the lands and others before disposed of making payment equally among them share and share alike at the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas happening 6 months after my decease with interest thereon at the rate of 3% per annum till paid of the following sums of money viz. First to Janet Hamilton my daughter, wife of James Kirk Baker Saint Ninians of the sum of £50. Second to Mary Hamilton also my daughter wife of William Henderson Wright Stirling of the sum of £50 . Third to Jean Hamilton also my daughter wife of John Laing residing in Broad Street Stirling of the like sum of £50. Fourth to Margaret Hamilton, my youngest daughter residing with me at Wester Banknock of the sum of £100 and Fifth to David Hamilton my son presently in Australia of the sum of £150 But providing and declaring that this latter sum of £150 payable to the said David Hamilton shall not be payable to him if he does not make a claim within two years from the date of my decease. Declaring that in the event of any of my daughters and son David dying and leaving lawful issue such issue shall be entitled equally among them to the legacy bequeathed to their pre-deceasing parent the children of David Hamilton claiming within the period foresaid and further the said Alexander Hamilton do clearly give grant assign and dispose to and in favour of the said John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Thomas Hamilton equally between them share and share alike and to their respective heirs and assignees whosoever Heritably and irredeemably by all and sundry after lands and heritages goods and gear debts and source of money and in general the whole Estate and Effects heritable and moveable real and personal of whatever kind or denomination or wheresoever situated presently belonging or which shall pertain and belong to me at the time of my death with the whole vouchers and instructions thereof and writs and evidents of and concerning my said Estate and Effects heritable and moveable generally and particularly above conveyed with all that has followed or may be competent to follow thereon But declaring that these presents are granted in favour of my said Disposees under burden always of paying and the said John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton and Thomas Hamilton and their foresaids shall be bound as by acceptation thereof of the Bind and oblige themselves out of the said estate and effects generally above conveyed and in the event of the same being inadequate out of the heritable properties hereby specially disposed to pay equally between them and jointly and severally all

my just and lawful debts, deathbed and funeral expenses including such of the legacies as are due by me under my brother John Hamilton's settlement which have not been already paid and discharged or consigned and also including the sum of £200 in a bond and disposition in security granted by me in favour of Miss Ann Bow residing in Denny over the subjects first above disposed to the said Robert Hamilton and Thomas Hamilton with the whole interest due thereon or such parts of said sums as may be due at the date of my death. Declaring that although paid legacies and Bond may be preferable burdens over any of the subjects above especially disposed yet it is my wish and the said John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton and Thomas Hamilton shall be bound as by acceptation – they bind and oblige themselves to pay said sums equally as above It being hereby declared that as I have already given advanced or paid on account of William Hamilton, my son presently in Australia more than I would otherwise have given him under this settlement I do hereby exclude him from participating in any part of my Estate heritable or moveable and which provisos before conceived in favour of my said sons and daughters and the sums which have already been paid to or on behalf of the said William Hamilton my son by me.

Codicil 1 made 10 Oct 1861:

Legacies in favour of daughters Janet, Mary, Jean: sufficient to be signed by themselves excluding husbands present and future.

Codicil 2 made 30 Aug 1862:

Daughter Margaret is deceased and legacy of £100 to her recalled.

The sum of £10 each to Janet Hamilton or Kirk, Mary Hamilton or Henderson, Jean Hamilton or Laing on top of the £50 legacy to each at the same term and in the same way as the original legacies were payable and said additional legacies shall form a burden on John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton and Thomas Hamilton and a real burden on the lands and others therein. Also bequeathed to son William the sum of £20 payable by John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Thomas Hamilton at the first term of Whitsun or Martinmas 6 months after the decease of Alexander Hamilton with interest thereon at the rate of 3% p.a. sons to guarantee payment. Revokes the legacy of £150 to David Hamilton – declared null & void. And in lieu leave & bequest to David Hamilton the sum of £100 guaranteed by sons John Hamilton, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Thomas Hamilton. Further declaring that the *jus mariti* and right of administration of the husbands of said daughters Janet, Mary, and Jean shall be excluded from the management of the additional legacies of £10....

O.P.R. Denny Parish 476/1 1805
 Nov 1st Alexander Hamilton servant Bankhead and Janet Paul lawful daughter of
 William Paul.

1855 Denny (476) no. 17

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----|--|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Hamilton Janet | F | 65 | 1855 13 th February West Banknock | ascites 12 months | William Paul farmer (deceased) Janet Paul M.S. Ewing (deceased) | Alex Hamilton husband |
|-------------------|---|----|--|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|

Born Dunipace, 40 years in West Banknock, married to Alex Hamilton, farmer. Issue and age:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. John 49 | 7. David 37 |
| 2. Janet 47 | 8. James 35 |
| 3. William 45 | 9. Jean 33 |
| 4. Mary 43 | 10. Thomas 31 |
| 5. Alex 41 | 11. Margaret 29. |
| 6. Robert 39 | |

1863 Denny (476) no. 39

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| Alexander Hamilton Farmer Widower of Janet Paul | M | 90 | 1863 April 16 th Banknock | bronchitis 2 months as cert by James Cuthill M.D. | John Hamilton farmer (deceased) Janet Hamilton M.S. Spiers (deceased) | John Hamilton son |
|---|---|----|--|---|--|-------------------------|