

MORAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES (Archives, Museums & Art Galleries)

(All communications to be addressed to the Director)

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Director of Libraries

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27th June 1986

21 TYOCK
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Rev. A.J. Farquhar,
687 Roslyn Avenue,
MONTREAL,
Quebec H3Y 2V1,
Canada.

Dear Mr. Farquhar,

Thank you for your letter of 17th June. The enclosed obituary of Alexander Farquhar taken from the Elgin Courant of 3rd June 1904 gives a reasonable amount of information on the Farquhar Brothers' business. The business seems to have come to an end after Alexander's death. The shop, at 23/25 Commerce Street, was carried on as a clothiers by one Thomas Smith and then by a John G. Rose under whose name it still operates.

The undernoted inscription from the churchyard at Birnie includes Alexander and Sophia Jane but not William. There are no obituaries of Sophia in the local newspaper, nor, I am sorry to say, have we been able to trace anything about William.

Still, I hope that you find this useful.

Yours sincerely,

Director of Libraries.

Encls.

ALEXANDER FARQUHAR, many years merchant at Kensington, London, and also in Elgin, died at Thomshill, Birnie, 31.5.1904, age 57. Also his sisters SOPHIA JANE FARQUHAR, died Elgin, 28.1.1940, age 82. MARY FARQUHAR, died Elgin, 3.2.1943, age 89.

generally with a feeling of relief. It had to be recognised that there was the disease being communicated to beings by the milk of tuberculous and consequently the necessity of the inspection of animals, byres, etc., was admitted. Dr Koch's declaration, however, and a tendency to shake belief in the accepted theory, and the Governments of various countries undertook an investigation into the whole subject of tuberculosis. The British Commissioners agreed to attack the problem, not by taking evidence, but by conducting experimental investigations of their own. Calves, heifers, and cows were inoculated with material containing living tubercle bacilli obtained from various cases of tuberculous disease in human beings. Of twenty different "strains" of tuberculous material of human origin, seven when introduced into cattle gave rise immediately to acute tuberculosis, while in the case of the remaining "strains" the cattle were affected to a less extent. Tuberculous material taken from cattle was affected and introduced successively to other bovine animals or into guinea-pigs, from which bovine animals were subsequently inoculated, in the case of five of the "strains" general tuberculosis of an intense character was set up. The Commissioners state—"We have very carefully compared the disease thus set up in the bovine animal by material of human origin with that set up in the bovine animal by material of bovine origin, and so far we have found the one, both in its broad general features and in its finer histological details, to be identical with the other. We have so far failed to discover any character which we could distinguish the one from the other, and our records contain accounts of the post-mortem examinations of bovine animals infected with tuberculous material of human origin which might be used as typical descriptions of ordinary bovine tuberculosis." In view of this result the Commissioners deemed it necessary to issue an interim report, believing that it would be most unwise to frame or modify legislative measures in accordance with the view that human and bovine tubercle bacilli are specifically different from each other, and that the disease caused by the one is a wholly different thing from the one caused by the other. Of course it is not to be supposed that the investigation of the matter has not been complete, inasmuch as they have not tried the experiment of inoculating human beings with bovine tuberculosis. Obviously experiments of this nature are impossible, but the investigations point to one conclusion, namely, that which the Commissioners have published.

THE LATE MR ALEX. FARQUHAR.—The death took place at Thomhill, Birnie, on Tuesday evening last, of Mr Alex. Farquhar, clothier, Elgin, and late of London, after a lingering illness. A son of the late Mr Alex. Farquhar of Trochail, Birnie, he, after leaving school, served an apprenticeship with his uncle, Mr Younie, merchant, Rothes. He then proceeded to the south of Scotland, where he remained for a short time, and soon found his way to London. Here he ultimately opened a drapery establishment in Kensington in partnership with a brother, where an extensive business was carried on under the firm name of Messrs Farquhar Bros. During this time the brothers began the present clothery business at the corner shop of the Post-Office Buildings in Commerce Street, Elgin. On the death of his brother, deceased became sole partner of both businesses. Some time ago a syndicate made Mr Farquhar a tempting offer for his London establishment, which he accepted, and since then, although taking his usual interest in his Elgin business, he had been practically devoting his time to pleasure-travelling in this and other countries. He returned to Birnie last year, where he has remained ever since, with the exception of a short interval in Aberdeen, where he underwent an operation. Gifted with an abundance of droll humour, Mr Farquhar was very entertaining and amusing with those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. His interest in Birnie was intense, and the same may be said of him as to Elgin. Deceased was unmarried. His remains are to be interred in Birnie Churchyard to-morrow (Saturday).

THE LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER.—On Wednesday evening, the Earl of Leven and Melville entertained the members of the Synods of Galloway, Perth and Stirling, and Moray to dinner at Holyrood Palace. Those present from the Synod of Moray were—The Revs. J. B. Cumming, Mortlach; James C. McHardy, Rhynie; Wm. Grant, Drumblade; Messrs John McPherson, Dufftown; and George Cowie, Grange, by Keith. Presbytery of Aberlour—The Revs. Charles Bruce, Glenrinnes, and Patrick Riddell, Knockando; Messrs Wm. M. McLauchlan, W.S., and James Macdonald, F.R.S.E., Edinburgh. Presbytery of Abernethy—The Rev. D. S. McLennan, Laggan; Mr John Mathison, S.S.C., Edinburgh. Presbytery of Elgin—The Revs. John Wellwood, Drainie; and John Kennedy, Birnie; the Rev. Professor Nicol, Aberdeen. Presbytery of Forres—The Rev. J. L. Brown, Dallas; Mr Alexander Macduff of Bonhard, Perth. Presbytery of Nairn—Mr James Clark. Presbytery of Inverness—The Rev. James Fraser, Erchless. Burgh of Inverness—Baillie John Sinclair.

ELGIN AND DUFFTOWN MOTOR CAR SERVICE.—In an Aberdeen contemporary yesterday it was stated that there is talk of a motor service between Elgin and Dufftown, carrying passengers to Craigellachie for Speyside and vice-versa. The paragraph says that the proposal at first is for one service each way daily, to start from

GLASGOW U.—Dr William list of candid Chair of Geol There are in position.

FISHCURERS BAY.—The reg salesmen's So ably received bay, and as th the regulation June, they ha dissatisfaction. met, and unan a bid at the au at nine o'clock to the resoluti The auction n appearance at the begin. Sample in by the fish nor salesmen w an hour's deli way, and agre Sales then pro objections of t loss of discount by two o'clock the payment b fishcurers.

THE WEATHE—The Elgin C season been weather for the day night was After a long sp began to pour was timed t throughout the ever, had the music of the s joying a run brilliantly illu

ANGLING ON is being got o river Spey. O day, Sheriff G salmon of 6 lbs J. Skinner, Drui ing 7½ and 18 l nesday, Colone of 11 lbs., and H. Grant of W lbs., while Mr also one of 12 l had again two spectively.

CONGRATU MR GI

ON Wednesday son of ex-Provos to begin busine solicitor in his m supper by a nun Edinburgh, wher number of years buigh some six played in the offic Gaisson. W.S., Ronald & Pich