

THE SCOTTISH BACKGROUND

In tracing the Oastler Family in Scotland a lot of time and money has been spent. This point will be explained later. But first look at the City of Dundee around which the Oastlers were cradled. Like most ports Dundee was an innovative city. During the days of sailing ships a lot of rope was used in the riggins. These ropes were made of hemp. Around 1800 a whale was rendered for oil in Dundee harbor, and some of the resulting bil was rubbed on hemp rope. This started the manufacture of jute rope which also branched into jute mats, cloth and bags. Dundee became the jute centre of the world and, as such, it increased in size.

The Scots have always been active in banking and it was a Scot, William Paterson, along with the then British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Charles Montagu, who started the "Bank of England". In Dundee though, the first Trust and Loan Company was started which was a help in foreign long term loans and the handling of rents and estates.

Dundee is in Scotland's richest agricultural area. As such it became famous for the processing of jams and jellies which it still exports widely.

At first sails or oars (or both) propelled ships. This was followed by steam engines and finally oil was used to fuel motorized boats. The first motorized boats of size were built in Dundee.

In some of the many activities mentioned the Oastlers, and those they intermarried with, took an active part. One might think that Dundee was not a cultural centre and around 1900 it had earned the reputation of being the drunkenest city in Scotland. However, for years it struggled

to possess a university, although this was denied. But the city has become the centre of the Scottish rural press.

In 1908, Miss Clementine Hozier married Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill. The Bride's mother was Lady Blanche Ogilvy, daughter of the Countess of Airlie, of the principal family in Dundee. The Spencer part in Churchill's full name traces him back to the Spencer Churchills of Blenheim Palace. It was this Spencer line that produced Lady Diana Spencer who married Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales (1981). The Prince's grandmother, Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, was Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the Scottish Earl of Strathmore, when she married the future George VI in 1923. As a girl she was raised in Glamis Castle which is in Angus County approximately twelve miles northwest of Dundee.

James Graham, fifth Earl and first Marquis of Montrose had his lands in old Montrose in Angus. His near neighbour James Ogilvy, first Earl of Airlie, was an associate of the Montrose family during the strife in Scotland which ended when Charles I was beheaded. A short time later John Graham of Claverhouse (Viscount Dundee) started action against the Covenanters. These became known as the "killing days" and Claverhouse became known as "Bluidy Clavers". Near Dundee, in the glen of Ogilvy, there is a slight mound which is all that remains of Claverhouse's castle in the glen. The city of Dundee and its surroundings have known some rough times.

The first record of the Osler family in lineal descent is around 1690 when James Osler was born. He later rented the Castleton farm in the church parish of Eassie, which is close to Glamis Castle. The reason the Oslers cannot be traced in a direct line further back than 1690 is because the Eassie parish records do not go past 1728. However, those