

This talk was given at the AGM on 29 May 2010; the subject was suggested by Peter Drummond-Murray of Mastrick and very material assistance was given by Lyon Clerk and Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, heir general of the General, who provided the image of Cameron of Erracht arms and helped at the meeting to explain the Erracht connection.

The earliest examples of Cameron arms are a seal from the 1296 Ragman Roll for 'Robert de Cambrun of the county of Fife', obviously named after his property,



Cameron, to the south of St Andrews in Fife, and a seal at Inveraray dated to 1678. Both of these show the well-known coat of three bars, but in the 1678 seal this coat is in the



third quarter of a West Highland quarterly shield. While there is indeed an identity of the arms of both the early Cambrun family and the Bishop of Glasgow 1426-47, John Cameron, with those used by the Highland clan, there is no genealogical evidence of a connection. It may be, as suggested by Sir Iain Moncrieffe, that the arms derive from the paly coat of the earls of Fife, *paly Or and Gules*, turned through 90°.

In 1792 Lt Gen Sir Alan Cameron of Erracht, KCB, the raiser of the Cameron Highlanders, matriculated arms with Lyon, receiving a coat of *Gules two bars Or*. As recounted in the biography of Sir Alan by Loraine Maclean of Dochgarroch,

Even their departure from Drumbreck's Hotel was not without incident, for, as they left, Mr Cummyng from the Lyon Office arrived with Alan's matriculation of arms. Alan, hurrying to get the London coach, took the grant and told Cummyng 'either to Call or send a Memorandum



of the Official Fees and Charges to the Office of my Agent, Mr William Macdonald of St Martins in Princes Street for payment.' But either Cummyng or Macdonald failed in this and the fees were not paid, 'and the Omission seems to have afforded a Sufficient Pretext' to Alan's opponents to obtain by 'other False representations a Revocation of the Grant' and the subsequent grant of arms to Lochiel. (p 96)

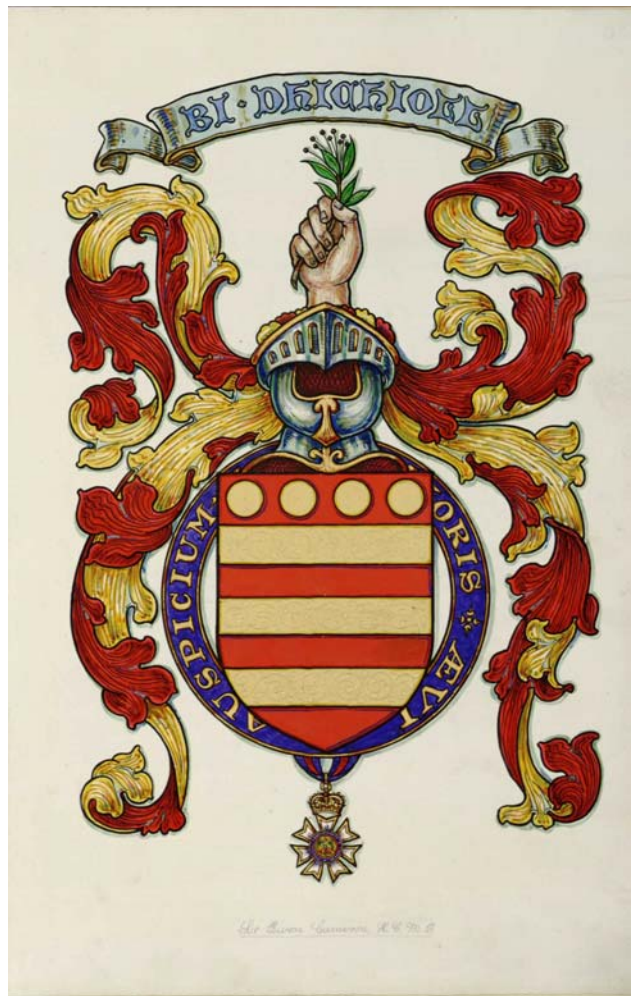
Interestingly the arms of Lochiel of 1795 are recorded in the Lyon Register as of only two bars, as was Sir Alan's. The Letters Patent of Sir Alan are preserved in the Regimental Museum of the Cameron Highlanders and the image is taken from that document. The Register has no record of this matriculation, doubtless as the fees were unpaid, and, as was normal at that period, there is no illustration of the Lochiel arms in the Register. It seems likely that the Lochiel arms were confirmed in 1795 in exactly the form granted to Sir Alan to ensure that he could not pretend to these arms, although he continued to use them to the end of his life. There was no reissue of the arms of Lochiel, but in 1934, when Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel was created a Knight of the Thistle, a doquet was added to the 1795 matriculation (visible at the bottom of the image) noting that the arms should have three bars, and the achievement of Lochiel illustrated here



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 24. *John Cameron* Esquire M.D. Fellow of the Royal Col-
 lege of Physicians in Edinburgh, late Inspector of the British
 Legation for the Kingdom of France, in which office he was examined
 in 1793, for the Honour of the East India Company
BEARS Argent a hand holding a sprig of wheat, above a shield
 quartered, **CREST** a hand holding a sprig of wheat, above the
 motto **VERITAS LIBERABIT VOS** supported by two lions.

24. *I would Cameron* of Lochiel, Esquire, son and heir of Sir
 John Cameron Esquire, who was knighted in an Act of Parliament
 passed in the 17th year of King James the Sixth, the said Sir John
 being then Chief of the said Family of Lochiel, and Chief of the Clan
 Cameron, **BEARS** Argent a hand holding a sprig of wheat, above a shield
 quartered, **CREST** a hand holding a sprig of wheat, above the
 motto **VERITAS LIBERABIT VOS** supported by two lions.

James Grant
 Esquire



dates from when his son Sir Donald matriculated after he was in 1773 created a KT.

More recently Sir Ewen Cameron KCMG, Managing Director of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, was granted arms in 1905, having been created KCMG in 1900. Although this family claim a descent from the Erracht branch, his arms are firmly in the Lochiel camp, with four bezants in chief to show his banking connection. Sir Ewen's grandson, Ewen Gordon Cameron, matriculated arms in 1976; later he became a professed Knight of the Order of Malta, but the illustration of his arms in the Register is without the cross of the order but with his crest. The pedigree of the family of Sir Ewen is shown below.

The pedigree only takes the family back as far as public records show. The family is reported as claiming a descent from Erracht and, as coming from Glenmoriston, this is quite conceivable, for there were marriages in the 18th century between the Grants of Glenmoriston and Camerons of both Lochiel and Erracht. Ewen Cameron, the father of Catherine (d 1885) was a tacksman in Glenmoriston and Grant of Glenmoriston acted in the proving of his will in 1842, suggesting a close connection.

Excerpt of Letters Patent from the Lord Lyon King of Arms in favour of Sir Ewen Cameron, dated the seventeenth day of May 1905

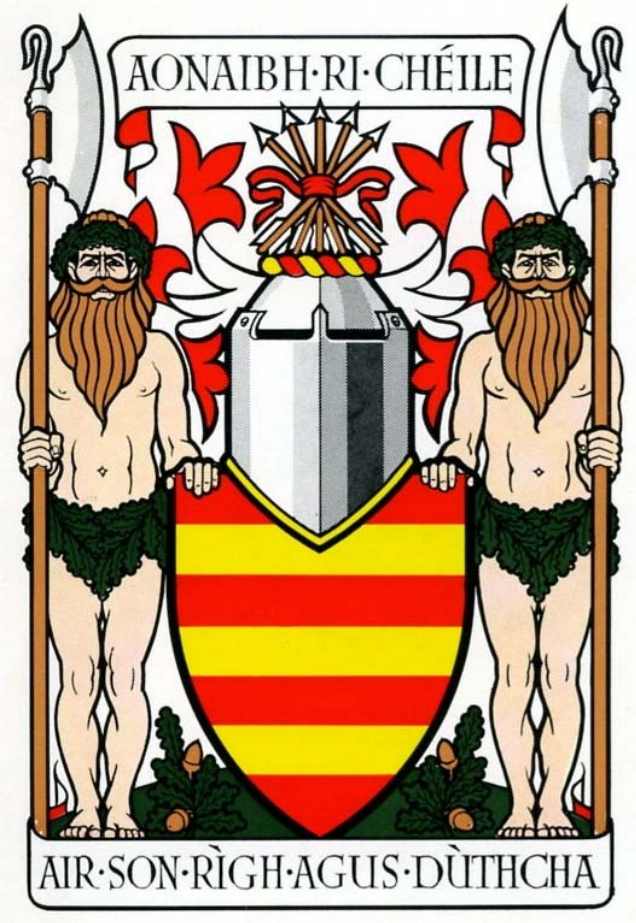
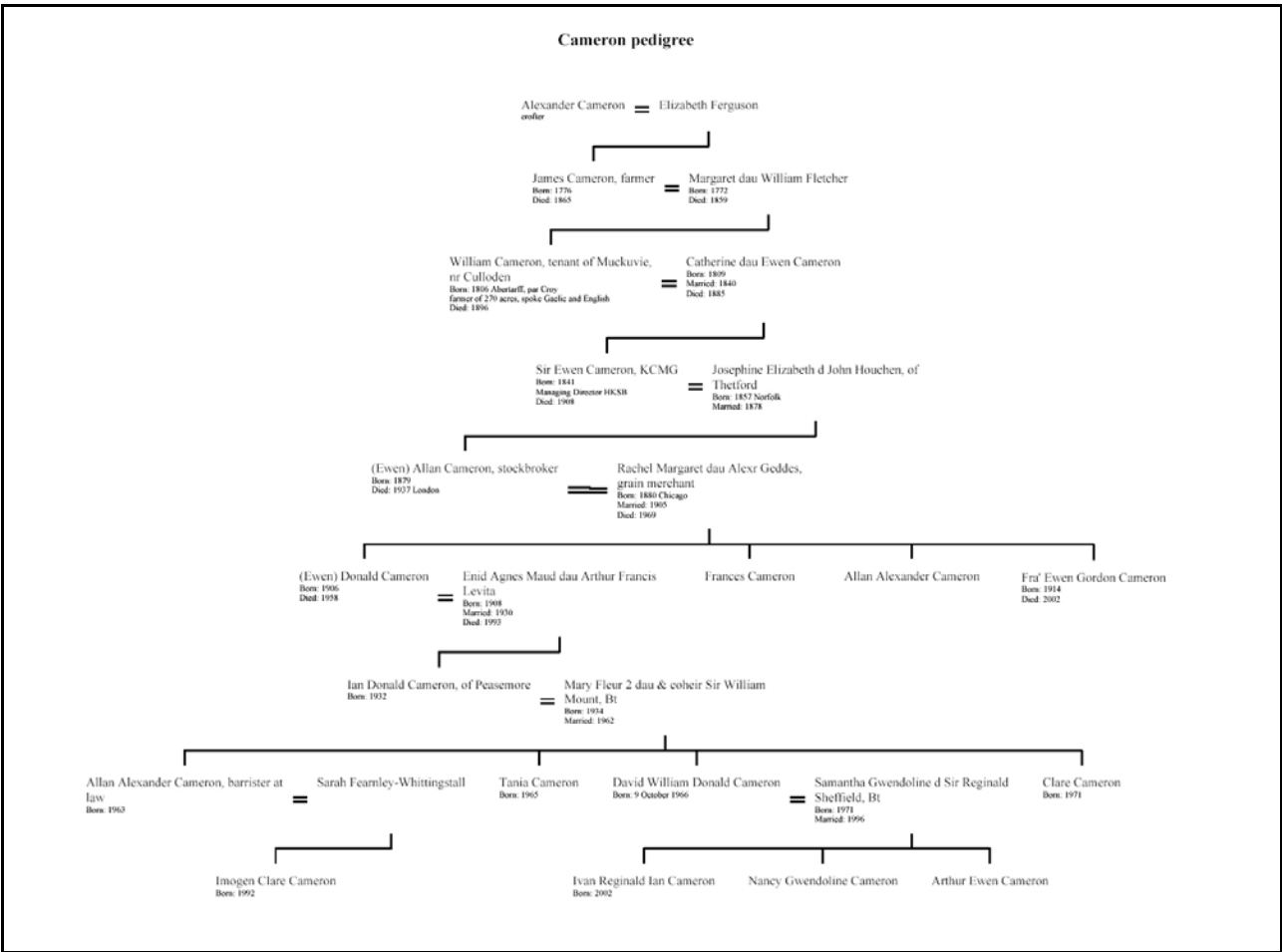
Whereas Sir Ewen Cameron of Brown Drive, Braemar and of Mansfield Gardens in the Metropolitan Borough of St. Pancras in the County of London, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George hath by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain bearing date the seventeenth day of April ultimo, did cause to be made to him as the son of William Cameron who resided at Mackenzie in the County of Shropshire, and whereas the said William Cameron as had the Great Britain and Shropshire and Shropshire to him, and to his assigns and to their assigns, as might be seen by the Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain bearing date the seventeenth day of April ultimo, did by these presents assign, ratify and confirm to the said Sir Ewen Cameron and to his assigns and to their assigns, as many heretofore he matriculated for them, the following Ensigns Armorial, as appears upon the margin hereof and matriculation of arms, date with these presents in Great Britain's Register of Arms and Matriculation of Arms, to-wit: **Shield**, three bars of red and on chief four bezants: Above the shield is placed a helmet bearing a crest with a hand holding a green sprig of wheat, and on a wreath of his arms is set for **Crest**, a hand grasping a sprig of verdigris, and on a scroll over the same the motto, **VERITAS LIBERABIT VOS**.

Matriculated the seventeenth day of May 1905.

James Grant
 Lyon Clerk



Furthermore it was quite common for cousins to marry at that period, so William and his wife Catherine may have been quite closely related. Sir Ewen's representative today is Ian Donald Cameron, of Pease-more, Berkshire, whose second son is David Cameron, the Prime Minister. The wife of Ian Donald is Mary



Cameron of Lochiel by Don Pottinger

Fleur daughter and coheirss of Sir William Mount, 2nd Bart, and it would be open to him to quarter her arms. Sir William's successor in the baronetcy was Ferdinand

MOUNT



SHEFFIELD



Mount, who does not use his title, and is better known as a political columnist. Doubtless his influence encouraged the young David Cameron to enter politics. Of course the Prime Minister could impale his arms with his wife's Sheffield coat.

It is traditional for Prime Ministers to put up their arms at Chequers, and it is to be hoped that David Cameron will matriculate with a brotherly difference, so that his arms there may have behind them all the authority of Lord Lyon, for the arms will become a talking point as being Scottish arms, borne by a younger son.

Alex Maxwell Findlater

(Since this talk was given another daughter has arrived, on holiday, Florence Rose Endellion.)