

# Glengarry and the Wider World Six Lives

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## Résumé de l'article

Les six biographies que nous présentons aujourd'hui sont extraites du Dictionary of Glengarry Biography auquel nous travaillons depuis de nombreuses années, et qui comportera près de 1 200 entrées de longueurs variables. Elles ont été choisies en fonction d'un critère : l'ouverture vers un monde plus large. On peut dire ainsi de Dorothy Dumbrille que, grâce à la renommée de sa poésie pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, elle a fait le lien entre le comté de Glengarry et le reste du monde, tout en rejoignant, toujours à travers son oeuvre littéraire, le Canada français. En relation avec de nombreuses personnes importantes en Ontario et au Canada, le Dr Grant fut aussi un intermédiaire, un lien cette fois avec le mouvement des Lumières en Écosse. À travers la vie peu ordinaire de Mme Ishikawa, dont le souvenir reste encore vivant à Glengarry, on retrouve plusieurs des expériences les plus dramatiques du XXe siècle. Quant à John Angus McDougald qui fut le fondateur d'une grande dynastie canadienne d'hommes d'affaires, il a aussi aidé, avec l'aide de son gendre A. L. Smith, à associer le comté de Glengarry à Angus et Hollinger, des noms importants dans le domaine international des affaires. Finalement, récipiendaire de la Victoria Cross, Claude Nunney fait partie de l'histoire militaire du vingtième siècle.



## *Glengarry and the Wider World: Six Lives*



by Royce MacGillivray

The following six biographies are drawn from the approximately 1,200 biographies of varying length, which will appear in the *Dictionary of Glengarry Biography* on which the present author has been working for some years. The basis of selection of these six has been the theme of a wider world. Dorothy Dumbville can be said to have connected Glengarry County and the wider world through the popularity of her poetry in World War II, and her reaching out in literature to French Canada. Dr Grant, well connected in terms of the leading people he knew in

Ontario and Canada, was also a living link with the great world of the Scottish Enlightenment. Mrs Ishikawa, well remembered in Glengarry, represented in her own strange story several of the most tearing experiences of the twentieth century. John Angus McDougald was the founder of a great Canadian business family and, with his son-in-law A.L. Smith, forms part of the connection between Glengarry County and the Argus and Hollinger business names. Claude Nunney, as a Victoria Cross winner, was by definition a part of twentieth-century military history.

## DOROTHY DUMBRILLE

**D**umbrille, Dorothy (25 Sept. 1897-11 Nov. 1981), author. (Mrs J.T. Smith, Dorothy Smith, but she wrote under the name of Dorothy Dumbrille) Born at Crysler, Ont. Parents: the Rev. Rupert John Dumbrille (Venerable Archdeacon Dumbrille), an Anglican clergyman, and his wife Minnie Fulton. Minnie Fulton was the daughter of Oscar Fulton, MP for Stormont, and was a cousin of the second Mrs John A. ("Cariboo") CAMERON.

After Kempville High School, Dorothy Dumbrille attended a business college in Philadelphia. From 1916 to 1921, she worked for the Dept. of Militia and Defence, Ottawa. She began writing at this time but did not resume it until World War II. From 1921 to 1924, she worked for the Provident Mutual Life Insurance Company, Philadelphia.

On 27 December 1924 she mar-

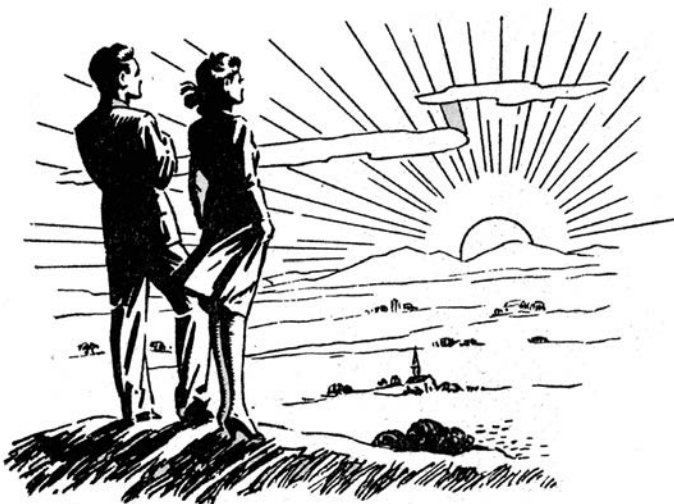
ried J.T. SMITH, who was at that time a science teacher in the Alexandria High School and who was afterwards for many years the principal of the school. A few

days after the marriage, Mrs Smith arrived in Alexandria, which was to be her home for the remainder of her life.

As the author Dorothy Dumbrille, Mrs Smith's writings included histories, short stories, and radio plays, but she first attracted public attention as a poet. Her poetry was popular during World War II, especially as a voice for women's loyalty to

### Résumé

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Frontispiece by E. Fattori in Dorothy Dumbrille's 1943 book of poems *Watch the Sun Rise!*



A GLENGARRY SAWMILL

Stuart McCormick  
illustrated Dumbrille's  
Up and Down  
the Glens (1954)  
and Braggart in  
My Step (1956) for  
which this drawing of  
a Glengarry sawmill  
was made.

ern Ontario and  
he would go....  
The day it [*All  
This Difference*]  
came out in the  
stores I did not  
know whether  
the Fr. Canadi-

the war cause and women's endurance on the home front. The poems were often published individually in newspapers (e.g., *Ottawa Citizen* 16 Sept. 1944) and other sources, but were published also in her volumes of poetry *We Come! We Come!* (1941), *Last Leave* (1942), *Watch the Sun Rise!* (1943), and *Stairway to the Stars* (1946). Her novel *Deep Doorways* was serialized in the *Montreal Standard* (1941) and in the *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder* (1946-1947) and was issued in book form in 1947. The novel is set west of Cornwall, but it has Glengarry County passages. Another novel, *All This Difference* (1945, 1963) explores Scots-French relations in Alexandria. Dorothy Dumbrille remembered, "I lent the manuscript to one of the teachers to read and she said if I got it published Jim [J.T. Smith] would be run out of town to which Jim replied to me that if he did have to leave there were plenty of situations in West-

ans or the English neighbours would shoot me." (her letter of 17 Sept. 1975 to present author)

Dorothy Dumbrille's novel *O Clouds Unfold*, set west of Cornwall, was serialized in the *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder* in 1949 but it was not reissued in book form. She wrote two books of Glengarry County history, *Up and Down the Glens* (1954) and *Braggart in My Step* (1956). These anecdotal collections have always been widely known and highly regarded throughout the continent-wide Glengarry County connection. Likely to last, they have been mentioned in the documentation of many scholarly works. They are all the more commendable through having been compiled at a time when relatively little was being written on the history of Glengarry County (which is true, even though interest in pioneer history and especially in genealogy remained intense at the popular level

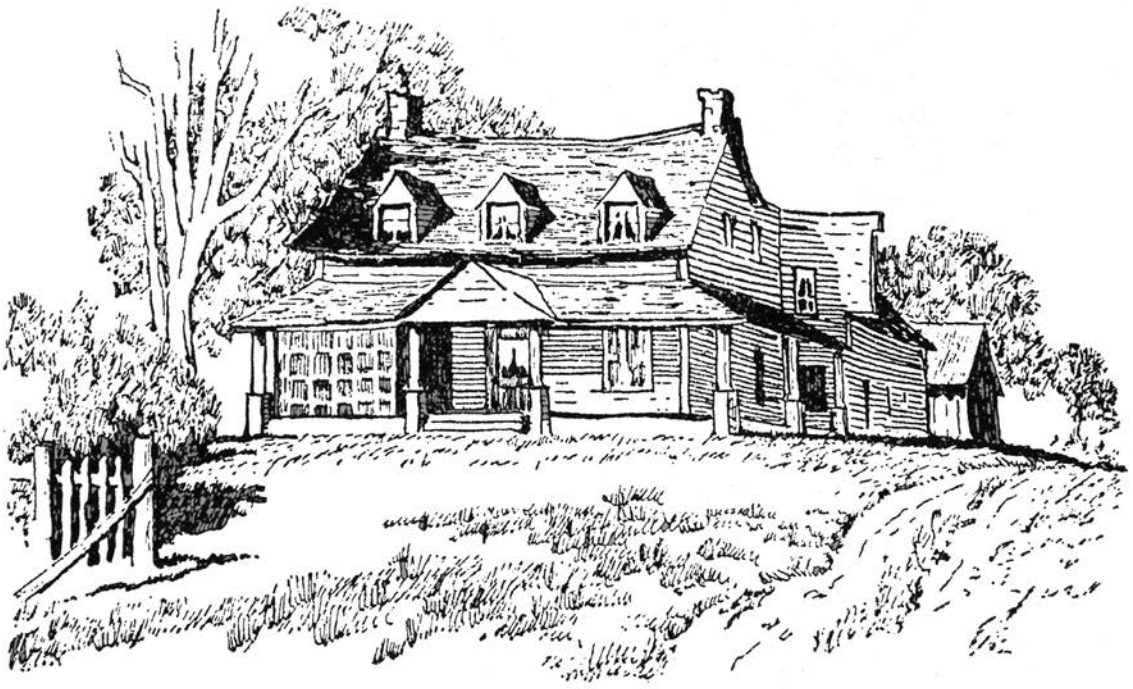


in Glengarry). These volumes contain in well organized and highly accessible form a lot of material that would otherwise be difficult to retrieve today through library or archival research, or would have been lost outright. Little known and difficult to find are her *The Battle of Cryslers Farm* (1967) and *A Boy at Cryslers Farm* (1967 or 1968).

Dorothy Dumbrille was a book reviewer for the *Globe and Mail* for some twenty years. Public service activities included her membership on the Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission (later called the St. Lawrence Parks Commission). She gave her papers to Queen's University. From 1962 she was troubled by ill health, her last years

becoming a desperate battle with illness. At this time she gave up most writing, but as a long-time hobby painter, she continued to "paint pictures of the Glengarry countryside." (her letter of 7 Feb. 1977 to Ewan Ross)

Dorothy Dumbrille did not get an honorary degree from Queen's University which some of her acquaintances encouraged her to believe was in preparation for her. However, she is the subject of a biographical sketch in Blain, Clements and Grundy's *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English: Women Writers from the Middle Ages to the Present* (Yale University Press, and Batsford Ltd. [Eng.], 1990). As she came to be known more and more in daily life by the liter-



*Fasg Na Coille (The House in the Trees)*, from Dumbrille's *Up and Down the Glens* (1954) was artist Stuart McCormick's ancestral home in Alexandria.



GLEN NEVIS

*Pen and ink  
drawing of  
Glen Nevis,  
from Dorothy  
Dunbrille's Up  
and Down the  
Glens, published  
by Ryerson Press  
in 1954.*

typescript,  
Queen's Univer-  
sity Archives,  
Nov. 1976  
\* see Royce  
MacGillivray,  
*Bibliography of  
Glengarry County*  
(1996) for more  
information  
on her publica-  
tions. \* biog.

ary name of Dorothy Dumbrille, she became, presumably, in effect the first woman in Alexandria to “keep her own name” rather than use the surname of her husband, though even so her *Glengarry News* obituary was headed “Mrs. J. T. Smith Dies.” She and her husband were Anglicans, but in Alexandria attended the United Church. They are buried in the little Protestant cemetery on the Main Street of Alexandria. There were no surviving children, but local people remembered her long and all-but-fatal illness after a miscarriage or stillbirth. Stuart MCCORMICK illustrated several of her works.

[\* *Glengarry News* 18 Nov. 1981 (by Marguerite Seger, daughter of Max SEGER; valuable for personal knowledge), *Queen's Alumni Review* (May-June 1982) p. 32 \* “Dorothy Dumbrille Papers Arranged and Described by Anne MacDermaid,”

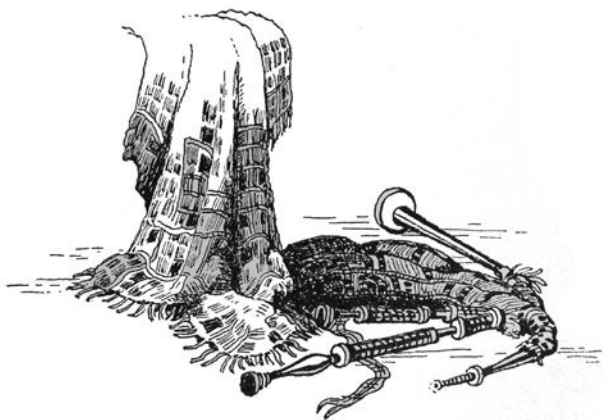
details in her *Up and Down the Glens* and *Braggart in My Step* and on the dust jackets of her books \* biog. tribute, by G.R. Arnott, *Glengarry Life* 1976 \* Arthur Prévost, “Elle écrit pour l'unité de tous les Canadiens,” *Le Petit Journal* (21-28 fév. 1960), illustration \* biog. sketch in *Des'Avirons* (Alexandria, Ont., 14 juillet 1972) \* Edward S. St. John, “The Image of the French Canadian in Glengarry Literature,” *OH* 65:2 (June 1973) \* Royce MacGillivray, *The Slopes of the Andes* (1990), 154, and “The Historians of Glengarry,” *Glengarry Life* 1996 \* “Books That Need Reprinting,” *Glengarry News* 4 Feb. 1971: editorial on her histories \* her mother (Mrs R.J. Dumbrille): obituary *Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 31 May 1933; *Up and Down the Glens*, 128 \* interview with Dorothy Dumbrille taped 3 May 1978 for Multicultural History Society of Ontario \* personal knowledge \* letters from Dorothy Dumbrille to Royce MacGillivray and Ewan Ross in files of present author \* honorary degree: information from C.C. FRASER in conversation 12 May 1978 \* takes part in play, United Church, Alexandria, *Glengarry News* 16 Feb. 1934 \* *Glengarry News* 8 June 1945, receives letter of thanks from Eleanor Roosevelt for prose tribute to FDR \* Archdeacon Dumbrille to retire, *Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 2 March 1948.]

## DR JAMES GRANT

Grant, James (1 Jan. 1806 - 14 March 1866), physician (date of birth 1801 also found; also age at death both 60 and 61) (Dr Grant) Born in Invernessshire, Scotland. His father James Grant of Corrimony (1743-1835), a well connected Scottish advocate of Jacobite family background and of liberal political opinions, was important enough to be included, though admittedly with relatively short entries, in the *Dictionary of National Biography* and its successor, the new *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. A minor but significant figure of the Scottish Enlightenment, he was the author of several books valued in their day. Among his friends this James Grant numbered Francis Jeffrey, the great editor of the liberal and reforming *Edinburgh Review*.

The younger James Grant, the subject of the present article, received the medical qualification of L.R.C.S. in Edinburgh. This qualification was roughly approximate to that of M.D. Though Grant never seems to have obtained an M.D. degree, he was commonly known as Dr Grant, presumably in accordance with the contemporary practice of so naming any medical man.

After a short period of residence in Montreal following his emigration from Britain, Dr Grant settled about 1832 at Martintown in Glengarry County as a physician. There he practised medicine with great success over many years. Well regarded as a man and a physician, he



shared the experience of so many of his medical contemporaries in Upper Canada of receiving little financial return from his practice.

Dr Grant frequently ran as a candidate for the provincial parliament. He was described, with some exaggeration of the period of time involved, by a correspondent ("Loyalty," at St. Raphael's) in the *Montreal Gazette* of 3 July 1849 as having been a candidate "at almost every election in the county [Glengarry] for the last quarter of a century." With regard to his role in the 1836 election in Glengarry County, he was described as "the excommunicated O'Grady's tool, Grant." (*Cornwall Observer* 11 July 1836) In November 1839, he was the sponsor, with James Lane, of Alexandria, and Kenneth M'Laughlin, of Lancaster, of a Durham meeting to be held at Alexandria. (*Cornwall Observer* 7 Nov. 1839) Later that month, there were critical references to Dr Grant, who was "promoting a 'Durham address'." (*Cornwall Observer* 21 Nov. 1839) Of all his campaigns, perhaps the best remembered is that of Glengarry County

1841 for the first House of Assembly of the Province of Canada. Running as a Reformer, he was defeated in the election of March 1841 by the young John Sandfield MACDONALD, who was just beginning his distinguished political career. In an election manifesto dated at Glengarry, 19 February 1841, Grant denounced “the plundering Family Compact,” and called for a fairer distribution of the Clergy Reserves. With sharp remarks about lawyers, he pledged that if elected he would introduce a bill to establish county courts to reduce legal expenses. “Our future prosperity,” he stated,

depends on three great circumstances, viz: a continuance of British Connection, Lord Sydenham [the Governor General], as administrator of our wants and wishes, for he who stood so long in the reform ranks of the [British] House of Commons, can give us all the reform we want [.] & firm & honest representatives at his back to maintain the rights of the people.

In 1844 he ran again, once more unsuccessfully, against Macdonald in GC. When he was a candidate for Glengarry County in 1844, the *Cornwall Observer* of 16 October 1844 said that “The Dr. is an independent Reformer and a man of acknowledged talent.”

In 1849 Dr Grant seems to have received a political appointment to a “lucrative office” at Hull, perhaps as a result of some alliance with Macdonald. (*Montreal Gazette* 3 July 1849) If Dr Grant left Martintown to live in Hull at this time, he was soon back in his old life as a Martintown man, and his familiar, well filled Upper Canada career went on. He

was a political candidate in Stormont County in 1854 and possibly also in 1851 (*Cornwall Constitutional*, 6 July 1854, 13 Nov. 1851) In 1857, during a visit to the western districts of the province, he was warmly entertained at a public supper by Highlanders in Hamilton, many of them wearing Highland costume, and a Highland Volunteer Company paraded in full uniform to honour him. (*Cornwall Constitutional* 16 July 1857) However, amid social life, he could not forget politics. Early in 1858 the *Toronto Globe* noted with regard to the current Glengarry County election, that “We see that our cranky old friend, Dr. Grant, has been making his quadrennial exhibition of himself at the Glengarry nomination. Poor Doctor!” Grant was himself evidently not a candidate in the election. However, a *Globe* writer noted on the election outcome, “The Tories and their recent convert, the renegade Reformer, Dr. Grant, have received such a drubbing, ....” (*Globe* 8, 13, & 18 Jan. 1858)

Dr Grant remains one of the legendary figures of nineteenth-century Glengarry County history. Rhodes GRANT preserves a few recollections of Dr Grant, which we may regard as conformable to the spirit of the man, even though Rhodes Grant disturbingly gets his Christian name wrong. Rhodes Grant reports that this pioneer physician was “long remembered for his skill and kindness.” And Rhodes Grant tells the story of how Dr Grant, who was “No puritan,” got his glasses broken in a drunken fight with a boon companion called Duncan McMartin. Rhodes Grant



also attempts an explanation of why Grant came to Martintown, and identifies the location of his Martintown home.

Dr Grant was one of the guests at the banquet at Fraserfield so memorably described in John FRASER's *Canadian Pen and Ink Sketches* (p. 117). Also, at one of 19th-century GLENGARRY COUNTY's most notable celebrations, the great ball and supper held in Alexandria in 1857 on the occasion of the completion of Donald A. (Sandfield) MACDONALD's steam mill, Dr Grant presided at the supper, and from the newspaper report of his remarks we get a valued glimpse of him as a human being – articulate, amiable, convivial, warm natured, easy in company. By his origins and his profession, Dr Grant belonged to the Glengarry County social elite of his day, which included the Nor'westers. John RAE, who was in many ways a parallel figure, left Glengarry just before Grant's arrival.

An anecdote reports that John Dougall, of the *Montreal Witness*, a temperance speaker, urged the public to buy out the liquor on sale at Martintown in the store of Dr Grant, "a politician and a fluent speaker." The idea was that when the storekeeper had been financially satisfied in this way, the liquor outlet could be permanently closed. Grant, who had been impressed but not convinced by the speaker, decline to support the project. (*Montreal Witness* 4 Sept. 1894) Running a side-business, such as a store, would not have been out of order for a poorly paid physician of the era.

At some time during the pastor-

ate (begun 1853) of the Rev. Daniel GORDON at St. Elmo, Dr Grant was the physician who attended to the illness of one of the Gordon children, Gilbert, afterwards himself a physician. James Begg, who also lived far away, in Roxborough Township (sixteen miles from Martintown, as he calculated), remembered that when he was taken seriously ill at a time which seems to have been in the 1850s, "Dr. Grant (father of James Grant of Ottawa) bled me until I fainted."

In 1864, Dr Grant moved from Martintown to Ottawa. It appears that he wished to escape the exhaustingly extensive county practice, and have instead a more manageable town practice. However, he died in Ottawa two years later. Among his activities in Ottawa, he had been physician to the County of Carleton Protestant Hospital. He is buried today in Ottawa's Beechwood Cemetery. His body was removed to this cemetery in 1877, from a previous burial place which was probably the St James's Anglican cemetery in Hull.

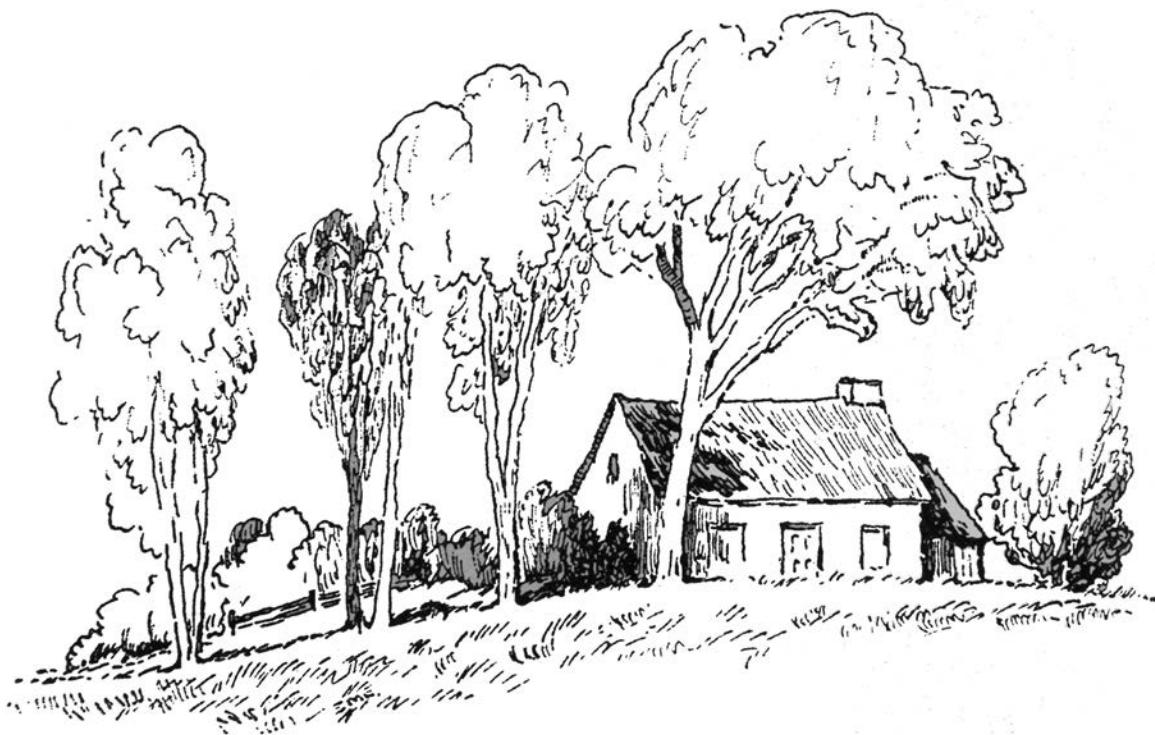
Dr Grant was a Mason, belonging to the Cornwall Lodge. It has not so far been possible to verify the statement that one of his brothers, who predeceased him, was chief justice in Calcutta. Dr Grant was married to Jane Ord. They were the parents of Sir James Alexander GRANT. Dr Grant of the present article had as his contemporary in Eastern Ontario Dr John Grant, of Dundas County, who was present at the Battle of the Windmill and was at one time coroner of the United Counties of Storomont,

Dundas and Glengarry (hereafter SDG). (Canniff, 400-01). Harkness has noticed a Dr James A. Grant, who was practising at Williamstown in 1853, and who may be different from both Dr Grant of the present article and his distinguished son.

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[\* Surprisingly, he has no DCB life \* obituary *Bytown Gazette* 15 March 1866 (an important source) \* William Canniff, *The Medical Profession in Upper Canada 1783-1850 ... Including Some Brief Biographies* (1894, 1980), 398 \* Rhodes Grant, *The Story of Martintown: a Pioneer Village* (1974), 86 \* J. G. Harkness, *Stormont Dundas and Glengarry* (1946), 447, 451 \* B. W. Hodgins, *John Sandfield Macdonald* (1971) \* Collins [as in notes for Sir James GRANT], with portraits of Dr Grant and his wife and a drawing of their (assumed) first

home at Martintown \* information about his death, burial, kindly supplied by Ottawa Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society \* election manifesto of 1841: pr. (with a note of disapproval by the editor) *Cornwall Observer* 25 Feb. 1841 \* candidates and progress of election in GLENGARRY COUNTY, *Montral Gazette G*, 18 March 1841 \* polling results in 1841 Glengarry County election, *Cornwall Observer* 18 March 1841 \* 1857 ball and supper: *Montreal Evening Pilot*, 17 Jan. 1857, reprinted *Glengarry News* 16 Aug. 1935 (as condensed by *Ottawa Citizen*) and 9 Aug. 1946 \* Grant is a speaker with Thomas D'Arcy McGee and others at "The Glengarry demonstration" (location not stated), *The Semi-Weekly Spectator* (Hamilton, C. W.) 23 Oct. 1858 \* Gordon family: Charles R. SINCLAIR, *Stories from the Memory of Charles R. Sinclair of Glengarry*, ed. Clark BARRETT (1970) 23 \* marriage of his 6th daughter, Mary Ann, *The British American Journal* [medical and scientific journal], III (1862) 35 ]



GLENGARRY FARM HOME

## MRS MARY ISHIKAWA

Ishikawa, Mary Catherine (8 July 1872-4 Dec. 1952, aged 80) (Mrs Ishikawa, Mary C. Ishikawa), figure of legend. Born at Dunvegan. Parents: Norman ("The Drover") MacRae and his wife Mary McKenzie. Education: at Alexandria (the family had moved to Alexandria from Dunvegan), Whitby Ladies' College, and the Cornwall business college, where she is said to have been the first woman graduate.

Mary MacRae went to Wisconsin to join her uncle, Duncan J. MCKENZIE, the lumberman, perhaps as his secretary or other employee. It was probably through the household and connections of McKenzie, a political figure whose distinctions included his election as railway commissioner for Wisconsin, that she met her future husband. She was married 15 August 1901, at her parents' home in Alexandria, to Gensemro S. Ishikawa (G.S. Ishikawa). As his wedding announcement in the *Glengarry News* notices, he had a Ph.D. degree. The degree, obtained earlier that year, was from the University of Wisconsin. G.S. Ishikawa was not of the Japanese aristocracy, but he seems to have been of a family from the better ranks of society. After the marriage the young couple are said to have gone to Japan on a Japanese warship. From Japan, they travelled via Siberia to Germany. In Germany, the Ishikawas lived in Hamburg, where G.S. Ishikawa worked for the Japanese Nitzui Company, and was acting consul for Japan (beginning in 1903, he may also have

been, though only briefly, in the Japanese consular service in London). When the World War began in 1914, the Ishikawas were interned by the German government. Even in internment, she is said to have received every issue of the *Glengarry News*. In 1915, when the Ishikawas were given 24 hours to leave for neutral countries, she returned to Madison, Wisc., bringing her young daughter with her, and G.S. Ishikawa returned to Japan.

By this time the marriage of the Ishikawas seems to have run its course and to have been effectively over, though it is not true, as has been so often reported, that they never met again after the interruption provided by the war. They met at least twice, in Madison in 1917 and in Montreal in 1920. His wife was unwilling to live in Japan, and though he was willing in principle to live in the United States (what the position was with regard to Canada is not clear), he was unable to do so except on a lowly immigrant basis which was unacceptable to him, and so they remained apart. They did, however, continue to correspond. He continued to send her money from Japan until she asked him to stop, pointing out that in Japan the sum was large but in Canada it was inconsiderable, and that she could support herself without it.

Mrs Ishikawa moved back to Canada about 1919. In the 1920s and '30s she ran a rooming house or boarding house in Montreal. Her kinsman the polio victim Neil Donald MACLEOD, of Maxville Manor, who looked back on her with great warmth, said in 1991 that he could still remember her Montreal

phone number after sixty years, and testified, as others have done, that this generous woman had, in his words, “a heart as big as Montreal.” Her home was a favourite gathering place for girls from the Glengarry County area working as servants or at other jobs in Montreal. In April of 1934, twenty-three of her “many Glengarry friends” presented her with a “bronze and marble radio lamp.” The address of presentation stated: “We certainly have appreciated your kindness in placing your home at our disposal for our weekly gatherings during these long winter months.... Our sincere hope is that this lamp will light your future days to continual health and happiness.” (*Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 27 April 1934) A paid notice in the *Glengarry News* of 12 May 1939 read, “Mrs. G.S. Ishikawa, Montreal, has moved from 4110 Western Ave., to 4169 Dorchester St. West, corner Greene Ave. – St. Catherine and Windsor cars to Greene Ave., one block south to Dorchester – Phone Fitzroy, 7092.”

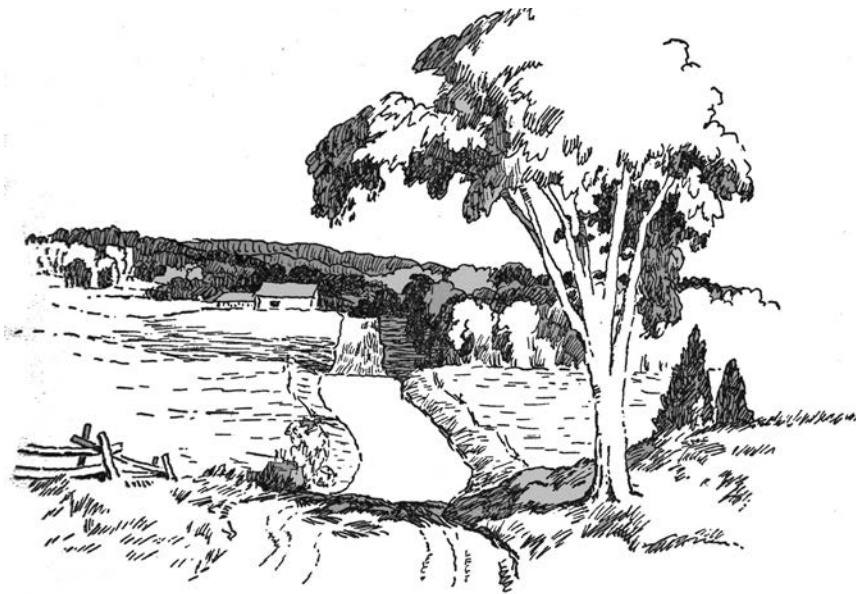
It was evidently a factor in the breakup of her marriage to G.S. Ishikawa that the marriage was unacceptable to his relatives in Japan. It has also been reported that she married him (“on the rebound,” as people used to say) after an earlier romance had broken up. Neil Donald MacLeod remembered that Mrs Ishikawa always referred to her husband by the single name of “Ishikawa” when speaking about him. She tends herself to be remembered in the stories about her simply as “Mrs Ishikawa.”

Legends grew up about Mrs Ishikawa, based in the first instance on the moder-

ately strange story of her life, but based much more strongly (if one may venture the guess at this distance of time), on the warmth and magnetism of her remarkable personality. Mrs Ishikawa died at a nursing home in Lachine, Que., but she previously had lived for several years with a sister in Montreal. She is said to have been “in extreme poverty” at the end of her life (*Glengarry News* 8 July 1992) The Ishikawa marriage produced one child, a daughter Maybelle, born in Hamburg, Germany, 4 April 1906. According to some reports Maybelle was slightly “retarded.” By other reports she suffered from the difficulties of deriving from two cultures (or three, if one adds Germany), and from the teasing of other children. She lived with her mother in Montreal, and the mother and daughter are remembered as “big fleshy women.” Maybelle was in an institution in her later years, and died, unmarried, in Montreal late in 1990, in her 85th year. Maybelle Ishikawa and her mother are both buried in the Dunvegan cemetery.

It is said that once in George EPPSTADT’s restaurant in Maxville Mrs Ishikawa and her daughter were commenting in German, rather too freely, on the restaurant, and its similarity to restaurants in Germany, when Eppstadt overheard them from the back room and hastened to cut off further indiscretions by joining the conversation in his native language. In a famous story about the Ishikawas, when they were travelling through Russia to Germany, the Russian government provided them with an interpreter, in the form of an engineer





GLEN ROY ROAD

called Macintoshsky. The interpreter politely asked Mrs Ishikawa where she came from, and she replied that she came from a little place he had never heard of, called Dunvegan, to which he replied that he knew it well, and was himself a native of Vankleek Hill, where he was the son of Dr MacIntosh. The Ishikawas do, in fact, seem to have met a gentleman in Russia of more-or-less this name, but he was from Scotland, not Vankleek Hill!

G.S. Ishikawa has his separate claim to fame, in that he drew one of the first pictures of a basketball game, a game invented in the United States in 1891 by the Canadian, James A. Naismith. The picture was drawn at the School for Christian Workers, a YMCA institution, at Springfield, Mass. It has been reproduced a number of times, for example in

*Sports illustrated*, 31 January 1955, p. 64. Also, G.S. Ishikawa is said to have helped to popularize basketball in Japan. Research for the present dictionary has not recovered the date or place of G.S. Ishikawa's death. Her obituary says he died in 1939, but other accounts merely

represent her as losing trace of him before World War II.

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[\* *Glengarry News* 19 Dec. 1952 \* death of Mrs Ishikawa, *Kenyon Presbyterian Church Report* 1952 (death of daughter not recorded in the 1990 report) \* marriage, *Glengarry News* 16 Aug. 1901 \* information from the late Harriet I. MACKINNON, based both on her own long-time, tireless note-taking and on MacRae family sources \* private information \* materials on G.S. Ishikawa, kindly supplied to the present author by the University of Wisconsin (Madison). This splendid collection is evidence again of the biographical wealth available in the archives of the American universities and the generosity with which it is shared with researchers, but alas, it has not been possible for the present author to determine whether G.S. Ishikawa and the other Ishikawas of the collection are the same person \* [anon.], "Loyal Subscriber O'Mary C' Travelled with The News," *Glengarry News* 8 July 1992, biographical article with fine portraits of Mr and Mrs Ishikawa \* obituary (only a few lines) of Maybelle Ishikawa, *Glengarry News* 21 Nov. 1990 ]

## J. A. MCDOUGALD FOUNDING FATHER OF A DYNASTY

**M**cdougald, John Angus (29 Sept. 1838 - 9 or 10 Jan. 1923), businessman, court clerk (John A. McDougald). Born near Alexandria, on Lot 5 in the 4th Conc. of Kenyon Township, on the farm on which his grandfather, an emigrant in 1790 from Eig, Scotland, had settled. Parents: Angus McDougald, and his wife Grace Cameron. Angus McDougald was a major in the Glengarry County militia, and had served on the Crown side in the 1837 Rebellion. Grace Cameron, from Charlottenburgh Township, was of U. E. Loyalist descent.

John A. McDougald, who was educated in the separate school, Alexandria, worked with his father on the family farm, then took over the farm on his father's death. In 1871 McDougald, who since about the early 1860s held the office of division court clerk, became an employee of Donald A. (Sandfield) MACDONALD in Alexandria. He was to have a long and close relationship with Macdonald as Macdonald's particular man of business. McDougald's obituary in the *Glengarry News*, which may be assumed to represent the opinions and probably was in the words of D.A. Macdonald's son Col A.G.F. MACDONALD, states, "His unimpeachable integrity, his expert bookkeeping and the thorough command he had gained of the business won the confidence of his employer to such an extent that

when the Hon. D.A. Macdonald joined the McKenzie Cabinet as Post Master General in 1875 [correctly, 1873], he placed Mr McDougald in charge of his many and varied interests here." The well known Glengarry County genealogist Elizabeth (Lizzie) BLAIR passed on the report, perhaps never published, that McDougald first became Macdonald's protégé when Macdonald, about to foreclose the mortgage on the McDougald farm, took pity on the distressed young farmer. Anyway, winning Macdonald's favour, whenever exactly that happened, must be taken as the decisive event in the rise of a distinguished Canadian family, who would now for some years grow in the shadow of the Sandfields.

As Macdonald's devoted assistant, McDougald was drawn with Macdonald into the embarrassing affairs of the failure of the Montreal and City of Ottawa Junction Railway and the bitter controversy, which peaked in 1881, relating to the Kenyon and Lochiel Township bonds intended to finance the railroad.

In 1880, or in 1880 and 1881, McDougald was in business at Emerson, Manitoba, with Allan B. MACDONALD, who was later manager of that ambitious western enterprise, the Glengarry Ranch. In the spring of 1881, the Glengarry people gave a testimonial dinner at Alexandria for the departing McDougald and Allan B. MacDonald, but by September McDougald was revisiting Alexandria, and by the begin-

ning of 1882 he had property rented at the new station in Alexandria (the Canada Atlantic Railway was just beginning operations), and he was soon reported to be doing a good trade in farm produce from the station. In May 1881 it was reported that a Mr Finley McDonald had succeeded McDougald "in managing the business of the Hon. D.A. McDonald" (*Glengarry Times*, 28 May 1881), but if so there may have been no quarrel with D.A. Macdonald, since the *Cornwall Freeholder* of 23 December 1881 described McDougald as D.A. Macdonald's "confidential friend." In its obituary of the Hon. D.A. Macdonald fifteen years later, the same Liberal newspaper described McDougald as Macdonald's "confidential man of business for many years."

With the important connections he had formed through Macdonald, McDougald was inevitably involved in Liberal electioneering. When work was undertaken to found a newspaper in Alexandria (the *Glengarrrian*, but known at first as the *Glengarry Review*) he was elected treasurer of the company at the first meeting of the board of directors. (*Cornwall Freeholder* 9 Nov. 1883) When publication began, rather belatedly, in 1885, the founding editor R.H. CONSTABLE, was confined to the business and news side of the paper, while McDougald directed the editorial policies. Soon, however, in a surprise switch (see C.J. STILWELL and R.R. MCLENNAN), local Conservatives seized control of the newspaper, with

the result that in the years ahead the Liberal McDougald became the object of resentful comments from the now Conservative *Glengarrrian* newspaper for his involvement in such party achievements as the two Liberal victories of RAYSIDE in 1886 and PURCELL in 1887. (*Glengarrrian* 25 April & 13 June 1890)

In 1887, McDougald was appointed police magistrate for GLENGARRY COUNTY. In 1888, he was appointed clerk of the Second Division Court, for SDG. The Ontario Liberal government of Oliver Mowat named him local registrar of the Supreme Court of Ontario, and clerk of the County Court of SDG, the official date for both appointments being 29 May 1891 (AO, Great Seal Books, RG 53-18). He held these offices from 1891 till his death at the age of 84, dying, as he is said to have wished, in office. (His equally hardy contemporary J.G. HARKNESS remained crown attorney for SDG into his early eighties). McDougald also had, along with these, and possibly from the same date, the position of registrar of the Surrogate Court of SDG. On taking up the 1891 positions, he moved to Cornwall, which remained his home for the rest of his life.

He was for many years a member of the high school board, first in Alexandria and then in Cornwall. John A. McDougald served in the militia from 1871 to 1883, reaching the rank of lieutenant. About 1929, in his memory, his son Duncan J. McDougald presented a

pipers' challenge cup to the SDG Highlanders, as the regiment was now known. The writer of the *Glengarry News* obituary, speaking, we may assume, from his own observation, said,

The late Mr. McDougald had been granted many gifts and had one of God's most precious gifts, good fellowship. Participating in a social function he was the life of the party, possessing as he did a fund of anecdotes and stories pertaining to old Glengarry days, in the relating of which, like old wine, they seemed to improve with age. Certainly his was always an attentive, enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

John A. McDougald died unexpectedly at his home in Cornwall, having been in his office earlier that day. (Children Born: 10, Children Surviving: 8) Roman Catholic. His funeral service was at St. Finnan's Cathedral, Alexandria, and he was buried in St. Finnan's cemetery. The newspapers noted that the cold and snowy weather made access to the funeral difficult. He was married 11 January 1863 to Anna (Nancy, Annie) Chisholm (2 May 1843-8 Dec. 1917), born at Fassifern in GLENGARRY COUNTY, the daughter of Ranald R. Chisholm. The dictionary will include notices of their sons A.W., A.J., D.J., and Dr Wilfrid Laurier MCDUGALD, their daughter Mrs John MCMARTIN, their daughter-in-law Annie B. MCDUGALD, their grandson John A. (Bud) MCDUGALD, of the Argus and Hollinger corporations, and their

sons-in-law John MCMARTIN and A.L. SMITH. Another son of this couple, George W. McDougald, remained on the family farm, and a daughter, Miss Katherine McDougald, was living in Cornwall at the time of her father's death.

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[\* *Glengarry News* 19 Jan. 1923 (portrait), *Cornwall Freeholder* 11 & 18 Jan. 1923; includes informative letter of tribute from Law Association of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry \* Harkness, op. cit., 297, 419 \* police magistrate, & clerk of Second Division Court, *Cornwall Freeholder* 6 May 1887 & *Cornwall Freeholder* 7 Sept. 1888 (reporting from Ont. Gazette), cited in Down the Lane col. *Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 10 May & 6 Sept. 1947, respectively. \* W. Boss & W.J. Patterson, *Up the Glens: Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders* [regiment] (1995), 76, 252 \* death of infant son, *Cornwall Freeholder* 27 Oct. 1865 \* Alex W. Fraser, ed., *St. Finnan's Church Records Name Index 1836-1883* (1986), III, 553 \* leaves Alexandria for Manitoba and returns, business at CANADA ATLANTIC RAILWAY station: *Cornwall Freeholder* 13 May, 10 June, 9 Sept. 1881, 20 Jan. & 9 June 1882 \* on committee of Alexandria's Mechanics' Institute, *Glengarry Times* 20 May 1882 \* his surly remark about the Alexandria town band, *Glengarrion* 10 Oct. 1890 \* accused of having changed sides on question of separation of Glengarry County from SDG, *Glengarrion* 9 Dec. 1892 \* son Angus A. McDougald, engaged in railway tie business, dies in accident in Colorado, *Cornwall Freeholder* 2 June 1893 \* Golden Wedding celebrations, *Cornwall Freeholder* 10 Jan. 1913 (portrait, biog. sketch), *Glengarry News* 17 Jan. 1913 \* obituary of wife, *Cornwall Standard* 13 Dec. 1917 \* one of signers of address of welcome to Bishop Couturier, *Cornwall Standard* 1 Sept. 1921 \* entertains Angus MCCRIMMON, Crown Attorney, *Cornwall Standard* 13 July 1922 \* tour of Montreal Harbour, son Wilfrid L.'s hospitalities, *Cornwall Standard* 17 Aug. 1922 \* Adrien I. Macdonell succeeds him as local registrar of the Supreme Court of Ontario, and in his other two Cornwall offices, *Cornwall Standard* 1 Feb. 1923]



## CLAUDE NUNNEY, V.C.

Nunney, Claude (1892-18 Sept. 1918), winner of Victoria Cross. (Red Nunney) In printed sources his place of birth has been variously given as London (Eng.), Dublin (Ireland), and Hastings (Eng.), and the date has been variously given as 24 December 1891 and 24 December 1892. In his military file, for which he must himself have supplied the information, he is described as having been born in Dublin, Ireland, on 24 December 1892. In the same file his name is given as Claude Joseph Patrick Nunney. It is probable, though not certain, that he was the Stephen Sargent Claude Nunney, who was born on 19 July 1892, at 42 Bexhill Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, on the south coast of England, just to the west of Hastings. In the registration of his birth, the parents of the Nunney born at St. Leonards-on-Sea were William Percy Nunney Nunney (name has repetition thus, apparently, in records), a grocer's assistant, and his wife Mary Nunney formerly Sargent.

According to tradition, the parents were Irish Catholics.

Claude Nunney, the future Victoria Cross winner, is said to have come to Canada in the autumn of 1905. He is reported to have been sent there by the Harron Road School, operated by the Crusade of Rescue, of London, England. If he was the Nunney born at St. Leonards-on-Sea, he was at the time of his arrival in Canada thirteen years old – barely more than a child, but by the standards many a Glengarry County




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*Claude Nunney, V.C., from John Swettenham, ed., Valiant Men: Canada's Victoria Cross Winners (Toronto, 1973). Library and Archives Canada photo.*

farmer of the time imposed on his own sons, virtually ready to do a man's work on the farm and in the bush. In Canada, he was placed in St. George's Home in Ottawa. Soon after he was placed with Mrs Donald Roy McDonald, of North Lancaster (more specifically, the location was in the 5th Conc. of Lancaster Township, at Pine Hill, half-way between North Lancaster and the Brown House). Mrs McDonald was a sister of Dr D.D. MACDONALD. Ewan Ross states that "Nunney lived with Mrs. McDonald until her death in 1912; then spent the greater part of his time with D.H. McGillis, North Lancaster, and Mrs. Peter McLaren." He also lived with a Calder family at McGillivray's Bridge.

He had, presumably, his first experience of soldiering in the local militia, the 59th Stormont and Glengarry Regiment, which he joined on 16 June 1913. "While at camp he was well liked, although very temperamental at times." (Boss) It is not clear whether this recollection refers to his pre-war or his wartime military training. In any case, Marion MACMASTER has probably correctly interpreted it as a coded reference to his quick temper. In the years just before the war, he worked in various places in Ontario and in the Canadian West. Both in the militia experience and in his rather footloose employment history of these years, he falls well within the usual model for young Glengarry males of the time. We may guess that essentially in his later years in Glengarry County he had been a hired man working on farms. On enlistment, he recorded himself as being by trade a

"Painter."

On 8 March 1915, Claude Nunney enlisted in the 59th Regiment for overseas service. He is remembered at the time of his enlistment to have said to Captain John A. GILLIES that "I could have enlisted out West, but I wanted to go with the old 59th Glengarry regiment and with the fellows I know." (Boss) He was transferred to the 38th Canadian Battalion, CEF, not long after (taken on strength, 1 May 1915). He was sent with the 38th in August 1915 to serve in Bermuda, and in June 1916 he came with the 38th to England. In August 1916 he embarked for France, and in 1917 he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Military Medal for exceptional bravery and resourcefulness in the hard fighting on the Western Front. By this time he had advanced to the rank of sergeant. But on 25 April 1918 he was convicted in a court martial of the offence of striking a superior officer, and was reduced to the rank of private and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment at hard labour. For the time being the sentence of imprisonment at hard labour was suspended but not remitted.

He was awarded the Victoria Cross "For most conspicuous bravery during the operations against the Drocourt-Quéant Line on the 1st and 2nd September, 1918." He was gravely wounded in the fighting and died on 18 September at No. 42 Field Ambulance. At the time of his death, his unit was still the 38th Battalion. He is buried in Plot 4, Row B, Grave 39, Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, Aubigny-en-Artois, France.

The sentence of hard labour and imprisonment was cancelled out just before he died (unless the military authorities slightly backdated a decision which could have been made just after his death). He had been wounded and gassed in 1917, and wounded again, probably from gas burns, in the spring of 1918, shortly after his court martial conviction.

At the time of enlistment, he was recorded as being 5 feet 5 inches in height, and to have had a fair complexion, blue eyes and red hair. His religion was recorded as Roman Catholic. He had a brother called Alfred Nunney who was killed in action in the war on 10 August 1918, the month before Claude's death. When Claude and Alfred met "in the Field" in 1918, it was their first meeting in twelve years. Alfred's military file records his date and place of birth as the County of Sussex, England, 7 January 1894. He belonged to the 80th Battalion, CEF, of Belleville, Ont.

In his military file, Claude first listed the name of his "next-of-kin," as Mrs D.J. McDonald, of North Lancaster, Ont. Later, her name was crossed out and she was replaced with "Gordon Calder (friend), R.R. #2, Green Valley, Ont." Gordon Calder was also the beneficiary of his will and by one account his medals were sent to the Calder family. The medals are now in the possession of the SDG Highlanders Regiment, in Cornwall. In 1919, a sanctuary lamp was placed in his memory in the Bishop Macdonell Memorial Chapel in the great stone church at St. Raphael's, which was the church destroyed by fire in 1970.

(*Glengarry News* 21 Nov. 1919) In 1953 the legion branch at Lancaster received its charter as the Claude Nunney, VC, Memorial Branch (*Glengarry News* 20 March 1953). In August 1962 an Ontario government plaque in his memory was unveiled at North Lancaster. (*Glengarry News* 30 Aug. 1962)

The uncertainty about Claude Nunney's place and date of birth and his exact name is remarkable, but he himself perhaps did not know the facts. A great deal has been written on Nunney, but most of it is poorly researched and repetitious, and full of contradictions and errors, and there has been much careless and uncritical copying of material from one source to another. Probably no other distinguished Glengarrian presents so many problems to the biographer. The work of putting the life of this most remarkable man on a solid historical footing was begun in a most discerning article published in *Glengarry Life* in 1990 by the late Marion MACMASTER.

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[\* *Glengarry News* 25 Oct. 1918 (part from *Ottawa Journal*) \* Marion MacMaster, "Glengarry's Victoria Cross Recipient: Private Claude Joseph Patrick (Red) Nunney, V.C., D.C.M., M.M.," *Glengarry Life* (1990), with portrait \* Boss, op. cit., 62-63, with portrait, illustration of medals; includes text of citations from *London Gazette* 16 Aug. 1917, 17 Sept. 1917, 14 Dec. 1918, describing the actions for which he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, the Military Medal, and the Victoria Cross \* brief biog. notices of Nunney, with portraits, in G.C. Machum, *Canada's V.C.'s* (1956), J. Swettenham, *Valiant Men: Canada's Victoria Cross and George Cross Winners* (1973) (includes passage on Nunney in *Times History of the War*, Vol. XIX, and fine portrait), A. Bishop, *Our Bravest and Our Best: the Stories of Canada's Victoria Cross Winners* (1995) \* *Casualties of the 1914-1918 and 1939-*

*1945 World Wars: Recipients of the Victoria Cross in the Care of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (1997), 17 \* Ewan Ross, *Lancaster Township and Village* (1982), 290, 354 \* Harkness, op. cit., 534 (portrait), 539 \* R. MacGillivray and E. Ross, *A History of Glengarry* (1979), 500-01 (portrait) \* certified copy, record of birth, Registration District Hastings, The Register Office, Hastings, England \* regrettably, access has not been granted to the records of the agencies that brought him to Canada \* military file of Claude Nunney (Service Rank or Number 410935), LAC \* military file of Alfred Nunney (Service Number 219320), LAC \* on Nunney, *Glengarry News* 19 Aug. & 5 Aug. 1938, also *Glengarry News* 60th anniversary supplement 8 Feb. 1952 p. 11, with corrections *Glengarry News* 29 Feb. 1952, also *Glengarry News* 8 Nov. 1978 (portrait) \* Claude Nunney, shown in portrait of soldiers at Armouries, Alexandria, Jan. 1915, *Glengarry News* 5 Dec. 1984 \* memory honoured, *Glengarry News* 20 Aug. 2003, *Vankleek Hill Review* 1 Oct. 2003 \* Gordon Calder (1893-1952): Fraser, *Gravestones*, I, 154 \* Nunney's connection with the Calder family, *Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 5 & 17 Aug. 1938 \* Mary Ellen Perkins, *Discover Your Heritage: a Guide to Provincial Plaques in Ontario* (1989), 253 \* Claude Nunney, North Lancaster, leaves for St. Catharines, *Glengarry News* 24 April 1914 \* has enlisted, and is in training at Alexandria, *Glengarry News* 19 Feb. 1915 \* leaves for Ottawa to qualify as NCO, *Glengarry News* 19 March 1915 \* suffering from gas poisoning, *Glengarry News* 17 Aug. 1917 \* visit to Glengarry County of Nunney relatives (twins Claude and Claudia Nunney) of South African connection, *Glengarry News* 21 Nov. 1957]

## ALEXANDER LILLIE SMITH

Smith, Alexander Lillie (1 March 1864-26 Jan. 1940), lawyer and businessman. (A.L. Smith, Alex L. Smith). Born at Pakenham, Ont. Parents: James SMITH and his wife Margaret McDonald. He was educated by his father, and also at Cornwall High School and Queen's Uni-

versity (B.A., 1883). After law study in the Cornwall office of MacLennan, Liddell and Cline (see Donald Ban MACLENNAN) and at Osgoode Hall, he was called to the bar, 1887, and he practised law in Alexandria.

A.L. Smith was married on 1 June 1898 to Grace N. Helena McDougald, the daughter of John A. MCDUGALD. (Children Surviving: 5) In late 1904 he was appointed Alexandria's first police magistrate, to obviate the difficult situation by which the Alexandria town council sometimes laid charges which the mayor afterwards dealt with as magistrate. Smith was mayor of Alexandria for the year 1909. Within that year, he moved to Cornwall, 1909, and was given a banquet in Alexandria on leaving the town where he had been a lawyer for almost twenty-three years. (*Cornwall Standard* 8 Oct. 1909) In Cornwall, he was a law partner of Robert A. Pringle, formerly an M.P., the son of Judge J.F. PRINGLE. After the death in 1907 of R.R. (Big Rory) MCLENNAN, Smith was solicitor for McLennan's estate. While a lawyer in Cornwall, Smith became associated with John MCMARTIN, of the Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines (the wives of these two men were sisters). From 1918, A.L. Smith was the solicitor for the John MCMARTIN Estate.

Smith had a law practice in Toronto from 1922, moving from Cornwall to Toronto about the end of that year. (*Cornwall Standard* 28 Dec. 1922) It was apparently after coming to Toronto that he became a director of the Trusts and Guarantee Co., Ltd. In 1927 he was made a K.C.



When Henry Timmins died (1930), Smith became president of the Canadian Mining and Finance Co. Ltd. His rise in the world seems to have been rather slow. He was aged about 45 when he left Alexandria, and about 58 when he left Cornwall. Doubtless the very considerable success he eventually achieved owed something to the McMartin and McDougald connections.

Perhaps politics did not deeply interest him, but he was sufficiently involved to be president of the Conservative Association of Glengarry and Stormont. He is said to have refused nomination as candidate for the Glengarry-Stormont federal constituency in 1921, and also to have refused the Glengarry County nomination on one or more other occasions. While in Alexandria he organized

a lodge of the Independent Order of Foresters there. Involved in cricket in his earlier years, he later followed curling and golf. He became a Roman Catholic but earlier was a Presbyterian. While a Protestant he was a Mason. He died at his home in Toronto. The funeral service was at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Toronto, with burial in Mount Hope Cemetery, Toronto.

[\* *Globe and Mail* 27 Jan. 1940, *Cornwall Standard Freeholder* 26 & 29 Jan. 1940 (portrait) \* *Canadian Who's Who* 1936-7 (vol. for 1938-39 just refers to this entry) \* Harkness, op. cit., index \* text of A.L. Smith's address on the war, *Cornwall Standard* 18 March 1915 (at event at which this was presented, Rupert MAR sang and recited) \* picture of his house in Alexandria (with his professional advert. same issue) *Glengarryian* 23 Dec. 1904 \* accidental death of his grandson, G.R. Berthon, of Montreal, aged 9, *Glengarry News* 11 Aug. 1939]

