CURRENCY

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<th>Coins</th>
<th>Face Value</th>
<th>Sterling Value</th>
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<td>doit</td>
<td>1d Scots</td>
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<td>bodle</td>
<td>2d Scots</td>
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<td>plack, groat</td>
<td>3d Scots</td>
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<td>bawbee</td>
<td>6d Scots</td>
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<td>shilling</td>
<td>1/- Scots</td>
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<td>merk</td>
<td>13/4 Scots</td>
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<td>pound</td>
<td>20/- Scots</td>
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Under Article 16 of the Act of Union, English currency was to become general. Scots gold and silver was called in, but copper continued to circulate and become debased. Scots currency continued as the basis of numerous stipulated payments.

A NOTE ON DATES

At the beginning of our period the calendar was reformed. The nature of the alteration was noted in the Session Records of the Parish of Dailly as follows—quoted in Carrick, p. 172:

"Aug. 2, 1752."

"By act of Parliament, the Julian form of the year, or old stile, ends with the second day of September, one thousand seven hundred & fifty-two, and the Gregorian, or new stile succeeds, whereby eleven days are taken out of the month of September forsaid, current year. All following dates are accordingly made after the new stile."

Burns's Ayrshire Associates

for Sources, see page 149.

AIKEN, Andrew Hunter: son of Robert Aiken, after completing studies went to Liverpool; successful business career, appointed British Consul in Riga, where died 1831.


AINSLIE, Hugh: born at Bargany, 1792, wrote Pilgrimage to the Land of Burns, died in Louisville, U.S.A., 1878.

AITON, William: born Silverwood in Kilmarnock parish, 1760, bred as a farmer, trained for the law, became writer in Strathaven and Sheriff-Substitute for Upper Ward of Lanarkshire till resignation after political differences; a writer on agricultural topics, author of Agricultural Report for Ayrshire, 1811; still alive in 1847.

ALEXANDER, Wilhelmina: sister of Claud Alexander of Ballochmyle estate (q.v.), born 1753, died unmarried 1843.

ARMOUR, Adam: lived in Mauchline, possibly brother of Jean Armour.

ARMOUR, James: mason and contractor in Mauchline, father of Jean Armour, died 1798.

ARMOUR, Jean: daughter of James Armour, born at Mauchline, 27 February 1767; married Robert Burns, 5 August, 1788; died at Dumfries, 26 March, 1834.

ARNOT, John: son of James Arnot (d.1779), the factor to Earl of Loudoun; lived at Dalwhatswood farm in Loudoun parish; he died in 1788 or 1789.


BALLANTINE, John: eldest son of Bailie William Ballantine, Ayr banker and merchant, born 1743, succeeded in father’s business, occupied Castlehill estate (q.v.); promoter of Ayr New Brig, 1785-1789; Dean of Guild, later Provost of Ayr; died 1812, unmarried.
BEGBIE, Alison: daughter of farmer in Galston parish.
BLAIR, Sir James Hunter, Bt., of Whitefoord: v. Whitefoord estate.
BOSWELL, James, of Auchinleck: v. Auchinleck estate.
BRICE, David: acquainted with Burns and with Armoors, went to Glasgow as shoemaker.
BROWN, Agnes: the poet’s mother, v. Mrs. William Burnes.
BROWN, Hugh: tenant of Ardlochan mill, near Shanter farm, Kirkoswald, the miller in Tarn o’ Shanter.
BROWN, John: clock and watchmaker, Mauchline, nicknamed ‘Clockie.’
BROWN, Richard: Irvine sailor, became master of a West Indieaman, lived 1753-1833.
BROWN, Samuel: half-brother of poet’s mother, lived at Ballachnieil, Kirkoswald, with whom Burns lodged in the summer of 1775; lived 1739-1811.
BRYEN, James: lived in Mauchline.
BUCHAN, Mrs. Elspeth: born at Eatmacken, near Banff, 1738, married a Glasgow pottery worker; in 1783 she came to Irvine as member of the Relief Church congregation of Rev. Hugh White (q.v.); believed herself the Third Person of the Godhead; White deposed from his charge, riots in Irvine against the Buchanites, who were expelled from the town; they moved to Kirkcudbrightshire where the Buchanite community awaited the imminent Second Coming of the Lord; she died May, 1791. See Joseph Train, The History of the Buchanites from First to Last; John Cameron, History of the Buchanite Delusion, 1904.
BURNES, Gilbert: brother of the poet, born 28 September, 1760; married Jane Breckenridge of Kilmarnock, 1791; in 1798 left Mossgiel; became factor of Lord Blantyre’s estates in East Lothian; died there, in Grant’s Braes farm, 8 April, 1827.
BURNES, Robert: uncle of the poet, born at Clocknahill, in 1748 went to England as gardener, returned to Scotland and settled in Stewarton where he died 3 January, 1789.
BURNES, William: father of the poet, born at Clocknahill in parish of Dunnottar, Kincardineshire, 11 November, 1721, third son of Robert Burnes, farmer, and Isabella Keith; in 1748 through financial difficulties, William left home for Edinburgh, came as gardener to Fairlie (Dundonald), Doomside, then Doonholm; leased also 7 acres at Alloway to commence business as nurseryman and market gardener, built the ‘auld clay biggin’; 15 December, 1757, married Agnes Broun, daughter of Maybole farmer; for family, see page 10; died at Lochlea, 13 February, 1784, buried at Alloway.
BURNES, Mrs. William: mother of the poet, born Agnes Broun, 17 March, 1732, eldest daughter of Gilbert Broun of Craignenton, Maybole; broken engagement with local farm servant; met William Burns at Maybole fair, and a year later married him, 15 December, 1757; died 14 January, 1820, at the home of her son Gilbert, Grant’s Braes, East Lothian.
BURNES, family of Mr. and Mrs. William Burns: v. page 10.
BURTT, John: born Knockmarloch, Riccarton, c.1790, poet. See Contemporaries of Burns for his life.
CAMPBELL of Loudoun: see Loudoun estate.
CAMPBELL, Bruce: laird of Mayfield and Milrig (q.v.), lived 1734-1813.
CAMPBELL, George: born Kilmarnock, c.1761, shoemaker, then teacher, published poems 1787, then attended college and became Burgher minister, died 1818.
CAMPBELL, Mary: ‘Highland Mary,’ born at Auchammore, near Dunoon in 1763, became servant in Lochranza, moved to Ayshire, at Coyfield (q.v.), then nurse-maid with Gavin Hamilton; in 1786 after visiting parents in Campbeltown, returned to post in Glasgow, then nursed brother Robert in Greenock, stricken with typhus herself, and died at Greenock late in 1786.
CAMPBELL, Thomas: farmer in Pendoe, Glen Afton, New Cumnock.
CAMPBELL, William: teacher in private school, Alloway, where Robert Burns received his first schooling, till school closed when Campbell appointed master of Ayr Poorhouse.
CANDLISH, James: school friend of Robert Burns at Dalrymple and Ayr Grammar schools, became a private teacher in Edinburgh and Glasgow, later a lecturer in medicine at Edinburgh; married Jean Smith of Mauchline (q.v.); lived 1759-1806.
CHALMERS, Margaret: cousin of Gavin Hamilton; her family lived for a time near Mauchline; she lived 1763-1843.
CHALMERS, William: writer and notary-public in Ayr.
CRAWFURD, Archibald: born Ayr late 18th century, author. See Contemporaries of Burns for life.
CUNNINGHAM, Lady Elizabeth: sister of James, Earl of Glencairn, died 1814.
CUNNINGHAM, Sir William Augustus, Bt., v. Milncairn estate.
CUNNINGHAM, Mrs., of Lainshaw: v. Linshaw estate.
DALRYMPLE, James, of Orangefield: see Orangefield estate.
DALZIEL, Alexander: factor to the Earl of Glencairn.
DALZIEL, Gavin: born Old Cumnock, c. 1764, weaver, became chapman, settled in Newton-upon-Ayr as teacher with wife a tambourer, for short time soldier at Ayr barracks but discharged, once again chapman, returned to Cumnock, published poems in 1818, died in poverty at an advanced age.
DAVIDSON, Betty: an old relation of Mrs. William Burns who resided occasionally with the Burns family in Robert's infancy.
DAVIDSON, John: born 1728, lived for many years at Glenfoot of Ardlochan, whence moved to Kirkoswald, shoemaker and cobbler, generally regarded as prototype of Souter Johnnie in Tam o' Shanter. v. also John Lachlan.
DON, Lady Henrietta: sister of James, Earl of Glencairn, married Sir Alexander Don, 1778; her two daughters drowned in 1795; her son (born 1779) succeeded in 1815; she lived 1752–1801.
DOUGLAS, Dr. Patrick: owner of Garrallan (q.v.) and estates in Jamaica; shareholder in Ayr Bank; sometime surgeon in the West Lowland Fencible Regiment; through him Robert Burns may have arranged for emigration to Jamaica; died 1819.
DUNLOP, Andrew: v. Dunlop estate.
DUNLOP, Mrs. John: v. Dunlop estate.
FERGUSSON, Sir Adam, Bt.: v. Killearn estate.
FINDLAY, James: excise officer at Tarbolton, who trained Burns; married Miss Mackland of Mauchline (q.v.); later transferred to Greenock.
FISHER, James: born in Galloway, 1759, blinded by smallpox, settled in Ochiltree, musician, published some verses, in 1809 moved to England, where died c. 1839.
FISHER, William: 'Holy Willie,' born 1737, son of Andrew Fisher, farmer at Montgarswood, Mauchline, whom he succeeded; ordained elder in Mauchline, 1772; rebuked for drunkenness 1790; bachelor, died in snowstorm on way home from Mauchline, 13 February, 1809.
FLEMING, Agnes: wife of John Davidson (q.v.), said to have acted as nurse to Burns's mother.
GOLDIE, John, and his half-brother John: born Ayr, c. 1788 and 1798, poets. See Contemporaries of Burns for their lives.
HAMILTON, James: estate worker at Netherplace, Mauchline.
HAMILTON, Charlotte: elder daughter of Gavin Hamilton, born 1764, married Dr. James Adair, 1789; died Edinburgh, 1806.
HEIRICK, Robert: Dalmellington poet. See Contemporaries of Burns.
HOOD, William: shoemaker and elder, Tarbolton.
HUMPHREY, James: born Cairngillan, near Tarbolton, masou in Mauchline and Tarbolton; died 1844.

HUNTER, William, shoemaker, Mauchline.

HUTCHIESON, David: 'Wee Davoc,' orphan son of Lochlea ploughman, adopted by Burns family.

JOHNSON, James: laird of Clackleith, New Cumnock parish.

KENNEDY, Jean: 'Kirkton Jean,' with sister kept 'The Ladies' House' tavern in Kirkoswald.

KENNEDY, John: born Kilmarnock, 1789, poet. See Contemporaries of Burns for his life.

KENNEDY, John: born 1757, factor to Earl of Dumfries, later to Earl of Breadalbane; died 1812.

KENNEDY, Margaret: niece of Gavin Hamilton, daughter of Robert Kennedy of Daljarrock, born 1766; seduced by Captain (afterwards Col.) Andrew McDonell, of Logan, Wigtownshire; bore him a son, 1794; died 1795.

KENNEDY, Thomas: 'Tam the Chapman,' probably schoolfriend of Burns at Dalrymple, later a travelling salesman for Mauchline firm, went to London; died New York State 1846.

KILPATRICK, Nelly: daughter of Allan Kilpatrick, farmer in Parclewan, Dalrymple, inspired Robert Burns's first song, at Mount Oliphant; she later married Wm. Bone, coachman to laird of Newark; died c.1820.

LACHLAN, John: Ayr shoemaker, died 1819, sometimes suggested as prototype for Sontar Johnnie. v. John Davidson.

LAPRAIK, John: laird of Dalfranc estate (q.v.).

LAWRIE, Rev. Archibald: Loudoun, see parish ministers.

LAWRIE, Rev. George: Loudoun, see parish ministers.

LEES, John: shoemaker, Tarbolton.

LINDSAY, Rev. William: Kilmarnock, see parish ministers.

LITTLE, Janet: born 1759 at Ecclefechan, servant eventually with Mrs. Dunlop (q.v.), then with her daughter, Mrs. Henry, who rented Loudoun Castle; in 1792 published The Poetical Works of Janet Little, the Scottish Milkmaid; married to John Richmond, an estate worker; a staunch Burgher; died 1813.

LOGAN, Dr. Hugh: Maybole physician.

LOGAN, Hugh, the laird of Logan: v. Logan estate.

LOGAN, John: laird of Laicht and Knockshinnoch estates (q.v.).

LOGAN, Miss Susan: sister of Major William Logan.

LOGAN, Major William: retired Army officer who lived with mother and unmarried sister at Parkhouse, near Ayr; he was noted for his wit and violin playing.

LOUDOUN, Earls of: see Loudoun estate.
MORON, Christina : one of the ‘Belles of Mauchline,’ married Robert Paterson, Mauchline merchant.


MUIR, William : miller in Tarbolton, died 1793, aged 48; Jean Armour found refuge at ‘Willie’s Mill’ when expelled by father.

MURDOCH, John : born in Ayrshire, 1747; in 1765 hired by Wm. Burns and four neighbours to conduct private school at Alloway, for 2½ years; later taught in Dumfries; in 1772 to Ayr Grammar School, dismissed 1776; then to London as teacher of French and author of various school books; latterly almost destitute; died 1824.


NIVEN, John : blacksmith at Damhouse, near Shanter farm, Kirkoswald.

NIVEN, William : born 1759, schoolfellow of Burns at Kirkoswald, later Maybole merchant and town councillor, 1792-1837; bought Kirkbridge estate in Kirkmichael parish 1799, also other property; Deputy Lieutenant for Ayrshire, 1810; married in 1798 Isabella Christian Goudie, daughter of a Jamaican planter, died childless 1844.

NOBLE, Andrew : parish schoolmaster, Mauchline.

OLIPHANT, Rev. James : Kilmarnock, v. parish ministers.

ORR, Margaret : sweetheart of David Sillar, nursemaid at Stair, through whom Burns became acquainted with Mrs. Stewart of Stair.

ORR, Thomas : lived at Kirkoswald, worked occasionally at Lochlea; died 1785.


OSWALD, Mrs. Richard : widow of Richard Oswald, ‘the Peacemaker,’ who died 1784; she died in 1788; v. Auchencruive estate.

OSWALD, Mrs. Richard A. : Lucy Johnston, who in 1793 married R. A. Oswald, above, and died at Lisbon of consumption, 1797, in her early thirties.

PAGAN, Isobel : reputed authoress of Ca’ the Yowes; born New Cumnock about 1741, spent most of her life in Muirkirk, lived by singing and begging; her cottage on Garpel banks a favourite howff for drinkers and wits; a volume of poems published 1805; died 1821.

PARKER Hugh : brother of Major William Parker, died c.1824.
SHAW, James: born Mosshard farm, Riccarton, 1764; brought up in Kilmarnock; aged 17 went to New York, successful in business, moved to London, 1805 elected Lord Mayor, created baronet 1809, elected M.P.; died 1843; he took prominent part in raising fund for widow and children of Burns.


SILLAR, David: born 1760, son of Patrick Sillar, tenant in Spittleside, Tarbolton; sweetheart of Stair nurserymaid, whence Burns introduced to Mrs. Stewart; taught for a time in Tarbolton parish school before appointment of John Wilson (q.v.), then opened school at Commonside, then became Irvine grocer in 1783; published poems in 1789; bankrupt, became teacher in Irvine; inherited Spittleside, then inherited from brother John who had gone to Africa, became rich in old age, Irvine magistrate; died 1830. See Contemporaries of Burns.

SILLAR, Robert: elder brother of above, went to Ayr soap-boiling firm owned by James Gibb (q.v.).

SIMSON, Johnnie: Ochiltree dancing-master.

SIMSON, William: 'Winsome Willie', born 1758, son of William Simson, Ten Pound Land, Ochiltree, educated at Glasgow University, schoolmaster at Ochiltree, 1780 till 1788, when transferred to Cumnock, till death in 1815. See Contemporaries of Burns; Murdoch, Ochiltree.

SIMSON, Patrick: brother of above, tutor to Ochiltree family in 1777, became Straiton schoolmaster in 1783, succeeded brother in Ochiltree, 1788, completed 50 years as teacher in 1833; died 1851. See Contemporaries of Burns; Murdoch, Ochiltree.

SMITH, Rev. George: Galston, v. parish ministers.

SMITH, James: born 1765, member of Tarbolton Bachelors' Club, Mauchline merchant, 1788 partner in Linlithgow printing works, afterwards to Jamaica, where died c.1823. See Contemporaries of Burns.

SMYTON, Rev. David: the first Secession minister in the county, Kilmarnock. See Secession Congregations.

STAIR, Earls of: see Stair estate.

STEIN, Isabella: daughter of small landowner near Lochlea.


STEVEN, Katherine: of Leighpark Kiln, Kircoswald, possibly the prototype of Cutty Sark in Tam o' Shanter.

STEWARD, Professor Matthew: v. Catrine estate.

STEWARD, Professor Dugald: v. Catrine estate.

STEWARD, Mrs. Alexander, of Stair and Afton: v. Stair and Enterkine estates.
TURNBULL, Gavin: Kilmarnock carpet-weaver, published poems 1788, became an actor and associated with Burns in Edinburgh and Dumfries, later emigrated to America.

WALKER, Professor Josiah: born Dundonald 1761, son of the manse, studied Edinburgh, 1787 tutor to Marquess of Breadalbane; met Burns in Edinburgh, at Blair Castle when Burns visited Duke and Duchess of Athole, and in Dumfries; 1796 became Collector of Customs at Perth; later editor of Perth Courier; contributor to Edinburgh Encyclopedia; 1811 wrote memoir on Burns; 1815 Professor of Humanity at Glasgow; died 1831.

WALKER, Thomas: tailor at Pool, near Ochiltree, poet; died c.1812.

WALLACE, William: Sheriff of Ayrshire; Master of St. David’s Lodge, Tarbolton; see Cairnhill estate.

WATT, David: last person baptised in Alloway Kirk, school-fellow of Burns, became miller at Doonfoot Mill; died 1823.

WHITE, Rev. Hugh: Irvine Relief Kirk (see Secession Congregations), and associated with Mrs. Buchan (q.v.).

WHITEFOORD, James: infant son of Sir John Whitefoord, died at Ballochmyle, 1773.

WHITEFOORD, Sir John: see Whitefoord and Balleochmyle estates.

WHITEFOORD, Mary Jane: eldest daughter of Sir John Whitefoord, became Mrs. Henry Kerr Cranstoun.

WILSON, John: born 1750, son of Kilmarnock shopkeeper, c.1780 took over bookstall and printing business set up shortly before by a Mr. McArthur, whose press was the first in Ayrshire. Wilson printed religious works, reprints ranging from Vergil to Anson’s Voyages, and the poetical works of a number of local versifiers who sought to emulate Burns. Wilson became a magistrate of Kilmarnock. With his brother, Peter, who had a stationery business in Ayr, formed the firm of J. & P. Wilson which in 1803 began the Ayr Advertiser, the first newspaper in the county; on death of Peter in 1809, Rev. Hamilton Paul (q.v.) took over his share of the business, and sold it to Adam Carnie in 1816. John Wilson resided in Ayr from 1809 till death in 1821, after which legal dispute over ownership of the firm. See Contemporaries of Burns; McCarter’s Ayrshire; McKay’s History of Kilmarnock; catalogue of local books in Ayr Carnegie Library.

WILSON, John: Tarbolton parish schoolmaster and session clerk, to eke out salary opened grocer’s shop, selling medicines and giving medical advice; after ‘Death and Dr. Hornbook’ shut shop, but continued in Tarbolton till after 1793 went to Gorbals as schoolmaster and session clerk; died 1839.

Sources: James Paterson, The Contemporaries of Burns, 1840; Charles Rogers, The Book of Robert Burns, 3 vols., 1889-91; W. E. Henley and T. F. Henderson, The Poetry of Robert Burns (The Centenary Edition), 4 vols., 1901, Index and Notes; John D. Ross, Who’s Who in Burns, 1927; J. De Lancey Ferguson, Letters of Robert Burns, Vol. II, Appendix; and local histories. The list contains not only Burns’s acquaintances, but persons indirectly connected with him, or mentioned by him. For further details of some of these persons, and for others not mentioned, consult the Index of Persons.