

## ***The King at Holyrood***

17 August 1822

engraved by **William Greatbach** after **Sir David Wilkie** (1858)  
<http://www.walterscott.lib.ed.ac.uk/portraits/paintings/images/holyrood.html>

*'Wherever Three or More are Gathered . . .'*



Greatbach's engraving is made after Sir David Wilkie's *The Entrance of King George IV at Holyrood*, begun in 1823 and completed in 1829.

It shows the King, accompanied by trumpeters, a page, and the Exon of the Yeoman of Guard, arriving in front of the Palace of Holyrood.

**King George IV**, while he was the Prince of Wales, was **GM Premier GL 1797-1813; GM Scotland 1806-1820**.

Alexander, 10th Duke of Hamilton, the Hereditary Keeper of the Palace, is offering him the keys of the Palace.  
Alexander was **GM Scotland 1820-22**.

Before the entrance of the building, in full Highland dress, stands **George [Campbell], 6th Duke of Argyll**, Hereditary Master of the Household in Scotland. George was the current **GM Scotland 1822-24**

Behind him three mounted figures bear the Honours of Scotland:

**Sir Alexander Keith\***, the Knight Marischal bears the Crown;

Alexander [1795-1873], was Provincial Grand Master for the Maritimes under the English authority in 1840 and under the Scottish lodge in 1845. Following a reorganization of the various divisions in 1869, he became **GM of Nova Scotia**.

Lord Francis Leveson-Gower\*\*, representing his mother the Countess of Sutherland, bears the Sceptre;

He was known by his patronymic as Lord Francis Leveson-Gower until 1833, when he assumed, by Royal Licence, the surname of Egerton, having succeeded on the death of his father to the estates which the latter inherited from his uncle, Francis Egerton, 3rd Duke of Bridgewater.

Frances Egerton was engaged to Elizabeth Gunning ca 1759

but on 3 Feb 1759 she instead married Field Marshal John Campbell, 5th Duke of Argyll.

John and Elizabeth became the parents of **George Campbell**, 6th Duke of Argyll, noted above in this engraving.

George [Sholto Douglas] 17th Earl of Morton bears the Sword of State.

George was the grandson of **James Douglas**, 14th Earl of Morton - **GM Premier GL 1741-42**.

Standing to the right of the Knight Marischal, as his Page of Honour, is Sir Walter Scott's younger son Charles [b. 1805].

Scott himself is the third figure from the left, standing next to John, 4th Earl of Hopetoun who is wearing the uniform of Captain-General of the Royal Company of Archers.

John Hope's Aunt Charlotte married **Lord Thomas Erskine** - **GM Scotland 1749-50**.



< *Sir David Wilkie's flattering portrait of the kilted King George IV for the Visit of King George IV to Scotland, with lighting chosen to tone down the brightness of his kilt and his knees shown bare, without the pink tights he wore at the event.*

The 1822 **visit of King George IV to Scotland** was the first visit of a reigning monarch to Scotland since 1650. Government ministers had pressed the King to bring forward a proposed visit to Scotland, to divert him from diplomatic intrigue at the Congress of Verona.

The visit increased his popularity in Scotland, turning his subjects away from the rebellious radicalism of the time. However, it was Sir Walter Scott's organization of the visit, with the inclusion of plaided pageantry, that was to have a lasting influence, by elevating the tartan kilt to become part of Scotland's national identity.

### Background

After a decade of ruling as Prince Regent, George IV acceded to the throne and his coronation on 19 July 1821, was celebrated by splendid traditional pageantry, much of it invented for the occasion. He was obese and was widely unpopular, with many offended by his treatment of his wife. He had also been struggling to manipulate the government, which was seen as a corrupt oligarchy by Radicals whose increasing unrest following the revolutions which shook America and France culminated in the "Radical War" of 1820 in Scotland and terrified the gentry. He was invited to attend a Congress in Verona, but government ministers wanting to keep Parliamentary

control of foreign affairs pressed him to bring forward a proposed visit to Scotland which it was hoped would calm unrest. Suffering from painful illness and pushed by opposing factions of diplomats and ministers, the King remained indecisive, but preparations went ahead in the hope of his agreement.

Walter Scott was author of the novel *Waverley* which popularized a romantic image of the Scottish Highlands. In 1815 this led to his being invited to dine with George, who was then the Prince Regent. By 1822 Scott had become a baronet, and was well acquainted with both Highland and Lowland nobility.

Kilts and tartans were used for army uniforms but were no longer ordinary Highland wear, having been proscribed in the wake of the Jacobite Risings by the Dress Act. The "small" kilt as worn today was a relatively recent innovation in the Highlands, having been introduced around the 1720s and later adopted as dress uniform by the army, but the romance of the "ancient" belted plaid still appealed to those wanting to preserve the Highland identity. Soon after the Act's repeal in 1782, Highland aristocrats set up Highland Societies in Edinburgh and other centres including London and Aberdeen, landowners' clubs with aims including "Improvements" (which others would call the Highland clearances) and promoting "the general use of the ancient Highland dress" by obliging members to wear this when attending meetings. Numerous less exclusive associations including the *Celtic Society of Edinburgh*, of which Scott was enthusiastic chairman, had membership including many lowlanders as well as chieftains of impeccable Highland ancestry, and also promoted Highland culture with all attending meetings and dances wearing "the garb of old Gaul".

### Preparations

Contemporary caricature of the kilted King George IV >



When his advice was sought, Sir Walter Scott seized the opportunity to invent a splendid pageant wherein ancient Scotland would be reborn, and the king parodied in cartoons as a fat debaucher would be seen as "a portly handsome man looking and moving every inch a King". George would be presented as a new Jacobite king, with the logic that he was by bloodline as much a Stuart as Bonnie Prince Charlie had been, and would win the affections of the Scots away from radical reform. A small committee was set up, with Scott's principal assistant being his friend Major General David Stewart of Garth who had made himself the undisputed authority on Highlanders with his *Sketches*.

George had been persuaded by Scott that he was not only a Stuart prince, but also a Jacobite Highlander, and could rightly and properly swathe himself in "the garb of old Gaul [sic]", so in July 1822 the King placed his order with George Hunter & Co., outfitters of Tokenhouse Yard, London and Princes Street, Edinburgh, for £1,354 18s worth of highland outfit in bright red Royal Tartan, later known as Royal Stuart, complete with gold chains and assorted weaponry including dirk, sword and pistols.

Scott brought the Highland societies and the Clan chieftains into arranging for a plaided pageantry. Garth now drilled the younger members of the *Celtic Society* into four companies as honour guards. Their mix of lowlanders and highlanders had already offended Alasdair Ranaldson MacDonell of Glengarry, who was quick to demand that his *Society of True Highlanders* be given precedence, but his attempts to take over were generally disregarded. Some chieftains took the event as a chance to show impressive forces and thus disprove allegations about the Highland clearances, but the decimation of their tenantry rather undermined this. James Loch acting for the Countess of Sutherland solved the problem of finding kilts by borrowing army uniforms for the Sutherland Highlanders.

For the management of all events, Scott took the advice of his friend the young actor-manager William Henry Murray whose talents at theatrical scenery and costume were put to good use in creating the settings and the "revived ancient dresses" for the pageants he arranged. Holyrood palace had to be readied for state occasions, but was not in fit condition as a royal residence and arrangements were made for the king to stay at Dalkeith House, 7 miles (11 km) from Edinburgh.

There was widespread concern about procedure and etiquette, not least amongst the touchy Highland chiefs (notably Glengarry), which Scott met by producing a shilling booklet "HINTS addressed to the INHABITANTS OF EDINBURGH AND OTHERS in prospect of HIS MAJESTY'S VISIT by an old citizen" which gave an outline of planned events with detailed advice on behaviour and clothing. All gentlemen of the city were expected to attend public appearances in a uniform blue coat, white waistcoat and white jean

trousers, and a low-crowned dark hat decorated with a cockade in the form a white St. Andrew's saltire on a blue background. Similarly detailed guidance was given for those fortunate enough to attend functions or levees, with gentlemen to wear a full dress suit, as well as a description of the dress of the Highland chiefs and their "tail" of followers who were expected to "add greatly to the variety, gracefulness and appropriate splendour of the scene".

The exception was the "Grand Ball" held by the peers of Scotland to entertain the king: Scott's "Hints" called this a "Highland Ball", reminded readers that the king had ordered a kilt and set the condition that, unless in uniform, "no Gentleman is to be allowed to appear in any thing but the ancient Highland costume". At this, lowland gentlemen suddenly embarked on a desperate search for Highland ancestry (however remote) and a suitable tartan kilt from the Edinburgh tailors, who responded inventively. This can be seen as the pivotal event when what had been thought of as the primitive dress of mountain thieves became the national dress of the whole of Scotland.

The catering contract was won by Ebenezer Scroggie, who would become the posthumous inspiration for Charles Dickens' character Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*<sup>11</sup>. [See further article at the end of this narrative]

### The visit



< The *Royal George* at Leith.

The first of Scott's pageants took place on the King's birthday, on Monday 12 August 1822. In procession the Midlothian Yeomanry and companies of Highlanders escorted coaches carrying the Regalia of Scotland and dignitaries from the Castle to Holyrood Palace. The procession assembled on The Mound before going up to the Castle, and within minutes of setting off was halted by the arrival on horseback of a flamboyantly dressed Glengarry who announced that it was his rightful place to ride at the head of the procession. After a pause, a Captain Ewan MacDougall persuaded the hot-tempered Glengarry to go away. Watched by packed crowds, the procession formally received the regalia then returned down to The Mound and went down it to Princes Street and on by Calton Hill to Holyroodhouse.

The King's ship the *Royal George* arrived in the Firth of Forth about noon on Wednesday 14 August, but his landing was postponed due to torrential rain. On Thursday 15 August, the King in naval uniform arrived in sunshine at the quayside of The Shore, Leith and stepped ashore onto a red carpet strewn with flowers to greet the waiting crowds. After fifteen minutes of ritual salutations he got in his carriage. A quiet pause was rudely interrupted by Glengarry on horseback galloping up beside the King, sweeping off his bonnet and loudly announcing "Your Majesty is welcome to Scotland!". The King, in good humor, bowed graciously at this unplanned intrusion as his carriage moved off. A procession including lowland regiments and Highland clan regiments with pipe bands escorted the King's open carriage the 3 miles (5 km) up to Edinburgh past cheering Scots crowding every possible viewpoint eager to show a welcome to their monarch. At a theatrical "medieval" gateway the King was presented with the keys to the city and "the hearts and persons" of its people.

Much of the pageantry for the visit would be medieval rather than Highland, but the exotic outfits of the "gathering of the Gael" were to attract most attention. The next day was one that the King spent away from the public at Dalkeith. Edinburgh was full of visitors for the occasion, and that evening they walked round enjoying "illuminations" with illustrated tributes hung on public buildings, businesses and houses, "Everywhere crowded to excess, but in civility and quiet", before being escorted to their rest around midnight by bands of boys carrying flaming torches to light their way.

On Saturday afternoon, 17 August, the King attended a short Levee at Holyrood Palace, where the great and good queued to be greeted by George in his Highland outfit complete with pink pantaloons to conceal his bloated legs, described as "buff coloured trowsers like *flesh* to *imitate* his *Royal knees*". When someone complained that the kilt had been too short for modesty, Lady Hamilton-Dalrymple wittily responded "Since his is to be among us for so short a time, the more we see of him the better."

The King would not be seen again by the public until Monday afternoon when a medium-sized crowd caught a brief glimpse of him as he went in to Holyroodhouse to hear long repetitive addresses from the Church of Scotland, the Scottish Episcopal Church, universities, burghs, counties and *the Highland Society*, and give his short formal responses.

The *King's Drawing Room* on Tuesday 20 August was attended by 457 ladies, and custom required that he kiss each one on the cheek. This brief occasion took him away from Dalkeith House for two hours, and the presentation of the ladies lasted from 2.15 to 3.30. In the rush some ladies received no "buss" on the cheek, or in their nervousness scarcely felt the kiss at all. All were dressed in rich gowns with sweeping trains, and most had coloured ostrich plumes above their elaborately curled hair. The King was courteous and smiling, and paid particular attention to "the lady on whose account so many Highlanders went down to Elgin two years ago" when election passions led to her and her sisters being besieged by a "democratic mob" of townfolk until a rescue party of her clansmen was "summoned by the fiery cross" and released them without coming to blows. The story had amused the king, and he remarked "Truly she is an object fit to raise the chivalry of a clan", echoing Scott's romanticism. He spent the next day at Dalkeith, and that evening Scott dined with him.

The king waves his hat from the castle battlements] >

Heavy rain returned on Thursday 22 August as a *Grand Procession* went from Holyrood to Edinburgh Castle. The procession and the King's closed carriage went up a Royal Mile flanked by colorful bunting and densely packed cheering crowds obscured by their umbrellas. At the castle, the king climbed out onto the battlements of the Half-moon battery to wave his cocked hat to continuing "huzzas" from the crowd for fifteen minutes, reportedly saying "Good God! What a fine sight. I had no conception there was such a fine scene in the world; and to find it in my own dominions; and the people are as beautiful and as extraordinary as the scene." and "Rain? I feel no rain. Never mind, I must cheer the people." He had not been used to this kind of reception.



On Friday, 23 August, a review of 3,000 volunteer cavalymen was held on Portobello sands. The king was also to honor the Clans including a contingent from the Celtic Society of Edinburgh. Though disappointingly his review ended before reaching them, the Highlanders took part in the *Grand March Past* then were cheered by the crowds as they marched back to Edinburgh. That evening, George appeared at the Peers' *Grand Ball* wearing a field marshal's uniform as earlier in the day rather than the anticipated kilt, and sat to enjoy watching the Scottish country dancing and the splendor of the belted plaids worn by the men. He left before midnight, but the Ball continued with increasing spirit until past one in the morning. The Assembly Rooms had been theatrically transformed by William Henry Murray, and the occasion was hailed as a triumph for him.

Saturday morning was marked by a small ceremony and procession including a Clan MacGregor Regalia Guard, as the Honours of Scotland were returned from Holyroodhouse up the Royal Mile to the Castle. That evening the King attended a tumultuous civic banquet in the great Hall of Parliament House which Murray had splendidly decorated.

Next day the King went in state to the Presbyterian Church of Scotland Sunday service at St Giles Cathedral. On the Monday he made a private visit to the Holyrood Palace apartments of his ancestor Mary, Queen of Scots, then in the evening attended the *Caledonian Hunt Ball* in a Guards uniform. Again many of the dancers were kilted, and the King was excited by the reels and strathspeys. Once more his wish was met, that while he was in Scotland all music would be "purely national and characteristic". On the Tuesday, 27 August, George made his last and least formal public appearance, showing his evident pleasure at a theatre performance of Scott's *Rob Roy* adapted and produced by William Henry Murray.



< The king arrives at Hopetoun House.

George's visit closed on Thursday 29 August with a brief visit to Hopetoun House 12 miles (19 km) west of Edinburgh. Elaborate arrangements had been made and crowds waited for him in the rain. He then joined his ship at nearby South Queensferry and departed.

#### Outcome

While the King's one kilted appearance was to be ruthlessly caricatured creating a memorable image of "our fat friend" being hoisted onto a horse, the effect of the event wryly described as "one and twenty daft days" was an increase in goodwill and a new-found

Scottish national identity uniting Highlander and Lowlander in sharing the iconic symbolism of kilts and tartans. The pride of the Clan chieftains in their heritage was reinvigorated, but there was no check in the progress of the Highland Clearances.

## Dalkeith Palace

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalkeith\\_Palace](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalkeith_Palace)



< Dalkeith Palace in January 2004

**Dalkeith Palace** in Dalkeith, Midlothian, Scotland, is the former seat of the Duke of Buccleuch.

Dalkeith Castle was located to the north east of Dalkeith, and was originally in the hands of the Grahams in the 12th century and given to the Douglas family in the early 14th Century. James Douglas of Dalkeith became the Earl of Morton in the mid 15th century. The castle was strategically located in an easily defensible position above a bend in the North Esk

River. In 1543, Cardinal Beaton was imprisoned in Dalkeith Castle. It was forced open and destroyed by the English in 1547, and in 1575 the 4th Earl of Morton built a new castle there. In 1642 Dalkeith Castle was sold to the 2nd Earl of Buccleuch.

The statue of the Duke of Wellington located at the base of the Great Staircase in Dalkeith Palace >

The 2nd Earl of Buccleuch's daughter married the Duke of Monmouth, eldest natural son of Charles II. They became Duke and Duchess of Monmouth & Buccleuch. When the Duke of Monmouth died his widow, Anne, asked architect James Smith to use William of Orange's Palace of Het Loo in the Netherlands as a model for Dalkeith Palace.

Smith and his cousins, Gilbert and James, signed the contract for masonwork at Dalkeith Castle in March of 1702. Construction of Dalkeith Palace began later that year, Smith deciding to incorporate a portion of the tower house of the old castle into the western side of the new structure. The outline of the old tower walls is still visible in the western facade of the palace today.



In 1704, William Walker and Benjamin Robinson, the chamberlain of the Duchess, went to London with a small party to choose items of furniture for the palace. Construction was proceeding at a steady pace, and the main portion of the palace was roofed by the end of 1705. The London marble-cutter Richard Neale spent sixty-four weeks at the palace with nine assistants between 1709 and 1711, carving the main stairwell and screen of the Great Staircase. Several marble chimney pieces were installed, as well as an intricately-carved marble bas-relief of Neptune and Galatea. This internally extensive use of marble was very much the taste of the Duchess. The majority of construction was complete by 1711.

< The south front of Dalkeith Palace in Spring 2004, showing pilasters and pediment.

Finishing touches on the Palace complex included adding a wrought iron screen with freestone piers (no longer existing) around the forecourt, a great deal of planting, and the laying out of a great avenue through the park. Dalkeith Park itself was a large area of manicured trees and gardens which in later years would include the Montagu Bridge over the North Esk River and the Dalkeith

Conservatory and a grassed amphitheatre. When the final calculations were made, it was determined that the construction of Dalkeith Palace had cost the Duchess a total of 17,727 pounds sterling.

The plumber John Scott of Edinburgh re-plated the roof in lead in 1743. Some minor additions were carried out in the following years. John Adam resurfaced the building in 1762 and James Playfair inserted a low window into the east facade in 1786.

Overall, the Palace is built of sandstone and has the main entrance on the south front, flanked on each side by two Corinthian order pilasters. These are surmounted by a bracketed pediment unusual for its depth.

World War II-era graffiti on the third floor wallpaper of Dalkeith Palace, Spring 2004 >

The layout of Dalkeith Palace was unusual for the time in that the state apartment was located on the ground floor, which prevented the Great Dining Room from being placed in its customary position at the start of the state apartment. As such, the Great Dining Room was placed on the first floor, still suitable for important occasions and also serving as an anteroom to another apartment on the first floor. The **4th Duke\*** considered extensive rebuilding in 1831 and William Burn produced unexecuted designs in Jacobean style. More minor alterations were carried out, together with improvements to the surrounding estate including a new house and offices for the Duke's Chamberlain, and the construction for the 5th Duke of St Mary's Church as a private chapel by William Burn and David Bryce. The Church contains one of only two water-powered organs in Scotland.



\*Note: The 4th Duke of Buccleuch, **Charles William Henry Montagu-Scott** [1772-1819] was **GM Scotland 1800-1802**. His sister, Lady Harriet Scott [1780-1833], married **William Kerr**, 6th Marquess of Lothian, **GM Scotland 1794-1896**. His grandfather, **Francis Scott**, 2nd Duke of Buccleuch, was **GM Premier GL 1723**.

Several well-known figures from English and Scottish history have been guests at the Palace in the intervening centuries. Bonnie Prince Charlie stayed two nights at Dalkeith in 1745, **George IV slept here during his visit to Edinburgh in 1822, in preference to the Palace of Holyroodhouse which was in a poor state**, as did Victoria in 1842.



< Dalkeith in 1880.

During World War II, Polish troops of the 3rd Flanders Rifle Brigade, part of the 1st Polish Armoured Division, were quartered on the third floor of Dalkeith Palace from 1942 onwards. Graffiti drawn by these troops is still visible on the third floor wallpaper of the Palace as of 2004.

Today, the 9th Duke of Buccleuch resides at Bowhill, near Selkirk. Dalkeith Palace has not been lived in by the Buccleuch family since 1914 and is leased to the University of Wisconsin as a base in Scotland. The Smith family, including James Smith member of the punk band Threats and his son Rikki Smith drummer of the stoner rock band Elephantine

are current caretakers to the palace.

## Ebenezer Lennox Scroggie

d. ca 1836

Revealed: the Scot who inspired Dickens' Scrooge

<http://news.scotsman.com/scotland.cfm?id=1462612004>

**Failing eyesight led to one of Christmas's favourite characters**

JIM MCBETH

HIS name became an aphorism for meanness, but the base nature of Ebenezer Scrooge was inadvertently fashioned by failing light and an author whose eyesight was equally dim. The real "Scrooge", an Edinburgh merchant, could not have been more different from his literary counterpart. But the gloaming of an evening in the Capital, allied with an episode of mild dyslexia suffered by Charles Dickens, has forever associated **Ebenezer Lennox Scroggie** with one of the Victorian author's most famous characters.

In life, Scroggie was apparently a rambunctious, generous and licentious man who gave wild parties, impregnated the odd serving wench and once wonderfully interrupted the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland by grabbing the buttocks of a hapless countess.

However, it was in 1841 when his entire life was misconstrued by Dickens. Dickens was in the capital to deliver a lecture to an audience of Edinburgh notables. He was wandering the city, killing time before the talk, when he visited the Canongate Kirk graveyard. There, as revealed by his diaries, he saw a memorial slab which read: "Ebenezer Lennox Scroggie - meal man". The description referred to his main trade as a corn merchant. However, the author mistakenly translated it as "mean man". Though he was shocked by the description, it gave him food for thought and two years later, art imitated life - or so the author believed.

When A Christmas Carol, one of Dickens' finest works, was published in 1843, it featured Ebenezer Scrooge, a "mean man" erroneously based on Ebenezer Scroggie. Dickens always believed his creation was rooted in truth. Later, he wrote that while Scots had a reputation for frugality, they were not mean. It must have "shrivelled" Scroggie's soul, said Dickens, to carry "such a terrible thing to eternity".

But, now, appropriately, on the eve of Christmas, Scroggie's reputation is restored. Peter Clark, a political economist and former Conservative ministerial aide who has researched the episode, said: "I've always thought A Christmas Carol was splendid, a story of redemption, but Scrooge was based on Scroggie, who could not have been more different. "Mere chance associated him with Dickens' creation."

Details of Scroggie's life are sparse, but he was a vintner as well as a corn merchant. **He won the catering contract for the visit of George IV to Edinburgh in 1822**, the first British monarch to visit since Culloden. He also secured the first contract to supply whisky to the Royal Navy. Scroggie was born in Kirkcaldy, Fife; his mother was the niece of Adam Smith, the 18th century political economist and philosopher.

Mr Clark added: "Scroggie was not mean-spirited, but he did attract the admonition of the Church of Scotland by having a child out of wedlock to a servant in 1830. It is alleged he 'ravished' her upon a gravestone. Still, what else was there to do in Edinburgh in 1830?"

Perhaps Scroggie's most delightful claim to fame was the result of his dramatically halting proceedings at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, when he "goosed" the Countess of Mansfield during a particularly earnest debate. "It fairly dampened the proceedings," said Mr Clark.

Scroggie also features on the internet, where his life is being examined by North American "relatives" eager to visit his grave. Alas, his final resting place is no more. The grave was lost to redevelopment in 1932.

And there is one other hitherto unrecognised by-product of the connection to Scrooge. Mr Clark added: "Apparently Dickens' novel killed off 'Ebenezer' as a parents' name of choice for their children. "A bit like 'Edwina', in our own time, you might say - although I can't imagine why."

<http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/scotgaz/people/famousfirst2216.html>

**Ebenezer Scroggie** – d. 1836

Edinburgh merchant who provided Charles Dickens with the inspiration for the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge. Born in Kirkcaldy, a cousin of economist Adam Smith (1723-90), Scroggie became a successful merchant, vintner and Town Councillor (or Baillie) in Edinburgh. He held the first contract to supply whisky to the Royal Navy in Leith.

Scroggie was known as a dandy and terrible philanderer who had several liaisons which made him the talk of the town. He was a jovial and kindly man, not the mean-spirited miser with which he was associated. The error came about when author Charles Dickens was walking Edinburgh in the evening after a public reading of his work in the early 1840s. He explored the Canongate Kirkyard and noted Scroggie's memorial, which described him as a 'meal man', that is a corn dealer. In the twilight, Dickens misread this as a 'mean man' and noted in his diary the shock of this description even amongst traditionally parsimonious Scots. Thus the character Ebenezer Scrooge came into being in *A Christmas Carol*, first published in 1843, and Scroggie forever acquired an ill-deserved reputation.

Compiled and edited by R.'W.'. Gary L. Heinmiller, Director, OMDHS, Dec 2006.