

1997

*The Scottish West  
March*

maggie

# REIVER

THE NEWSLETTER OF CLAN LITTLE SOCIETY, USA, LTD.



104 Bracken Lane  
Savannah, GA 31406-2041

27 January 1996

To the members of Clan Little Society, USA, Ltd.

THANK YOU!!

The recognition of our Council bestowed upon Sally and me at the annual meeting held at Stone Mountain was unexpected and certainly most appreciated. Like all of the folks working for our Society, what we did was for the love of our Scottish heritage.

Unlike our Society headquartered in Scotland, we have from the outset felt it important to provide a rallying point for all folks interested in Scottish heritage in general, and Clan Little in particular. (Don't let folks tell you that the Littles are not a clan in the true sense! We have correspondence from the Lyon Court proving otherwise.) The wonderful people we have met through our Society (whether or not they can prove descent from the Borders) is the "proof of the pudding".

We'll stay on the scene as long as we can and look forward to seeing you at future gatherings. And by all means give us a call if you get to Savannah. We are either home or we're not. And if we are, we're receiving!

Concedo nulli!

Sally and Pat Little

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## Clan Little Society USA, Ltd.

### Officers:

President/Steuart: Bob Little 916 265-9161

Vice President/Marischal: Ross Little 916 446-3909

Treasurer/Sillarman: Clarence Little 410 476-3211

Secretary/Secratur: Thomas (Mike) Little 706 694-8398

### Committee Heads:

Quartermaster: James C. Little 818 355-5258

Editor: Maggie Little 717 398-7864

Membership Secretary: George Little 912 927-4756

### Commissioners:

North East: Kevin Little 717 398-7864

South East: Mike Lyttle 305 987-7990

West: Ross Little 916 446-3909

Mid West: OPEN

South West: Don Lytle 318 981-2308

### Important dates:

#### Next Annual General Meeting:

September 7, 1996 Pleasanton, CA

Next issue date:            Newsletter deadline:

August 1, 1996

July 15, 1996

Send articles, letters, ideas, etc. to:

Maggie Little  
RR 3, Box 143C  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
e-mail: melittle@pennet.net

#### Where we are on the Internet:

Our clan website is still in the works, but we are mentioned in The Hall of Clans at <http://www.discribe.ca/world/scotland/clans.html>

### President's Podium:

One of our strengths is that we can embrace change and make it work for us. We have had our share these last few years and we are stronger for it. Take this issue of "The Scottish West March Reiver" for instance. We have been struggling in getting out a newsletter ever since the first issue was published. One of the problems was that the first issue was very well done and a hard act to follow. I think that you will agree that this issue is a good one. Maggie Little has done a great job and with some help by all of you out there, she will make it an award winner. We have changed the original format, changed our style, font and added some new ideas but we have not changed our pledge to keep you informed on a regular schedule. Our officers and commissioners will be regular contributors as well as our committee chairpersons. We'll have regular articles, columns and projects. You will be our bosses and our most favored critics. We also hope that you will be our most avid contributors because we want to know about you and yours! About new Littles, old Littles, and newly married Littles. Do you have ideas on how we can get new members or keep old members? Enter our contests and special requests such as "A Little Taste of Scotland: or "Little-isms" and if you do.....we are going to offer you an exclusive:

## LITTLE BORDER BUCKS

As good as American money! Use them toward some of the many items that we will be offering, such as badges, T-shirts, cups, etc. A copy of our new currency is illustrated in another section of this newsletter. do yourself a favor and your society, PARTICIPATE.

All in all, I know that you will be pleased by this issue of "The Scottish West March Reiver". Maggie will welcome your thoughts so let her know.

Your society is also looking for volunteers in all areas. If you have special talents or just want to be involved please let me know. We can use your help and you can have fun doing it, along with more than a *little* pride. Your Society can use Volunteers for:

Genealogy, Historian, Promotion, Advertising, Convenors, Cookbooks, Etc., Etc., Etc.,

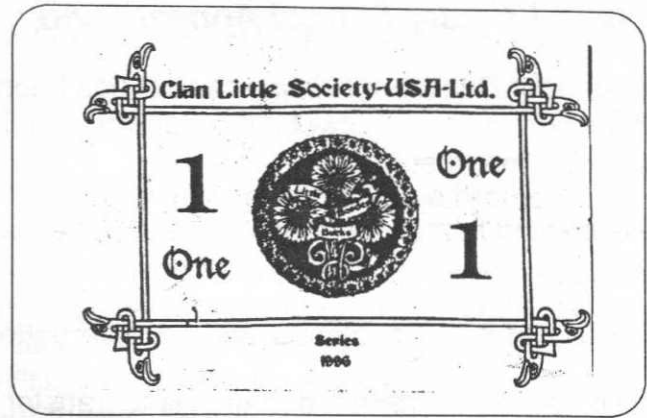
Thanks for listening...get involved...enjoy your Society and....let's hear from you.

Aye,

Bob Little



Little Buck front view



Little Buck back view



Mrs C.G. W. Roads *adv.*  
Lyon Clerk and Keeper of Records

COURT OF THE LORD LYON  
H.M. NEW REGISTER HOUSE,  
EDINBURGH, EH1 3YT

Tel: 031-556 7255  
Fax: 031-557 2148

26th August, 1992.

A. Patterson Little III, FSA (Scot.)  
Clan Little Society,  
5501 Woodland Drive,  
Savannah,  
Georgia 31406-2113,  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Little,

I have your letter of 18th August and note all you write.

There has been no Petition before this Court concerning the undifferenced Arms of Little, and I am not therefore in a position to let you have a certificate referring to that. I can, however, direct you to an Act of the Scottish Parliament of 1587 of the Roll of the Clans that have Captains, Chiefs and Chieftains on whom clansmen depend against the will of their landlords in the Borders and the Highlands. Among the names listed under West March is "Litillis" and thus in 1587 they were clearly regarded as a Clan.

Yours sincerely,

*Shoshana*

This is the letter that Pat referred to on page one of this issue.

## ***Dunblane Primary School Appeal Fund***

A trust fund for Dunblane Primary School has been established via the Bank of Scotland, Dunblane. A joint account opened between the Parents Teachers Association & the School Board will be responsible for the trust.

Anyone wishing to make a donation via credit card can call the Bank of Scotland in Dunblane direct on:

01786 822104 (please use your international codes for the UK).

The simplest way to make a donation is to transfer money from your own bank to the account details below:

Sort Code = 80 - 06 - 47

Account Number = 01929541

Account name to be arranged, but payment to:

**DUNBLANE PRIMARY SCHOOL APPEAL FUND**

will be accepted

Alternatively you can send a Bank Draft or Euro Cheque, payable to the above account name, made out in Pounds Sterling to:

Bank of Scotland  
'Dunblane Primary School Appeal Fund'  
63 High Street  
Dunblane  
Scotland FK15 0EJ

"It is advisable not to send cash and any donations should be made in Pounds Sterling" - Bank of Scotland, Dunblane.

We at Clan Little Society have contributed to this fund. If you wish to add to that, please contact Clarence Little, Treasurer or you may contribute individually.

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If you are not receiving your subscription to *THE FAMILY TREE*, please let George know so he can get you on the proper mailing list.

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**It's dues time.** Please send your renewal dues of \$15 per family membership, \$10 individual membership to George Little, 113 Seminole Street, Savannah, GA 31406 by June 30, 1996.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type: Full/Associate member - single subscription \_\_\_\_\_ \$10  
Full/Associate member - family subscription \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

## *clement and william litill*

by *james w. little*

The Liberton branch of the border clan of Littles produced two remarkable brothers who were prominent in Edinburgh affairs in the sixteenth century.

These men were the sons of an upscale Edinburgh merchant who dealt in cloth and articles of apparel whose shop was on the south side of the High Street near the Old Tolbooth. The family home was nearby in the entry now called the Old Assembly Close whose passageway is marked with a bronze plaque in memory of Clement and William Litill. (On the plaque the last name is spelled Little.) The passageway is near the present Blackfriars Street.

Clement Litill Sr, our subjects' father, was a burghess of substantial means with his lands at Liberton. In accordance with the 1496 Act of Parliament urging the barons and freeholders to educate their oldest sons to attend the universities to study the art of law, he saw to it that Clement was provided with an outstanding education.

Clement Litill (born 1527/8, died 1580) was probably a quiet, studious boy with no flair for the family business. Clement spent his working life as a solicitor and at the peak of his career was an associate and attorney for John Knox, the leader of the Reformation in Scotland. During the course of his life he accumulated an extensive personal library of 276 volumes. These books upon his death in 1580 were left to the Edinburgh Town Council. This council in 1583 founded the Edinburgh University and Clement Litill's books were the nucleus of the University's library. Of interest is a provision in Clement's will that these now priceless books be accessible to those of the blood. So if you visit the Edinburgh University Library and you are of the Little blood, you may view these books.

William Litill (died 1601), younger brother of Clement, was the more active and aggressive of the two, probably inherited from his reiver bloodline, who took over the running of the family mercantile, assuring the future of the family fortunes. William was several times Provost, or Proveist, of Edinburgh and according to the book "Descendants of Col. John Little, Esq." written by Donald C. Little, in 1591 he came to the rescue of James VI who was being besieged by Bothwell in Holyroodhouse. On June 2, 1592, the King asked the Lords of the Articles to pull the ministers out of their pulpits when they spoke against the King. William, who was then Proveist, said "Sir, yee may discharge me of my office if you please, but that I cannot doe." "What" said the King, "Will yee preferre them to me?" "I will preferre God before man," said the Proveist. (Calderwood, vol.5, page 161-2)

Clement and William are both buried in Greyfriars Kirkyard in what at one time was a very elaborate tomb. Due to its age and lack of maintenance the tomb was, in 1995, in a bad state of repairs. If you are interested in visiting some of the sites connected with Clement and William, there is the following:

**Greyfriars Kirkyard:** located at the intersection of Candlemaker Row and George IV Bridge St. Cross Candlemaker Row at Greyfriars Bobby statue, enter the Kirkyard and proceed to the left. The tomb is located along the south wall of the Kirkyard.

**Edinburgh University library:** when you come out of the Kirkyard, turn right and go south. We walked down Bristol Place and cut through to Charles Street and George Square. From there it will be easy to ask directions as the Library is right in front of you.

**Old Assembly Close:** located as described above.



Liberton House: About 2.5 miles southeast of Edinburgh Castle, on Liberton Drive, west of A701, east side of Braid Hills.

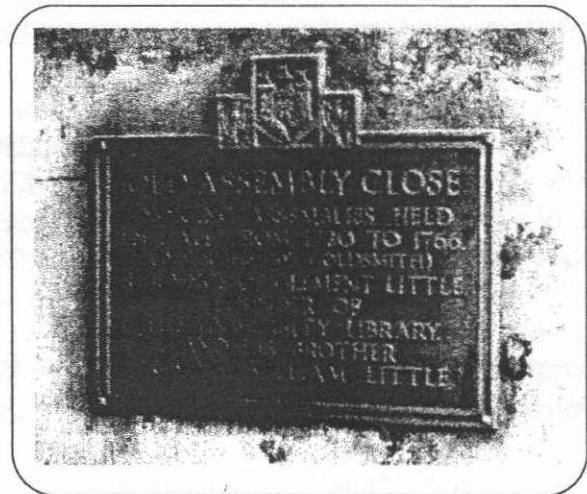
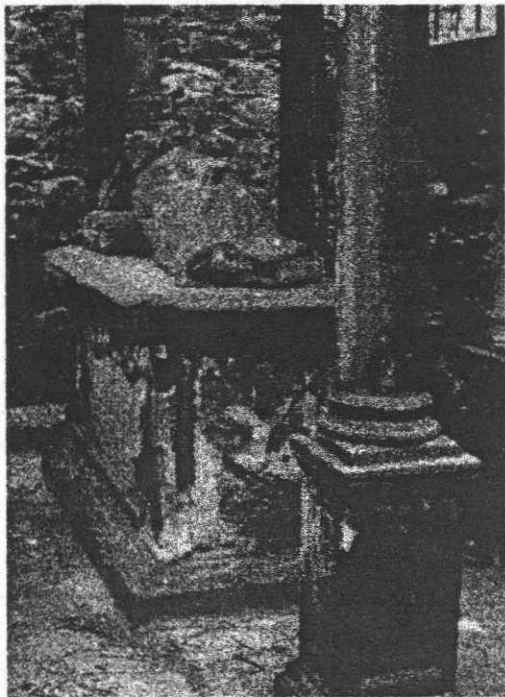
Liberton Tower: About 3 miles south and east of Edinburgh Castle, on Liberton Road between A701 and A702, south of the Hermitage of Braid.

The information contained in this article was nearly all obtained from two sources.

"CLEMMENT LITILL AND HIS LIBRARY" by Charles P. Finlayson. This book was printed for Edinburgh Bibliographical Society and the Friends of Edinburgh University Library. This was purchased by your writer at the library during a visit in 1995.

"DESCENDANTS OF COL. JOHN LITTLE, Esq. OF SHREWSBURY TOWNSHIP, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY" by Donald C Little of Forest Lake, Edwardsville, Kansas in 1951.

If we have aroused your interest with this necessarily very abbreviated report, I can highly recommend these two books for your study.



^ plaque marking Old Assembly Close

< the tomb of Clement and William Litell

## castles of scotland

C N D U N D O N A L D W D Y Y  
I A S C O M L O N G O N U A M  
V N E N Y D R A C G M O O I T  
D O V R I C G T H Q R D N R G  
Z D A E L M N T R A P G A O F  
C N E I R A I L T A A H G D J  
H A R L Y L V T H R U U E W I  
G E H W N E O E Y Q Z D V A G  
R L T I L N R C R L Q M N C L  
U I L G N M L U H O T A U O R  
B E L U I A C J O Y C N D Q D  
N B D T T A F F L E C K U M D  
I V A M I S F I E L D B T H U  
D G N I L R I T S U I O F H Q  
E Q R B X G L S P I T W F K B

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| AFFLECK      | EDINBURGH    |
| AMISFIELD    | EILEAN DONAN |
| CAERLAVEROCK | HERMITAGE    |
| CARDYNE      | HUNTLY       |
| CAWDOR       | INVERLOCHY   |
| COMLONGON    | LINLITHGOW   |
| DUART        | MINGARY      |
| DUNDONALD    | STIRLING     |
| DUNNOTTAR    | THREAVE      |
| DUNVEGAN     | URQUHART     |

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## *Beltaine, may 1*

Beltaine was the ancient Celtic festival that marked the beginning of Summer. It was a fertility festival that celebrates life. The hunting of winter animals such as deer ended and the lambing time and Summer planting began. Summer pastures were opened. The festival was celebrated by dancing around the Maypole, a pine pole garlanded with red and white ribbons that the dancers wove into a pattern as they danced. Many of you may have seen a Maypole dance. Bonfires were lit on May eve, with a smoldering piece of the Beltaine bonfire traditionally taken home to bring summer blessings into the home.

Next issue will tell about Lughnasadh.

## *clan little game schedule*

Clan Little Society USA Ltd members are hosting tents at various Highland Games and Scottish Festivals throughout the summer and fall. This is a chance to meet fellow Littles and get to know who we are.

|                                                                                   |                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 25 & 26<br>Bob & Ginny Little                                                 | Costa Mesa Games<br>Costa Mesa, CA                                   |
| June 1 & 2<br>Jim & Phyllis Little                                                | Fredericksburg Int'l Scottish Highland Games<br>Fredericksburg, VA   |
| June 15<br>Kevin & Maggie Little                                                  | Delco Scottish Games<br>Devon, PA                                    |
| June 22<br>Kevin & Maggie Little                                                  | Ohio Scottish Games<br>Oberlin, OH                                   |
| July 20 & 21<br>Clarence Little                                                   | Virginia Scottish Games and Gathering of the Clans<br>Alexandria, VA |
| July 13 & 14<br>Ross & Phyllis Little                                             | Dunsmuir Highland Games<br>Oakland, CA                               |
| <b>Annual General Meeting</b><br>August 31 & September 1<br>Ross & Phyllis Little | Caledonian Club of San Francisco Highland Games<br>Pleasanton, CA    |
| August 31<br>Kevin & Maggie Little                                                | McLain Highland Festival<br>Carlisle, PA                             |
| September 14<br>Clarence Little                                                   | Alexandria Scottish Heritage Fair<br>Alexandria, VA                  |
| September 15 & 16<br>Kevin & Maggie Little                                        | Maryland Renaissance Fest<br>Crownsville, MD                         |
| September 28 & 29<br>Kevin & Maggie Little                                        | Bethlehem Celtic Classic<br>Bethlehem, PA                            |
| September 28<br>Ross & Phyllis Little                                             | Yuba-Sutter Games<br>Yuba City, CA                                   |
| October 5<br>Ross & Phyllis Little                                                | Loch Lomond Games<br>Ben Lomond, CA                                  |
| October 19 & 20<br>Ross & Phyllis Little                                          | Loch Prado Games<br>Chino, CA                                        |
| November 1,2 & 3<br>Ross & Phyllis Little                                         | Reno Celtic New Year Celebration (weather permitting)<br>Reno, NV    |

Please let us know if you are planning on hosting a tent. Notify your regional commissioner or your editor at the phone numbers on page 2.



*news bits & pieces, from us, about us*

Mason Hepburn Little, son of Clarence Little, married Tamara Sue Walker July 22, 1995. Mason is a stockbroker and Tamara is an accountant. They live in Cambridge, MD. Best wishes to the happy couple.

The 96th annual family reunion of the descendants of Theophilus Little was held August 5. While not exactly a "Clan" function, eleven members (counting children) did attend. The family history is being republished and the genealogy is being entered into a computer to tie together all the births, marriages, & deaths that have happened since the last "full" genealogy. This project is more than a third complete. Plans continue for the 100th annual family reunion to be held in 1999. The 97th is scheduled for the first Saturday of August 1996.

On February 17, 1996, a surprise party was held to honor the 50th wedding anniversary of Jim & Phyllis Little. Congratulations & we hope you have many more!



< 1946



1996>

Don & Pauline Little traveled from Ontario, Canada to Savannah, GA in January for a visit with Pat & Sally. Here they are at a local restaurant:



< Pat, Sally, Lyn McCuen, Mac McCuen, Pauline, & Don

## CARROT BREAD, FROM THE ATLANTA GAMES A.G.M.

Courtesy of Debby Little

2 CUPS BISQUICK - REDUCED FAT BAKING MIX  
1 1/2 CUPS SHREDDED CARROTS  
3/4 CUP SUGAR  
1/4 CUP VEGETABLE OIL  
2 TSP GROUND CINNAMON  
1 TSP VANILLA  
1/2 TSP GROUND NUTMEG  
2 EGGS

HEAT OVEN TO 375. GREASE BOTTOM ONLY OF PAN, 8 1/2 X 4 1/2 X 2 1/2." MIX ALL INGREDIENTS. POUR INTO PAN. BAKE 50 TO 55 MINUTES OR UNTIL TOOTHPICK INSERTED IN CENTER COMES OUT CLEAN AND CRUST IS DEEP GOLDEN BROWN. COOL 15 MIN. LOOSEN SIDES OF LOAF FROM PAN; REMOVE FROM PAN. COOL COMPLETELY BEFORE SLICING. STORE IN REFRIGERATOR.

ZUCCINI BREAD: SUBSTITUTE ZUCCINI FOR CARROTS.

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### recommendations

Many of us are furthering our interests in our Scottish heritage by taking classes, independent reading, collecting music, and exploring the internet. Please send us your recommendations for any such items. Here's my own favorites:

Movie: *Braveheart* - even if it isn't exactly accurate...

Musical Group: Capercaillie - Karen Matheson's voice is wonderful

Internet site: Highlander Web Magazine <http://www.catalyst-highlands.co.uk/>

Book: *Braveheart* by James Mackay (this is not a novelization of the movie)

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### annual general meeting

The Clan Little Society, USA Ltd. will have it's annual general meeting at the Scottish Games in Pleasanton, California over Labor Day. We encourage you to attend & make your voice heard. If you cannot attend but have an issue you wish discussed, please contact Ross or Bob Little for to get your concerns addressed.

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Next issue will be marked with a red sticker on all of the memberships that have lapsed or are not paid up for the previous year. That issue will be your last until your dues are made current. This will apply to those owing dues for 1995, not the coming renewal. Membership runs from July 1 to June 30.

## *more news from the stone mountain games*

From George & Debby Little

We were glad to see everyone that was able to come. We have come to be like a family and it gives everyone a chance to find out what is happening with everyone and it was also a chance to meet new members.

As you know, Bob Little was elected Steuart, Ross Little Marischal, Mike Little Secratur, and Clarence Little Treasurer.

Clarence Little gave all the members present a beautiful "Little pin". I have had several favorable comments on mine.

Our Steuart Emeritus Pat was presented with a medal, certificate and an engraved quaiach from the society to show our appreciation for all his hard work for the Clan Little Society. We also expressed our gratitude to Pat's wife Sally in the form of a hand made pin, basket, and brass candle sticks. No gift that could be brought would have been enough for all the work the two of them have done.

The rest of the meeting consisted of hugs, tears and words of appreciation. I know all of us would like to thank Pat and Sally for everything they did and will continue to do for our society.

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### *coming attractions:*

Clan Little Society is working on many new projects including a line of Clan merchandise, a fully integrated and computerized Little genealogy data base, a Clan Little Home Page on the World Wide Web, and many more! What would you like to see us do? What are we doing now that you don't like? Let us know! Make a list, drop us a note, give your commissioner a call, and come to the Annual General Meeting in Pleasanton, CA over Labor Day weekend.

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From your Editor:

I hope you've enjoyed this issue of The Scottish West March Reiver. I've tried to include as many things as possible without getting too big. I had a lot of help and my thanks to out to George & Debby, Bob, Ross, & Jim Little. Many thanks to Audrey Crawford who has been a big help researching material for me and telling me of new authors and activities. Jim has contributed two articles so far & is working on his third. Ross has given me many ideas and help. Bob Little has been very supportive and helpful. Debby submitted the recipe and George supplied the labels. All mistakes are mine. This is your newsletter, so I welcome any contributions and ideas for the future.

Yours aye,



Maggie Little

This question has often been asked by those who are unfamiliar with Border history and believe the Scottish clans were confined to the Highlands. The answer is that the Littles were undoubtedly a clan, and moreover a rather special sort of clan like many of their neighbours on the Scottish Border in Liddesdale, Eskdale and Annandale and a fair number of the clans of the Highlands and Islands.

The position was clearly stated long ago in an Act of the Scots Parliament sitting in Edinburgh in the reign of James VI, King of Scots, designed hopefully to impose some order and obedience on the unruly subjects of the King dwelling in the Borders, Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

The Act contains two rolls of names, clearly distinguishing between landowners and their followers on the one hand, and chiefs and the clansmen on the other. The first roll names 22 such landlords in the Middle and West Marches of the Border, and 105 in the Highlands and Islands. This roll is the list of the names of all the landowners and land stewards dwelling on the Borders and in the Highlands where men lived and still live who are neither answerable to, nor under the protection of, any chief.

In complete contrast is The Roll of the clans on the Border as well as in the Highlands that have captains, chiefs and chieftains (and special individuals

heading branches of the said clans) on whom the clan depends, and who they will follow, even though quite often this be against the wishes of the landowner whose tenants they are.

This second roll lists 34 such clans in the Highlands and Islands and 17 in the Middle and West Marches of the Border. The Border seventeen are: in the Middle March—Elliotts, Armstrongs, Nixons and Crosars, and in the West March—Scotts of Ewesdale, Bate-sons (Beatties), Littles, Thomsons, Glendinnings, Irvings, Bells, Carruthers, Grahams and Johnstones, Jardines, Moffats and Latimers.

From this Act it can be seen that in Scotland whereas many "surnames" had no chief to acknowledge and were thus members of Families rather than clans, those that acknowledged a chief to be followed independently of the wishes of a mere landowner were in a different category altogether and considered to be the true Clans. The Border Littles are not one of Scotland's many, many Lowland Families, nor are they one of the clans so-called, for **Clan Little of the West March of the Scottish Border is one of Scotland's true clans, of which there are only fifty-one in all of Scotland.** That some of the chiefships are vacant or dormant does not alter the principle that these fifty-one are Scotland's only clans in the proper sense.

## Are the Border Littles really a clan?

*The Scottish West March* **REIVER** 

5501 Woodland Drive Savannah, Georgia 31406-2113

CLAN LITTLE  
SOCIETY,  
USA, LTD.

BOB LITTLE  
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Nevada City, California

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