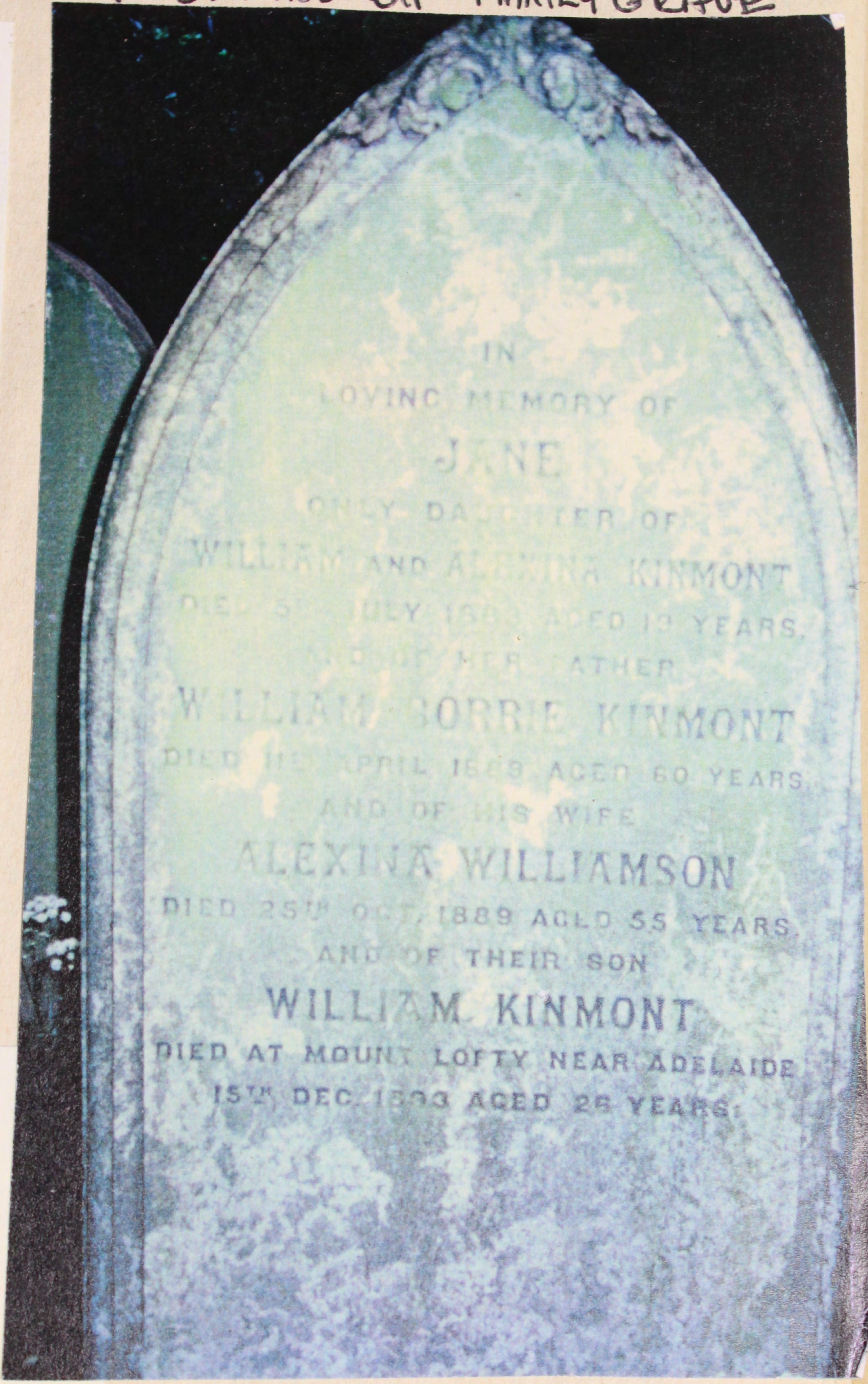


ON CEMETERY EDINBURGH - FAMILY GRAVE



IN  
LOVING MEMORY OF  
JANE  
ONLY DAUGHTER OF  
WILLIAM AND ALEXINA KINMONT  
DIED 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1883 AGED 13 YEARS.  
AND OF HER FATHER  
WILLIAM BORRIE KINMONT  
DIED 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1889 AGED 60 YEARS.  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
ALEXINA WILLIAMSON  
DIED 25<sup>TH</sup> OCT. 1889 AGED 55 YEARS.  
AND OF THEIR SON  
WILLIAM KINMONT  
DIED AT MOUNT LOFTY NEAR ADELAIDE  
15<sup>TH</sup> DEC. 1893 AGED 28 YEARS.





# NEW ZEALAND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Certificate of Proficiency.

(STANDARD VI.)

(Under Regulations for the Organization, Inspection, and Examination of Schools. Clauses 15 to 21.)

This is to Certify that THOMAS A. KINMONT  
of MOSGIEL DISTRICT HIGH School, in the Education District  
of OTAGO, has fulfilled the requirements of a Certificate  
of Proficiency.

(Signed) *[Signature]*

Official designation: Sec. Otago Education Board

Date on which the requirements were fulfilled: 13th Decr., 1917.

Age of Candidate at such date as reported from the School records: 13 years 1 months.  
(Age not certified.)



Tom  
With George's  
Granddaughter  
Annette  
in Sydney  
(from N.Z.)  
c.1958

Tom  
with 2  
daughters  
Felicity Paul  
and Meredith



YOUNG

## Eoin and Thomas

(Note by Anne Winder)

Thomas, always known as Tom, was born in NZ. I expect Harriette has been a great help to her mother. Jenny tells me that as a little boy everyone loved his hair except his curls piled on her pillow. He had them all off and given them to his friends. Tom was a bright boy and I gathered Eoin and I were great buddies, but Eoin died so tragically it was so very much a blow. I blame, because if he had been there or he could have helped him to get on. He was 11 yrs old at this time and would have been a great companion and friend and protector. I came so often from Sandy, and I was older.

George, the next one up would have had the extraordinary pressure his mother put on him to excel in all things because her presence had been taken from her.

up to swallow. Later he married. He pleased his mother. He proceeded to Australia. This was shocking to his mother, and she was shamed by it. He was chosen professional "the family" Tom in Adelaide there. Cousin Joan told me in 1933. They course. So, in will continue in Australia.

Eoin was named John Williamson Kinmont, but was always called Eoin, he was the youngest in the family when they came out to NZ and was, I am told, his mother's favorite son. He was bright and clever, and she expected great things of him.

Brighton Beach was just over the sand hills from East Taieri and many happy times were had there, including family camping holidays. It was while on one of these camping holidays that tragedy struck their second youngest son, Eoin. He and Tom were out rabbiting and Tom had croup. He started coughing loudly, so Eoin sent him back to the camp because the noise would scare the rabbits away. Eoin, now on his own, tried once more. He reached into a rabbit burrow with one hand, the other arm under his chest, and the sand above fell in on his head and shoulders and smothered him. Had someone else been there he could have been pulled out, but when George eventually found him it was too late; this was in 1915, and a beautiful communion table is in use in the church to this day in remembrance of Eoin. It brought great sorrow to all the family, and especially for poor Tom, who felt responsible. Agnes tells me that grandfather never really got over this sad death.



(Signed) A. G. BUTCHERS.

January 20th 1922.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Master Thomas A. Kinmont was a pupil of this College for three years, during the greater part of which time he was a boarder. For the last two years he was a Prefect and rendered valuable assistance in that capacity. He is a lad of good moral and Christian character, possessed of distinct ability and personality, and is moreover of good address and attentive to his personal appearance.

OTAGO

Master T. A. Kinmont has been a pupil of The Boys' High School during 1921 and was in my Matriculation form during that period. He came to us from John McGlashan College with a good reputation and he has gone through without a stain on his character. He has proved himself absolutely upright and I am sure no firm will ever regret accepting his services.

He has obtained a partial pass in Matriculation, but he had to change Sciences on coming to us and I think that is where he has been unsuccessful.

A good deal of ground had to be covered by him in this year, and he has shown perseverance and grit in overcoming his difficulties.

Ever he has shown himself courteous, diligent and alert.

In all outside work, Cadets, Athletics, Football, Swimming, &c., he has taken a full share and shown himself a leader to the juniors.

It will give me great satisfaction to hear of his entry into a good firm. I am sure my opinion is shared by my colleagues.

(Signed) J. W. REID,

Master,

OTAGO BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.



There were three saving graces. The first was Edward's youth



JOHN McGlashan Collage Maori Hill Dunedin



Visited Australia 1931 met my uncle Edward Kinmont's family

As a young man Tom KINMONT was involved in Rescue and Recovery operations following the Napier Earthquake. Days working waist-deep in water left him with back <sup>nerve</sup> damage, causing lifelong sciatica and rendering him unsuitable for World War II service, except as a Warden in the city of Hobart, Tasmania, where he lived from 1939



unexpectedly quite alone in Australia, having cut himself off from all else he had known, to work near his dearest brother.

upstairs I could see at night the lovely Bay lit by moonlight.



3RD & 4th Sons To AUSTRALIA

WILLIAM AND EDWARD KINMONT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Sons of William Gorrie Kinmont - emigrated 1891

Notes by Jennifer Kinmont for Kinmont Reunion  
Canberra, September 1999.

Edward Kinmont was a serious-minded, stiff-collared Scotsman, aged just 21 when he arrived in Adelaide in December 1891, having graduated from Edinburgh University with a Diploma in Medicine and Surgery. He registered immediately as a medical practitioner, quickly obtaining a country posting at Gumeracha for 6 months, followed by 3 years at Mannum on the River Murray.

His work precluded his seeing much at all of his admired older brother William whom he had followed to South Australia. Willie also was preoccupied, firstly as tutor to a country family and then as Private Secretary to Sir Thomas Elder. Sir Thomas's family had been instrumental, along with other gentlemen of Devonshire, England, in forming up the South Australian Company, as the basis for a freely established colony.

Sir Thomas found in young William Kinmont just the man he needed to help him run his estate "Birksgate", at the foot of the Adelaide Hills. Willie was cultured, elegant and charming, a great organiser, loved music, and proved to be entertaining and intelligent company. Willie revelled in the patronage and status of his position and wrote with great pride and satisfaction to his brothers.

To Eddie in Mannum, 8th January, 1893:

"The excitement of the day here yesterday was the turning of the ostriches and other foreign animals from the enclosure near the house to a larger paddock behind. They were too near the drive and frightened the horses. It took a staff of twelvemen to effect the change. Sir T. and I directed the proceedings at a respectful distance. A rare lot of kangeroos has been put in the small enclosure - one white fellow, one yellow, one silvery and other ordinary ones. They are very tame and playful."

Willie told his brothers in ~~South~~ Scotland how Sir Thomas Elder had built a tower at Birksgate from which could be observed by telescope any ship arriving along the coast. Then the flag would be hoisted to alert the neighbourhood, and horses despatched for news.

Willie was a poor horseman, though a keen rider, and tragedy struck after a fall near Birksgate in December, 1893. Willie was wearing full riding kit, complete with spurs (for show). The horse grew frightened passing through a narrow cutting in the foothills, shied and backed against one wall driving a spur into its own side. It threw Willie who was carried unconscious into the care of a cottager, Mrs. Bowen. With broken ribs (and who knows what other injuries), but now seemingly recovering, he was removed by Sir Thomas Elder to recuperate at Sir Thomas's country residence "The Pinnacles", Mount Lofty. Willie appeared to be in ever better spirits, but a fortnight after the accident, following a "hearty breakfast", he became faint whilst dressing, falling back on the bed and dying, to the shock and grief of all concerned.

Willie's death must have been particularly tragic for young Dr. Kinmont. Practicing his profession in Mannum at the time, he had not been with his brother during what transpired to be a matter of life and death. Could he have saved him? Also he found himself now unexpectedly quite alone in Australia, having cut himself off from all else he had known, to work near his dearest brother.

There were three saving graces. The first was Edward's youth. He was 23 and impressed by the strivings of those around him in Mannum to make the best of life in a new country. As a doctor he knew he was equipped to contribute. The second stabilising factor was his growing admiration and friendship for the old riverboat captain William Randell, who had come to Australia as a lad of 13 in the first year of the State's foundation. His father was a miller from Devonshire who had brought his family to Adelaide as part of the South Australian Company venture, but had soon struck out on his own, building a home and his own mills at Gumeracha. Branching into cattle-breeding, he and his sons drove cattle over the country between Gumeracha and the River Murray.

Young William Randell became obsessed with the idea of using the river to carry goods and produce to and from isolated settlers along its banks - up till then bullock wagons were the only form of transport. William set about designing and building a crude paddle steamer, the "Mary Ann", carting it in sections across country, for assembly beside the river. Its famous square boiler, still on show in Mannum, had to be bound with chains to contain it, as it puffed and wheezed like bellows. In the "Mary Ann" William Randell became the first navigator of the River Murray in South Australia. Over his life-time he had built many steamers and plied his trade up and down the Murray, Murrumbidgee and Upper Darling Rivers.

He was in retirement when Edward Kinmont knew him in Gumeracha and Mannum, but here was certainly a man whose pioneering history Eddie could respect and aspire to emulate in the future.

Thirdly and best of all, as he got to know various members of the large Randell family, Eddie became deeply attached to one of William's daughters, "Mabel Daisy Darling". In 1894 with the Captain's permission they were married. Eddie wrote to his brother John "I have found a true heart indeed" - and, in addition, he had become part of an established family again. His first daughter, Mabel Millicent Daisy, was born at Mannum in 1895. During her childhood she spent many happy periods at Gumeracha and Mannum with her grandparents.

Dr. Kinmont ~~next~~ became resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital, before being appointed in 1898 to the public hospital at Port Lincoln, on the West Coast of South Australia. He also was in private practice from home ~~there~~, travelling the length and breadth of the Eyre peninsular by horse and buggy over rough, often flooded roads to tend the sick and injured. He was for several years the only doctor in the whole district. (Later he sponsored a series of young graduates from Edinburgh University to Australia in return for help with his workload.) In 1904 he was appointed "proper officer" and his government posts included medical officer to the Board of Health, and to the aborigines, the gaol and the destitute; he was also quarantine officer.

Dr. Kinmont ~~had~~ <sup>an</sup> interest in mechanics and firstly imported a motorbike, then had a motor car built from design specifications in the "Scientific American". It was the first car ever seen in Port Lincoln and served him well in his work in the latter years there. Dr. Kinmont concerned himself with the development of the agricultural industry in the area, lecturing on agricultural chemistry and promoting the natural advantages <sup>he saw in</sup> mixed farming. He kept his family "poor" by investing in a wheat and sheep farm at Tumbly Bay - also a wild piece of rocky country at Sleaford, which reminded him acutely of Scotland. It was a disappointment to him to have no sons to inherit and develop these places, but they were retained and run by loyal managers for the Kinmont family right up till the 1980's.

Edward's wife Mabel had borne him four daughters - Mabel, then Rosamond, born in 1899, Enid 1902 and Joan 1908. Their young life in Port Lincoln was idyllic. As an old lady, Mabel Kinmont recalled:

"We were often on the beach before going to school. Perhaps a huge sailing ship from Sweden would arrive in the Bay, providing us with wonder and romance, or else we might go crabbing or playing pirates or sliding on the sandhills.

We loved the old 'Castle', as our rickety, sprawling home was called. It was built on a rise facing the sea. From my bed upstairs I could see at night the lovely Bay lit by moonlight."



Another early memory was when Queen Victoria died:

"I woke before daylight to hear someone hammering on the surgery door below. It was Sergeant Clode from the Police Station: 'Doctor, run up your flag half mast man! The Queen is dead'. I lay in bed stunned - it seemed an awful thing. A number of warships in the Bay fired cannons as a mark of respect. Our cats were terrified of the noise and ran madly up and down the stairs. All this seemed very impressive to us children"

In 1915, when Mabel was just twenty, Dr. Kinmont was recalled to Adelaide as surgeon at the Adelaide ~~Gas~~ and Medical Officer to the State Childrens Council and the Destitute Board. He purchased a home in Gilberton - 22 Edwin Terrace - which became a centre for happy family gatherings down the years. Rosa, Enid and young Joan attended the Wilderness School, run by 4 Scottish sisters, the Misses Brown, just nearby. All the girls pined for Port Lincoln, 7-year-old Joan worst of all. She hated wearing shoes and tried to climb telegraph poles.

Daughter Mabel began nursing training at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. She dearly wanted to be a doctor like her father, but he felt it really was not an option for a woman in those days. Edward believed however that all the girls should have professions - Rosa studied singing and gained her AMUA qualification before marrying a country bank manager, Cyril Ivan Sharp, and soon producing a bouncing son, John, to the Doctor's delight!

Enid studied dentistry and Joan would train as a kindergarten teacher and work at the Wilderness School. She also became well known as a playwright and poet. Dr. Kinmont had provided his youngest daughter with many experiences of the theatre as she grew up in Adelaide, firing her imagination.

Mabel Kinmont wrote of her father:

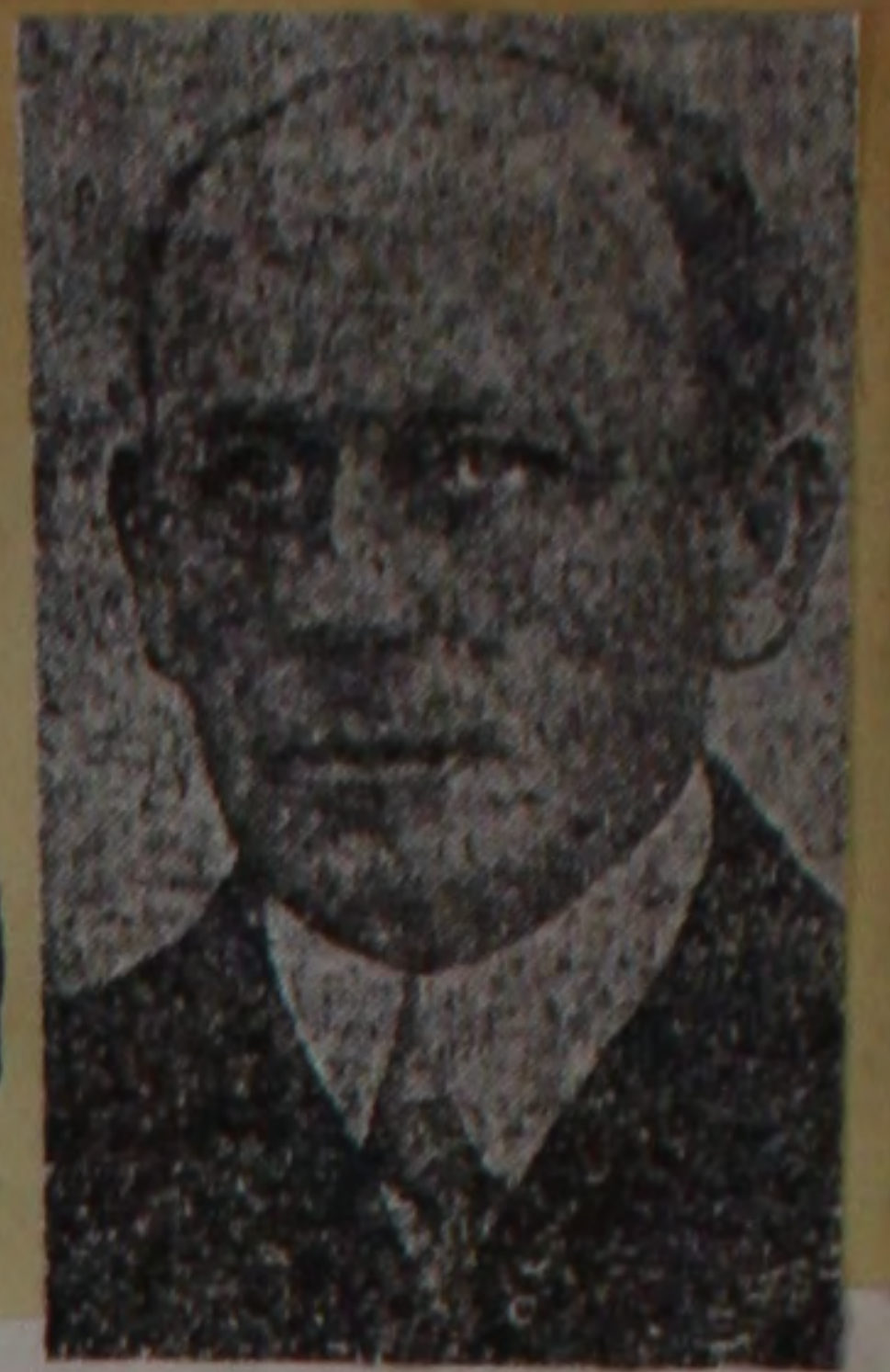
"He taught us many things especially a love of the arts, opera, ballet, painting, sculpture, etc, and for this I have always felt most grateful. He himself cared not a whit what people thought of him, as long as his own conscience was clear. We never knew what he would say or do next, but it was always something interesting or thought provoking. Once, when Edward, Prince of Wales, visited Adelaide, we girls were very talkative about him at the dinner table.

Father looked round at us all and said 'Why are you so excited about the Prince? He is only a human being like the rest of us'. However, when the meal was over, he said 'Come on, we will go into town and see the Prince leave Government House' We waited patiently at the Gates for half an hour - when, suddenly, the royal car came out, to our surprise Father was the first to spring on a fence, excitedly cheering and waving his hat!"

Mabel Kinmont caught toxic diphtheria from a young patient at the Childrens Hospital. The illness severely curtailed her working stamina but soon afterwards her nursing career would be over - she would assume the role of her mother's companion when her beloved father died suddenly in 1927. Dr. Kinmont had left home as usual on the morning of September 13th on his medical round but collapsed while on duty. He was brought home and died that evening, heart failure being the cause, talking quietly with his wife till the end. He was only 57. It is 72 years this week since his death but he still enjoys legendary status among his descendants and on the West Coast many a farmer will recount the tale of the good doctor performing a tracheotomy or appendectomy or caesarean at midnight on a kitchen table by lamplight, thus saving the life of the farmer's grandparent when a child. Or tell how, after World War I, Edward introduced an ex-army tank on his farm for use in battling the scrub. The son of the original manager of Tumbay Bay Farm told me how Dr. Kinmont had jumped fully clothed into the stock's drinking trough when first he saw running water filling it. The reserved young man from Scotland had long since relaxed, rolled up his sleeves and become a regular Aussie!

The death of Dr. Edward Kinmont, of Gilberton, which occurred on Tuesday, has removed a widely known and highly esteemed member of the medical profession. A native of Scotland, he studied and graduated at the Edinburgh University, where he took the degree of M.D. He came to South Australia about thirty years ago and practised for a time at Marryat and Gumeracha. He then went to Port Lincoln, and spent seventeen or eighteen years in that district. During six years preceding 1914 Dr. A. J. Meikle was in partnership with him. He made many friends and won the respect of all who knew him. In 1916 he came to Adelaide and was appointed medical officer to the destitute and to State children, and also of the Adelaide Gaol. Dr. Kinmont, who was 57 years of age, married a daughter of Captain Randall, of Gumeracha, who survives him. He leaves four daughters, Mesdames Sharp, of the West Coast, and Wollaston, of Sealiff, and Miss Kinmont and Miss Joan Kinmont.

EDWARD



Until her death in 1939, his widow Mabel successfully managed to administer the business of the two farms, with daughter Mabel's help. After that, young Mabel carried on, making it her "life's work" on behalf of her parents, for the benefit of her sisters and their families. Increasing deafness and crippling arthritis meant she needed help in the end; this came from John Sharp - Rosamond's son, whose birth Dr. Kinmont had been so excited about, but to Rosa's grief, had not yet beheld when he died. Rosa produced two more sons, Michael and Peter. She died young of cancer, never seeing her own grandchildren, but leaving her thoughts about family life in a book of rhymes which reflect her gentle nature and quiet dignity.

Enid Kinmont married Morton George Wollaston who was, like his famous father, T C Wollaston, an opal expert and plant nurseryman. Their six children were all girls but one. Enid died in 1962, but three lovely daughters represent her here today! (at the reunion in Canberra)

Joan Kinmont (my mother) married her cousin Tom Kinmont from New Zealand. In this event lay a second chance for Dr. Kinmont to have a Kinmont heir and Joan planned to call him Edward! But, alas, it was to be three girls for Joan and Tom - an interesting outcome being, however, that both my sisters have reversed the emigration pattern of their Kinmont grandfathers, choosing to establish their adult lives and careers in Britain\* See Footnote

Mabel Kinmont loved travelling and visited Britain and Europe several times, but she always kept the house going at 22 Edwin Terrace, for the benefit of all the family, becoming a "second mother" to her sister's 12 children and showering us all with loving generosity. She lived until 1984. Only a year later my mother, Joan, 13 years younger, died during an extended stay in London.

I am the last South Australian still with the surname Kinmont, but I often think how proud Edward and William Kinmont would be that among their family descendants are teachers, scientists, nurses, social workers, agriculturalists, environmentalists, builders, mechanics, artists, musicians, writers, an architect, AND a woman doctor! I'd like to finish with a paragraph from Dr. Kinmont's thesis on Obstetrics which secured for him the M.D. Degree from Edinburgh University in 1912:

"The colonial practitioner labours under disabilities. But he has his compensations. He cannot pit himself against the savants of the schools, but he has enhanced perspective, his inventive faculties are stimulated, he has time for reflection, and initiative is specially forced upon him and fostered in him by his very isolation. In no untrue sense, necessity with him has to be the mother of invention. He has to devise in difficult circumstances. Possessing but few instruments, he has to get more use out of his hands. The late Sir Thomas Fitzgerald, Surgeon of Melbourne, has said 'The instrument is the man, an expert surgeon doesn't require many tools beyond a knife, forceps, a saw -- and his hands'. The colonies perhaps specially train him then to observe, to recognise, to invent, to adapt, to improvise, above all, to act."

\*Footnote: Meredith married English actor Paul Daneman and is a well known writer, currently working on the official biography of Margot Fonteyn. Felicity has worked in various aspects of the British tourist industry and has her own video company on the Isle of Wight.



M.S.S.

# "A Clever Catch"

a new and clever

Tragedy

in  
Two Acts

Alex. Vere de Vere

(author of "Wrong Righted.")

Scene I. Office.

Scene II. Hotel drawingroom.

W. But you cannot get it  
you have already got an  
overdraft.

M. You won't give it to me.

W. H. Most certainly not.

M. I will have it though by  
fair means or foul.

W. You will, will you.

M. Leave me alone for your  
father's painted.

W. H. If he has painted what  
are you doing at his cash. (Michael  
pulls himself free and bolts)

Curtain Down

about camping out in the summer holid<sup>ays</sup>.

When are you coming up here again

Gandy is not lame and I think you

could get a gallop out of her.

## William

When will ye come hame  
again, Willie?

Now, Willie, tell to me,  
When the sun and moon  
dances on the green,  
And that will never be!

Old Ballad

Scotsman 23-4-94

SAD DEATH OF AN EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY MAN IN AUSTRALIA.—Many of our readers, especially those connected with the University, will learn with regret that Mr William Kinmont, M.A., has met with a fatal accident in Australia, news of which has reached his relatives by the mail received yesterday. He was riding near Adelaide on the 23 December, was thrown from his horse, and, in spite of the best medical skill, died on the 15th December. Mr Kinmont was one of the best known men in the University here. About three years ago he became senior president of the Students' Representative Council, after filling numerous other offices in connection with it, and did much to making the Council the force it now is in the University. He took a leading part in the erection of the Students' Union buildings in Park Place, and by his own personal efforts he formed the nucleus of the library there. During his tenure of office in the Council he did much to promote the social life of the University, and in this connection organised the great gatherings of students presided over by the late Lord Iddlesleigh, the Duke of Argyll, the late Sir Morell Mackenzie, Miss Adelaide Detchon, and others. He was one of the first editors of "The Student" magazine, which under his management flourished greatly in interest and circulation. Mr Kinmont left this country in 1881 to settle in Australia, where he has acted as private secretary to the Hon. Sir James Elder, G.C.M.G. It will be remembered that so lately as September last he contributed to our columns interesting letters on the discovery of fossil remains at Lake Mulligan, in South Australia. His death at the early age of twenty-seven has cut

XI.

From R. M. FERGUSON, Esq., M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.E.,  
Headmaster of the Edinburgh Institution.

EDINBURGH INSTITUTION,  
8 QUEEN STREET, 6th March 1889.

MR WILLIAM KINMONT was a pupil of this school for the three years previous to his entrance to the University. He was one of our best boys, distinguished alike for application, intelligence, and attainment. I have followed his career with interest during his curriculum at College, and I think he is now right in choosing Education for the work of his life. I say so from a knowledge of his character, and also from the fortunate results of his teaching in the case of several pupils whose studies he has conducted in private. He possesses in a singular degree the power of enlisting the interest of his pupils, and of presenting the matter on hand with clearness and accuracy. He is a young man of most attractive manners, of great personal influence, and of sterling principle. This, combined with his excellent scholarship, cannot fail to make him a useful and successful educator.

R. M. FERGUSON.

Llynham,  
February 1<sup>st</sup> 1895.

My dear Mr Kinmont,

Thank you for the paper you sent me, I saw the place that you had marked. We like Mr Houston pretty well so far. We only started school on Monday, and we only went in to school on Monday morning and not on the afternoon, we will have a holiday on Monday as it is the 6<sup>th</sup>. I was very much surprised at you, because you said that you would



Lynam,  
February 1<sup>st</sup>. 1893.

My dear Mr Kinmont,

Thank you for  
the paper you sent me, I saw the  
place that you had marked.

We like Mr Houston pretty well  
so far. We only started school  
on Monday, and we only went  
in to school on Monday morning  
and not on the afternoon, we  
will have a holiday on Monday  
as it is the 6<sup>th</sup>

I was very much surprised at you,  
because you said that you would



write to me next, and you have not written to me yet.

The other day I found a likeness of old Bill, and so I will send it down in this letter, but mind you send it back to me again because I want to keep it for a curiosity. Jean told me about the ghost, what a laugh you must have had when you found out what your ghost was.

You will be very sorry to hear that Gandy ~~is~~ is still lame, and Li says that she wont be better for three months. Uncle Jack said that she might never get better, but to use your own word that is all bunkum.

Pat is going to run his mare in the same race that Commotion is going to run in, I hope that C. comes first and H. second.



There is to be a cricket match to-  
morrow and Rob Lawson is coming  
down to play. Bob Oliver is stay-  
ing here now, he is ~~st~~ such a nice  
man. I have got out of the way  
of playing cricket since I was in  
Melbourne, but I am getting in  
again pretty fast. There are such  
a lot of ripe apples in the garden  
ripe now. Jean showed me her  
ring it is a pretty one and no  
mistake.

Mind you ~~write~~ soon, and  
don't forget to send back the  
likeness.

I remain  
your soon to be cousin  
Lenore.



Hynam.

My dear W Kinmont,

Uncle told us that he met you at the show, what did you think of the show, and did you see that Tommy you were telling us about last year.

Bob Oliver and the boys are talking <sup>aps.</sup> about camping out in the summer holiday. When are you coming up here again. Gandy is not lame, and I think you could get a gallop out of him.



Father and Noel and I went out for a walk this morning round the bank and I found a covered in burrow with five young rabbits in it.

Mother came home last night, and brought my paintbox up.

Old Charlie Linton has got the sack for getting drunk, they had all gone out mustering, and Charlie went off to ~~the~~ Narracoorte and brought back some whiskey with him, and when the men came home they had to cook their own tea, they have got a new cook, and he has only got one eye.

There is a new traffic manager in Narracoorte now, and he has stopped us from using the track ~~across~~ the line up to the shed, and he will not let any one walk up by the line and we must not get into the railway line fence even to cross over except where



there is a crossing.

Bob and the boys go out rabbiting every Saturday and they mostly get a good tally, the boys sent the thirty dozen skins down to Adelaide about a week ago, but they will not hear about them for another week at least.

The state school at Narracoote has had to be closed because of measles but Harry Mun has got them.

W. F. J. Smith comes out one Sunday in every month to have a service in the woolshed, and W. F. return <sup>led</sup> ~~led~~ the singing, and very few sang too.

I remain  
E. E. Smith.



Birksgate,  
GLEN OSMOND.

My dear Lenore,

I was very much delighted to get your nice letter this morning, and I hasten to thank you for your kindness in remembering me. I am always pleased to have a letter from Hynam, and to hear your news, for I have not yet forgotten, nor am I at all likely to forget, the many happy days I spent there. Well done little Hamilton too! I hardly expected to get such a well written letter from him. As he cannot read yet, I am going to send him some of his favourite strawberries, by way of reply, and these he will get from his mother when they arrive.

You will see from my new address that Sir Thomas and I have left Birksgate and have come up to "The Pinnacle" for the summer months. The change is a most delightful one, for this is the coolest place I know of in the Colony, and the house is right on top of the hill. We have magnificent views in all directions - especially grand from the top of the tower which is fully 110 feet in height.

I have brought Signal up with me and also a new light hooded- buggy, suitable for the hills, which I invested in before leaving Adelaide, so that I get plenty of riding and driving both with Sir Thomas and by myself. Sir Thomas has very kindly given me the services of a young boy "Jack" who sees to my pony and pony trap, so that you see I.....happy.

I hope to have a visit shortly from Dr. Eddie as Sir Thomas has invited him to come and spend a few days here if he can get away from Mannum.

I do not think that I told you of another "buster" that I had before leaving Birksgate. I was riding Signal in to town and was enjoying a fast canter across a paddock - by way of making a quick cut - when my pony put his foot in a small hole and rolled right over, throwing me free 6 yards in front of him. My patent stirrup automatically opening, I landed clear of the pony none the worse of the fall but had the mortification of having to walk home as Signal bolted there before I could catch him!

Do you remember the snake I slaughtered with your father's buggy whip on the far side of Ormiston? Hill? Well yesterday I added another to my list. It was a black tiger snake and a good deal bigger than the previous one.

I hope your father has got a good clip of wool this year and that shearing is now over.

With kind remembrances to you all, believe me,

Yours affectionately,

W. Kinmont

Dear Mrs. Smith,

I had a nice little letter from Lenore this morning and I am now enclosing a note to her in reply.

She tells me that you have been away in Melbourne for a few weeks. I trust that your people there are bearing up well, and that Miss D. is not any worse. It must be a great grief to you to be able to do so little for her.

Sir Thomas has left Birksgate for the summer months, as the heat on the plain is so severe and we are now most comfortably settled down in his delightful residence in the hills. It is a most agreeable stay and the air here is always cool and breezy.

This is the strawberry season and the supply of fruit seems to be unlimited. Remembering how I managed to miss the train that brought you strawberries from Adelaide last year and consequently delayed their arrival at Hynam, and knowing how fond your children are of them, I hope you will allow me the pleasure of sending you some next week - say on Thursday morning so that you may expect them Thursday afternoon. I hope they will arrive in good condition. Please do not deny me the pleasure, and with my best wishes to you and yours,

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

W.K.

"Adelaide Catch" continued.

Oct 2

Enter Miss H. the trooper and  
and Jack.

H. I have got no clue I fear we  
will have to give up the search  
g. So do I it is a useless case Mum  
Miss H. I have got a clue. How do  
as I tell you. ~~and~~ I want you  
to ask no questions but to  
remain outside the house tonight  
within call and when I call  
help help come to my help  
at once. (exit Trooper and J.)  
~~at~~ Miss H. (aside) I expect a  
gentleman here to night who  
if I am not mistaken is the  
man we want (exit Miss H.)

and while he is looking at  
it Miss H. throws off her

**WILLIAM KINMONT**  
**BROTHER OF EDWARD**  
**PRIVATE SECRETARY TO**  
**SIR THOMAS ELDER**  
**DIED 1893 AGE 26.**  
**RESULT OF A RIDING ACCIDENT**  
**INTERRED SURLING CEMETERY**



Adelaide Advertiser 18/12/1893

much regret will be felt at the announcement of the death of William Kenmont M.A. who has for the past twelve months acted as ~~the~~ private secretary to Sir Thomas Elder. Kenmont was thrown from a horse a fortnight ago on the Glen Osmond Rd and had several of his ribs broken. He was at once taken to the Glen Osmond Post Office where most comfortable accommodation was provided by Mrs Rowena?<sup>Kenmont</sup> There he made rapid progress toward recovery under the care of Dr Giles and he was able on Saturday week, eight days after his accident, to be taken home to the Pinnacles, Mt Lofty, where he continued to make good progress. On Sunday morning <sup>after</sup> he was able to get out of bed but while dressing he suddenly became so faint he had to lie down. He soon recovered consciousness and conversed with Prof. Watson but in a few minutes life was extinct. The deceased was 26 years of age. His funeral took place from the Pinnacles, Mt Lofty to the Stirling Cemetery near Aldgate on Saturday afternoon and among those present were Dr Kenmont, brother of deceased, Sir Thomas Elder, Dr Giles, Dr Sterling, Prof.

Watson and ~~his wife~~ <sup>the Rev. W.K. Mudge</sup> of Glen Osmond, Mr P. Waite and Dr Stephens of Mt Lofty, Mr A van - ? - - and Mr Alexander Martine. The service at the grave was conducted by Rev. Alec Lawson M.A. of Mt - ? - -; an intimate friend of the deceased. The late Mr Kenmont was a graduate of Edinburgh University and - ? - - senior president of the Student Representative Council of that University - came to Australia in July, 1891. For some time he acted as resident tutor to the family of Adam Smith of Hynan and afterwards became private secretary to Sir Thomas Elder at Birksgate. By a strange coincidence he entered his duties here 12 months ago on Saturday. Mr Kenmont was greatly beloved by a wide circle of friends & his faithful services to Sir Thomas Elder were greatly appreciated by that gentleman. Besides Dr Edward Kenmont of Mannum for whom <sup>in</sup> his sudden severe bereavement much sympathy has been expressed, the late Mr Kenmont is survived by two brothers in Scotland Mr John Kenmont ... (BSD?) Edinburgh and the Rev. A.W. Kenmont M.A. Free Church.

(Raw)



Now - Details of 3rd son of William & Alexina Kinmont

Mr. William Kinmont, M.A., was Private Secretary to Sir Thomas Elder for some time, and lost his life at Glen Osmond in 1893 through a fall from his horse.

South Australia



W. Crooke

103 PRINCES STREET EDINBURGH

WILLIAM KINMONT  
(3rd Son of William Gorrie Kinmont)

b. 1867  
died after riding  
accident in South Australia  
1893 while private  
Secretary to Sir Thomas Elder



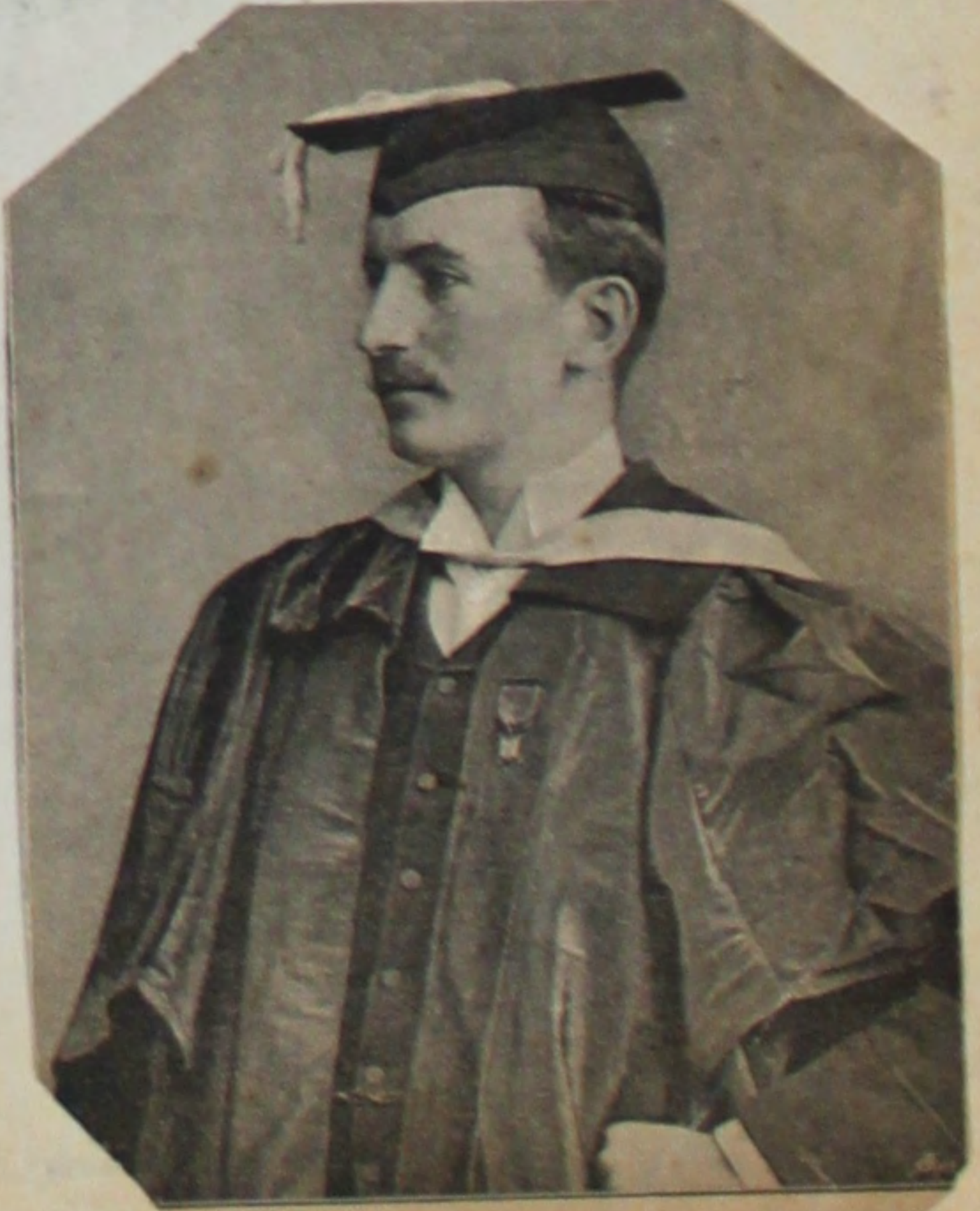
Moffat

125. PRINCES ST EDINBURGH.

Wm President of the Men's Union  
Edinburgh University.



Mr. William Kinmont, M.A.  
9 Royal Terrace,  
Nicholson Street, Fitzroy



MR. WILLIAM KINMONT, M.A.  
Edinburgh University, Marzara, Novos











FEBRUARY 1889.


The Union Lectures Committee of the Students' Representative Council desire the honour of your presence to accompany His Grace the Duke of Argyll, K.C., K.P., to the Platform, on the occasion of his Address to the Students in the Queen Street Hall, on the Evening of Friday, 22nd February, at Eight o'clock.

Wm. Kinmont, Convener.

S. R. C. OFFICE,  
UNIVERSITY.

R. S. V. P.



UNIVERSITY  OF EDINBURGH *Ingelow*

Under the Patronage of  
\* PRINCIPAL SIR WILLIAM & LADY

MISS

**Adelaide Detchon**

\* LYRICAL & MUSICAL RECITATION

Music Hall, George Street,  
19th November 1887.

H. Atkinson & Co., Printers, 8 Hanover Street.

**D**

*Best Compliments  
A. D.*





# A FAMILY AFFAIR

Previous pages:  
excerpts from  
this book



M. I. LEGOE

Mary Isobel Legoe, author of "A Family Affair", is the sole surviving member of the family of six children born to the late Mr and Mrs Tom F. Barr Smith, of Birksgate, Glen Osmond. She was born on the 3rd July 1898 at Wairoa, Aldgate. Like her mother, Mary Isobel Barr Smith, she has always been called "Molly".

She has been able to recall events from her earliest days, when she was whipped from her cot as Adelaide experienced its worst earthquake. Her recollections provide the reader with an insight into the social and community life of a family. The habits, customs, interests and pastimes of their lives, and the tides of events that transpired, form a valuable contribution to the history of South Australia.

Molly Legoe and her husband, the late Richard John Legoe, can be credited with the most important pioneering of an area in the South Eastern part of South Australia; which resulted in the development of what was generally regarded as worthless land into one of the State's finest rural production areas.

It is the author's hope that in publishing "A Family Affair" she will encourage others in South Australia, and beyond its borders, to compile their own accounts of Men and Women, and events which helped build this country into the pleasant land it is today.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

And finally— 1982

It is now 142 years since Alexander Elder arrived in his sloop "Minerva" in South Australia and dropped anchor in the roadstead at Port Misery, off Glenelg. It was his drive and energy which started the firm of A. L. Elder & Co., in that year of 1839 and carried it on with success, until he left the State in 1853.

Then it was his brother Thomas and brother-in-law Robert Barr Smith and his family, who were largely responsible for expanding the business and making it into the growing concern which it has been up to the present day, although many other well known South Australian names have had a hand in it. When Alexander left South Australia in 1853 he formed the firm of A. L. Elder in London. He never returned to South Australia. It always puzzled me why he did this, and cut himself off so completely from the place where he had been so successful. But that is a riddle to which I shall never find an answer. He and his sister Joanna were the only members of the Elder family connected with South Australia to have children. Joanna's living descendant now number about 125.



Adelaide Workmen's Homes Inc.

PO Box 377, Kent Town SA 5071

(a legacy of Sir Thomas)

**"To the Adelaide Picture Gallery £25,000 to be spent in the purchase of pictures only"**  
— Sir Thomas Elder's bequest

**EXACTLY** 100 years ago this week, Harry P. Gill started spending the biggest 19th century bequest to an art museum in Australia. In 100 years, Thomas Elder's £25,000 (\$50,000) legacy to the Art Gallery of South Australia has turned into \$65 million worth of art.

Sir Thomas Elder, GCMG (1818-97), that wily old Scots bachelor, had turned his modest capital into a fortune in SA, with vast tracts of land across the State, profits from the copper boom, and the country's largest stock and station agency.

His was the first major endowment to an Australian gallery. It was dwarfed by his enormous £100,000 (\$200,000) bequests to the University of Adelaide, but it started a tradition of bequests to the gallery that continues even today.

art gallery. The gallery relies more on private benefactors than any other similar institution in Australia.

Elder was followed by names such as the Morgan Thomas bequest in 1903, the David Murray in 1907 and dozens of others through the 20th century, although more recently donors have shown a preference to be alive for giving.

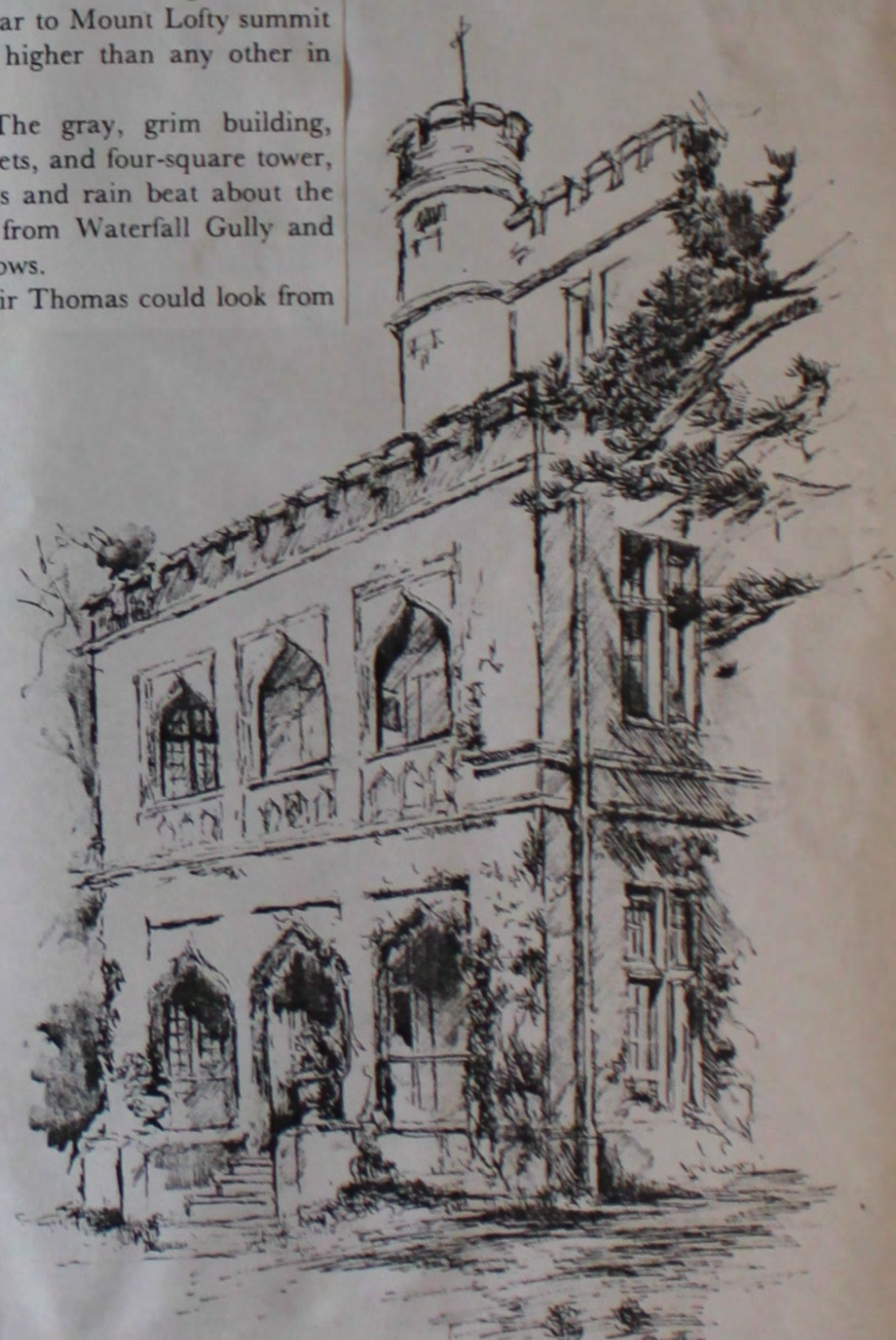
But a stroll through the gallery immediately makes clear that it is Thomas Elder more than any other who sets his stamp on the collection. The walls are thick with paintings bought through the Elder Bequest and include some of the gallery's most prized works: *A break away!*, the Tom Roberts classic and one of Australia's icon artworks, is one.

In all, 350 works have been bought by the bequest and 150 of them are seen regularly on the gallery walls. The gallery decided to wrap up the remainder of the bequest in this centenary year by spending the principal on artworks.

Another such figure was Sir Thomas Elder, who told the architects Black and Hughes to build him a home in the baronial style of his native Scotland. He bought land at 2,250 feet above sea level, as near to Mount Lofty summit as he could, so his home was higher than any other in South Australia.

He named it Carminow. The gray, grim building, dominated by battlements, turrets, and four-square tower, suited its rugged setting. Winds and rain beat about the tower; winter fogs swirled up from Waterfall Gully and slid dank fingers over the windows.

But in spring and summer, Sir Thomas could look from



his 100-foot tower over the sparkling blue of St Vincent Gulf, across fertile valleys to Mount Barker and into the hazy distance towards the Murray or south-east to the shimmering horizon of Lake Alexandrina.

The interior was "of massive proportions," as a newspaper reported. Huge drawing-room, dining-room, and library; a grandiose staircase of Victorian blackwood and cedar; the pompous gloom somehow accentuated by light diffused through cathedral-like stained-glass windows. On the second storey were a billiard-room, twenty-seven by eighteen feet, and three bedchambers almost as large, with five more bedrooms in the tower. Kitchen, servants' quarters, and stables were separate from the house.

The gardens had an equally formal design; it seems almost fortuitous that their rhododendrons are now softly informal and lovely in the spring.

Carminow later became the summer home of Sir Langdon Bonython, and it still belongs to the Bonython family. Once there was talk of a Carminow ghost, but the ghosts were intruders making merry in rooms which hardly seem planned for merriment.

Adelaide Hills Sketchbook  
Max Lamsled  
If later known as "The Pinnacles"  
This is where William Kennon was taken & died after his accident



Could you tell me when the castle, situated opposite St. Michael's Theological College, Summit road, Mount Lofty was built? For whom was it built, and is there any history attached to its successive owners? — "HISTORICAL INTEREST" (Brighton).

The castle was built for Sir Thomas Elder in the early 1880s. He died not long after the castle had been completed, and it was bought by Sir Langdon Bonython. It is now the property of Mr. John Bonython jun. The architecture is "Scottish Baronial" and the tower was made high so that Sir Thomas Elder could see the yachts at Glenelg, and watch for the arrival of mail steamers from England.

THIS is the main staircase of the mansion, leading to the first floor bedrooms and the gallery.

FRONT view of Birksgate, built in 1851 and enlarged in 1864 to 42 rooms.



A historic house in the foothills — Birksgate, the home of four generations of the Barr Smith family — is being demolished to make way for a housing estate.

The 40-room house and its 77-acre grounds at the top of Glen Osmond road was sold yesterday to N. L. Stokes Pty. Ltd., master builder.

The company intends to develop the area as a prestige housing estate in a \$6m. plan.

Mr. W. L. Stokes, a director of the company, said last night that the property would be divided into large building allotments with areas set aside as natural reserves. "We realise that this type of development cannot be repeated in Adelaide and we are taking care

## Old house to go

to preserve the beauty and character of the Birksgate property," Mr. Stokes said.

"We are making use of the undulating land and the native trees, and will place every house to the best advantage so that each becomes an integral part of the whole development."

Development was expected to begin soon with allotments available later in the year, he said.

ADELAIDE, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1970



Historic Birksgate, home of the Barr Smith pastoralist family at Urrbrae, is to be pulled down.

"It will not be for some time yet," Mr. Tom Barr Smith said today.

He plans to sub-divide the estate. The size of the blocks has not been decided.

After the demolition Mr. Barr Smith and his wife with their two children will move to a house they have bought in the hills.

### Built in 1851

He is the fourth generation of the Barr Smith family to live at Birksgate since it was built

in 1851. The grounds then covered 100 acres, and in 1864 Sir Thomas Elder, great uncle of Mr. Barr Smith, bought the property and enlarged the mansion to 42 rooms.

The mansion now stands in 75 acres of parklands on the corner of Mount Barker road and Cross road.

During a controversy in the middle of last year over Government House, it was suggested that Birksgate would make a fit home for the Governor.

Birksgate will be open to members of the National Trust of SA and their friends on January 13.

Agreement  
between  
Sir Thos Elder & W. Summit  
5th Oct 1871

Copy Letter  
Dr Macgregor  
to  
Sir Jas. Mc Bain.  
2

4th June 1891  
2

Copy Letter  
from  
Sir W. Munro  
to  
Lord Hopetoun

16th May 1891

A block of land to be auctioned soon at Birksgate Estate Urrbrae, will include with it an interesting structure linked with the past.

In 1874, Sir Thomas Elder built a 100-ft. tower on the high ground of Glen Osmond home. It offered an excellent view of the coast, which he reached frequently through a tele-

graph. When he saw a ship, it was good news to those expecting friends, mail goods from England, so to announce the fact he ran up a flag and fired a cannon. He also signalled the telegraph to learn if the weather was suitable to take out his boat, "The Birksgate", which he bought from James Ferguson.

April 6, J. Metters Pty. Ltd., will auction the 77½ ft. by 109 ft. site. It still offers magnificent views of the coast and trees and

100 YEARS

ago  
from "The Advertiser"  
of May 13, 1878.

The news that the Hon. Thomas Elder, MLC, has received the honor of the knighthood of St. Michael and St. George will be received with unmixed satisfaction.



A water color (above) of Sir Thomas Elder's lookout tower at Birksgate Estate.



# Agreement

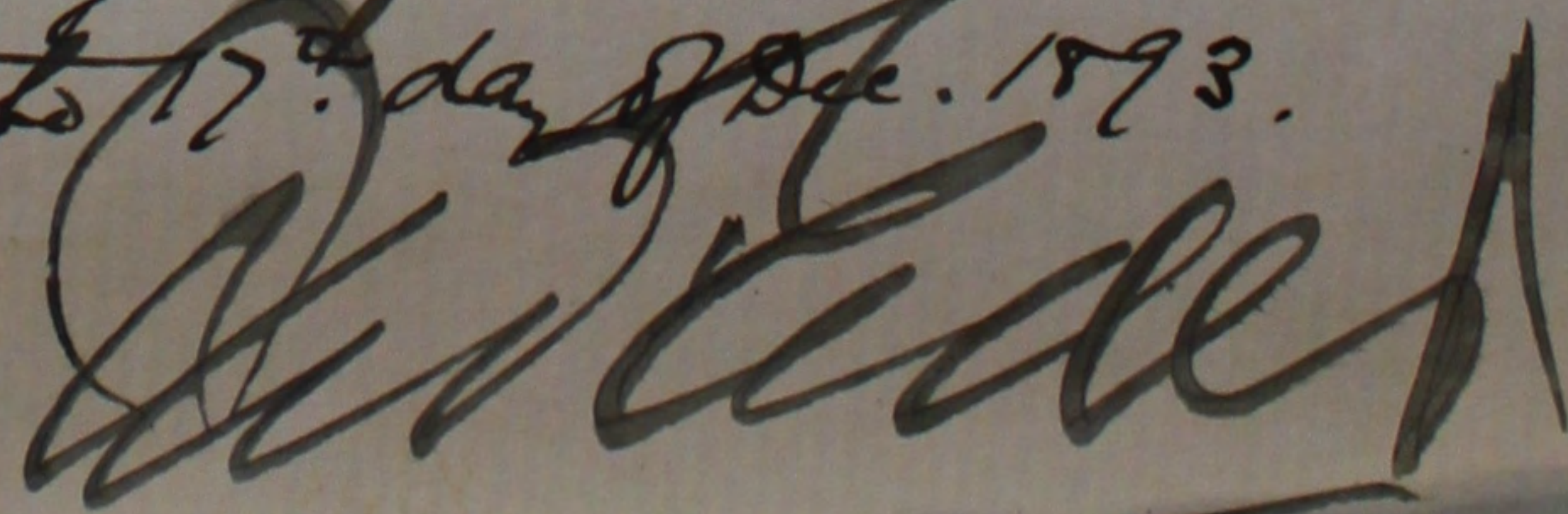
between  
Sir Thomas Elder, and Mr. William Kinnmont.

"Birksgate."  
5<sup>th</sup> October. 1893.

I, William Kinnmont, hereby agree to act  
in the capacity of Private Secretary and Assistant to Sir Thomas  
Elder, B.C.M.S., at Birksgate, for a term of two years, from  
the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1893: and in recognition of such  
services as I may be able to render I am to receive from  
Sir Thomas a salary at the rate of £300 for the first year,  
and £400 for the second year of the said term, — payable  
quarterly by Messrs. A. von Treuer and Alex. Martin.

William Kinnmont.

I approve of the above agreement, which has been drawn  
up at my request: and I authorize my Agents Messrs. A. von Treuer  
and Alex. Martin to give effect to it from the 17<sup>th</sup> day of Dec. 1893.





Copy Letter

Macgregor

Jas. Mc Bain.



Copy Letter

Jr. Macgregor to  
Sir James Mc Bain.

11 Curmin Place, Orange.

Edin. 4<sup>th</sup> June 1891.

Dear Sir James,

I have much pleasure in introducing to you the Bearer of this note Mr. William Kinnmont who is personally known to me as a young student of distinguished parts & high character.

He has chosen the work of an educationist for his career & goes out to Melbourne to pursue his candidature for a post under

4<sup>th</sup> June 1891.

fit home for the Govern-  
nor.  
Birksgate will be open  
to members of the  
National Trust of SA  
their friends on  
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Copy Letter  
from Sir Wm. Muir to  
Lord Hopetoun.

---

Dean Park House.

Edin<sup>g</sup>: 16<sup>th</sup> May 1891.

Dear Lord Hopetoun,

Allow me to introduce to you  
favourable notice a distinguished  
alumnus of this University, Mr. Wm.  
Kinnmont. The enclosed account  
of his acquirements, sent me at my  
request is a very modest statement  
of his qualifications. He has had  
his name down on the Indian Secy's  
list for employment in India for  
some little time; but vacancies are



few, and claims of natives preferred -  
to be tried for a Mastership in St.  
Paul's School, London; and out of  
several hundred, his name was  
retained in the last "Leet" of 3;  
but mainly of fancy from his youth  
another was selected. Never the less  
the nearness of the selection showed  
what was thought of his qualifi-  
cations.

He is now anxious to try his  
fortune in your dominions; and if  
you can forward his views I  
shall feel much indebted.

I am,  
Yours very truly  
(eg<sup>d</sup>) N. Muir.

His Excellency  
Earl Hopetoun. }



# BIRKSGATE

CROSS ROAD, URRBRAE

10 A.M. TUESDAY, JUNE 16

10 cast iron verandah columns of Corinthian form 9 ft. 9 in. high, together with pierced right angle brackets, a quantity of cast iron balustrading, 174 ft. of cast iron fencing 12 in. high, an iron cannon (B.P. & Co., 5.2.14) without carriage, cast iron garden urn 32 in. high.

## PAINTINGS AND PICTURES

An oil painting 67 in. x 102 in. "Robert Burns reading his Poems before a Literary Gathering at the Duchess of Gordon's Edinburgh 1787" by Charles Martin Hardie A.R.S.A. dated 1867, in carved wooden gilded frame of Scotch Thistle design, also bearing the arms of Scotland and Edinburgh (available with this picture are 3 keys of those depicted), Watercolor painting "Fisher Folk" by R. Anderson A.R.S.A. 1879, watercolor painting "Italian Landscape" by John Fizzle, oil painting on mahogany panel "Grecian Festival" by C. Piloty in gilded acanthus leaf decorated frame, water color painting "Lady Godiva" by Clark Stanton A.R.S.A., watercolor painting "Prayer" by Professor Pablo de Tommasi, watercolor painting "English Cottage" by H. Allingham, watercolor painting "The Inn" by Charles Cattermole, oil painting "Sydney Harbour" by James Ashton, 2 portraits one by Helen and one by Milly Hambidge, watercolor painting "English Domestic Interior" by C. S. Smith, watercolor painting "Dutch Landscape" by Fred G. Cottman 1886, watercolor painting "Seascape" by H. Tebitt plus Medici prints, Bartolozzi engravings, &c.

## GENERAL

Highly important French 17th Century oak and walnut armoire, joined construction with domed top, 2 doors, finely carved, 60 in. in width, 2 Persian copper circular braziers, circular brass wall plaque, embossed brass galleon wall plaque in inscribed wooden frame, ancient Persian circular leather shield with metal mounts, a number of valuable native weapons from the Islands of the Pacific, Japanese full sword and a Japanese half sword, Persian silver sword and scabbard, Eastern dagger, antique telescope and tripod (cased), Chinese cloisonne dove ornament, Japanese bronze fish ornament, rare Wedgwood black bassalt bust "Mercury" 18 in. high, Meissen porcelain mirror frame cherub figure and foliate decorated mounted on velvet (imperfect), terracotta bust "Woman" 27 in. high, mahogany serpentine fronted wash stand with white marble top, cedar serpentine fronted dressing table with single drawer and plate glass top, 2 carved sheet music boxes, cedar large book press, 2 tier traymobile, Victorian walnut occasional table 21 in. diam., fine mahogany console table with mirrored pediment in carved frame, and cabriole front legs with claw and ball feet, 5 ft. 2 in. in width, pierced brass fender curb, oval mirror in mahogany frame surmounted with carved ornament, pair of cane bed ends, leather covered chaise lounge with cedar frame, white wooden mantel piece, 2 pairs of curtains (probably William Morris), a 3 compartment tea urn of plated copper with porcelain liners, electric pie warmer, electric pedestal fan 3 Royal Doulton glazed pottery lidded lavender jars 12½ in., early 19th Century Chinese porcelain circular bowl 17½ in., rare 18th Century Famille Rose porcelain bowl 15¼ in. in diam., a Coalport miniature cup and saucer, Meissen porcelain 2 handled cup and odd cups and saucers, large quantity of Royal Worcester and Copeland dinnerware, large pine clothes press 5 ft. in width, Pine 5 drawer chest, cedar standing toilet mirror with white marble top, white enamel wardrobe, cedar oblong wash stand with 2 drawers and white marble top, number of fire extinguishers, cine projector 16 mm., blue Wilton wall to wall carpet 45 ft. x 9 ft. 6 in., rose pink Wilton wall to wall carpet 20 ft. x 10 ft., wall to wall patterned Axminster carpet 21 ft. x 12 ft., painted pine chest of 7 drawers, pair of 3 ft. box divan beds on Shepperd ball castors, 3 ft. rubber mattress, swing lounge with metal frame and canvas canopy, 2 painted pine clothes presses, 3 knapsack sprays, Hoover Keymatic washing machine step and rigid ladders, large quantity of books, Aga stove, CUSHMAN TRAILSTER MOTOR SCOOTER, butter churns, lady's cycle, STC refrigerator, number of Colonial and Bentwood chairs, Greenfeed cutter, old travelling bath, number of old iron cooking utensils and fountains, Cogswell & Harrison clay pigeon thrower, marble font in wooden stand, cane hamper and saddle bags, anvil, forge and blower, post vice, refrigeration unit less motor, very old wooden wheelbarrow, set of slate wash troughs, quantity of scrap iron and copper.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

Access to Birksgate grounds is strictly restricted to the times shown below under the heading Public Inspection and day of sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and because of recent vandalism anyone found on these grounds other than at these times without proper excuse will be prosecuted.

PUBLIC INSPECTION. FRIDAY JUNE 12, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.



"Birkegate."

Adelaide. Feb. 4. 1893.

My dear Eddie,

Yours of Feb. 3 just rec<sup>d</sup>, and I hasten to send on Ponder's letter in order that you may get it by Monday night. Hope you will but fear it is hardly possible as this is Sat. night & there may be no despatch of mails until Monday.

Sorry to hear that your Sydney trip has had to be given up for the meantime. You sh<sup>d</sup> endeavour to bring it off as soon as possible. I think you wd. do best to go by sea - cheaper, healthier, & more comfortable than by rail.

So you have been speculating in Gold Mine shares! I wish I cd. congratulate you but from what I hear of Reed's Creek, I fear you have made a bad bargain for you £25.

Mr Thomas has a very poor opinion of its mine for me. However it may go ahead as far as: and when it does I wd. advise you to see out,



There are two mails from home next  
week, so we may hear about our box of letters.  
Like you I also rec'd a packet of cards or from  
Mrs Milne, & a short letter with no news in it.  
If you wish to follow my example & style in  
addressing her — start thus "My dear Mrs Milne  
and finish, "Your affectionate (or loving) son!"

The heat this week has been terrific,  
as high as  $108^{\circ}$  in the shade!

I have invested in a jacket or waist coat  
of white linen, wh. is a great advantage: like  
ours in a sun umbrella for protection from  
the sun. I had recommended you to do the same,  
— at all events get an umbrella for driving.

There is no time for me to give you a letter,  
so just accept this scribble, with best love.

Yours ever,

William Linnemont

---

P.S. I sh<sup>d</sup> tell you that the day before I and I drove  
down to see his fine ship "The Torrens" etc.



has just arrived from London (by Cape). She  
is a splendid sailing vessel: & is nicely fitted up  
for passengers.

The doctor was a young British  
graduate - Dr. Stephen. Do you know him?

He is to settle in the colony.

N.R.



Birksgate  
Adelaide. Thursday morning.

My dear Eadie,

I have only time to send you a few lines  
to let you know of the safe arrival of our box at  
Birksgate. Elder Smith & Co managed everything  
for me nicely. I have not heard yet from them  
as to Custom's duties: and am half in hopes of  
that they will not say anything - however time  
will show. Our clothes have arrived in splendid  
order - yours especially. You seem to have got  
far more for your money than I have! Your four  
pairs of trousers are all excellent - especially the  
two pairs worsted trousers which are very pretty &  
both of same cloth. I am sure you will be pleased  
with them. Then our hatters have taken advantage  
of the box coming out to send us each three "superior"  
"very superior" (you remember of Lyon of L. & Lamb)  
ties, and there is also a copy of Drummond's  
"Life without a Chuck" for you. I am keeping  
your lot in the meantime in my wardrobe, until  
you come to town. When you do, I will advise  
you to bring down a portman teau or bag to pack  
them in, or if you like I can make up a parcel, the

Elder & Co  
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father of deceased, Sir Thomas  
atson and the BATH-die



I think a boy wd. carry them better.

I got your O.C. telling me of Müller's being at the bar of Jetland Hotel, & if I am in town I shall look him up - but I am awfully busy just now at Birksyde on Olden Exploration Expedition Work & other duties; and then Sir Thomas has had a bad knee, wh. needs constant attention from me.

Let's hear how you prosper for a holiday are?

No time for more by this post, so will much love.

I am,

Yours ever,  
Will. Linnmont

O.S. How do you intend to send payment to Mr. Leod? By circular note from Bank, or by draft? Please let me know. Could

we not wish to send the money in one lot, if not so, I will remit to you a cheque for my share of the bill viz £8 (there are a few pence over) but I shall tell Mr. Leod I make it your money - acting



graduate - St. Stephen. Did you know him?  
He is to settle in the colony. W.K.

der, and Thomas Elder spent his early life in mercantile pursuits, and about 17 years after our first settlers arrived, came to South Australia. He was then a partner in his brother's firm, in which his father and other members of the family were interested. A. Lang Elder left Adelaide in the early 'fifties, and went to London to represent the firm, which was dissolved in 1853, and was then re-

for discount). Please let me know the expense if any of a circular note or draft on an Edin: bank.

==

My part of the box was only two suits & think they are costing me just a little more than their value. W.K.

named Elder & Co., the partners consisting of the brothers George, Thomas, and William. The Hon. Edward Stirling, father of Sir Lancelot, joined the firm in 1856. George and William Elder had retired from the business in 1855. Mr. Robert Barr Smith, Sir Thomas Elder's brother-in-law, became associated with the knight, who continued his connection with the firm until his death, although for many years before and after Sir Thomas's passing, Mr. R. Barr Smith was the guiding genius of the great business which Elder, Smith & Co. had built up, and in this connection the name of the late Peter Waite, another genius, must not be forgotten.

Sir Thomas was a man of so many interests that it is not easy to single out for extended reference one from another. The scope of this article is confined chiefly to his career in pastoral development. He was one of the great pioneers of the interior in opening up of country for occu-

The Late Mr William Kinmont ↓

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le