



FINTRY MUSEUM



Edmond family in USA

THE EDMOND FAMILY continued...

Black Jim Edmond

In 1867 the first of several Edmonds emigrated from Balafark Farm to the wild west of America. Times were harder on the farm. James had some other relatives on a farm in Wisconsin whom he joined first. Then he moved to Minnesota. He learned that his father was now prepared to give away prematurely some of the future legacy from his estate, so James returned home.

Whilst home he married Mary Brown of Overglinns and then they sailed to America and with his inheritance bought 280 acres of very fertile land in Claremont, Minnesota.



Black Jim

James Edmond was very successful. He became the local Post Master and store owner. He owned a blacksmith's shop and sold agricultural machinery. He was an admired dealer of Clydesdale horses, owning an award winning stallion called 'The Duke of Edinburgh' imported from Scotland, which he had purchased in Wisconsin.

He was given the name Black Jim Edmond as he had a head of jet-black hair and a large black bushy beard.

Jesse James Gang Posse

In 1882 the notorious Jesse James outlaw was killed. He had become a Robin Hood-like character but had shot a bank clerk while robbing the First National Bank of Northfield Minnesota. Fintry's own James Edmond was actually in the Sheriff's Posse, which rode out in search of the gang.

James Edmond's brother, George Edmond, responded to letters from James encouraging him to emigrate. In 1882, George and family followed. His wife Elizabeth had six children when at Blackhouse Farm near Harvieston, then five more children in the USA. A great Scottish population gift to the new nation!



Fintry Shops

Another James Edmond ran the Fintry Main Street shop at the Cross from around 1850 – 1890. Then his brother, William Edmond took over until 1906. He was also a road haulier bringing two horse and cart loads of coal per day to Fintry from Lennoxton.

Alexander Edmond ran a Cobbler's shop at the west end, in Netherton Cottage where the Blue Roof Gallery is now. He was a well-known horticulturalist who helped run the Fintry Flower Show, winning many prizes for flowers and vegetables in the 1860-1880s.