

MARY KINSEY HAMILTON Her Scottish Cousland Roots¹

Mary Cousland Kinsey was the mother of Mary Kinsey Hamilton Parkinson. When she died on April 17, 1893, her brother Alexander Cousland (born in 1865) and his wife Annie McLaren (c. 1872) had newly married in August 1892. He was a master grocer and she had been a power loom weaver. Their first child, Annie McLaren Cousland, was born on August 11, 1893. At this time, his sister Mary's three children were taken into care and their father James Kinsey was in jail for abandoning and abusing them. Alexander and Annie Cousland were later the parents of Janet Niven Cousland, born January 24, 1896. In 1901, they were at 170 Butterbiggins Road, Govanhill and had no further children. Annie's sister Jessie, 17 was living with them.

In August 1893, Mary's parents were both dead. Her mother, **Janet NIVEN**, had died in 1871 a few days short of her 40th birthday of phthisis (a wasting disease akin to pulmonary tuberculosis) which was also the cause of Mary's own death. Her father, **Alexander COUSLAND**, a master cartwright, had died in 1889 at 57 of cancer of the stomach. He was survived by his second wife, Isabella Douglas, who he had married in 1874. She became stepmother to Mary, who was then eleven. I have not determined if Isabella was living in 1893, perhaps not as she is not on 1891 census. Mary had a sister Janet Cousland (1861) who may have married in 1892 or who may have died young, as did another sister Mary, born in 1854. When the Kinsey children were placed in the Quarrier home, they had a married uncle living in the same community and possibly their step-grandmother and maternal aunt as well but they did not intervene.

Alexander Cousland, senior, was the son of **John COUSLAND**, a cloth lapper, and **Mary DUNNET** and born July 2, 1831. They had been married May 17, 1818. It is not known but they may have had other children.

Mary Cousland's mother, Janet Niven, was the daughter of **Samuel NIVEN**, master shoemaker and his wife, **Mary WALKER**. They married in 1817 at Lochwinnoch in Renfrewshire, near Glasgow where Janet was born on 26 October 1831 and baptized there on 13 November 1831. It is interesting to note that the Kirkwood brothers who arrived at Rawdon about 1820 were both born in Lochwinnoch.

¹ The Couslands are a sept of the Clan Buchanan and wear its tartan.