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**1850 11th January Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Discussion about the validity of Gordon McRoberts request for Poor Relief so that he can sue his wife in court for adultery. Evidence required and Margaret Graham to be given notice. Gordon...

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....McRoberts to make his declaration before the Kirk Session. Evidence required from Notary Public. Messenger at Arms, Sheriff or Town Officers.

**1850 10th February Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Elizabeth Conchie acknowledged she was with child in uncleanliness. Declared Robert Kelly at present residing in Kirkmabreck to be the father of her child. Child expected the middle of next month. Father did not deny his guilt. Elizabeth Conchie was not the member of any church but did attend the Establishment more regularly than any other.

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**1850 17th February Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Robert Kelly acknowledged that he was the father of Elizabeth Kelly's child.

**1850 4th March Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Gordon McRobert produced evidence under hand of Robert Campbell, Messenger at Arms:

Margaret Graham or McRoberts has received notice of this meeting.

Gordon McRobert is 22 years of age. He is married. He has one child - Mary -aged 4 on 22 June 1849. He has lived nearly all his life in in Parish of Girthon with the exception of 3 years in the West Highlands - Argyllshire. He has no property. He is a mason by trade. When working he earns 15 shillings per month but at present has no work.

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**1850 21st April Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Widow McGowan confesses that she has had a child in uncleanliness on 21st March. Accuses Robert Brown, Gatehouse as the partner of her guilt and father of her child. He belongs to another denomination so will not be disciplined.

Jane Harper , servant in the Manse of Girthon declares that she is with child in uncleanliness. declared James Douglas to be the father of her child which is due to be born in a month. She said that James Douglas admitted that he was the father on the morning when he left this country. Jane Harper instructed to produce a letter that confirms this.

240

**1850 28th April Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

The Session elected Thomas Kirkpatrick to represent them at the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright and the Synod of Galloway.

241

**1850 7th July Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Jane Harper acknowledged that she had born a child in uncleanliness. She produced a letter signed by Isabella Wilson and Jane Rennie saying that James Douglas confessed to them his guilt.

242

**1850 14th July Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Mary Anne McMaster acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanliness on 16th June last. Charged James Murray, an unmarried man as the father. James Murray acknowledged the truth of this statement.

243

**1850 6th October Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Janet Byres rebuked for her sins and restored to privileges although Thomas Halliday had never appeared to clear himself this scandal.

244

**1850 10th November Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Isabella Millar, a young unmarried woman residing in Gatehouse declared that she is with child in uncleanness and that Samuel Templeton in Back Street, an unmarried man is the father. Baby due in less than 3 months. Guilt contracted at Mrs Credie's shortly before Whitsunday.

245

**1850 1st December Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Samuel Templeton failed to appear so Session will wait until birth of Isabella Millar's child.

The Session elected John Thomson to represent them at the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright and the Synod of Galloway.

246

**1851 5th January Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Elizabeth Hyslop and William McRobert restored to privileges.

**1851 23rd February Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Samuel Ewing acknowledged that he was the father of Isabella Millar's child.

247

**1851 16th March Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Mary McClure acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Accused John Murray, servant at Laghead as the father of her child.

248

**1851 30th March Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Lachlina McQuarrie rebuked for the sin of uncleanness with Joseph Reid an unmarried man in this town.

Joseph Reid did not appear but L. McQuarrie produced a letter where he acknowledged his guilt. She was taken on discipline but allowed baptism of her child.

249

**1851 27th April Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

John McKie and Amelia Gordon, both sometime servants at Rainton, called. Amelia confessed that she had had a child in uncleanness on 31st January last and that John McKie was the father.

250

**1851 26th October Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev George Murray**

Eliza Cunningham acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Declared that David Hyslop was the father. She produced a letter in which he admitted paternity.

251

**1851 28th December Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Thomas Johnstone of Anwoth**

Nicholas Carrick and Mary Armstrong his wife rebuked for ante nuptial fornication.

252

**1852 6th June Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev H M. Jack**

Janet Bar acknowledged that she was with child in uncleanness. She accused John Laurie as father of her child. he did not appear and they decided to wait until after birth of her child to discipline her.

253

Isabella McMinn acknowledges that she has had a child in uncleanness. A letter from Andrew Paul acknowledges paternity.

**1852 27th June Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev H Morton Jack**

Isabella McMinn restored to church privileges.

254

**1852 4th July Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

John Pitt and Elizabeth Roney guilty of sin of uncleanness. This is a case of [quad relapse] on the part of Elizabeth Roney - referred to the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright.

255

**1852 24th July Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Joseph Shannon and his wife Isabella Campbell acknowledged ante nuptial fornication.

**1852 1st August Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

For a second time William McGowan, Town Officer and Jane MacMurray acknowledged the sin of uncleanness.

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**1852 29th August Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

William McGown and Jane McMurray solemnly admonished for their sins and restored to privileges.

Mr Jack reported on advice given by Presbytery in the case of Elizabeth Roney.

257

Elizabeth Roney solemnly rebuked and suspended from all church privileges.

258

**1852 26th September Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Thomas Johnston**

Janet [Bar] produced 2 letters in which it appears that John Lawrie is the father of her child. She was rebuked and restored to privileges.

**1853 2nd January Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Janet McCulloch acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Charged James Wylie as the father of her child.

259

**1853 9th January Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Galloway acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness on 27th October. She charged Joseph Hewitson as her partner in crime and father of her child.

260

**1853 [2nd] May Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mr John Rain late of Cally Mains now residing at Coull, Parish of Buittle resigned as a member of the Girthon Kirk Session.

**1853 4th September Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jessy Boyes late a servant in Boreland, now residing in Parish of Troqueer, confessed that she had had a child in uncleanness. She declared John Porter, farmer in Boreland to be the father of the child.

261

**1853 11th September Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Letter from William Porter, Boreland admitting that he is the father of Jessy Boyes child.

262

**1853 6th November Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Margaret Johnstone acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Declared William [?igg] farmer Highbanks near Kirkcudbright to be the father of her child.

**1853 25th December Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Mr Thomas Johnstone**

James Wylie acknowledged that he was the father of Janet McCulloch's child.

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**1854 8th January Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

[ ] and his wife Mary acknowledged the sin of ante nuptial fornication.

**1854 9th April Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

John Joh[nstone] acknowledged sin of criminal connection with [ ] Simpson residing in the Parish of Twynholm.

264

**1854 16th April Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Janet McCulloch rebuked and restored to Church privileges.

265

[1854 date missing] **Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Ellen Sayers had had a child in October Curr. Samuel Mure acknowledged that he was the father of the child.

**18[55 ] [28th January] Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jane Johnstone acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanliness. Declared that Alexander Slimmon was the father of her child.

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Letter from Alexander Slimmon in which he [acknowledged] that he was the father of the child.

**1855 18th February Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Alexander McDonald in Gatehouse and Elizabeth Henry in Anwoth acknowledged that they were guilty of fornication.

267

**1855 18th March Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Jane Montgomery confessed that she has been guilty of fornication with Hugh Bradley, at present supposed to be in Ireland and was with child to him.. Child due at the end of the month.

268

**1855 1st April Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Certificate from Kirk Session of Borgue William Copland, farm servant Girthon and Janet McCraith, Parish of Borgue acknowledged they are guilty of fornication.

269

**1855 24th June Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Isabella McMinn acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanliness. Charged Thomas Leitch as the father of her child.. This is a case of relapse and was referred to the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright.

270

**1855 9th September Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Margaret Halliday residing at Cally Avenue Head, and lately servant at the Murray Arms Inn confessed that she was with child in uncleanliness. Declared that John Rae shopman to Mr Kirkpatrick was the father of the child.

271

**1855 16th September Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

John Rae denied paternity of Margaret Halliday's child (charge brought by the Kirk Session of Free Church of Scotland, Gatehouse.)

272

**1855 23rd September Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Isabella McMinn was gravely rebuked after a certificate from Presbytery was produced. privileges restored.

273

**1855 21st October Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Agnes Carson, aged 33, servant in Laigh Creoch acknowledged that she was with child in uncleanliness. She accused James Thomson, aged 17, farm servant in High Creoch as father of her child. He acknowledged paternity.

274

**1855 4th November Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jean Gordon from Balmaclellan, acknowledged that she was with child in uncleanliness. Accused John Boys, late fellow servant at Troquhain, now residing at Murrayton, Girthon as father of her child.

275

**1855 11th November Girthon Vestry** **Rev Mr Milligan of Twynholm**

John Boys, farm servant in Murrayton acknowledged that he was the father of Jean Gordon's child.

276

**1855 9th December Girthon Vestry** **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Catherine Gordon, resident in Kirkcudbright, declared that she had had a child in uncleanness eight years ago in October last to William Brown, a married man, at that time in the farm of Enrick, Girthon and at present at Fleetbank house, Anwoth.

277

**1855 9th September Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack** (*evening session*)

Jane Kelvie acknowledged that she was with child in uncleanness. Accused James Waugh, merchant or grocer in Fleet Street, Anwoth as the father of her child.

278

**1856 24th February Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Peters acknowledges that she has had a child in uncleanness. Charged John Wilson, letter carrier as father of her child.

279

**1856 24th February Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack** (*evening session*)

John Boyes, farm servant in Murrayton acknowledged that he was the father of Jean Gordon's child (an unmarried woman from Parish of Balmaclellan).

280

**1856 2nd March Girthon Kirk**                              **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jane Johnstone confessed that she had had a child in uncleanness on 29th January last. Accused James McKinna, at present in Maryport but usual home in Castle Douglas, as father of her child. The child was conceived in Hull, Yorkshire, while she lived there with her brother. James McKinna was a lodger at the house, but is now employed by her brother as a sailor.

281

**1856 9th March Girthon Vestry**                              **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jane Kelvie, daughter of David Kelvie in Gatehouse and John Rae, shopman to Mr Kirkpatrick in Gatehouse both acknowledged their guilt and were restored to privileges.

**1856 13th July Girthon Kirk**                              **Rev Thomas Johnstone**

John McAdam and his wife Jane McKie acknowledged they were guilty of ante nuptial uncleanness.

282

**1856 9th November Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Grace Milligan guilty of ante nuptial fornication with her husband David McAdam.

**1856 16th November Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Robert Harper and Jane Copland, the former residing at Cairn farm and the latter at New Galloway acknowledged they were guilty of uncleanness. Jane Copland had a child on 23rd October last and accused Robert Harper as father of the child.

283

**1856 30th November Gatehouse of Fleet**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Agnes O'Neil (nee Toull), a widow acknowledged that she had had a daughter about 9 months ago. Accused Gordon Johnstone, a married man, at present working as a brewer in Gatehouse as father of her child. Her child was born in Newton Stewart (Parish of Penningham).

284

**1856 21st December Gatehouse of Fleet**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Gordon Johnstone acknowledged carnal connection with the woman [*Agnes*] O'Neil., but denied paternity of the child. As this was a case of adultery, case referred to the Presbytery.

285

**1857 18th January Girthon Vestry**                      **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Breckinridge acknowledged she was with child in uncleanness. Accused Thomas Punton, gamekeeper residing at Syllodioch as father of her child.

286

**1857 25th January Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Thomas Punton denied any carnal connection with Mary Breckenridge. Mary Breckenridge repeated her claim that he was the father of her child.

287

**1857 12th April Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Alexander McMillan and his wife Mary Straiton guilty of ante nuptial fornication.

288

**1857 28th June Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Breckenridge appeared and again accused Thomas Punton as father of her child born on 26th April, last. She produced a letter from a Law Agent in Kirkcudbright: it stated that the Judge Mr Dunbar saw the case as clear and declared that Thomas Punton was the father of the child.

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**1857 26th July Girthon Session House**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Catherine Heron acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Declared that Peter Gordon, cartwright, formerly in Back Street, Gatehouse but now living in America, as father of her child. She produced a written acknowledgement from Peter Gordon (dated 29th June 1857) stating that he was the father of her child.

290

**1857 16th August Girthon Kirk Session**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Accused William Dalrymple and his wife as guilty of ante nuptial fornication.

291 & 292

**1857 20th September Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Breckenridge produced a letter from George Hamilton confirming that Mr Dunbar, Sherriff of the County judged that Thomas Punton was the father of her child. Thomas Punton continues to deny the charge.

293 - 302

**1857 11th October Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Case of Mary Breckenridge v Thomas Punton. Mary Breckenridge did not appear.

**Thomas Punton** stated that he was a Cally Gamewatcher and lived at Syllodioch. Before that he was a Gamewatcher for Lord Selkirk and lived at Auchenflower where Mary Breckenridge and her father also lived.

He was never on very intimate terms with her while at Auchenflower and never when sober proposed marriage with her. He was occasionally in her brother's house at Cally when she lived there after Whitsunday 1855.

He recollected the night he accompanied Mary's brother Robert to Minto Cottage in July 1856. Robert said that he was not to return to his house that night and offered him (Thomas) fish for his breakfast. It was arranged that Thomas would call at Robert's house after returning from escorting Robert towards Kirkcudbright. After parting company at Minto Cottage, Thomas declared that he returned directly to Burneyhole Cottage, arriving about 9 or 10 pm. He found the door locked, so knocked and it was opened by Mary Breckenridge. He went in. Mary had risen from her bed to let him in. He went into her bedroom and put her into the bed and then lay down beside her. He was in bed with her for 2 or 3 hours but no carnal connection took place that night. He acknowledged that he took up her clothes and gave her a good ['rowing'] in the blankets. He said that there was no one else in the house that night but the two of them.

**James Scott**, a grocer in Gatehouse was called as a witness. He said that about two months ago a Traveller for an Ironmongery business in Ayr, whose name he had forgotten, stated that in Stranraer, he had lately had a conversation with a Packman called Boyle who had declared to the Traveller that Mary Breckenridge had 'laid her child to his charge, and he could not deny being its father' The Traveller 'by telling that proceedings were to be taken against him left Boyle (to use the Travellers expression) trembling.'

**James Robinson**, policeman in Gatehouse was called as a witness. He was in the habit of writing business letters for Thomas Boyle a hawker or packman. Boyle was often in Robinson's house and Boyle often told him that he had been frequently with Mary Brackenridge. On one occasion he (Boyle) was standing at the 'Head' of the Town, Alexander Slimmon, formerly grocer, passed him going in the direction of Mary Brackenridge's house. Suspecting that he was going there, Boyle followed him sometime after. On arriving at the house and knocking at the window, Boyle was refused admittance, whereupon Thomas Boyle 'damned' her and said she had Slimmon in bed with her. Boyle said that this was the only time he was refused admittance to the house.

James Robinson stated that Thomas Boyle on several occasions came to his house early in the morning, having the appearance of a man that had been out all night. Robinson 'bantered' him with having been with Mary Brackenridge and Thomas Boyle did not deny the charge.

**Robert Breckenridge**, Gamewatcher at Cally, called as a witness. He was the brother of Mary Breckenridge . He knew Thomas Punton as Gamewatcher at Cally, and that some years ago his father (Robert Brackenridge) and Thomas Punton had lived at Auchenflower. His sister Mary also lived there. At that time Mary and Thomas Punton were on intimate terms and reputed to be courting. From Whit 1855 till August 1856, Mary Brackenridge lived and kept house at Burneyhole Cottage, which stands quite alone - the nearest being the farm of Enrick on Cally which is ¼ mile distant. Brackenridge stated that there was a window in the back of the house which opens outwards like a door. The sill of the window is about 2 feet from the ground. This is large enough to admit a man from the north side of the house. There are no doors with locks and fastenings between that window and Mary's (his sister's) bedroom. During the whole time that his sister kept house for him, after Punton became a Watcher at Cally, Punton kept constantly and several times a day coming and going to Burneyhole with as much freedom as he himself had.

On Saturday 12th July 1856, he (Robert Brackenridge) had been fishing with Straiton, a keeper at Cally and brought the fish home with him. Punton was in his house that evening at teatime. Robert was going later to Kirkcudbright and Punton offered to go part of the way with him. Punton said that he would return to Gatehouse and would call at Burneyhole for the fish that he had been promised for his breakfast next day. Robert declared that he heard Punton say that he would call back for the fish. They both went into Minto Cottage (about 2 miles from Burneyhole). Robert told Punton that he was going into Kirkcudbright that night to make arrangements about his intended marriage and that he did not intend to be back that night. He and his sister Mary were the only occupants of his house (Burneyhole) and that she was left alone that night when he went to Kirkcudbright. He and Punton had 3 or 4 bottles of ale at Minto Cottage before parting company - he went to Kirkcudbright, Punton returning towards Gatehouse. He returned to his house about 6 next morning. He asked Mary if Punton had called for the fish and she said that he had.

Robert Brackenridge stated that he was married on 1st August and that his sister had left his house soon afterwards. She went at Martinmas last, as a servant to Mrs Foster at Gatehouse. She was there about a month and left 'in the family way'. He had observed that Punton did not come as frequently to his house after his sister Mary left, but before that it was his most frequent place of meeting Punton other than at work.

Asked if there was anything wrong with his sister when he came home next morning he said that she looked [duller] than usual but took.....

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...**Straiton** - on being further questioned, he (Straiton) declared that Punton specified the night he was with Mary Brackenridge. He might count from that and see whether it [the baby] might come to his time, meaning thereby that [it fitted with the] time he (Punton) was with Mary.

**Alexander Houston**, farm servant, Chapelton, Borge called as a witness. Houston stated that Punton had acknowledged to him that he had been in Mary Brackenridge's company for one night but nothing had happened between them that warranted her to 'give the child to him'.

### **1857 25th October Gatehouse**

### **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Brackenridge was interrogated. She was 23 years old and had been very intimate with Thomas Punton about 4 years ago when living at Auchenflower. She believed he was constantly courting her at that time. After Whitsunday 1855 she kept her brother Robert's house at Burneyhole Cottage. Punton came to Cally as a Keeper in September 1855. He came to Burneyhole Cottage constantly and she was sometimes there alone when he called.

On 12th July 1856, her brother Robert went to Kirkcudbright in the evening to make arrangements for his marriage. He was escorted by Thomas Punton. Robert told her that Punton was to call back for some fish.

As she was alone, she locked up the house and went to bed about 10 o'clock. She fell asleep and was awakened by knocking on the window. She got up and asked who was there. Punton replied that he had come for his fish. She told him he could not get them that night but he insisted. She told him to go to the small window at the back of the house where she would give them to him. She got partly dressed and went to the window which opened outwards and handed him the fish which he would not take. He said that she could not shut the window on him and he held it open. She tried to shut the window but he prevented her doing so. He came in the window and lifted her up and carried her to her bed, threw her down, went in beside her and had carnal connection.

Mary thought that Punton was 'quite sober' on the night and that neither by word or letter had he acknowledged paternity. Mary had a male child on 28th April last and again declared that Thomas Punton was the father.

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### **1857 25th October Girthon Vestry**

### **Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Agnes Carson in Gatehouse of Fleet, formerly in Boreland of Anwoth declared that she was with child in uncleanliness. Charged John Shaw, farm servant at High Creoch as father of her child. The child was due to be born in a fortnight. She has had three children already.

304

**1857 4th November Kirkcudbright [Presbytery] George Murray**

Case of Punton and Mary Breckenridge: Thomas Punton found guilty and case remitted to Kirk session to be dealt with according to the rules of the church.

**1857 8th November Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

John Shaw acknowledged that he was the father of Agnes Carson's child.

305

Agnes Carson to appear before the Presbytery at their next meeting.

Elisabeth Murray acknowledged that she had brought forth a child in uncleanness. Declared Anthony Proctor, a married man to be the father of her child. He is a bobbin turner at present living in Dalbeattie. As it is a case of adultery the case is referred to the Presbytery. Minister of Urr to be informed of Anthony proctor.

306

**1857 29th November Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Mary Buchanan confessed that she was with child in uncleanness. Declared William Elliot, at present living in Creetown, formerly herd at Culreoch, to be the father of her child.

**1857 21st February Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

William Elliot acknowledged that he was the father of Mary Buchanan's child.

307

**1858 14th March Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Agnes Carson restored to privileges.

308

**1858 3rd October Girthon Vestry Rev John Underwood**

Thomas Punton confessed that he had had criminal connection with Mary Brackenridge

309

**1858 10th October Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Thomas Punton told to regularly attend church for six months.

310

**1858 19th December Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Robert Harper rebuked for fornication and restored to privileges.

310 - 312

**1859 1st May Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Elizabeth Campbell stated that she was with child. declared William McMinn residing at 'the Bobbin Mill' is father of her child. Elizabeth's mother is a tenant of one of the rooms of a property owned by William McMinn and that he frequently came to see her at her mother's house. The baby was due in about a month. (c. 1st June). Copy of minute to be sent to Free Church, to which William McMinn is a member.

313

**1859 5th June Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

John [ Mouncey], formerly residing in Kirkcudbright but for the last twelve months in Gatehouse, is accused in a letter from the Kirk Session of Kirkcudbright, that he (Mouncey) previous to his marriage of being the father of Margaret Stevenstone's child which she had some time ago. He acknowledged the paternity.

314, 315 & 316

**1859 12th June Girthon Vestry Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Jane Queen or Quinn acknowledged that she had had a child in uncleanness. Declared that the child 'was got in the Parsonage within the Cally Walls in the month of July last'. Declared that Mr. Henry Coughlan, a clergyman of the Church of England, at the time residing at the Parsonage was the father of her child. Henry Coughlan was at his brother, Rev William Boyle Coughlan's house and he (Mr Henry Coughlan) had assisted and officiated the following Sabbath at the Cally Chapel for his brother.

Rev. William Boyle Coughlan had left home on Monday 7th July 1858 and Mr Henry Coughlan had arrived on Friday 11th July and went away on the midday coach the Monday following (14th July).

Jane Queen admitted carnal connection several times with Henry Coughlan. First on the Saturday night. Mr Sewall was in the house but was instructed by Mr Coughlan to go to bed and not wait up for him as he had to go over his sermon. Between 12 and 1 o'clock on the Saturday night or Sunday morning, Mr Coughlan came down to the kitchen see her. She said that she had slept there for the time being [at the kitchen in the Parsonage] and had carnal connection with him there. She remonstrated against this impropriety.

Next morning, the Sabbath, he rang for her to hand him a book and a second time had connection with her at between 9 & 10 am. Mr Sewell, his friend was out of the house officiating at Morning Prayers at Cally House.

On the Monday morning, he again had intercourse with her when he came up to the room which she was cleaning.

317

**1859 24th July Girthon Vestry**

**Rev Hugh M orton Jack**

Margaret Welch declared that she had had a child on 12th June last and that William Hunter, formerly of Rainton was the father of her child. William Hunter admitted paternity.