

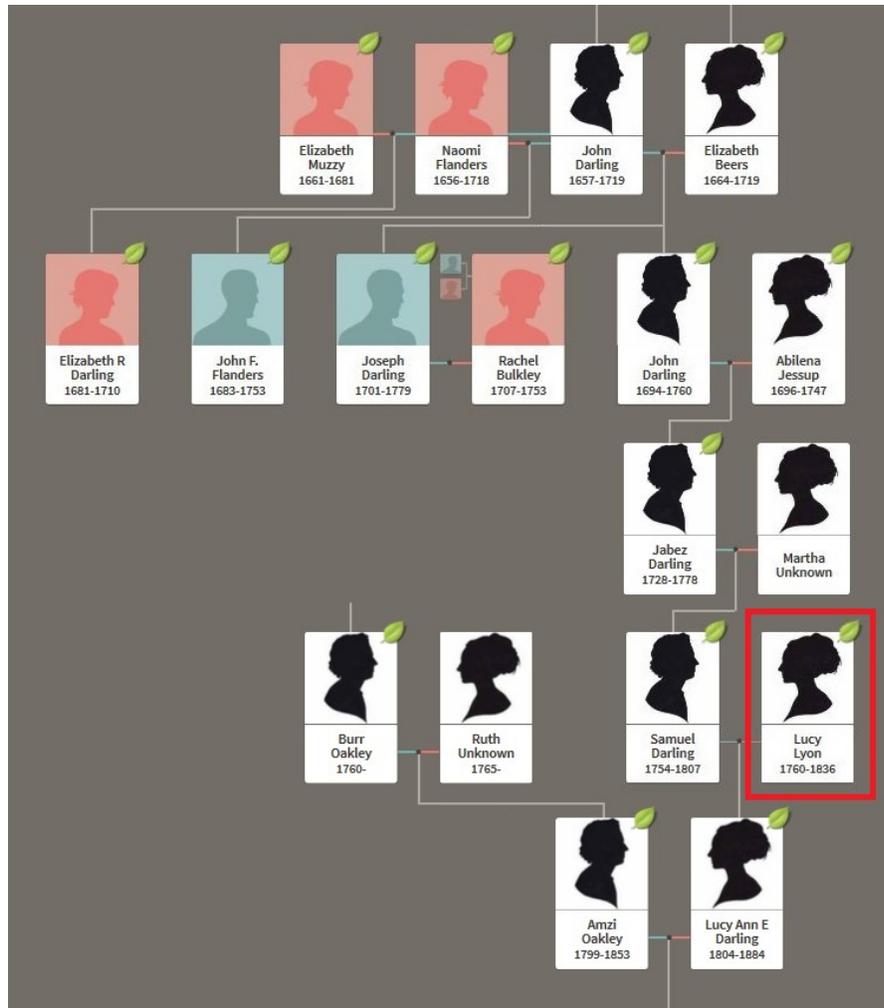
Chapter 27

Our Lyon Family Ancestry

Introduction

Just when I think I have run out of ancestors to write about, I find another really interesting one, and that leads to another few weeks of research.

My last narrative was about our **Beers** family ancestors, going back to Elizabeth Beers (1663-1719), who married John Darling Sr. (1657-1719). Their 2nd-great granddaughter, Lucy Ann Eunice Darling (1804-1884), married Amzi Oakley (1799-1853). Lucy Ann Eunice Darling's parents were Samuel Darling (1754-1807) and Lucy Lyon (1760-1836). All of these relationships are detailed in the section of the "Quincy Oakley" family tree that is shown below:

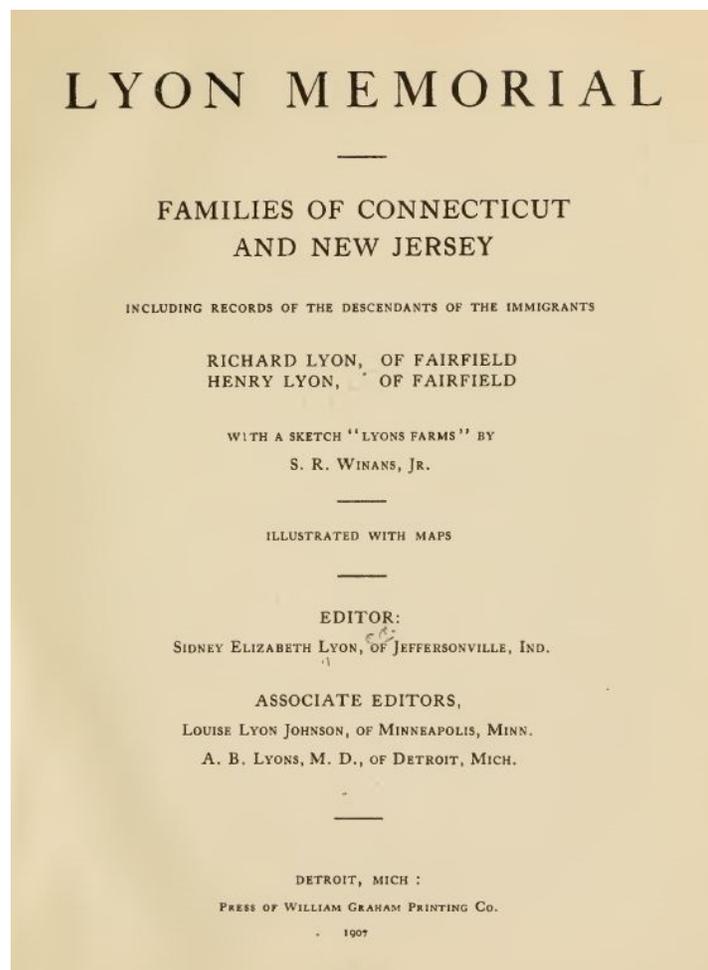


In looking at this part of the family tree, I realized that I knew absolutely nothing about **Lucy Lyon** [shown in the red rectangle in the lower-right of the family tree on the previous page] other than the year she was born (1760) and the year she died (1836). I didn't even know where she lived (although Fairfield County, Connecticut, would have been a good guess). What was her ancestry? When did her ancestors come to America? Where did they live before that? To whom are we related via the **Lyon** family connection?

So after another few weeks of work, I now can tell her story. And it is a pretty good one!

The Lyon Family in Fairfield, Connecticut

Lucy Lyon was descended from Richard Lyon Jr. (1624-1678), who was one of three **Lyon** brothers who emigrated from Scotland in the late 1640's. In 1907, a book was published about this family, entitled ***Lyon Memorial***, and of course, it has been digitized and is available online:¹



¹ <https://archive.org/details/lyonmemorial00lyon>

The story of the three **Lyon** brothers (Henry, Thomas, and Richard Jr.) in the New World begins with the execution (via beheading) of King Charles I in London, England, on 30 January 1649 (although the *Lyon Memorial* book has it as 1648). Charles I was the monarch of the three kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland. The **Lyon** brothers were from Scotland, and were soldiers in Oliver Cromwell's army. After witnessing the execution of the English king, aware of the unrest that would follow, and being supporters of Cromwell, they undoubtedly figured that life would be better for them in the colonies.

SOME NEW WORLD LYONS.

Henry, Thomas and Richard Lyon, Lyons of Glen Lyon in Perthshire, soldiers in Cromwell's army, were on guard before the Banqueting House at Whitehall on January 30th, 1648, and they witnessed the execution of Charles I. A tremendous reaction followed the regicide, and many a Puritan and Covenanter patriot of the insurgent army disappeared from London in the confusion of the horror of the days the headless corpse of the Monarch remained at St. James Palace, till it was deposited in the vaults of the Chapel at Windsor. The King was dead—long live the King! After an interregnum of a few tomorrows another Stuart would come to the throne, and the years of his regent-ruled minority would be a sorry reckoning for those who bore arms against his discrowned and dishonored sire.

The Scots never acted as an integral body. Every clan was an independent force that withdrew at the discretion of its chieftain. The three Lyon brothers from Glen Lyon, took advantage of a national privilege. They had kinsmen in Middlesex and Norfolk counties who may have kept them in concealment pending a departure of a ship for the Colonies across the sea. Over there they had kindred in the new Fatherland of Freemen.

It is a rational supposition that Henry, Thomas and Richard Lyon landed at New Haven. There lived John Lyne of Badby, Northamptonshire, England, one of that opulent company of two hundred

Excerpt from p. 34 of *Lyon Memorial*.

The story of the three **Lyon** brothers witnessing the beheading of King Charles I was retold recently in the book *A MOST REMARKABLE FAMILY: A history of the Lyon family From 1066 to 2014*, written by Michael Hewitt:²

On a cold day on the thirtieth of January 1649 in London, an anonymous executioner severed the head of King Charles I of England. The watching crowds had very mixed feelings about this regicide, but Oliver Cromwell's

² <http://www.amazon.com/Most-Remarkable-Family-Michael-Hewitt/dp/1496977866>

troops kept order, and eventually the crowd dispersed, stunned by this momentous event in English history, which left the country in turmoil. Amongst the crowd that day were a father of fifty-nine years and his three sons. This moment in history was to change their lives. Who were this family? Where had they come from? What would become of them? The answer to these questions would lead us back to King Robert the Bruce of Scotland, forward to our own Queen of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, and would also greatly influence much of American history. [Doesn't he write well? I have this book on order, and I can't wait to read it. And did you see the teaser about the Queen of England?]

As an aside, here is a painting depicting the beheading of King Charles I³ –if you look hard enough, you can almost see the three **Lyon** brothers:



³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_I_of_England

At any rate, Richard Lyon Jr. (our ancestor) fled from England in 1649 and settled in Fairfield, Connecticut. Here is an excerpt about him from TheLyonFamily.org.uk website:⁴

Richard Lyon Jr. 1624 - 1678

Richard Lyon Jr. (b. 1624) first settled in Fairfield County, Connecticut. He was the youngest of the three brothers who escaped from England after the execution of Charles I. It is said that they were more than just witnesses of the execution as they were soldiers in Oliver Cromwell's Model Army. It is also said that Richard Jr. brought his sword with him to America.

Richard Jr. married Margaret (no maiden name known), they had 7 sons and 4 daughters. All records state that Margaret was born in 1624 in Fairfield, Connecticut, which was mainly occupied by Belgians, Dutch and Germans at that time. The records also state that they were married in 1642 but as this Richard was in England at that time this was unlikely. It is possible that Margaret was born and married in England and came with Richard to Fairfield, Connecticut. Apart from information in his will, little is known about Richard Jr., but that he fathered a large family and started a dynasty, with hundreds of descendants still living today all over America and Canada.

He settled in Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut, and was made a Freeman there in 1664; he was Commissioner for Fairfield in 1669 and at his death in 1678 left an estate valued at £632 (a considerable amount at that time).

During the Revolution, they [the descendants of Richard Lyon Jr.] were mostly loyal to the cause of Independence. From Vermont, some of them moved to Michigan – among these the Honorable Lucius Lyon, who represented the new state of Michigan as a Senator in the Congress of 1837-39.

His [Richard's] descendants settled in Fairfield, Redding, and neighboring towns, extending gradually northward into Massachusetts and Vermont.

⁴ <http://www.thelyonfamily.org.uk/richard.html>

Richard Lyon Jr. was described in the *Lyon Memorial* book on p. 252:

RICHARD LYON

OF FAIRFIELD.

[The family history compiled by Mrs. Louise Lyon Johnson, of Minneapolis, Minn., A. B. Lyons, M. D., of Detroit, Mich., and Dr. G. W. A. Lyon, of Philadelphia, Pa.]

Richard Lyon settled in Fairfield, Conn., as early as May, 1649, the exact date of his arrival there not being now known. According to family tradition he was the youngest of three brothers, who came to New England probably about 1648 and located first in Fairfield County, Connecticut. § The earliest item relating to him is found in the Colonial Records of Connecticut (I. 183) where we read in the proceedings of a "particular Courte" in Hartford, May 16, 1649 "Nehemiah Olmstead Pl^t contra Richard Lyon defend^t in an action of the case, to the damage of £12." The report is certainly tantalizingly brief, and leaves us quite in the dark as to the merits or the outcome of the controversy.

Richard Lyon had a house and lot recorded in the Land Records of Fairfield ("Fayrefeild") in January, 1653, and was made a freeman there in 1664 (Conn. Colonial Records I. 432) †. In 1673 he had recorded five acres of land at Barlow's Plains, and 18½ acres "on the Rocks." He was chosen Commissioner for Fairfield, May 1669 (Conn. Col. Rec. II. 106). It is related that on the occasion of a witchcraft trial "the prisoner was sharply rebuked by Richard Lyon, one of the keepers, for bold language." From the abusive reply which is recorded one may gather that the rebuke was well deserved.

The will of Richard Lyon, dated April 12th, 1678, probated Oct. 17, 1678, is almost the only source of information about his family. It reads:—

"The Last Will and Testament of Richard Lyon of Fairfield weak in body, but perfect in mind and memory doe make this my last will

†The names of settlers in "Fayrefeild" accepted to be made free Oct. 13, 1664 were "John Bur, Rob. Turny, Joseph Lockwood, Simon Crowch, John Knowles, Rob. Beecham, John Barlow Sr., John Barlow Junr, James Ewarts, Peter Cooly, Thomas Sherwood, Wm. Heyden, John Growman, Francis Bradley, John Hoite, Steven Sherwood, Nath: Burr, Rich: Lyon, Mr. Wakeman, Thomas Bennit, Thomas Wilson, James Bean, John Odill, Samll Morehouse, Thomas Morehouse, Mathew Sherwood, Richard Hubbell." (Col. Rec. Conn. I. 433).

§The compilers of this family history regard it as very highly probable that Henry, Thomas and Richard Lyon were brothers. They do not accept as of historic value the tradition that these brothers came direct from Scotland, although they have no doubt that they were of the same Lyon family of which the Earls of Strathmore are a branch. The question is one of fact, to be settled only by research.

Note the part about his participation in a witchcraft trial, as well as the reference to another settler with the surname of *Burr* (our *Burr* ancestors lived in Fairfield, Connecticut, in pre-revolutionary times).

Richard Lyon Jr. had a son named Richard Lyon III (1652-1740), and Richard III had a son named Nathan (1703-1757). Nathan appears in the *Lyon Memorial* book on p. 261:

1773 as "brother of Gershom Lyon, Sr.", and as "son of Daniel"; bapt. in Redding, Cong. Church, May 31, 1741. (Possibly son of Daniel Lyon No. 50 q. v.).

16. III. 3. NATHAN^s LYON [Richard², Richard¹] was born in Fairfield, Conn., Nov. 28, 1703, and died in Redding, Nov. 21, 1757, ae. 54 (G. R.); buried in Redding Ridge Episcopal Church Cemetery. From Land Records of Redding (II. 62) it is learned that the name of his wife (widow) was Abigail. In 1729 at a meeting of the (Presbyterian) society of Redding, Nathan Lyon, Moses Knapp and Daniel Crofoot made strenuous objections to the "hiring" of any other than a minister of the Church of England.‡ In 1738 these same names appear in a list of seven parishioners of Mr. Beach.

Children of Nathan [and Abigail] Lyon:‡

*57. I. Peter; m. 1753, Abigail Sherwood.

58. II. John; Redding Land Records (II. 228; V. 10, 11) say "gone over to enemy; property confiscated"; he removed to Nova Scotia.

59. III. Joseph; also "went over to the enemy"; m. May 21, 1761, (E. C. M. I. 72) Lois Sanford, daughter of Ephraim and Elizabeth (Mix) Sanford (Fairfield T. R., which says "Joseph Lyon, of Redding, son of Nathan") Lois (Sanford) Lyon d. Dec. 15, 1769, ae. 27 y. (G. R. Redding Ridge Episcopal Ch. Cemetery). Joseph's property was confiscated, but recovered by his widow.

*60. IV. David; m. 1756, Hannah Sanford (T. R.)

61. V. Eli; joiner; Taxed in Redding 1793.

‡If this Nathan was really the son of Richard Lyon of Fairfield, it would seem practically certain that the latter was the Richard Lyon, Churchman, spoken of by Dr. Burhams. The statement that that Richard died "as early as 1735" lacks as yet confirmation of documentary evidence.

‡Land Records of Redding contain the following items: 1769 (II. 83, (379) "sons of Nathan Lyon, Samuel, Eli and John;" 1771 (I. 188, 218) "sons of Nathan Lyon, Sr., Capt. Henry, Eli, David;" (II. 53) "daughter of Nathan, Betty"; 1773 (II. 131) "sons (of Nathan) Phlo, Henry, Peter and David"; 1775 (II. 132), in the division of the estate of Nathan "wife Abigail, and sons, Henry, John, Peter and David."

Excerpt from p. 261 of *Lyon Memorial*.

Nathan Lyon (1703-1757) is buried in Christ Church Cemetery in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.⁵ The inscription on his gravestone reads:

Here lyes ye remains of
Mr. Nathan Lyon,
Who finished a Course
of Virtue & Piety, &
Exchanged this Life
for Immortality, Nov.
ye 21, 1757 in ye
54th year of his Age

⁵ <http://www.findagrave.com/NathanLyon>



Nathan Lyon's gravestone

One of Nathan's sons was Joseph Lyon (1739-1818). Joseph married Lois Sanford (1743-1769), and one of their daughters was Lucy Lyon, who married Samuel Darling. And thus our connection to the Scottish immigrant Richard Lyon Jr. and the beheading of King Charles I. Note that Samuel Darling was descended from George Darling, the Scottish prisoner. So both Lucy Lyon and her husband Samuel Darling had their roots in Scotland.

Joseph Lyon (1739-1818) was a Loyalist (on the side of the British king in pre-Revolutionary times), and sometime before the Revolutionary War, he fled to Canada. He died in 1818 in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia. So while immigrant

Richard Jr.'s descendants "were mostly loyal to the cause of Independence", our ancestor Joseph clearly was an exception.

Recall that the three **Lyon** brothers who fled from England in 1649 were Henry, Thomas, and Richard. Henry ended up being one of the founders of Newark, New Jersey. A Founders' Monument was erected in 1889 in Fairmount Cemetery in Newark to commemorate Newark's first settlers, many of whom were interred at the Old Burying Ground on Broad Street and Branford Place. Henry Lyon's name appears on the plaque on this monument.



Founders' Monument
Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

Henry served as Newark's first treasurer (1668-73), first tavern keeper, and Burner of Woods and Meadows (1673); he also served as town Fence Sitter (1705).⁶ Among his lands was what became known as Lyon's Farm in Newark (remember Lyon's Farm, it will come up again in this epistle).

⁶ <http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/p/e/n/Jeffrey-W-Pendleton/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-1681.html>

The Lyon Family in Scotland

It turns out that the **Lyon** family in Scotland were peers, with titles such as Lords and Baronesses.

The **Lyon** family in Scotland descended from a French family called **de Leon**, who came north with Edgar, son of Malcolm III, at the end of the eleventh century to fight against his uncle, Donald Bane, the usurper of the throne. Edgar was triumphant, and de Leon received lands in Perthshire, which were later called Glen Lyon.⁷

The ancestral home of the **Lyon** family in Scotland was a castle in Glamys (also spelled Glamis), and our **Lyon** ancestors included Sir John Lyon, 6th Lord of Glamys, and his wife, Lady Janet Lyon, Baroness of Glamys.

Here is an excerpt from the **Lyon Memorial** book, dealing with the son of Sir John Lyon, Knight of Glamys:

Friars in Perth, in the presence of his brother, King Robert III. and the nobility of Scotland.

Sir John Lyon, Knight of Glamys, was succeeded by his son, Sir Patrick Lyon.* He, too, saw turmoil and tragedy. On March 28th, 1424, he was delivered up to the English as one of the hostages for the ransom of James I. and not released till June, 1427. Doubtless he loved the monarch of advanced ideas and elegant accomplishments, and the horror of the midnight regicide in the Monastery of the Dominicans at Perth came to him as the blackest deed in his country's sombre chronicles. But Patrick Lyon had sustaining ambitions, for this feudal chief was made a peer of Parliament as Lord Glamis in 1445, the eighth year of the reign of James II. and was appointed Master of the King's household in 1452. He married Isabel, daughter of Alexander Ogilvy, and had three sons and a daughter,—Alexander, 2nd Lord Glamis, John, 3rd Lord, William Lyon, Master of the Lyons of Easter Ogil of County Forfar, and Elizabeth, who married Alexander Robertson. Patrick Lyon first Lord Glamis, grandson of Sir John Lyon and the Princess Jean, died 1459.

His eldest son, Alexander Lyon, had died without issue, and the Barony devolved upon the second son, John Lyon, 3rd Lord Glamis, who was Privy Councillor to James IV, and Justice General of Scotland. He married Elizabeth daughter of Sir John Scrimguor of Dunlope, Constable of Dundee, and died 1494, and was succeeded by his son John Lyon, fourth Lord Glamis, who was succeeded twelve years later by his eldest son by Emily, daughter of Lord Gray, George Lyon, fifth

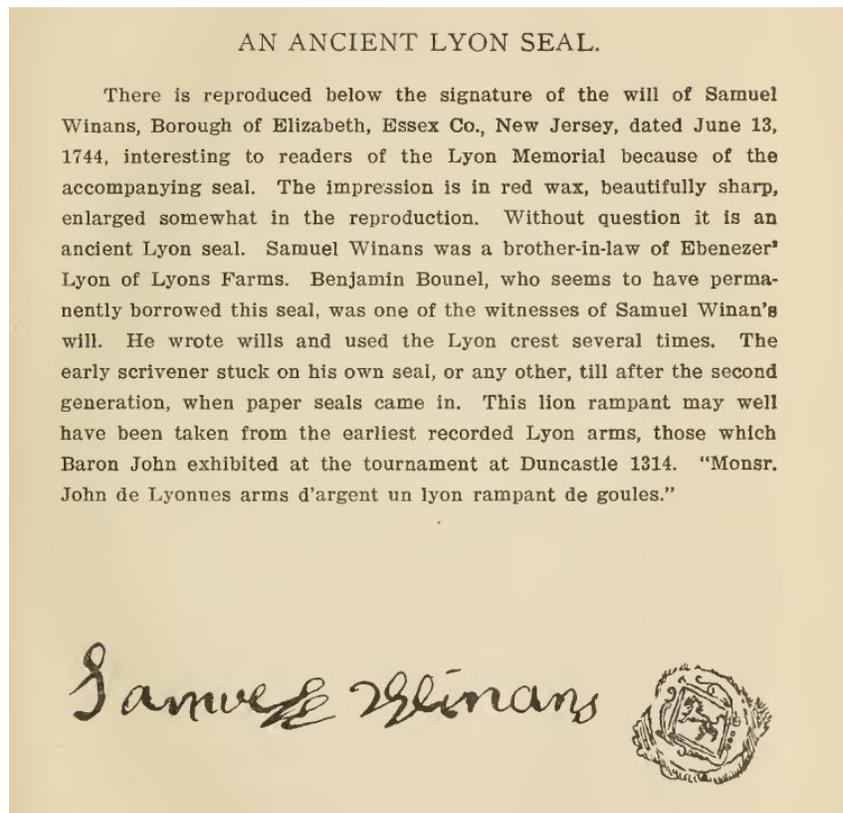
*Burke's Peerage.

⁷ http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Category:Clan_Lyon

Really amazing, eh? Here is a portrait of Lady Janet Keith Lyon, Baroness Glamis:



The *Lyon Memorial* book has a copy of the ancient seal of the Lyon family, taken from a will in 1744, but claimed to date back to the seal used in 1314:

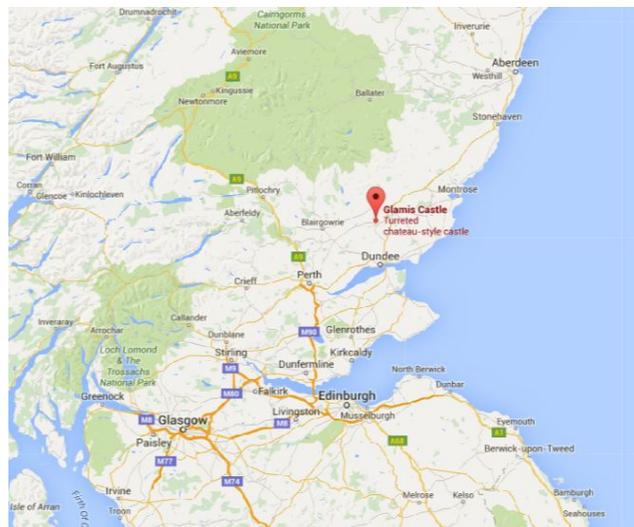


Taken from p. 79 in the *Lyon Memorial* book

Here are several photos of Glamis Castle, in Angus, Scotland:



Finally, here is a map showing the location of Glamis Castle, some 70 miles north of Edinburgh:



Shakespeare's Reference to Glamis

In the tragedy *Macbeth*, by William Shakespeare, Macbeth is a Scotsman and a thane. [In the Middle Ages, areas of land would be ruled by kings who would allow certain noblemen to own portions of the land in exchange for their military service to the king. These noblemen were called thanes.] At the beginning of the play, Macbeth is *Thane of Glamis* – Glamis being the name of the area he ruled over.⁸ After his success in battle, Macbeth became *Thane of Cawdor*, as well.

“All hail Macbeth! Hail to thee, Thane of Glamis! All hail Macbeth! Hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor! All hail Macbeth, that shalt be king hereafter!”

The Peerage of the Lyon Family in Scotland

The Peerage of England comprises all peerages created in the Kingdom of England before the Act of Union in 1707. In that year, the Peerages of England and Scotland were replaced by one Peerage of Great Britain. The ranks of the English peerage are, in descending order, Duke, Marquess, Earl, Viscount, and Baron.

The title Earl of Kinghorne was created in the Peerage of Scotland in 1606 for Patrick Lyon (1575-1616). In 1677, the designation of the earldom changed to “Strathmore and Kinghorne”. The consort of any incumbent would be known as the Countess of Strathmore and Kinghorne.

Aside from the Earldom, the Earl of Kinghorne holds the subsidiary titles, among which are Viscount Lyon (created in 1677) and Lord Glamis (created in 1445). The eldest son of the Earl of Kinghorne uses Lord Glamis as a courtesy title.

Guess Who Else is Descended from the 7th Lord Glamis and the Baroness Glamis?

Earl John Lyon (1737-1776) was the 5th-great grandson of Sir John Lyon, 7th Lord Glamis, and his wife Lady Janet Keith Lyon, Baroness Glamis. The Earl's official title was 9th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne. The Earl was famous for his appearance; he was known as “the beautiful Lord Strathmore”:

“The late Earl of Strathmore was not calculated to make even a good learned woman a pleasing husband. His Lordship's pursuits were always innocent and without the smallest guile, but they were not those of science

⁸ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glamis>

or any other splendid quality. A sincere friend, a hearty Scotchman, and a good bottle companion were points of his character.”



John Lyon and his wife, Mary Eleanor Bowes

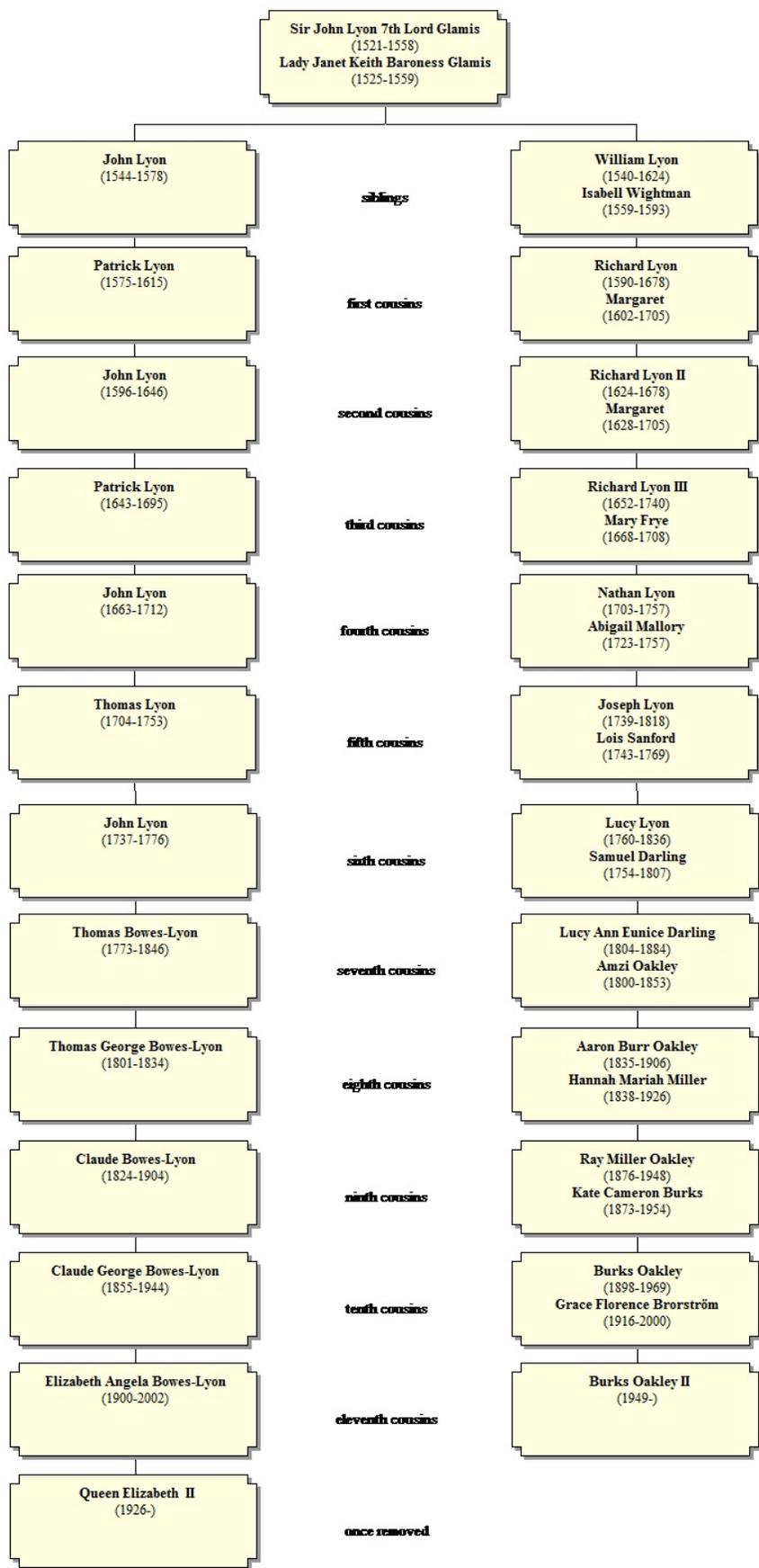
In 1767, the 9th Earl of Strathmore married the heiress Mary Eleanor Bowes, and as per the stipulations of the will of the father of the bride, assumed his wife’s name of Bowes. This change of name required an Act of Parliament. One of their sons was John Lyon-Bowes (1769-1820), 10th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, and another was Thomas Bowes-Lyon (1773-1846), 11th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne.

Today, Michael Fergus Bowes-Lyon is the 18th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, serving as Lord Glamis between 1972 and 1987. He lives in Glamis Castle, Angus, Scotland. He is a British politician and soldier. He was educated at Eton, the University of Aberdeen, and RMA Sandhurst. His eldest son is Simon Bowes-Lyon, Lord Glamis (b. 1986).

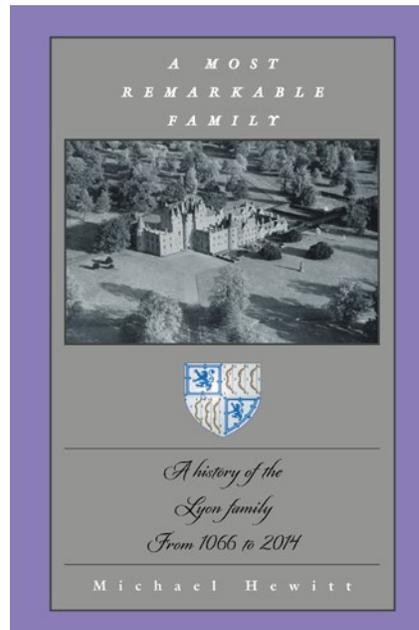
Michael Fergus Bowes-Lyon is a first cousin, once removed, of Queen Elizabeth II. He is a great-nephew of the late Queen Mother (1900-2002), whose birth name was Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon. Do you get it? The “Quincy Oakleys” are related to the Queen of England!!!!

Sir John Lyon, 7th Lord Glamis, and his wife Lady Janet Keith Lyon, Baroness Glamis, were my 10th-great grandparents. They also were the Queen Mother’s 10th-great grandparents. That means that I was an 11th-cousin of the late Queen Mother, and my daughters are 12th-cousins of Queen Elizabeth II, and my grandchildren are 13th-cousins of Prince Charles. [Hopefully by now all of the “Quincy Oakleys” can figure out their relationship with each of the British Royals.]

A family tree diagram showing my relationship with Queen Elizabeth II is on the next page:



I previously mentioned the book *A MOST REMARKABLE FAMILY: A history of the Lyon family From 1066 to 2014*, written by Michael Hewitt –the front cover of this book features an aerial photo of Glamis Castle:



The *Introduction* includes:

The Lyon family turns out to be one of only a handful of famous families in the United Kingdom who have survived over 900 years of history and can be traced back to before 1066 and William the Conqueror.

Historians and genealogists spend much of their time researching monarchs and famous people but few seem to have discovered the riches of tracing a family through hundreds of years of history. Very few families can claim such a colourful history as this family Lyon, yet few people have written about them, despite the fact that they produced a Queen of England and gave service to Scottish monarchs and English monarchs since the eleventh century.

Many members of the family moved to America in the 17th century and played a large part in the settlements in New England, in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey. There are countless members of the family today in the USA from the East to the West coasts and the Southern states. There are also members of the family in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other countries in the world.

This book is written primarily for those who are members of the Lyon family, by birth, through marriage or by any other direct or indirect relationship. However I believe that it will have a much wider interest particularly for those interested in the history of a formidable family with roots directly linked to the British Royal family. It may not be possible to follow every branch of the Lyon family tree and neither will every Lyon be able to trace back to connections with the Royal family, as for the first few hundred years, until about 1500 it was often only the eldest male who was documented. So there are undoubtedly other siblings and illegitimate family members who were not recorded for various reasons.

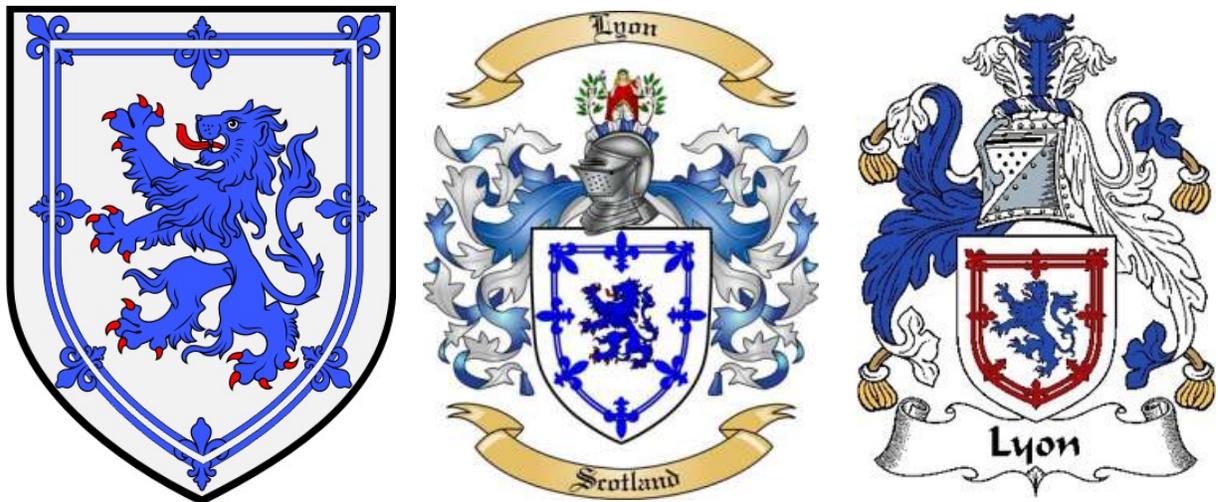
As I wrote earlier, I had no idea what I would be getting into when I started looking for Lucy Lyon's ancestors!!

Another Branch of the Lyon Family in the Old World

As I traced the **Lyon** family in Scotland, I got to the grandparents of the three **Lyon** brothers who immigrated to America – they were Sir William Lyon and Isabell Wightman. One of their sons, Richard Lyon (1590-1678), was the father of the immigrants. Another son, William Lyon II (1580-1634), ended up in London. He had a son named William Lyon III (1620-1692), who married Sarah Ruggles (1629-1689). William III and his wife Sarah immigrated to Roxbury, Massachusetts, where they established a Massachusetts branch of the **Lyon** family (I only mention this because I have DNA matches with descendants of William III and Sarah).

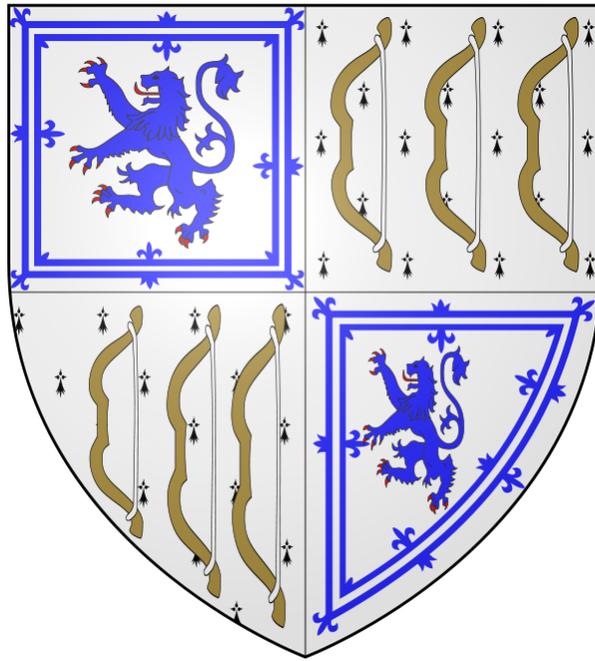
Lyon Coat of Arms

Here are three different versions of the **Lyon** family coat of arms (family crest):



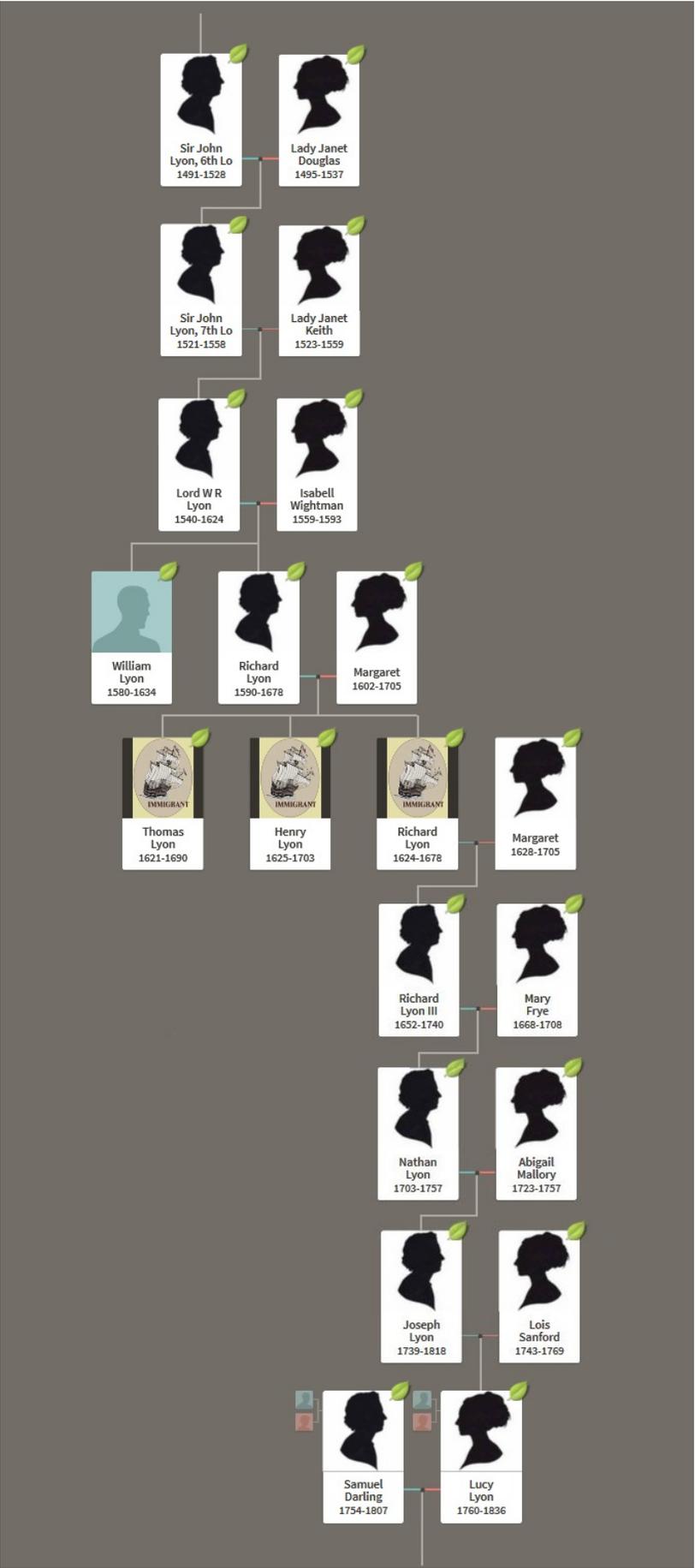
Bowes-Lyon Coat of Arms

When John Lyon married Mary Eleanor Bowes and changed his name to John Bowes, he also had to change his Coat of Arms. Since his descendants were given the hyphenated surname of Bowes-Lyon, the Coat of Arms became:



Ancestors of Lucy Lyon

With all of the information about the descendants of Richard Lyon Jr. in Fairfield County, Connecticut, plus the **Lyon** family in Scotland, it was straightforward to put together a complete family tree for Lucy Lyon (my 3rd-great grandmother):



DNA Matches with Descendants of the Lyon Family

I searched my DNA matches on the Ancestry.com website for individuals who are descended from the **Lyon** family in Scotland. The first two are descended from the immigrant Richard Lyon Jr. (our ancestor). The first DNA match is with a man having the username of **1820HOLMES**:

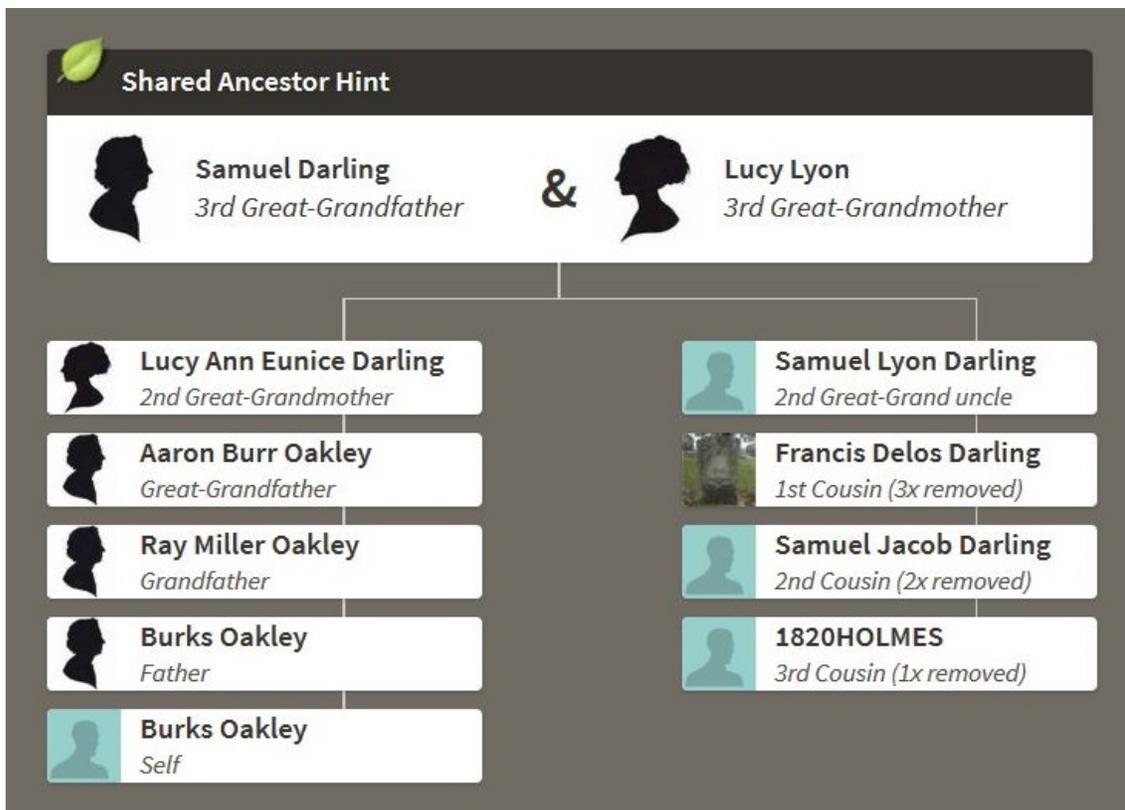
4TH COUSIN

★  **1820HOLMES** 
Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins 
Confidence: Extremely High 
Last logged in Oct 5, 2015

 3963 people

 [VIEW MATCH](#)

As I have written in previous narratives, he and I are both descended from Samuel Darling and his wife Lucy Lyon, so this one is a given:



The next DNA match is with **D.F.** (administered by M_Franta) and **R.F.** (administered by M_Franta):

★  **D.F.** (administered by M_Franta) 
 Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
 Confidence: Good 
 Last logged in Oct 18, 2015

 1381 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

★  **R.F.** (administered by M_Franta) 
 Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
 Confidence: Good 
 Last logged in Oct 18, 2015

 1381 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

In looking at their pedigrees, it appears that **R.F.** is the daughter of **D.F.** (and their surname is Franta). Their family tree goes back to Samuel Lyon (1688-1767):

[← Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon](#)

 **Samuel Lyon**

Vital Events (2 of 2 timeline events)

Birth	Dec 27, 1688 Fairfield, Fairfield Co, CT
Death	1767 Fairfield, Fairfield Co, CT

This Samuel Lyon was the older brother of Lucy Lyon's grandfather, Nathan Lyon (1703-1757).

My next two DNA matches are with descendants of Thomas Lyon (1621-1690), who was another of the three **Lyon** brothers who immigrated to America in 1649. Thomas Lyon ended up living in Rye, Westchester County, New York.

The first of these DNA matches is with a woman with the username of **emeyer1869_1**:

★  **emeyer1869_1** 
 Possible range: 4th - 6th cousins 
 Confidence: Extremely High 
 Last logged in Jul 31, 2015

 2165 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her **Lyon** ancestors go back to Deborah Lyon (1660-1702):

Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon

From emeyer1869_1 : Rogers Meyer Mead
Kreidler Kridler Peirce Pierce Haan Lake
Bromwich Rodgers Mayer (2)

Deborah Lyon

B: 1660 in Greenwich, Fairfield, Connecticut

D: 16 Jan 1702 in Rye, Westchester, New York

Deborah Lyon was the daughter of immigrant Thomas Lyon (one of the three **Lyon** brothers who came to America in 1649).

The other DNA match with the Thomas Lyon line is with a man having the username of **aaront180**:

  **aaront180** 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: Good 
Last logged in Oct 1, 2015  667 people 

His **Lyon** family tree actually goes all the way back to Thomas Lyon himself:

< Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon



Thomas Lyon

Vital Events (2 of 2 timeline events)

Birth 1621

Death 1690

We now come to my DNA matches with the third brother who immigrated to America in 1649, and that is Henry Lyon (1625-1703). Recall that Henry was one of the founders of Newark, New Jersey.

My first DNA match is with a woman having the username of *jc_holmes*:



A DNA match profile for the user *jc_holmes*. It features a star icon, a placeholder profile picture, and a green bar indicating a high confidence level. The text shows the match is a possible 5th to 8th cousin, with 5761 other people also matching. A 'VIEW MATCH' button is present.

jc_holmes 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: High 
Last logged in Aug 24, 2015  5761 people
[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her *Lyon* family tree only goes back to Joseph Lyon (1702-??):



A snippet from a family tree showing the direct ancestors of the match with the surname Lyon. It includes a profile picture and a table of vital events.

[← Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon](#)

 **Joseph Lyon**

Vital Events (2 of 2 timeline events)	
Birth	1702 Newark, Essex, New Jersey, United States
Marriage	1725 to Rebecca Littell Newark, Essex, New Jersey, United States

But at least he was living in Newark, New Jersey (and that is encouraging), so Henry's line was quite likely. It turns out that Joseph was the great-grandson of the immigrant Henry Lyon:

- Henry Lyon (1625-1703)
- Samuel Lyon (1655-1707)
- Joseph Lyon (1680-1726)
- Joseph Lyon (1702-??)

My next DNA match in the Henry Lyon line is with a woman having the username of *G.F.* (administered by 4fanfam):



A DNA match profile for the user *G.F.*. It features a star icon, a placeholder profile picture, and a green bar indicating a high confidence level. The text shows the match is a possible 5th to 8th cousin, with 321 other people also matching. A 'VIEW MATCH' button is present.

G.F. (administered by 4fanfam) 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: High 
Last logged in Jun 3, 2015  321 people
[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her family tree only went back to Jean Lyon (1704-1754):

Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon

From G.F. : Fanning Family Tree (1)

Jean Lyon

B: 1704 in Burlington, Burlington, New Jersey

D: 1754 in Upper Canada, Ontario, Canada

It turns out that Jean's father was John Isaac Lyon (1691-1764). John Isaac Lyon was born in Newark, New Jersey (and, again, that is encouraging for the Henry Lyon line). John Isaac's father was Thomas Lyon, who was born in 1665 in Fairfield, Connecticut. And, of course, *HIS* father was the immigrant Henry Lyon (1625-1703).

The last DNA match with a descendant of the immigrant Henry Lyon is with a woman having the username of *corezfam*:



A DNA match profile for the user 'corezfam'. It features a star icon, a silhouette of a woman's head, and a green bar indicating a 'Good' confidence level. The text shows a possible range of 5th to 8th cousins and a 'VIEW MATCH' button.

corezfam 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: Good 
Last logged in Oct 18, 2015

 11556 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her **Lyon** family tree ends with Joanna Lyon (1695-1761):

Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon

From corezfam : From Europe to America (1)

Joanna Lyon

B: 1695 in Lyon Farm, Elizabethtown, New Jersey

D: 1761 in Morristown, Morris, New Jersey

But it showed that Joanna was born at Lyon Farm, which was Henry's property (as mentioned previously in this narrative, as I'm sure you will recall). It turns

out that Joanna's father was Benjamin Lyon (1668-1720), and Benjamin Lyon was Henry's son.

DNA Matches with Descendants of the English Lyon Family

The paternal grandparents of the three **Lyon** brothers who immigrated to America were William Lyon Sr. (1540-1624) and his wife Isabell Wightman (1559-1593). Although William Lyon Sr. was a son of Sir John Lyon, 7th Lord Glamis, he wasn't the first-born son, so he didn't get the title of 8th Lord Glamis. It appears that he lived his life in London, England. William Lyon Sr.'s grandson, William Lyon III (1620-1692), immigrated to America and settled in Roxbury, Massachusetts.

My first DNA match with descendants of the "English" Lyon family is with a woman having the username of **CLynnColeman**:



A DNA match profile for a user named CLynnColeman. It features a star icon, a red silhouette profile picture, and a document icon. The text indicates a possible range of 5th to 8th cousins with a high confidence level. A green bar shows the confidence level. The user last logged in on Oct 19, 2015. To the right, it shows 45133 other people with the same match and a green button labeled VIEW MATCH.

CLynnColeman 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: High 
Last logged in Oct 19, 2015

 45133 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her **Lyon** family tree goes all the way back to the immigrant William Lyon III himself:



A screenshot of a genealogy website showing the vital events for William Lyon. The page title is "Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon". Below it is a profile for "*William Lyon" with a teal silhouette icon. A table lists three vital events: Birth (13 Dec 1620, Histon, Cambridgeshire, England), Marriage (Abt. 1647 to *Sarah Ruggles, Massachusetts), and Death (16 May 1692, Roxbury, Suffolk, Massachusetts).

[Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon](#)

 ***William Lyon**

Vital Events (3 of 7 timeline events)

Birth	13 Dec 1620 Histon, Cambridgeshire, England
Marriage	Abt. 1647 to *Sarah Ruggles Massachusetts
Death	16 May 1692 Roxbury, Suffolk, Massachusetts

My next DNA match is with a woman having the username of **KYAMF**:

★  **KYAMF** 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: Good 
Last logged in Aug 31, 2015  5683 people 

Her **Lyon** family tree goes back to Ephraim Lyon (1685-1727):

← [Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon](#)



Ephraim Lyon

Vital Events (2 of 2 timeline events)

Birth	14 JAN 1685 Roxbury, Suffolk, Massachusetts
Death	1727 Roxbury, Suffolk, Massachusetts

Since he was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, a connection to William Lyon III is obvious. Sure enough, Ephraim's father was Thomas Lyon (1648-1734), and Thomas was a son of William Lyon III and his wife Sarah Ruggles.

Hang on – just two more DNA matches to go. The penultimate one is with a man having the username of **dwvinson67**:

★  **dwvinson67** 
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 
Confidence: Good 
Last logged in Oct 19, 2015  4592 people 

His family tree went back to Elisha Lyon (1720-1787):

[← Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon](#)

 **Elisha Lyon**

Vital Events (4 of 4 timeline events)	
Birth	1720 Albemarle, Virginia
Marriage	17 Oct 1742 to Phoebe Nix Virginia
Death	1 OCT 1787 Franklin Co. VA

Elisha's **Lyon** line is as follows:

- Elisha Lyon (1720-1787)
- John Lyon III (1697-1784)
- John Lyon II (1674-1703)
- John Lyon I (1647-1702)
- William Lyon III (1620-1692)

Another connection back to William Lyon III (1620-1692) and his wife Sarah Ruggles (1629-1689).

And my very last DNA match with **Lyon** family descendants is with a woman having the username of **VirginiaMBairdNarofsky**:

★  **VirginiaMBairdNarofsky** 

Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins 

Confidence: Good 

Last logged in Sep 27, 2015

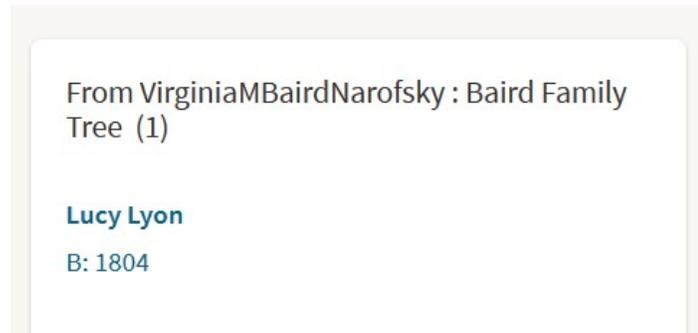
 281 people

[VIEW MATCH](#)

Her **Lyon** family tree is limited to just a single person (drum roll, please) –

Lucy Lyon (b. 1804):

Direct ancestors with the surname Lyon



So I'm concluding this narrative the way it started – looking into Lucy Lyon's ancestors! And *this* Lucy Lyon's ancestors were easy to find on the Ancestry.com website. I can trace her **Lyon** pedigree as:

- Lucy Lyon (1804-1867)
- Jonathan Lyon (1775-1860)
- Simeon Lyon (1745-1802)
- Jonathan Lyon (1709-1785)
- Abiel Lyon (1680-1756)
- Samuel Lyon (1650-1713) – born in Roxbury, Massachusetts
- William Lyon III (1620-1692) – the immigrant

As an aside, Lucy Lyon died in 1867 in Howard County, Iowa, which is about 50 miles south of Rochester, Minnesota.

Concluding Remarks

When I decided to look into Lucy Lyon's ancestors, I never in a million years thought that I would find links to Macbeth, to Glamis Castle in Scotland, and to the beheading of King Charles I in 1649. And finding out that the "Quincy Oakleys" are related to the Queen of England – that is priceless! What an amazing story!

Also amazing are all of the DNA matches that I have with descendants of Sir John Lyon, 7th Lord Glamis, and his wife, Lady Janet Keith Lyon, Baroness Glamis. I wonder if I should send Queen Elizabeth II an e-mail note and ask her if she has her DNA on the Ancestry.com website ...

