

Lochiel and the Jacobite cause

Loch lall is adhbhar nan Seumasach

Pronounced: Loch Eal is avar nan Shaymasach

Not far from here is Achnacarry **Achadh na Cairidh** (the field of the fish-trap), the ancestral home of the chiefs of Clan Cameron.

One of the best known chiefs was Donald Cameron, the 19th Chief, known as "Gentle Lochiel" "**Loch lall Solta**". He was one of the leading supporters of Prince Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) **Teàrlach Òg Stiùbhart** during the Jacobite Rising of 1745-46.

Lochiel and hundreds of his clansmen fought

successfully on the Prince's side at the Battles of Prestonpans and Falkirk before the disastrous Jacobite defeat at Culloden, near Inverness, in 1746.

Lochiel was injured but made his way back to Lochaber, hoping that the Jacobite forces would be able to re-group. Resistance faded, however, as government troops ruthlessly searched the Highlands for the Prince and his supporters. From his hiding place above Achnacarry, Lochiel watched his fine house being burned to the ground by Redcoat soldiers.

Lochiel spent a total of five months on the run, before managing to escape to France where he died in 1748.

The Gentle Lochiel, however, dealt harshly when his men were found to be looting:

*And finding one into the act, He
fired and shot him through the
back;*

*Then to the rest himself
addressed: "This is your lot, I
do protest-Whoe'er amongst
you wrongs a man;
Pay what you get, I tell you
plain;*

*For yet we know not friend or
foe, Nor how all things may
chance to go."*

*Poem on The Gentle Lochiel from
The Glasgow Bellman, September, 1745.*



Charles Edward Stuart.

Did you know...?

After Culloden Bonnie Prince Charlie also had to go on the run to escape capture. Despite a government reward of £30,000 he was never betrayed and eventually escaped to France.



Donald Cameron 'Gentle Lochiel'.