

Dr JAMES ALEXANDER JONES SMITH

Sunday, 31 August 2003 & Sunday, 3 April 2011

James Alexander Jones Smith was born in Stornoway, Ross and Cromarty, Scotland in 1853 to Kenneth Smith and Elizabeth Jones. He had 6 brothers and 5 sisters.

He trained in Medicine at Edinburgh University and qualified with an LRCP (Edinburgh) in 1877 and subsequent FRCS (Edinburgh) in 1881. He was licensed to practice in the Cape of Good Hope on 4 February 1878, his town of abode being given as in Kimberley. His was last licensed in Kimberley in June 1901.

He was in the Cape Mounted Rifles and was awarded the Cape of Good Hope General Service Medal (1880-1897), bar: Basutoland, presumably for activities relating to the Basutoland Gun War (1880-1881). On the roll, he is listed as a Surgeon Major, one of two in the regiment.



Cape of Good Hope General Service Medal, bar: Basutoland

He served in the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1901, as Surgeon Major in the Kaffrarian Rifle Volunteers of Kingwilliamstown (KRV) and for his services was Mentioned in Dispatches (MID) by Kekewitch, was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO)¹; and later the Queen's South Africa medal, single bar: Defence of Kimberley. He also served as Captain Quartermaster in the Kimberley Light Horse (KLH). He was non effective 28 October 1900.

He died of pneumonia aged 48 years at Du Toit's Pan Road, Kimberley on 2 August 1901. His death notice lists him as a doctor with the Kimberley Mounted Regiment. He left a wife and 3 young children.

ADDENDUM:

Rob Mitchell writes the following: As you have the single medal (Cape of Good Hope General Service Medal, bar: Basutoland) I would guess that it was a late "release" and was not issued formally to his

family. Many CGHGS medals although correctly named and genuine in every detail remained unissued as address details couldn't be found and over subsequent years found their way onto the market and into the hands of collectors. Never the less a very, very nice medal.

Creagh and Humphris give the following detail:

"Smith, James Alexander Jones, Major, served during the South African War, 1899-1901, in the Kimberley Regt., and for his services was mentioned in Despatches and created Companion of the Distinguished Service Order (London Gazette, 19 April, 1901) : 'James Alexander Jones Smith, Surgeon-Major, Kimberley Regt. In recognition of services during the operations in South Africa.' The Insignia were sent to the Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, and presented there."

CAPE MOUNTED RIFLES

The Frontier Armed and Mounted Police (FAMP) was established 1853/1855 and, in 1878, became known as the Cape Mounted Rifles (1878).

With effect from 1 April 1913, (Act 14 of 1912), South African Mounted Rifles (SAMR) was formed by the amalgamation of the Cape Mounted Police (CMP), Cape Mounted Rifles (CMR), Natal Police (NP) and Transvaal Police (TP).

The SA Mounted Rifles (SAMR) was to comprise five regiments based around the Union. The 1st Regiment (CMR) was based in Kingwilliamstown and patrolled the Transkei and part of the Eastern Cape. The 2nd and 3rd Regiments (NP) were at Pietermaritzburg and Dundee respectively. The 4th Regiment (TP) was based in Pretoria, whilst the remaining unit, the 5th Regiment (CMP) was based in Kimberley. In addition to these regiments, an artillery brigade of five batteries was attached to the SAMR.

FAMILY TREE OF JAJ SMITH

1. Murdo(ch) Smith, Farmer, and Mary Mackenzie.

1.1 **John Smith** b. Parish of Uig, Isle of Lewis, Ross and Cromarty 1797, farmer in Carloway district d. Stornoway, Ross and Cromarty 7 August 1878 m. Christina MACLEAN b. Parish of Uig, Isle of Lewis, Ross and Cromarty 1794 d. Stornoway 18 November 1887

1.1.1 **Kenneth Smith** b. Parish of Uig, Isle of Lewis 1823, a native of the Carloway District of Lewis, Merchant and Fish Curer of Stornoway d. Stornoway, Ross and Cromarty 1905 m. (first) at Stornoway 24 March 1852 Elizabeth Margaret JONES b. Stornoway, 16th December 1932 d. 26 December 1869 at 47 Ardbeg Road, Rothesay, Isle of Bute (at the home of her sister) (do. James Alexander Jones, merchant of Stornoway)

1.1.1.1 **JAMES ALEXANDER JONES SMITH** b. Stornoway, Ross and Cromarty 1853 d. Kimberley, Cape 2 August 1901 MOK 1/1/151.2164 MOOC
6/9/433.2804 m. Mary MITCHELL

1.1.1.1.1 Constance Margaret Dalziel (sic Dalzell) Smith (1883-1948) MOOC 6/9/15862.1376/49 m. Alpheus Fuller Williams (so. Gardner Frederick Williams ⁱⁱ) (1874-1953) MOOC

6/9/20503.145/53 buried Muizenberg Cemetery. 4 sons (3 = Alpeus Fuller Williams ⁱⁱⁱ d. 1962, James Alexander Williams ^{iv}, Robert Dalziel Williams ^v)

1.1.1.1.2 Elizabeth Maud Mackenzie Smith m. Brig-Gen. Thomas E Hickman (MP for Wolverhampton South 1910-1918, and Bilston 1918-1922) d. Wolverhampton Dec QRT 1930 (aged 70)

1.1.1.1.3 Kenneth Carrington Smith d. Wolverhampton March QRT 1919 (aged 31)

1.1.1.2 Jane Smith b. Stornoway 12 January 1855

1.1.1.3 Christina Mary Smith b. Stornoway 7 December 1856 d. Stornoway 26 April 1869

1.1.1.4 John Smith b. Stornoway 8 October 1858 d. Stornoway 29 September 1869

1.1.1.5 Kenneth Smith b. Stornoway 27 August 1860, d. Stornoway 15th November 1862

1.1.1.6 Murdo Smith b. Stornoway 27 May 1862, d. Stornoway 25 October 1862

1.1.1.7 Kenneth Murdo Smith 27 December 1863 Stornoway, d. 3 December 1864

1.1.1.8 Kenneth Murdo Smith 26 January 1867 Stornoway, d. Stornoway 11 October 1867

1.1.1 **Kenneth Smith** b. Parish of Uig, Isle of Lewis 1823, a native of the Carloway District of Lewis, Merchant and Fish Curer of Stornoway d. Stornoway, Ross and Cromarty 1905 m. (second) 1873 Mary Le Croft MACAULAY, d. Portobello, Edinburgh 10th April 1926.

1.1.1.9 Annabella Morrison Macaulay Smith b. Stornoway 14 October 1874, d. 21 May 1957 Edinburgh, Mrs John A Wood

1.1.1.10 Christina Johanna Smith b. Stornoway 21 February 1876, d. 23 March 1949 Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire, Mrs Alexander W M Sutherland

1.1.1.11 Kennethina Macaulay Smith b. Stornoway 1882, d. Partick, Glasgow 24 August 1916

1.1.1.12 John Smith b. Stornoway 19 November 1878 (Also served in South Africa)

1.1.2 Murdoch Smith b. 2 May 1824 Uig d. <1830

1.1.3 Mary Smith b. 1826 Uig

- 1.1.4 Margaret Smith b. 1831 Uig
- 1.1.5 Murdo(ch) Smith b. 8 July 1830 Uig, died 1897 Stornoway
- 1.1.6 Catherine Smith b. Uig 1833
- 1.1.7 Donald Smith b. 1835 Uig
- 1.1.8 John Smith b. 21 August 1839 Uig d. 1867

REFERENCES:

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2. David Biggins Personal communication.
david.biggins@angloboerwar.com
3. Forsyth, D R. Cape of Good Hope (General) Service Medal (1880-1897): Medal Roll (Johannesburg: 1975)
4. Forsyth, D R. The Defenders of Kimberley Medal Roll: the Queen's South Africa Medal 1899-1902 with clasp (n.p., n.d.)
5. Michell, Robert. City Coins, Cape Town. Personal communication
6. South African Archives Repository, Roeland Street, Cap Town
7. Stornoway Historical Society. Personal Communication. Margaret Macinnes www.stornowayhistoricalsociety.org.uk
8. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints : www.familysearch.org
9. The Medical & Pharmacy Register for the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. 1901
10. Williams, A. Some dreams come true: being a sheaf of stories Publ: Howard Timmins, Cape Town. 1949
11. Williams, Gardner Frederick. The Diamond Mines of South Africa; some account of their rise and development. Publ: Macmillan Co, New York. 1902.

Sunday, 20 January 2008
Reviewed Sunday, 03 April 2011

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SUBSEQUENT CORRESPONDENCE [edited]

2011/04/02 09:26 PM I entered my great grandfather's name (above) into Google and your website came up! [sign MB (n. Williams)]

2011/04/03 11:05 AM

1. JAJ's m Mary (not May) Mitchell - Constance Margaret Dalziel Smith 1883 - 1948 m Alpheus Fuller Williams (Gen manager of De beers) - 4 sons, my father Robert Dalziel Williams (youngest)
2. JAJ's died in 2.8. 1902 when my grandmother was 19, her sister was 17 (and later married General Thomas E Hickman and went to live in UK) and their brother was 15 and died unmarried in 1919 in the UK. So not small children.

My grandmother said that she and her sister were the first Rhodes scholars because Cecil Rhodes paid for them to attend St Cyprians in Cape Town - there was, I believe, no secondary school for them on the mines. But their father was still alive. I have never heard that they lived in poverty. My grandmother died in 1948 (not 1940)

3. I will ask about the medals - one of Constance Margaret's sons was a James Alexander Williams (Col. in the air force during WW2) and his son might have them.

My grandfather wrote a book called "Some Dreams Come True" about the history of the diamond mines.

2011/04/03 08:46 PM

My grandmother is buried in Muizenberg Cemetery but her grave is neglected I am told. A Celtic cross. She (and my grandfather) lived in that big house on the beach outside Muizenberg called Vergenoeg. My grandfather had it built and designed by Herbert Baker.

2011/04/04 11:47 AM

I have drawn a blank as to his other medals from the most likely recipients but I will keep looking. They knew he was awarded these medals but they have no idea where they are now. There was a huge auction of the contents of Vergenoeg a few years back, by Sotheby's, held, I believe, at Groote Constantia. And another 2 sales a few years later. And some items were sold privately.

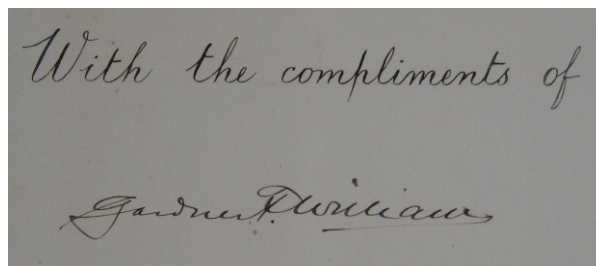
2011/08/16 10:14 PM.

I did look at the tombs in the website (Muizenberg Cemetery <http://gallery.ancestry24.com/v/Cemeteries/Cape/Muizenberg>) Alpheus Williams is the only one I recognise. My Grandmother's grave (Constance Margaret Williams) has a Celtic cross

My great, great grandfather Kenneth Smith is a local hero having stood against the evil Laird of Lewis with a group of Townsmen. There is an excellent book called "None Dare Oppose" by McLeod - he is only mentioned briefly but I was fascinated by the whole story.

ⁱ London Gazette (LG) 19 April 1901 is said to contain this announcement. I have been unable to find it. Kenneth Smith's obituary in 1905 states " ... his eldest son Dr James Smith predeceased him by three years. Dr Smith was awarded the DSO for his part in the defence of Kimberley but did not live to receive the award." JAJ's died of pneumonia on 2 August 1901.

ⁱⁱ (1842-1922) American mining engineer; first General Manager of De Beers Consolidated Mines Co. (1887-1905). Author of "The Diamond Mines of South Africa: Some Account of their rise & Development".



ⁱⁱⁱ Married MARION WILLIAMS DE LE ROI

^{iv} Married VALERIE ETHNE WILLIAMS GORDON-TURNER

^v Raised to the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem: mentioned in London Gazette No.38503 pg. 81. Jan 1949.