MARY BEVERIDGE (1859-1912) AND WILLIAM KININMOUTH (1859-1901), OUR GREAT GRANDPARENTS → ELIZABETH REEKIE, NÉE KININMOUTH (OUR GRANDMOTHER) – PT 1
William Kininmonth (or Kinninmont)

William Kininmonth (sic) was born on 27 Apr 1859 in Raith\(^1\) in the parish of Abbotshall, Landward (sic), Fife. His parents were William Kinninmonth (described as a ploughman in the 1861 Census) and Mary née Muir. In 1871 William, aged 11, was working as a ‘herd boy’ – a humble beginning. By the time of the 1881 Census, and 3 years before his marriage to Mary Douglas, née Beveridge, William (aged 21) was working as a ploughman. At that time his father was a farm grieve at the same place (Kinglassie, Fife), responsible for 288 arable acres, 9 men, 7 women and 3 boys. For more information on William’s ancestry, see C:\Users\User\Keith C-drive folders\Personal -- genealogy\Genealogy -- main documents\David Kininmount to William Kinninmont and Mary Muir.doc.

Mary Beveridge was born on 27 Dec 1859 at Port Street, Inverkeithing, Fife. Her parents were Robert (a ‘coal heaver’ sic; in the 1861 Census he was described as a coal porter) and Elizabeth née Muir. Elizabeth’s mark appears on the birth certificate; thus she was illiterate. Elizabeth Muir and Mary Muir were sisters; thus Mary Beveridge and William Kinninmonth (her second husband) were first cousins. For information on Mary’s ancestry, see C:\Personal -- genealogy\Genealogy -- main documents\John Beveridge and Janet Timonie to Mary Beveridge.doc.

\(^1\) Raith is immediately to the west of Kirkcaldy.
Mary married twice, to Robert Douglas, with whom she had three children, and to William Kininmonth, with whom she had ten children. A summary of genealogical information concerning these 13 children is contained in C:\Personal -- genealogy\Genealogy -- main documents\Children of Mary Kininmonth nee Beveridge.doc.

Mary married Robert Douglas Jr., an ‘aerated water manufacturer’ (sic), in Newington, Edinburgh on 25 Mar 1878. Robert was aged 32, and his parents were Robert (a photographer)² and Barbara Douglas. Robert (junior) was born in Kirkcaldy on 12 Feb 1847. His parents were Robert (a ‘seedsman’ – i.e., a sower of seeds) and Barbara, née Reid. Robert senior was born in Inverkeithing in abt 1821. Mary, our ancestor, was aged 18 and was a domestic servant; her parents were Robert (a journeyman) and Elizabeth Beveridge nee Muir. The usual place of residence of both Robert Jr. and Mary was Kirkcaldy.

² Note that Robert senior’s occupation in 1861 was a photographer. This was very early in the development of photography; thus he was certainly a pioneer in this field. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photography
An unusual feature of the marriage is that it took place in Edinburgh, not their home city of Kirkcaldy. Marrying in another city, then returning to their home city, tended to occur when there was some scandal involved, and the parties to the marriage did not wish to draw public attention to it. This is likely explained by the fact that Mary was about 4 months pregnant when she married (see below). She would have been aged 17 when she fell pregnant.

A Robert Douglas – presumably Robert Jr’s father – owned a number of properties in 1865 and 1875. The 1875 Valuation Rolls show that Robert was wealthy; he owned several properties in Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy. These included a ‘soda water manufacturing’ plant, a dwelling house and a garden/vinery. The yearly rental value of these properties was £40. Note that the Valuation Rolls describe this Robert as a photographer – this indicates that the records relate to Robert senior. Thus our ancestor Mary married into a wealthy family.

An inscription/logo from an online photograph shows the photographic business of Robert senior

An 1872 newspaper advertisement reveals that Robert (senior) had a conservatory in his house The Vineyard, from which he grew and sold grapes. Perhaps this...

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3 The 1851 Census describes him as a ‘mill tenter flax’ (a tenter is someone who stretches flax on a machine while it is drying. So presumably he became prosperous some time after then. By 1855 he was renting a house and shop. By 1861 he was working as a photographer – a fairly new technology that presumably made him wealthy (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photography). And by 1865 he was described as a china merchant. When he died in 1887 he was described as a hairdresser and a tobacconist.

4 It is possible that he owned more property elsewhere, but there are several persons with his name who owned or rented properties in Fife, and it is not possible to tell which records relate to Mary’s husband.

5 Note that Wemyssfield is a street, not a suburb of Kirkcaldy.

6 Robert senior’s occupation was a ‘feedsman’ when his son Robert was born in 1847, a photographer in 1861, and a china merchant in 1865. When his son Robert married in 1878 he was a photographer, and by 1882 (when his son Robert died) he was an ‘aerated water manufacturer’. When he died in 1887 he was described as a tobacconist.

7 https://st6.ning.com/topology/rest/1.0/file/get/2999829599?profile=original

8 The Fifeshire Advertiser, Sat 28 Sep 1872, p.1.
Robert junior and Mary had at least 3 children. The first was also named Robert Douglas. He was born in Kirkcaldy at 67 Victoria Road on 5 Aug 1878, less than 5 months after his parents’ marriage. He died when he was 12 weeks old, on 27 Oct 1878. The cause of death was tubercular meningitis (sic?), which he had had for ‘about 18 days’.

Robert and Mary’s 2nd child was Ann Douglas, born at Mt Pleasant in Kirkcaldy on 8 Dec 1879. Note that Robert signed his name Robert Douglas Jnr.

Their 3rd child, Robert Beveridge Douglas, was also born at Mt Pleasant, on 11 Jun 1881.

They were still living there at the time of the 1881 Census, at Flat 2, 24 Victoria Road, Mt Pleasant. Elizabeth Beveridge (age 17, and presumably Mary’s sister) was also living with them and is listed as a servant. Their flat had 3 rooms with windows.
Robert junior died on 12 May 1882 at his home at Mt Pleasant, Victoria Road, Kirkcaldy. He was 35 years old. Robert and Mary had been married for only 4 years.

The original death certificate stated the cause of death as being unknown – described as ‘sudden death’. However, the Register of Corrected Entries (dated 6 Jun 1882) has a doctor’s statement that the cause of death was: ‘Overdose of sedative. Slept away’. The occupation of he and his father was stated in the original certificate as ‘aerated water manufacturer’; in the RCE it was ‘soda manufacturer’.
He had a simple death notice in the local newspaper:

A copy of Robert’s will & testament is at Annex A. His personal estate was worth £951 4s 4d, while his debts and funeral expenses totalled £159 9s 1d; thus his net worth was £791 15s 3d; the equivalent amount expressed in purchasing power in 2018 is about £78,300. The bulk of his assets comprised a deposit with the British Linen Company Bank, in the amount of £613 2s 5d, and ‘stock in trade’ (presumably relating to his aerated water factory), in the amount of £153 16s 11d. His wife Mary was his executor.

Mary was evidently keen to continue the family business, and to reassure customers (and suppliers) that it would continue. Other similar notices were placed in local newspapers; it would appear there was some fall-off in demand after her husband’s death.

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9 *The Fifeshire Advertiser*, Sat May 13, 1882, p.5.
10 Ibid, p.4.
11 See C:\Personal -- genealogy\Genealogy -- main documents\Annex to doc -- Mary Beveridge and William Kininmonth to Elizabeth Kininmonth.doc.
13 *The Fifeshire Advertiser*, Sat May 27 1882, p.1. There were other newspaper notices to this effect, on Sat May 20th, in *The Fife Free Press*, and again on Sat 3 June in both *The Fife Free Press* and *The Fifeshire Advertiser*. 
The 1884 Valuation Rolls show that Mary was then a tenant of a house, workshop and yard in Mount Pleasant, Kirkcaldy. The annual rental was £25. She was described as a lemonade manufacturer – the first reference to her having this occupation. But she did not appear to own any property at that time. The properties in Wemyssfield that in 1875 were owned by Robert Douglas (senior) were, in 1884 owned by a William Sang (see below).

Mary married William Kinninmonth (sic) on 13 Nov 1884 in Kirkcaldy; William was our great grandfather. Mary was described as a lemonade manufacturer; her father was a stone dresser. Intriguingly, the marriage certificate states that Mary and William were cousins. Mary’s mother was born Elizabeth Muir, the sister of Mary Muir, who was William’s mother. Another interesting piece of information from the marriage certificate is that William’s residence was in Victoria Road; at that time Mary was living at Mount Pleasant, which is also in Victoria Road, although that is not stated in the marriage certificate. William was aged 25, while Mary, already a mother of three, was aged 24. William’s stated occupation is illegible in the marriage certificate – possibly ‘victualler’, i.e. a purveyor of provisions, or grocer; in 1881 he had been a ploughman. His parents were William (an agricultural labourer) and Mary née Muir.

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14 A Michael Beveridge was a neighbor; presumably he was a relative of Mary’s.
15 There are multiple spellings – at least 85 – of this surname: Cinnamon, Cinninmond, Cynninmond, Cynninmonth, Cynninmonth, Cynninmonth, Keinmment, Keninmment, Keninmmonth, Kennemuth, Kenninmuth, Keyinmment, Kinammonth, Kinammonth, Kinnemuth, Kinnemund, Kinninmound, Kinninmounth, Kinnnmond, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth, Kinnnmonth.

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Mary had done well for herself. When she married Robert Douglas she was a domestic servant and the daughter of a coal carter, while Robert was a (presumably wealthy) aerated water manufacturer whose father was prosperous. When she married her second husband, William Kininmonth, her first cousin, she was 3 months pregnant with their daughter Mary.

William and Mary Kininmonth had at least ten children together; with the exception of Mary, their firstborn (who was born at Mt Pleasant, Kirkcaldy), all were born at St Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy:

1. **Mary Kininmonth**, born 15 May 1885

2. **William (Wullie or Willie) Kininmonth**, born 1 Apr 1888

3. **Elizabeth (Lizzie) Kininmonth**, our grandmother, born 3 Apr 1890

16 The surname is not uncommon, and this makes it difficult to identify all of their children.
4. Douglas (Dougie) Kininmonth, born 6 Feb 1894

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas</td>
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5. Ronal (sic, aka Ronnie) Kininmonth, born 21 Mar 1892

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<tr>
<td>Ronal</td>
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6. Edith (Edie) Kininmonth, born 22 May 1895

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Edith</td>
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7. Daisy Kininmonth, born on 16 Apr 1897

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<tr>
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<td>Daisy</td>
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8. Winifred (Winnie) Kininmonth, born 9 May 1898

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winifred</td>
<td>9 May 1898</td>
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9. Mabel Kininmonth, born 7 Mar 1900

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td>Mabel</td>
<td>7 Mar 1900</td>
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10. Wilhelmina (Mina) Kininmonth, born 12 May 1901

With one exception – the second born, Ann Douglas – Mary and her two husbands adhered to the traditional naming pattern for their children. This was complicated by Mary’s first husband, Robert, having the same name as his father and Mary’s father. It was further complicated by Mary having the same name as her mother.

In 1885, William was the ‘tenant occupier’ of a house and workshop/yard at Mt Pleasant, Kirkcaldy (presumably where their first daughter, Mary, was born in that year). The annual rent for these two properties was £10 and £15, respectively. William was described as a lemonade manufacturer. The properties were owned by Robert Howie, a boilermaker.

The Valuation Rolls show that in 1884 there was a vinery/garden, nursery, house and cellar at 6 Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy, all owned by a William Sang (see below) – the same

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17 1st son named after father's father; 2nd son named after mother's father; 3rd son named after father; 1st daughter named after mother's mother; 2nd daughter named after father's mother; 3rd daughter named after mother. The naming pattern could not be applied to Mary’s 5th and 6th children because the traditional names had already been used for their 3rd and 4th children.

18 It is interesting that the social conventions in those days appear to involve tenancies being in the name of the ‘head of family’, rather than the original spouse tenant (i.e., Mary).
properties formerly owned by Robert Douglas (senior). Robert Douglas (junior)’s will & testament included a modest amount owed to a ‘Sang and Barker, Edinburgh’; they were ‘wholesale druggists, manufacturing chemists, drysalters, and oil merchants’.

A Post Office directory for 1886 still shows Robert junior’s name, listing him as a ‘soda water manufacturer’. His father, also named Robert, is shown in the same record as a tobacconist and hairdresser. When Robert senior died in 1887 he bequeathed his entire estate to his wife, Barbara Douglas née Reid.

A Fife Council website states that the Lothrie Aerated Water Works moved to Wemyssfield circa Nov 1886.

At the time of the 1891 Census, Mary was living with her second husband William, who was listed as an ‘aerated water manufacturer’; evidently, he and Mary had continued the

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19 Interestingly, William Sang (described as a nurseryman) owned the house and shop in Kirk Wynd that Robert Douglas Sr rented in 1855.

20 [http://digital.nls.uk/directories/browse/pageturner.cfm?id=85128490](http://digital.nls.uk/directories/browse/pageturner.cfm?id=85128490) Robert Douglas senior’s obituary (1887) noted that he was a friend and co-worker with a John Sang.

21 [http://digital.nls.uk/directories/browse/pageturner.cfm?id=90658208](http://digital.nls.uk/directories/browse/pageturner.cfm?id=90658208)

22 [http://www.onfife.com/lothrie-aerated-water-works](http://www.onfife.com/lothrie-aerated-water-works)
management of the lemonade factory after Robert’s demise.\textsuperscript{23} They had 5 children living with them: Ann and Robert Douglas (Mary’s surviving children from her first marriage); and Mary, William, and Elizabeth Kininmonth. They had one servant and a visitor on Census night. Their house, at 8 St Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy, had windows in 8 rooms – a substantial house. Also in 1891, William’s brother David Kininmonth, aged 22, was working as a lemonade salesman – presumably in the family business. By 1906 he was a manager there.

\textsuperscript{23} Mary’s occupation, however, was unstated. This probably reflected a conservative approach to the recording of information by the Census takers.

\textsuperscript{24} The building on the left is the Adam Smith Halls, built in 1899. It is now known as the Adam Smith Theatre: \url{https://onfife.com/venues/adam-smith-theatre/history}
An 1894 map from before the building of Mary’s mansion, Lothrie Bank, shows the location of Lothrie Works – immediately behind both 8 St Brycedale Avenue and (the future location of) Lothrie Bank at 6 Wemyssfield.  

A 1941 newspaper article states that in 1868, ‘Lothrie water supply’ was provided for Kirkcaldy and Dysart (The Fife Free Press, Sat 5 Apr 1941, p.4). Presumably this water came from the Lothrie Burn, which runs west to east, at a point a few miles north of Kirkcaldy. This supply system appears to have been known as the Lothrie Water Works (The Fife Free Press, Sat 14 Sep 1901, p.2). Thus the name of our ancestors’ company, the Lothrie Aerated Water Works, can be viewed as drawing on the status and well-known name of the municipal water supply – a useful advertising ploy.

26 A 1941 newspaper article states that in 1868, ‘Lothrie water supply’ was provided for Kirkcaldy and Dysart (The Fife Free Press, Sat 5 Apr 1941, p.4). Presumably this water came from the Lothrie Burn, which runs west to east, at a point a few miles north of Kirkcaldy. This supply system appears to have been known as the Lothrie Water Works (The Fife Free Press, Sat 14 Sep 1901, p.2). Thus the name of our ancestors’ company, the Lothrie Aerated Water Works, can be viewed as drawing on the status and well-known name of the municipal water supply – a useful advertising ploy.
The 1895 Valuation Rolls show that William and Mary had succeeded in accumulating considerable property assets over the preceding decade. There had been an apparent transfer of ownership of the house (named ‘The Vineyard’ – where William’s brother David was living when he married Agnes Russell in 1896), the garden/vinery and the nursery at St Brycedale from William Sang to William Kininmonth (junior); these latter two properties were rented by Edward Sang & Sons. ‘The Vineyard’ was where William’s father, William senior, was living – as the tenant – when he died in 1897. The transfer of ownership from William Sang to Mary and William Kininmonth is consistent with the family lore that Mary borrowed a large sum of money – £500 – against her house at Lothrie Bank for a lemonade factory after the death of her husband.

28 A website states that The Vinery was located in Whyte’s Causeway, which is 100 yards southeast of Wemyssfield: [https://lists.rootswb.com/hyperkitty/search?mlist=sct-fife%40rootswb.com&q=kininmonth](https://lists.rootswb.com/hyperkitty/search?mlist=sct-fife%40rootswb.com&q=kininmonth)
29 Note that in 1875, William Sang’s only property in Wemyssfield was the nursery.
30 A company of this name was a nurseryman and seed merchant.
By 1895 William junior also owned ‘Works’ at Wemyssfield. Note that there was a separate house, at St Brycedale Avenue, in Mary’s name. There were 6 properties in all, with a total rental value of £125 per annum – a sizable amount.  

Mary’s husband – our great grandfather – William Kininmonth died on 28 Mar 1901, age 41, of heart disease, which he had had ‘for years’ (sic). In the death certificate, his father William is described as a farm grieve, deceased. His mother Mary née Muir was still living.

31 Note that in those days, the ‘value’ of a property was estimated not by its potential sale price, but its rental value. See [https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/property-ownership-renting-and-occupancy](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/property-ownership-renting-and-occupancy)

32 The Fife Free Press, Sat 20 Mar 1901, p.5.
In their joint Will (dated 1893), they left the estate to each other ‘for the love favour (sic) and affection which we bear to each other’; if neither of them survived the other, the estate was to be divided equally among Mary’s children from their marriage and her previous marriage (see Annex B\(^3^4\)). The inventory of the estate, prepared in 1901 after William’s death, indicates assets, investments and monies owed to the aerated water business totalling some £14,430. The assets included loans to 12 individuals and the Burgh of Kirkcaldy, in the amount of £7,474; most of these individuals were business people, as well as some relatives. There were debts of £7,451. There was also ‘heritage’ (i.e., land and buildings, presumably including the house named ‘The Vineyard’ and the business’s properties in Kirkcaldy and Ladybank) to the value of £2,685. This indicates the total net value of the estate – which would have been jointly owned by William and Mary – was about £9,664; this is equivalent to £1,031,400 (in 2018 purchasing power), a very considerable sum in those days. The probate record notes that Mary’s home was 8 St

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\(^{33}\) Ibid.

\(^{34}\) See C:\Personal -- genealogy\Genealogy -- main documents\Annex to doc -- Mary Beveridge and William Kininmonth to Elizabeth Kininmonth.doc.
Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy. This is just around the corner from Wemyssfield, where Mary built her mansion in 1904.

At the time of the 1901 Census, on 31 March, three days after William’s death, Mary was recorded as a widow who was living with 11 of her children and two servants at the family home in St Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy. Note that Mary and William had a daughter, Wilhelmina, who was born on 25 May 1901, a month and a half after William’s death. Mary signed the birth certificate.

Mary’s house in 1901 had windows in 11 rooms. Mary (as well as her son Robert Douglas) was listed as an ‘aerated water manufacturer’. Note also that a David Kininmonth (William’s brother) and his wife Agnes also had a daughter named Wilhelmina, in 1902. David was also listed as an ‘aerated water manufacturer’.35

Mary’s mother Lizzie Muir died on 24 May 1901, less than 2 months after her husband. Lizzie was aged 68.

A Post Office directory for 1903 shows William’s name for the aerated water manufacturing business. Mary is also shown, as Mrs Kininmonth, as the householder at 4 Vineyard, Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy.

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35 When David died in 1923 he was described as a ‘colliery agent’. 
In 1904, Mary commissioned the building of Lothrie Bank, at 6 Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy.

Lothrie Bank soon after it was built. Note conservatory and tramlines

This house is heritage listed (Category B), and the interior is constructed in ‘ornate Art-Nouveau style’. A to-rent notice in 2012 stated the house is 380m² (or 4,085 sq ft) in size, with front and rear staircases. The house was at that time named Wemyssfield House, and the annual rent sought in 2012 was £30,000 p.a. The heritage description includes the following:

‘The Dean of Guild court approved plans in January 1904, for a villa at Wemyssfield, 'Lothrie Bank', for a Mrs Kinninmonth, hence the vestibule floor design incorporating the letter 'K'. In 1914 the building was converted to a temperance hotel, known as the Crown, by Thomas Menzies. Dean of Guild Records show a connection between the

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36 digital.nls.uk/directories/browse/pageturner.cfm?id=90678493
38 Or 144m² on the ground floor; 15 m² on the 1st floor; and 85m² on the 2nd floor (the attic).
39 This date is incorrect. The family lived in the house until it was sold, circa May 1920 (see below).
Kinninmonth family and 'Lothrie Aerated Water Works'. The architects William Hogg and Mitchell practiced from 26 Frederick Street, Edinburgh. Formerly used by (and still the property of) British Telecom (BT), Wemyssfield House was taken over in 1996 by Kirkcaldy Chamber of Commerce on a 15-year lease. A full description of the house is at Annex C.
Family lore (from our mother) is that:

- Lothrie Bank had a huge conservatory next to it (on the right-hand side), which included a large plumbago capensis plant – Mary was a keen gardener, and ‘adored’ it
- The house had between 8 and 10 bedrooms
- The lemonade factory was built next to the house. Mary borrowed £500 from her lawyer to build the factory, which started around 1905, and was still a going concern in 1921 (when my mother was born)
- Her father, our grandfather David Reekie, was brought in after WWII to manage the business, after it had been somewhat run down
- Barr’s (who make Irn Bru) eventually took over the factory, reportedly in 1963.\(^{40}\)

\(^{40}\) [http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/Businesses/robert_douglas_kirkcaldy.htm#.WX1MTiGNhE](http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/Businesses/robert_douglas_kirkcaldy.htm#.WX1MTiGNhE)
Barr’s is reputedly now the largest soft drink manufacturer in Scotland.
Bottles produced by the Lothrie Aerated Water Works: 41

Lothrie works – circa 1967: 43

41 This Douglas family website reports that ‘A correspondent reported in May 2015 that he had found a hard rubber bottle stopper, inscribed, "R. Douglas 1939 Kirkcaldy Dunfermline," on a beach in Norway. And in June 2015, another correspondent informed she had found a bottle stopper beside a railway line at Forgandenny in Perthshire.’


43 Then owned by Barr’s of Irn Bru fame.
By 1905, Mary had become very prosperous. The Valuation Rolls reveal a number of properties in her name:

- The house at Lothrie Bank, at 6 Wemyssfield – her home – and also an aerated water works next door

- A house, office and garden at 4/6 St Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy, and a house and land at 8 St Brycedale Avenue (see above)

- Two houses, a garden, stable and aerated water factory at Kinloch Street, Ladybank – about 10 miles north of Kirkcaldy; a large warehouse or factory building exists in that street to this day

- The total yearly rent or equivalent value was £358.

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44 The aerated water factory at Ladybank had an annual rental value of £30, whereas the one in Kirkcaldy had one of £120 – this could indicate the high relatively cost of land in Kirkcaldy.
In Nov 1910, Mary received approval from Dunfermline town authorities to build an ‘aerated water manufactory’ with stables, offices, etc, in Townhill road. The cost was expected to be about £3,000.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Mary was living with 9 of her children and one grandchild at Lothrie Bank in Kirkcaldy. Two of Mary’s children (William and Ronald Kininmonth) worked with her in the lemonade factory; all her other children were students. Mary was listed as an employee of the business – her son Robert Douglas was

45 The Evening Telegraph and Post (Dundee), 1 Nov 1910.
listed in his household’s Census return as the manager of the business. Mary had two servants in her household, and on Census night also had two visitors. Their house had windows in 16 rooms. Note that two of Mary’s sons, William (aged 23) and Ronald (aged 19), were workers in the family business. Mary’s daughter, Mary Donaldson née Douglas was also living with the family; at that time she was married to Eddie Donaldson, who in 1911 was working as an accountant for a wine merchants and living in London. The couple divorced in 1917, on the grounds of his adultery. Eddie remarried 4 months later.

Mary died on 6 Dec 1912, aged 52, at 19 Great King St, Edinburgh, a private nursing home (her usual residence was Lothrie Bank, Kirkcaldy). Her son Robert Douglas was with her when she died.\textsuperscript{46} The cause of death was ‘carcinoma recti’ (i.e., rectal cancer), which she had had for one year. Her parents were given as Robert Beveridge (a retired quarryman) and Elizabeth, née Muir (deceased).

\textsuperscript{46} Robert lived at the house at 6 St Brycedale Avenue.

\textsuperscript{47} \textit{Fifeshire Advertiser}, Sat 7 Dec 1912, p.12.
Mary’s obituary reveals that she died following a surgical operation. She is described as generous to those she found deserving. First widowed at 22, with two young children, she took over the recently-established aerated water factory in Kirkcaldy (in 1882); by the time of her death in 1912 it was the largest of its kind in Fife.

Three of her sons – Robert Douglas, William and Ronald Kininmonth – entered the business.

Her funeral was private, and she was buried in Kirkcaldy Cemetery.⁴⁹

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⁴⁹ It is not clear which cemetery in Kirkcaldy was referred to. There are various websites with gravestone photos, some of which were taken recently, but as at Mar 2020 there was no photo available of her gravestone. The largest cemetery in the area is Dysart Cemetery, so it is possible she was buried there.
Mary’s last Will & Testament is at Annex D. Her will is dated 25 Sep 1911, with codicils dated 30 Nov 1912 and 3 Dec 1912 – the last only 3 days before she died, listing various items of jewellery she wanted to leave to her daughters. Her will was a complex affair. It appointed 4 trustees and executors: her sons Robert Beveridge Douglas and William Kininmonth, her son-in-law Frederick Innes (married to her daughter Annie), and James Inglis, a solicitor. Key provisions of her will included:

- The family home at Lothriebank was to be preserved for her family (6 of her 12 children were aged under 21 at the time of Mary’s death); the four trustees were appointed as ‘tutors and curators’ of her under-age children
- The trustees were to continue the ‘Aerated Water Manufacture’ business for at least 2 years after Mary’s death; thereafter, they had the power to continue the business or to sell it. If sold, her 4 sons were to be given first opportunity to buy it, for £25,000 – note that in terms of 2018 purchasing power, this is equivalent to £2,431,000
- The business included buildings, plant & machinery, stock-in-trade, horses, vans, lorries, goodwill, etc. It operated at 3 locations: Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy; Townhill Road and Lenny Street; and Ladybank (bought by Mary’s second husband, William Kininmonth)
- The value of her ‘heritable property’ (i.e. land and buildings, including her houses and the business’s properties) was given as £10,200 – given the proposed sale price for the business, this figure appears very conservative, perhaps to minimise estate duty, which was levied at 6%) – while the net value of the ‘moveable property’ (i.e., household and personal effects, her business’s machinery, stock, goodwill etc, and her private investments in, for example, the British Linen Bank, the Arizona Copper Co., and a coal merchant) was £15,161 8s 7½d. She had made loans to 11 individuals – mainly business people – and to the Burgh of Kirkcaldy in the amount of £6,982. She also owned a share in a coal merchants’ business. The total value of her estate (or ‘inventory’) was thus about £25,361
- Bequests to several of her siblings, to her own children (essentially in equal shares, although her unmarried daughters were to receive an additional sum of

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51 Lenny Street appears to no longer exist.
52 The net value of her ‘moveable property’ was £15,161 8s 7½d. This included her business’s machinery, stock, goodwill etc, worth about £4,400, but excluded the business premises. Her non-business moveable property was thus worth about £10,761.
£250 each), and others. Just before her death, Mary bequeathed her ‘best sable furs’ and specific jewellery to her daughters; our grandmother, Elizabeth, was to be given an opal and diamond brooch.

The 1915 Valuation Rolls show that Lothriebank was still owned by the family, as part of the trust set up by Mary; indeed, a public notice placed in Jun 1918 by our grandmother, Elizabeth Reekie nee Kininmonth, for a general servant gave her contact address as Lothriebank. The aerated water works – which was next door – was owned by the R. Douglas company owned by the family. The rental value of the 2 properties was £90 and £145, respectively. The properties – houses, garden, office and some land – at #4, 6 and 8 St Brycedale Avenue were still owned by the family trust. Robert Beveridge Douglas rented #4 from the trust; he was working in the family business. The total rental value of the St Brycedale properties was £154 10s.

Lothriebank was put up for sale in Oct 1918, shortly before the end of WWI. The description of the house indicates it was a well-appointed mansion. By that time, Mary’s youngest child, Mina, was aged 17. However, the house was still unsold at the time of Edie Kininmonth’s marriage to Tommy Wilson in Apr 1919. Presumably the difficult state of the economy after WWI made the housing market difficult.

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KININMONTH, Mary Beveridge or, Lothriebank, Kirkcaldy, died 6 December 1912, at Edinburgh, testate. Confirmation granted at Cupar, 6 January, to Robert Beveridge Douglas, St Brycedale Avenue, Kirkcaldy, and William Kininmonth, Lothriebank aforesaid, her sons, Frederick George Junes, Darvit Park, Cupar, and James Ingla, Solicitor, Kirkcaldy, Executors nominated in Will or Deed, dated 25 September 1911, and recorded with other Writs in Court Books of Commissariot of Fife, 3 January 1913. Value of Estate, £17,360. 8s. 1d.

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Lothriebank was presumably sold around May 1920, when there was a two-day sale of the house 'furnishings and plenishings'.\textsuperscript{54} \textsuperscript{55} The buyer was Dr John Maxwell Dawson; however, he died in Edinburgh on 11 Oct 1921, due to encephalitis (which he had had for 5 days); he was only 50 years old.\textsuperscript{56} As a result, Lothriebank was again put up for sale in Feb 1922.

The government’s Historic Environment Scotland website notes the following information about Lothrie Bank. It states that the house was converted to a temperance hotel, named The Crown, in 1914 – this date is clearly incorrect, however.\textsuperscript{59}

\textsuperscript{54} Plenishings are furnishings or equipment.
\textsuperscript{55} A Dr Dawson was living there in 1921, so presumably he was the buyer of Lothriebank. He died in 1922, and Lothriebank was put on the market for sale in Feb 1922.
\textsuperscript{56} He left an estate valued at £5,745 -- equivalent to £308,000 in 2018. Source: \textit{The Fife Free Press}, Sat 6 May 1922, p.7.
\textsuperscript{57} \textit{The Fife Free Press}, Sat 15 May 1920, p.4.
\textsuperscript{58} \textit{The Scotsman}, Wed 15 Feb 1922, p.3.
\textsuperscript{59} [http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB44105](http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB44105)
The company operated under the name Lothrie Aerated Water Manufacture, under the firm of Robert Douglas.\footnote{There is a large number of newspaper advertisements and news items available (for a subscription fee) online. These could be useful if one wanted to do further research into the company. A useful search term is ‘R. Douglas, Ltd’. See www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk, for example.}

A website comment states that ‘R. Douglas's Lemonade Factory was acquired by A.G .Barr, the makers of Irn Bru, in 1963. The site was shut down sometime after 1967 and was acquired by GPO for the STD telephone exchange’.\footnote{https://britainfromabove.org.uk/en/image/saw032188?keyword=4975&quicktabs_image=0&ref=66 This website states the site was shut down sometime after 1965; yet a photo (see above) shows it was still being used by Barr’s in 1967.}