

“Enthusiastic Reception for Novar”

Ronald Crauford Munro Ferguson, Novar, MP married Lady Helen Blackwood in Bangor, County Down, eldest daughter of Marquess of Dufferin, former Governor-General of Canada and Viceroy of India, on 1st Sept. 1889.

They arrived by train at Novar Station on 4th October and were pulled into Evanton on an open carriage. Two detachments of Alness volunteers made up the guard of honour. A small canon below Assynt House gave a salute.

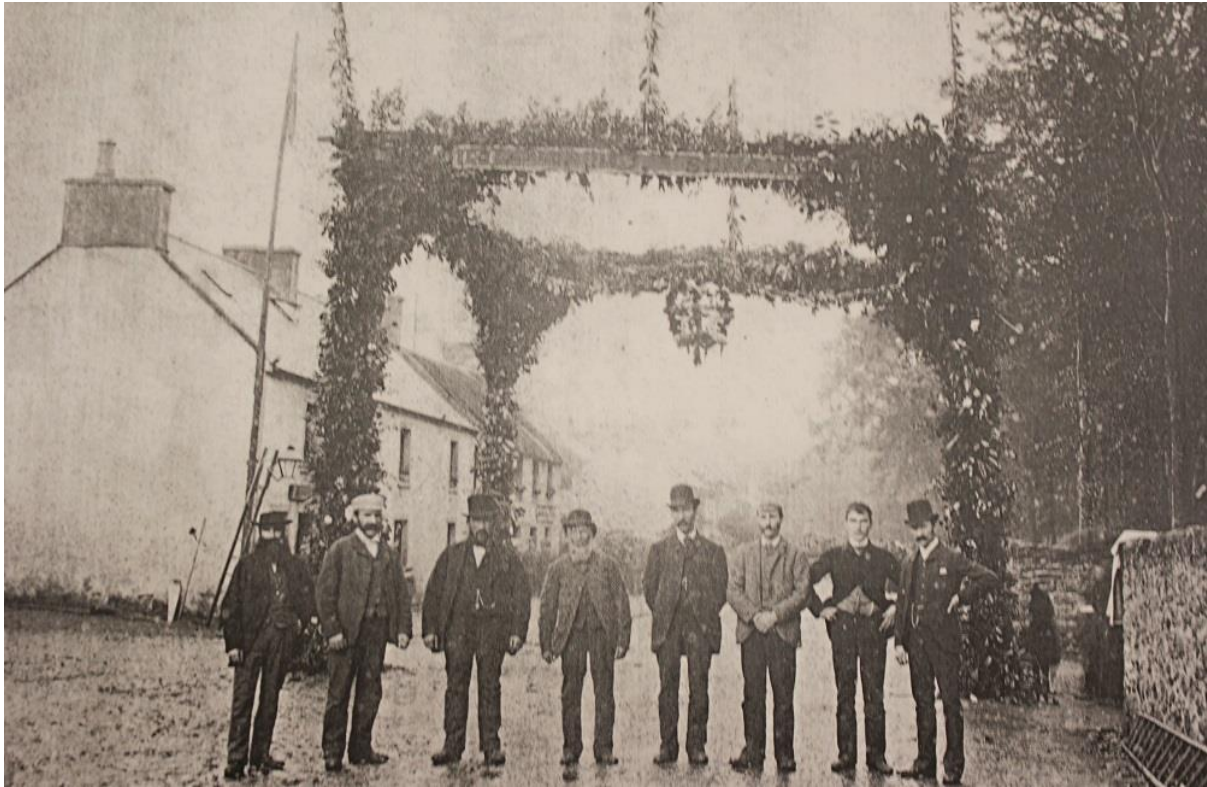
The triumphal arch in Evanton (*see photo*) read “Welcome to your Highland Home” and “Aonachd Sona” (A Happy Union). Further arches read “Dread God” and “Erin go Bragh” and “Ceud Mile Failte”.



Evanton welcomes the bridal carriage
(Courtesy Janette Maclennan)

Dr Allan presented them with an illuminated address from the inhabitants of Evanton, offering “our deepest graditude for the lively and very practical interest.... in our welfare and especially the splendid boon which you most generously conferred on us in the year of 1886 by the introduction into every

street and lane in the village a plentiful supply of excellent water, at a cost of about £1200" (*Ross-shire Journal*)



Is this the Reception Committee?

(Courtesy Janette MacLennan)

Photographs provided to Evanton Oral History Project for display

Kindly re-photographed and retyped by Willie Fraser, Evanton

Edited for web AC 15.02.21