

= Elizabeth Campbell , Duchess of Argyll =

Elizabeth Georgiana Campbell , Duchess of Argyll CI VA (née Leveson @-@ Gower ; 30 May 1824 ? 25 May 1878) was a British noblewoman and abolitionist . Born into the wealthy Sutherland @-@ Leveson @-@ Gower family , she was the eldest daughter of the 2nd Duke of Sutherland by his wife , the political hostess Lady Harriet Howard . In 1844 Elizabeth married George Campbell , Marquess of Lorne , eldest son and heir to the 7th Duke of Argyll . She became the Duchess of Argyll in 1847 when her husband succeeded his father .

Like her mother , the Duchess of Argyll was a prominent opponent of slavery . The pair helped write a letter titled An Affectionate and Christian Address of Many Thousands of Women of Great Britain and Ireland to Their Sisters , the Women of the United States of America , calling for an end of slavery ; it attracted signatures from 562 @,@ 848 British women . The two often hosted the American abolitionist and author Harriet Beecher Stowe when she visited England . Lady Campbell and Beecher Stowe were friends and maintained a correspondence .

The Duchess of Argyll succeeded the Duchess of Wellington as Mistress of the Robes to Queen Victoria , holding the position from 1868 to 1870 when she resigned due to ill health . Soon after being appointed a member of the newly created Order of the Crown of India , she died in 1878 whilst eating with William Ewart Gladstone in London .

= = Family and early life = =

Lady Elizabeth Georgiana Leveson @-@ Gower was raised amidst great wealth . Her paternal grandmother , the great heiress Elizabeth Gordon , was suo jure Countess of Sutherland , overseeing estates that spanned 800 @,@ 000 to one million acres of Scottish Highlands . The Sutherland lands were further augmented with Gordon 's 1785 marriage to George Leveson @-@ Gower (later 1st Duke of Sutherland) . In 1823 , their son George married Lady Harriet Howard , daughter of George Howard , 6th Earl of Carlisle . Lady Elizabeth Leveson @-@ Gower was born the following year as their eldest daughter , on 30 May 1824 . Three brothers and two sisters followed .

With family estates in Scotland and England , Elizabeth 's upbringing involved much travel . Their main residence was the lavish Stafford House , London , which they acquired in 1827 ; they also resided on many country estates . The couple , especially Harriet , led vibrant social lives . She was a political hostess known for her friendship and position as Mistress of the Robes to the young Queen Victoria . In 1833 , the 1st Duke died and Elizabeth 's father succeeded as 2nd Duke of Sutherland , inheriting extensive property . The historian Eric Richards writes that the first half of the nineteenth century saw the height of the House of Sutherland 's social and economic influence , with its wealth being derived from rents , various stocks , and dividends from transportation firms .

= = Marriage = =

While accompanying Queen Victoria to Taymouth Castle in 1842 , Lady Elizabeth met George Douglas Campbell , Marquess of Lorne , the eldest son of the 7th Duke of Argyll . They married at the Leveson @-@ Gower estate Trentham Hall on 31 July 1844 . The Archbishop of York , Edward Venables @-@ Vernon @-@ Harcourt , presided over the wedding . The Argyll estate was in debt , so Elizabeth 's wealth was much needed . Their union resulted in the further joining of two of Scotland 's largest landowning families .

The young couple was given Rosneath by his father at the time of their marriage . Deeply religious , Elizabeth had been raised in the Anglican faith but converted to the Church of Scotland upon her marriage , taking her first communion in the faith later that year . Like many of her predecessors , Elizabeth was a strong supporter of the Scottish Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Argyll and The Isles . The couple possessed similar interest in liberal politics . Elizabeth was dignified and cultured , and Lorne found in his new wife " more than all that had been told me by her numerous friends ... On some subjects , excepting philosophy and the natural sciences , she was more widely read than

I was at the time . "

= = Duchess of Argyll = =

Lorne succeeded his father as 8th Duke of Argyll on 25 April 1847 , whereupon Elizabeth became Duchess of Argyll . The family 's primary estates included Argyll Lodge in London , the family seat of Inveraray Castle in Argyllshire , and Rosneath . Their first child , John , was born within a year of their marriage . They would have an additional four sons and seven daughters . The Argyll household was sober , proper , and driven by routine with prescribed times for prayer , breakfast , lunch , and dinner . The children were not expected to show emotion such as crying , except for " real causes " like the death of a family pet . The Scottish scholar John Stuart Blackie enjoyed the solemnity of the couple 's lifestyle and visited them often ; he dedicated his 1876 work Language and Literature of the Scottish Highlands to Elizabeth .

The historian Anne Jordan writes that Lady Campbell was " old before her time , " having given birth to twelve children . She suffered from ill health , in part due to a 1868 stroke which left her partially incapacitated ; this forced much of the children 's upbringing to be overseen by her husband . Her third daughter Lady Victoria , who also suffered from ill health due to a contraction of poliomyelitis , nursed her mother . Once adults , the children 's marriage settlements were a drain on the family 's resources , with all but one eventually marrying . Their eldest son John married the Queen 's fourth daughter Princess Louise in 1871 , and became the Governor General of Canada in 1878 .

Like her mother the Duchess of Sutherland , the Duchess of Argyll was a prominent supporter of the abolitionist movement . Elizabeth was one of many Englishwomen affected by the 1852 anti @-@ slavery novel Uncle Tom 's Cabin . The following year at her mother 's house , the Duchess helped draft a letter titled An Affectionate and Christian Address of Many Thousands of Women of Great Britain and Ireland to Their Sisters , the Women of the United States of America . The letter , eventually signed by 562 @,@ 848 women , called for an end to slavery because the institution did not recognise slave marriages , led to parent @-@ children separations , and prevented slaves from receiving Christian educations . It was sent to the author of Uncle Tom 's Cabin , the American abolitionist author Harriet Beecher Stowe ; she and the Duchess of Argyll became friends , and maintained a correspondence . Harriet Beecher Stowe would often visit the duchesses of Sutherland and Argyll when she travelled to England and benefited from their connections to senior politicians . The Duke and Duchess of Argyll were also friends with American politician and anti @-@ slavery leader Charles Sumner , leading historian Amanda Foreman to write that the " relationship between [the Duke of Argyll] and Sumner would prove to be one of the most important friendships of the Civil War . "

In December 1868 , Lady Campbell was appointed Mistress of the Robes to Queen Victoria , succeeding Elizabeth Wellesley , Duchess of Wellington as a member of William Ewart Gladstone 's first ministry . She resigned the position in 1870 due to ill health , and was succeeded by her sister @-@ in @-@ law Anne Sutherland @-@ Leveson @-@ Gower , Duchess of Sutherland . In December 1877 , Queen Victoria created the Order of the Crown of India and conferred it upon the Duchess of Argyll and dozens of other royal and noblewomen . She was also a member of the Royal Order of Victoria and Albert , Second Class . The Duchess of Argyll died on 25 May 1878 , whilst eating with Gladstone in London . She is buried at Kilmun Parish Church .

Three years later her widower remarried to Amelia Maria , daughter of Thomas Claughton , Bishop of St Albans .

= = Issue = =

The Duke and Duchess of Argyll had the following issue :

John Campbell , 9th Duke of Argyll (6 August 1845 ? 2 May 1914) ; married Princess Louise of the United Kingdom in 1871

Lord Archibald Campbell (18 December 1846 ? March 29 , 1913) ; married Janey Callendar and had issue including Niall Campbell , 10th Duke of Argyll

Lord Walter Campbell (30 July 1848 ? 2 May 1889) ; married Olivia Clarkson Miln in 1874 , and was the grandfather of Ian Campbell , 11th Duke of Argyll

Lady Edith Campbell (1849 ? 1913) ; married Henry Percy , 7th Duke of Northumberland in 1868

Lord George Granville Campbell (25 December 1850 ?) ; married Sybil Alexander in 1879

Lady Elizabeth Campbell (b . 1852) ; married Lt.-Col. Edward Harrison Clough @-@ Taylor in 1880

Lord Colin Campbell (1853 ? 1895) ; married Gertrude Elizabeth Blood in 1881

Lady Victoria Campbell (22 May 1854 ? 6 July 1910)

Lady Evelyn Campbell (b . 1855) ; married James Baillie @-@ Hamilton in 1886

Lady Frances Campbell (22 February 1858 ? 25 February 1931) ; married the architect Eustace Balfour , brother of the Prime Minister Arthur Balfour

Lady Mary Emma Campbell (1859 ? 1947) ; married Edward Carr Glyn , Bishop of Peterborough

Lady Constance Harriett Campbell (11 November 1864 ? 9 February 1922) ; married Charles Emmott in 1891