



THE SMITHY, FORMERLY THE PARISH SCHOOL UNTIL 1860.

CHAPTER V

THE PARISH SCHOOL

PARISH schools are schools peculiar to Scotland, they formed a completion to the efforts that royal sovereigns, the church (both before and after the Reformation), and private individuals have made in the cause of education. They were established in 1696 under a statute which compelled the heritors or chief landowners in every parish to provide a school and salary for the teacher. Of these charges the heritors were entitled to recover one half from their tenants.

The object of this Act was the education of every child in the nation, and was passed exactly two hundred years after the famous compulsory Act of James the Fourth in which all "burgesses and freemen of substance were enjoined to send their eldest son and heir to school for a set number of years," under a "penalty of twenty pounds scots for disobedience." There was no compulsory attendance clause or penalty included in the 1696 Act. The parents, too glad to take advantage of the great privilege afforded them, sent their children to school.

What that Act did for Scotland and Scotsmen all the world knows. How soon after the passing of that Act the first parish school was built in Wamphray and the first teacher appointed to it has not been ascer-

tained, but it was probably at once. Mr. Carruthers of Mylne was clerk to the heritors at that time, so the building of the school and the appointment of the teacher would lie much in his hands. A stone dyke in the hedge on the east side of the road near the present school is said to mark the site of the first parish school. No house or garden was, by law, allotted to the teacher till 1803. Henderson was the name of the first teacher, apparently a Wamphray man. How long he held office is not recorded. A George McCall was teacher in 1753 and 1754, and as we learn from their records, the kirk-session "paid him four shillings and sevenpence on June 9th, 1754, for five quarters and a half's wages for several poor children"!!!

The next teacher was David Reid, a native of the parish also. He continued in office about forty years. To meet increasing numbers a new school was built in his day on a different site (at Roughdykes). Tradition has ceased to speak of Mr. Reid, but being session clerk he has left a neat memorial of himself in his handwriting.

Mr. Leslie succeeded Mr. Reid in 1793. The average attendance in 1794 was one hundred and ten.¹ Early in his regime a new school was built, and again on a different site. This school was a great improvement, in point of architecture, on the former two. It was well lighted, the heating apparatus was good (a stove), and the seats and desks were in the latest fashion of the day. Mr. Leslie did not profess the higher subjects, but he was spoken of by his scholars with respect, both as a man and a successful teacher

¹ Statistical Report.

of the three r's. His discipline was strict and his punishment severe.

It may be interesting to recall the school books used in the 18th and first quarter of the 19th century. These were, first a small board, the capital and small letters of the alphabet with a few lines of words of one syllable pasted on one side, and on the reverse, words of two and more syllables. This was followed by a book a little more advanced. The third was the New Testament, the next was the Old. The Roman numerals were now taught, and all the books in both Testaments were learned by rote to enable children to find the place in church easily. The most advanced reading book was a selection in prose and verse from great authors. The Shorter Catechism and the Book of Proverbs, bound up separately, and the Psalms of David, were the religious text-books. "Dilworth," from the name of its author, was the most advanced book in arithmetic.

Bad health obliged Mr. Leslie to resign in 1823 at a comparatively early age, after a career of thirty years in Wamphray parish school. He retired to Moffat, where he spent the remaining years of his life. His retiring allowance amounted to £16 a year, which was deducted from the statutory salary of £23, leaving the tempting income of £7 a year, the school fees, and a house and garden to attract a new teacher.

We may introduce Mr. Leslie's successor by giving a short sketch of the early life and training of the man who made the small parish of less than six hundred inhabitants notable over the county and beyond it, and whose influence did much to form the character of his pupils who went from their Wamphray homes to do their part in the wide world.

John Charteris, son of Matthew Charteris and Jean Learmonth, was born in Newton, Wamphray, in 1803. His education began in the parish school there, and he continued to attend it till the stock of elementary subjects in Mr. Leslie's school prospectus was exhausted. His school-fellows regretted his departure, for he was as expert at, and enthusiastic over, all the games in the playground as he was mentally capable in school work.

For the next few years he attended Applegarth parish school. There he obtained from Mr. Brown, a university man, an extensive acquaintance with the best prose and verse authors of ancient Greece and Rome. Mathematics and modern languages were also among his subjects of study.

In Garrel school, Kirkmichael, Mr. Charteris began his life-work as a teacher. He did not long continue there. Wamphray school fell vacant; he applied for it, and was appointed assistant and successor to Mr. Leslie (out of several applicants) at the tempting income of the remaining £7 of the statutory salary, the school fees, and a house and garden. For this sum the teacher had to undergo an examination in mathematics, arithmetic, Latin and Greek. Horace was examined in *ad aperturam*, with grammar and scanning. Truly, the calling had been considered honourable in those days to demand such accomplishments, but the pay may go without mention. Nothing daunted by poor money prospects, but animated by a warm affection for his native parish, and evidently alive to the responsibilities and possibilities which lay in his calling to benefit its youths, he added, to the former elementary branches taught in the school, the higher subjects that he had

acquired. No Wamphray boy was now obliged to travel many miles every day to prepare either for a professional or commercial career. The prospectus of the school work was equal to that of any high school or academy in the country. As one or other of the professions was the only opening to a clever and ambitious country boy in the beginning of last century, the opportunity was at once taken advantage of. A class was formed; five to six years was the time allotted to prepare for college in country schools. In the session of 1829 the first band of five—three to the medical and two to the humanity classes—set out from Wamphray to Edinburgh University. For the next forty-four years, from the above date, Mr. Charteris had an unbroken connection through his pupils with either Glasgow or Edinburgh University—usually with both; and prizes and medals were won by his students from the first session and onwards during their course.¹

But the classical was not the only side attended to in Wamphray school. The commercial was as carefully looked after. Arithmetic was a favourite subject with Mr. Charteris. Revisal of it at short intervals, with or without the slate, was a bright episode in the school work. It was, who to be quickest, most correct, and take places. The classical side boasts of names that have reached the highest point attainable in their professions, and of a greater number, too, than any parish school in Scotland has had or is likely, in altered circumstances, ever to produce. The names of the three moderators of the Church, Charteris, Pagan, and Gillespie, are household words to Scotsmen everywhere, and aptly by their side may be placed the

¹ A list of these students is given at the end of the chapter.

late General Currie, C.B., and the late Professor Matthew Charteris, M.D., in the medical professions. But in trade and commerce and other business lines the school has names to charm with also, and of these the "Maister" was no less proud and pleased. The Jardines, Gateside, emigrated to Rushibuctoo in Canada and entered on a successful shipbuilding career there. The Taites, later, in Canada, and the Hallidays as East Indian merchants are names well known in commercial circles. The Thomsons have long been established in business in Glasgow. The Littles, Newton, the Smiths of Laverhay, the Smiths of Howgill, the Smiths and Harknesses and Sanderses and Brydens, are all successful in business in their several lines; and Porteous, Paterson,¹ and Graham, and Little, Langside, were well known names in Annandale as blacksmiths for plough-makers and millwrights. The last named, Little, has just retired on a pension from the Cunard Company after being in their service as an engineer forty-one years; and many more might be mentioned. There can be no doubt but that the higher subjects in school and the constantly recurring visits of the college students to see the "Maister" had a great influence, not only in Wamphray, but all over the country in stirring up the scholars to do their best, each in his own calling, however humble it might be.

Nor did the technical side lack its share of attention. After the rules at the end of Gray's arithmetic (on the measurement of round and square timber, stone and brick walls) were theoretically studied and practically applied, a regular course in superficies and solids began.

¹ Paterson has laid down the hammer and lifted the pen, and is now the trusted official of a large parish in Mid Annandale.

In the olden time the teacher did most of the survey work the farmers required. On those occasions he took the "mensuration boys" with him, and instructed them practically into both branches of that science. That was not all. The class was sent out with chain and cross-staff to measure a field, and if the area found by their measurements corresponded to the plan in the master's desk, the young surveyors, each with square and compass, drew a plan of their work on their copy-books. If not, it had to be surveyed over again, and so on they went, adding field to field till the most crooked fence could not baffle their surveying powers.¹

Mr. Charteris was before his day in the higher education of girls. His opinion was that the girls who had time and talent should be taught all the subjects the boys were taught, and, though some did take Latin and Greek and mathematics, their higher subjects generally consisted of French and German, book-keeping and composition, and the measurements of floors for carpets. An old "parochial," speaking lately on the subject of mensuration, said he was "afraid that practical mensuration is now a lost art among teachers."

Mr. Charteris did not think that his duty to his scholars ended when they left the school at twelve or fourteen years of age. The debating society was formed in his early youth. When he became teacher in his native parish he enthusiastically supported this institution as a means of fostering and developing intelligence, teaching the use of parliamentary language,

¹ Mr. French, Wamphraygate, very kindly allowed the surveying party to roam over his fields in summer, and in winter always granted the school a park to play football on.

and toleration directly in secular and indirectly in sacred things. His friend, the late Hon. James Kirk, governor of Tobago, when a young man resident in the parish, was an active member and keen supporter of the debating society, or "gabbing school" as it was at first dubbed. Its meetings were largely attended by all classes in the parish and district; and farmers, shepherds, tradesmen, and labourers were among its active members. His early students were a great acquisition, and later, in the days of the three moderators, it blossomed out into great prominence, and its anniversary at Christmas became the leading event of the season. A good body, afraid that intelligence might be getting too all engrossing, handed up to the person conducting a crowded revival meeting in a neighbouring parish, a paper on which was written, "Pray for the intellectual people of Wamphray."

The school books in use in 1823 were continued for some years afterwards, till McCulloch's series of school books were published. When the Old and New Testaments ceased to be ordinary reading books, the Shorter Catechism and Psalms were continued as the religious lesson text-books to which was added Bible biography. In all the secular subjects taught in school the latest and most approved text-books were henceforth regularly introduced.

In the statistical account for 1834 the income of Wamphray school is given at twenty-five pounds in school fees, fourteen pounds in salary, and a house—forty pounds a year.¹ The statutory salary of parish

¹ Mr. Charteris married Miss Jean Hamilton of Broomhills, Wamphray, in 1834. Their family consisted of a daughter and two sons.

teachers had by this time risen to the maximum of thirty-four pounds a year. The heritors divided the eleven pounds of increase between Mr. Leslie and Mr. Charteris: four pounds to the former and seven pounds to the latter. Not till 1839 did Mr. Charteris receive the maximum salary. Long before this his scholars were in distinguished positions and enjoying handsome incomes. Mr. Charteris was offered several better situations, but he preferred to stay in his native parish. He always had boarders, and during the latter half of his career, had often as many as his house could contain. Money was not his motive power. *Noblesse oblige* perhaps in his case was a minor incentive to duty. Though he never was heard to boast of it, he knew the name he bore, and the high and distinguished position it had formerly held in the county of Dumfries in political matters, and also in the sphere of education—the highest attainable in the University of Edinburgh. His dictum to all and sundry who spoke of name and pedigree was, "If you do not add further lustre to your name and pedigree, do not mention either." It may be said that one Wamphray man, after a long and successful professional career, bought the parish and made it a garden, another, after him, made it an intellectual centre.

Mr. Charteris encouraged his scholars in all games that developed physical strength and manliness. At swimming he was an expert, and advised all to learn the art. Football was his favourite game; he never ceased to enjoy a well-played match, and played it in winter when the big lads came to school, long after he was teacher in Wamphray; and when no longer able to

take the field, it pleased him greatly when the boys handed the new ball to the "Maister" to give it the first kick-off. A favourite hobby of his was gardening and bee-keeping. His studious habits, successful career as a teacher, his genial and cheerful disposition and well-ordered life, won for him that respect and admiration he was so justly held in by all his friends and acquaintances, and made his early death at sixty-eight universally regretted by all who had known or heard of him. He died in Wamphray Schoolhouse in September, 1871.

In the sixties of last century the handsome new parish school and schoolhouse were built, and the teacher's salary considerably advanced. But the old school by the glen was the place where Mr. Charteris did his great work. The glen was the playground. Its beauty and romanticity with its winding rivulet and gushing waterfalls was an education in itself. Wherever in it the scholars ran they trod on historic ground. The romantic tales of Border raids and the thrilling story of Covenanting times connected with it, were the first history lessons to his scholars. The following tribute to his memory is from the pen of one of his distinguished scholars, Dr. Pagan, Bothwell manse.

Love to his native parish had a deep and warm hold on Mr. Charteris' heart. He was, at all times, most desirous that every thing connected with it should be worthy of its best traditions.

"From his earliest years he had read thoughtfully the best literature that was within the reach of those who resided in the rural districts of Scotland, and possessed a more than ordinary acquaintance with books of many and different kinds.

"The special interest of his life was the work of his school. Any personal or pecuniary advantage to himself from continuance of attendance at school to qualify for the university or other opening in life had not the slightest influence with him. He would have given his time and his work as cordially and ungrudgingly to any of his pupils without fee or reward, who gave promise of gifts for a professional or commercial life, as he would have given to those who possessed ample means to recognise whatever service he rendered.

"It seems in these times very wonderful that from a parish with so limited a population, for the fee of five shillings a quarter, pupils could go direct to the university and at once take a position as good as those who came from the amply endowed and staffed educational institutions in the leading centres of population. For the sum stated acquaintance was acquired with the outstanding Greek and Latin classics, and also with some of the best names in French literature. In addition to these there were included in the course of instruction given, the elements of German, mathematics, algebra, trigonometry, measurement of land, and navigation. He never professed to teach what he did not know, and no gratification was deeper to him than to conduct others into the paths over which he himself had gone.

"I am sure that I give expression, not only to my own sentiments but to those of every one who had the privilege of being a pupil in his school, when I state that I will never cease to cherish a sacred and affectionate regard for his memory."

Mr. Rae, successor to Mr. Charteris, is also by descent, a Wamphray man. He has been now thirty

years teacher there. He is both Normal-school and university trained, and so was both capable and anxious to follow on old parochial lines, and did at first send boys to both medical and humanity classes. But the stringent codes of the new Education Act have put a stop to that training, not only in Wamphray, but over all the parishes of Scotland, that erstwhile enabled students to go direct to the university from the country schools. Depopulation has also helped to lessen the number of lads going in for professions from country places. In 1831 there were two hundred and thirty-two children under fourteen years of age in Wamphray. The last school census gives only fifty-one of school age. Commercial pursuits and other openings, where money is at once obtained and future monetary prospects are assured, now prevent many young men from choosing professional careers.

Mr. Rae has all through his school life taken a deep interest in the Educational Institute. He has been in turn chairman of every committee connected with it. He was first elected vice-president, and in 1902 he obtained the high honour of being elected president of the Educational Institute of Scotland. During his year of office, he represented the teachers of Scotland at the annual congress of English teachers, held that year at Bristol, and though not in office at the time, he was, by special invitation of the Irish Organisation of Teachers, requested to attend their annual congress in Dublin. In this way Mr. Rae¹ has undoubtedly made Wamphray a well-known name in every teacher's

¹ A list of students educated in Wamphray school in Mr. Rae's time is given at the end of the chapter.

house in Scotland—and England and Ireland too. Much was said and written against the old parochials at and before the passing of the Education Act of 1872. They were blamed for neglecting the other scholars for the sake of the prospective college lads. The outcry was much louder than any real existing grievance warranted. Any one educated in a country school saw the teacher take each class every day, from a b c upwards. The preparation of the junior classes for the teacher was done by unpaid monitors, changed weekly, and employed for short periods at a time. No modern teacher would work in the same surroundings as those former-time ones did. It was perfectly marvellous how much life and learning went on in these old one-room schools. The silent system was not observed—how could it? Quite as stringent as any official inspector was the unseen inspection that the neighbouring teachers held over one another. It was an understood rivalry, which of them should send most lads to college, and which should keep up to the highest mark the other classes for the annual examination by committee of presbytery, in presence of the parents of the children. These old teachers kept a straight road open to the university for the poorest lad in the land. He may get there yet, but by a more circuitous route, the windings of which very few, it is to be feared, will attempt to take. Whether the nation has yet fully realised its obligation to these workers under the olden-time system of education is doubtful. Whatever hand they had in pushing forward individual cases, or in the general development of the intelligence of the nation, it was not done from a promise or a prospect of much pecuniary advantage.

It was astonishing how these teachers, despite interruptions from a junior class in charge of a monitor in the same room, commanded the attention of elder scholars to whom they were teaching higher subjects. And their versatility of mind was at least as notable for they turned from a class studying mathematics and classics to teach infants their a b c. But to a properly constituted mind the change was interesting, for the bud is as important as the blossom, and in their programme provision was made for both.

The teachers' fixity of tenure, or the *ad vitam aut culpam* as it was officially called, nipped in the bud capricious dismissal, and enabled them to carry out their ideal system of a combined elementary and higher education. Their country was a great gainer by their independent position.

THE NEW EDUCATION ACT.

The new Education Act brought into parochial schools an entirely new order of things. Popularly elected school boards took the place of the heritors and minister of the parish in the management of the schools and the appointment and dismissal of teachers. In addition to the public rate, Government gave grants of money and appointed inspectors to examine the schools. An attendance roll had now to be carefully kept. As a rule, with comparatively few exceptions, the school boards have used their absolute powers with discretion, and treated their teachers handsomely. As part of this new system much clerical work, before unknown, was entailed on the teacher. That was a trifle. The smart, keen business idea of payment by results was intro-

duced. It broke down under its own inherent absurdity—just as if mental capacity could be packed up in parcels and handed to a customer. But it cost both teachers and pupils a wanton and unnecessary amount of mental strain before it was rescinded. In the midst of the turmoil the higher subjects slipped out of country schools, except in a few cases where they lingered only for a short while. Code and not college was now all the talk amongst teachers. "How's your fourth [standard] getting on?" was the foremost question when they met. "Oh! my fourth!" was the ejaculatory reply. Inspection was necessarily a part of the new order of things. It could not be a very agreeable task for the inspector in those transition days. It was a pretty hard lot, I should say, to be condemned for five days a week and nine months in the year to carry home a "bag o' blunders" to correct. During the last thirty years many changes for the better have been effected by teachers and others on the codes, new and revised, that the Education Department have issued, till there has been evolved a really good system of elementary education and now fairly afloat. The infant school curriculum, with its mixture of music, book learning, exercise and technique is a great improvement on former ways. The boys in these classes, and through the first standard, would play none the worse at marbles for being initiated into the mysteries that the needle and knitting wires can unfold. The drill sergeant is a valuable addition to the school staff. The additional technical subjects to girls are all most useful, drawing and cooking especially so. But why stop handicraft at girls? It would keep boys between twelve and four-

teen years of age from growing listless, and wearying for the time to leave school, were their hands employed with saw, plane, hammer, and carving tools for two or three hours a week. A workshop should be an indispensable adjunct to every school. Any teacher could superintend it. It would be a relief to purely brain work and done while the girls were at sewing or cooking lessons. Handicraft would prove a valuable aid also as a suggestive factor in developing the inventive faculties. How to fit the secondary schools of Scotland to the elementary, so as not to break with Scottish tradition in educational matters, is the question of the hour, and not without its difficulties. The new system draws a very sharp line where the elementary is to stop. It is for those who have removed the old landmarks to devise a plan to supply the conveniences that the old afforded.

HOME LESSONS.

In a well-staffed school there should be no home lessons, at least till after the sixth standard, save, perhaps, spelling and repetition. From four to six hours a day of good, steady school work is quite enough of brain work for children under twelve years of age. Anything more savours of oppression. It would relieve teachers, too, of the disagreeable work of inflicting punishment, and the child would escape the nasty sensation of being punished for a task undone or a carelessly-written exercise. The worst phase connected with home lessons is their want of *bona fides*. It would be interesting to know what percentage of home exercises is copied from a neighbour class-fellow's book, at home or by the wayside

or in a corner of the playground before school hours, or even while going to school by train. In fact, they lead to the practice of a systematic deception in a very large percentage of those children who get them to do. The whole of the work required, both the oral and written, could be done under the teacher's eye and be genuine and productive of a real good to the pupil.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION.

A reasonable "fixity of tenure" and a fair superannuation pension are questions of great gravity; but the question of paramount importance to teachers at the present time is the education of their successors. It is high time now that there was a proper curriculum of study drawn out before a diploma to teach is granted to any one, and, as in medicine one diploma for all, whether their location be in the high school of the capital of the country or in an elementary one in its remotest corner. What is wanted is a Faculty of Education. It is utter nonsense to say that any one can be too highly educated to conduct an elementary school. If any teacher think so he should leave the profession, and those should follow suit that think half a training is enough, and make room for those that go on the principle that except they themselves be highly educated they cannot educate others. There is a great deal more required in a village school than mere mechanical reading and writing. Such a training would place teaching alongside of the other learned professions. It would give to the whole body unity, and to every young man, beginning his career on the lowest step, a chance to rise to the highest secondary appoint-

ment in the land, and even to a university chair. Teachers, secondary and elementary, should stand shoulder to shoulder on that question. The idea of reserving fully educated teachers to the secondary, and half so to the elementary, is just another way of saying that a half-educated man is good enough for the poor, an idea worthy of an autocratic country but not of Scotland. A fully educated teacher in every school would help to solve the difficulty of distance from secondary institutions, and save the ratepayers the expense of maintaining them in outlying districts.

MINISTERS

Educated in Wamphray school by Mr. Charteris.

Joseph Thomson (son of William Thomson, Newton, Wamphray) : died shortly after receiving license.

William Charteris, Newton, Wamphray (brother of Mr. Charteris) : missionary to the Jews in Corfu, Smyrna, and Egypt.

John Rogerson Currie, Pumplaburn, Wamphray (brother of Dr. Samuel Currie) : minister of the parishes of Hutton and Corrie ; died in 1874.

James Sanders, Bridgend, Wamphray (son of the district doctor and brother of Dr. William Sanders, jun.) : emigrated to Canada, where he died.

Archibald H. Charteris, D.D., LL.D., The Schoolhouse, Wamphray (son of Mr. Charteris) : minister of the parishes of St. Quivox, Newabbey, and of Park Church, Glasgow ; professor of Biblical Criticism in the University of Edinburgh ; chaplain to Queen Victoria, and afterwards to King Edward VII ; moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1892 ; joint convener of the Committee on Union with

Other Churches; one of the joint conveners of the Committee on the Abolition of Church Patronage in Scotland; also the originator and convener of the *Life and Work* Committee, and of the Young Men's and Women's Guilds of the Church of Scotland; originator and first editor of the magazine, *Life and Work*; author of *The Life of Professor Robertson*, *The Church of Christ*, and other publications.

John Pagan, D.D. (grandson of Joseph Hamilton, farmer, Saughtrees, Wamphray): minister of For-gandenny and Bothwell, moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1899; joint convener of Foreign Missions Committee; convener of Committee on Christian Liberality; originator and convener of Committee on Illustrative Lectures on the History and Defence of the Church. [In three years eleven hundred lectures were given in different parts of Scotland.]

John Gillespie, LL.D., Annanbank, Johnstone, Dumfriesshire: minister of Mouswald; moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1903; convener of the Smaller Livings Committee; author of *Humours of Scottish Life*, and also of numerous agricultural works. [The doctor is immensely popular as a platform speaker, and is one of the best business men in the Church.]

Archibald H. Gillison, Newton, Wamphray: minister of Olrig, Caithness.

Christopher Halliday, Woodend, Johnstone: minister of Tayport, Fife.

William Rogerson, Girthhead Sheds: emigrated to Canada.

John Hope, Free Church Manse (son of the Free

Church minister of Wamphray and Johnstone) : died minister of a presbyterian church in New Zealand.

DOCTORS

(Prior to the time of Mr. Charteris.)

Dr. Anderson, Stenrishhill : first of name ; practised in Wamphray, 1778-9.

Dr. Anderson, Stenrishhill : second of name.

Dr. Rogerson, Fingland : first of name.

Dr. Rogerson, Fingland (son of first of name).

DOCTORS

Educated in Wamphray school by Mr. Charteris.

John Scott, Stenrishhill, Wamphray : practised in Demerara ; retired, and died in Moffat.

John McMichan, Newton, Wamphray : practised in Bradford.

Thomas Somerville, Newton, Wamphray : ship's doctor ; died in West Indies.

William Shaw, Newton, Wamphray : parish doctor in Yarrow.

Henry Paterson, Gateside Manse, Wamphray : son of the Relief minister ; practised in Kirkmahoe, and died there.

General Samuel Currie, M.D., Edin., 1835 ; L.R.C.S., Edin., 1835 ; Pumplaburn, Wamphray : Surgeon-General in the army ; rose to the position of Inspector-General of Hospitals ; and honorary physician to Queen Victoria. Retired in 1896, after seeing much service in India, China, and elsewhere. He held four medals—two for the Sutlej Campaign, one for China, and one for Abyssinia, also the C.B. and Jubilee Medal. He died on March 25th, 1898, at the age of eighty-two.

David Rogerson, Leithenhall, Wamphray : after obtaining his diploma was appointed house physician in Dumfries Infirmary. There he caught fever, and after a short illness died at the age of twenty-two.

Walter Henry, Cacrabank, Wamphray : soon after completing university curriculum, died of consumption.

Hopetoun Currie Collier, L.R.C.P. and S., Edin., 1862 ; Pumplaburn, Wamphray (nephew of General Currie and the Rev. John Currie, minister of Hutton and Corrie) : surgeon-lieutenant-colonel, Army Medical Service, retired ; holds medal for the Abyssinian Campaign.

Matthew Charteris, M.D., Edin., 1863 ; Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, 1874 ; The Schoolhouse, Wamphray (son of Mr. Charteris) : professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the University of Glasgow, 1880-1897 ; author of *Practice of Medicine, Health Resorts*, and many papers in medical journals. Died in 1897.

William Sanders, Bridgend, Wamphray (son of Dr. Sanders, parish doctor) : succeeded his father in the practice, and died in Wamphray.

John Rogerson Hamilton, M.D., Edin., 1878 ; Broomhills, Wamphray : practices in Hawick.

David R. Hamilton, M.B., C.M., Edin., 1892 ; Broomhills, Wamphray (brother of above) : surgeon-major Indian Medical Service ; served through the Boer war. Died at Broomhills, Wamphray, in 1904. Held a medal for the Burmese campaign.

Edward Smith, Laverhay ; Bolton, Lancashire.

William Hyslop, Kilbrook : died when a medical student.

John Hunter, Moffat : an army doctor.

John Learmonth, Wamphray ; Yorkshire.

John R. Dickson, Wamphray Manse (son of parish minister): practised at Whalsey, Lancashire ; died there.

Robert Rogerson, Pearsyby Hall ; New York and Southport.

TEACHERS

Educated in Wamphray school by Mr. Charteris.

Samuel Gibson, Kirkpartick Durham : turned farmer.

Thomas Wightman : headmaster first in a school at Cairnryan, Wigtonshire ; afterwards headmaster in a school at Warrington in Lancashire, where he died.

Robert Gibson : spent the whole of a successful teaching career as headmaster in Morrison's school, Moffat. Retired, and died in Moffat.

William Gibson (brother of the above) : died during his training course.

James Blacklock : began his education in Wamphray. He was successively rector of Gartsherrie and Dundyan Academies, Coatbridge, from 1851 to 1863, and in Hamilton Academy till his retirement in 1896. He was a highly successful teacher ; his scholars are found in great numbers as successful men, both in the learned professions and in the leading commercial and industrial pursuits of the country. He left £2500 to Hamilton Burgh School Board to form the nucleus of a bursary fund for lads going from Hamilton Burgh Academy to the universities. The £400 which his friends and former pupils presented to him on his retirement he handed also to the Burgh School Board to purchase two gold medals to be competed for annually in Hamilton Burgh School. Died in Hamilton.

Robert Blacklock : after his Normal training, became assistant to his brother, and succeeded him as rector

of Dundyvan Academy, and finally was rector in the large new school in Coatbridge. He also was a successful teacher. Both brothers spent many of their holidays in continental travels. Robert devoted his leisure hours to literary pursuits, and many of his songs were published in the school song-books. Died in Hamilton.

Walter Hunter, Broomhillbank: emigrated to Canada and taught a school there.

Archibald Porteous: teacher in Crawfordjohn.

Thomas Paterson: after a college career, emigrated to New Zealand, and taught a school in Hawke's Bay, North Island. Afterwards engaged in business pursuits.

John Paterson (brother of Thomas Paterson): was first headmaster of a school in Portpatrick; afterwards for over thirty years headmaster in Larbert village school. Through his scholars the school had a university connection of twenty-three years, and during that time a considerable number of his pupils qualified for the learned professions, the great majority for that of medicine (the late Dr. Hogg of Workington leading off in prize and honours list), but the greater number of his scholars took to one or other of the many commercial and industrial pursuits in that busy centre. Many became engineers, mechanical and mining.

STUDENTS

Educated in Wamphray school in Mr. Rae's time.

Dr. Herbert Taylor, Birmingham.

Rev. David Johnstone, Winnipeg.

Rev. James Campbell, Lochgoilhead.

Surgeon-Major David Hamilton: part of his school training.

Miss Winifred Wight (younger daughter of the Rev. Geo. Wight): is a successful student in the Art School, Kensington, and by winning prizes and bursaries has added new distinction to the list of Wamphray students.

DOCTORS WHO PRACTISED IN WAMPHRAY.

At this point the five doctors who have practised in Wamphray may be mentioned.

Dr. Anderson, Stenrishhill, a native of the parish, is the first. The parochial records show that he was in practice in 1787, for they contain an entry that he returned to the kirk-session for "behoof of the poor" the fee received from them for attendance on necessitous patients.

The next medical practitioner was a Dr. Beck. His father was farmer in Saughtrees at the time. Nobody remembers now when he began practice or how long he continued in it.

The third doctor's name was Sanders. He took up his residence at Bridgend (or Craigmute), Wamphray, about 1828, and abode there till his death in 1864. His professional district comprised the parishes of Wamphray and Johnstone, and parts of the other five parishes bordering on Wamphray. For over thirty years the doctor might have been seen, in silk hat and dark, riding-cloak, doing his professional rounds, in all weathers and at all seasons, on the white pony that he brought to Wamphray with him. It is questionable if the doctor ever took a week's holiday during his whole professional career. On he went, prescribing, and answering "yes," with a smile, when asked by the patient if the dose was to be taken "next their hert in

the morning" (before meals). In speaking of the doctor now, the hardy, old white pony is always mentioned. It predeceased the doctor by less than three years. Before and after Dr. Sanders began practice, "bleeding" on the arm was the panacea for a great many ailments. Indeed without an ailment the folks looking at their veins, said, "they are too full," and as a preventive, went off to the doctor and got bled; that system is now out of the medical list of cures.

Dr. William Sanders succeeded his father, but died after being a few years in practice.

Dr. Atkinson succeeded Dr. William Sanders, married Miss Sanders, and after a few years residence in Wamphray, he and his wife emigrated to America.

Since then the district medical man has resided near Johnstone mills in the parish of Johnstone.