

GLASGOW AND ITS CLUBS.

Glasgow about 1750.

ANDERSTON CLUB.

COURTEOUS READER! if thou canst forget for a moment the large and noisy City, known by the appellation of GLASGOW, which now contains within its still extending boundaries upwards of one hundred miles of streets, and nearly four hundred thousand living beings, busied with all the arts, trades, and handicrafts which commerce and manufactures have created; and, casting thy mind back rather more than a century, picture to thyself a small quiet town, with a few leading thoroughfares, and counting scarcely five-and-twenty thousand souls,—then wilt thou be able to comprehend somewhat of the aspect and character of the place which could at that period boast of even more than exist at present of those knots of social and congenial spirits who, linked together by a cabalistic name or a common cordiality, met for politics, pastime, or pleasure, under the roof of some well-known hostelry—the only equivalent then known for the modern Club, Athenæum, or News-room.*

In 1750, and for many years previous, it was the custom for persons of all ranks and conditions to meet regularly in “change-houses,” as they were then called, and there to transact business, and hold their different clubs. The evening assemblies were passed in free and easy conversa-

* The population of Glasgow in 1755 was only 23,546; and these figures included persons living in houses beyond the bounds of the City. The population had doubled from the period of the Union with England.

tion, and without much expense—persons of the first fashion rarely spending more than from fourpence to eightpence each, including their pipes and tobacco, which were then in general use. In some of those clubs the members played at backgammon, or “catch the ten,” the stake exceeding but rarely one penny a game. In the forenoon all business was transacted or finished in the tavern. The lawyers were there consulted, and the bill was paid by the client. The liquor in common use was sherry, presented in mutchkin stoups, every mutchkin got being chalked on the head of the stoup or measure. The quantity swallowed was, on such occasions, almost incredible. It was the custom, also, in those days, for every one to dine in private; and when occasionally a few friends met for this repast, it was always at some club, of which, among the many in Glasgow that, between the years 1750 and 1760, nightly or weekly congregated in the fashionable taverns then situated in High-street, Gallowgate, and Saltmarket, perhaps the most distinguished was the one which, while all its members belonged to the City, yet had its place of meeting, not in the City itself, but in one of its suburbs. The suburb we allude to had not then attained as it has since lost, the dignity of a burgh of barony, but was known, as it now is, by the name of “the village of *Anderston* ;” and, as villages then went, was a place of some importance. One proof of this may be gathered from the fact that it possessed at least one excellent hostelry, which at that time was kept by “ane God-fearing host,” yclept John Sharpe, whose courtesousness and cookery attracted thither many lovers of “creature comforts.” Among those who patronised this long-forgotten establishment, there were none more regular in their attendance than the members of the “*Anderston Club*,” a brotherhood which, a few years after the Rebellion of Forty-five, was founded by Dr Robert Simson, of mathematical memory,* who,

* Dr Robert Simson was born in 1687, at Kirtonhill, Ayrshire; was educated at the University of Glasgow, and was elected to its chair of mathematics in 1711, in which chair he continued to give his most learned

prelections till 1758, when he was assisted by Dr Williamson, who was, in 1761, appointed his assistant and successor. Dr Simson died in 1768, in the 81st year of his age, and was buried in the Blackfriars' Church-yard. His

living, as all the learned professors then did, within the walls of the venerable University, most religiously and hebdomadally exchanged, with certain other of his companions in literature and science, the dull atmosphere of the cloistered College for the smokeless sky of the yet *cottonless* village.*

What a wondrous change has taken place in all things appertaining to the appearance of the City, and to the manners of the citizens, since the first meeting of the Anderston Club! At that period the scenes which met the eyes of Professor Simson and his college companions, as they journeyed on to their Saturday rendezvous in the west, may be better imagined than described. The University, whose now venerable walls were so lately threatened with demolition under the all-prevailing spirit of utilitarianism, was then, comparatively speaking, as it came from the brain of its original architect, instinct with the style of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV.† As yet no modern masonry had defaced its regularity. The building was in perfect harmony, calm and classical, with its cloistered arcade and unsullied quadrangles; while its lofty spire, then apparently fearless of the thunder-bolt, stretched up boldly into the sky without a lightning-rod, exhibiting on its base the still *sharp* effigies of old Zachary Boyd, one of its oddest, yet best benefactors.‡

The *High-street* and *Tron-gate* were then free from the factory-built and

chief works are—"A Treatise on Conic Sections," "The Loci Plani of Apollonius Restored," "Euclid's Elements," &c. &c. On "Euclid's Elements" Dr Simson bestowed no less than nine years' labour. Dr Simson left his mathematical books to the University of Glasgow. The collection is considered to be the most complete in the kingdom, and is kept separate from the rest of the University library. Lord Brougham has given a delightful sketch of the Life of Dr Simson in his *Lives of the Philosophers of George III.*

* The village was formed by Mr. Anderson from one of his farms of Stobeross in 1725. For a further account of the progress of Anderston, see "*Anderston Social Club.*"

† The present College buildings were completed in 1656. For subscriptions of contributors, and the accounts of the expense, see "*Munimenta Alme Universitatis,*" lately published by the Maitland Club. In this curious work we find that "Principal Fall records, with some pride, that in his time (1690) the rail of stone ballusters was put up on the great stair which comes up to the Fore Common Hall, with a lion and a unicorn upon the first turn."

‡ Mr Zacharias Boyd was born in Ayrshire, and studied at the colleges of St Andrews and Glasgow. About the year 1585 he was minister of the Barony Church of Glasgow. He left twenty thousand pounds Scots to the

square-formed mansions of the present day, but were generally flanked with picturesque Flemish-looking tenements, with their *crow-stepped* gables, and here and there a thatched house to eke out the variety. The shops, now so large and lofty, and replete with all the gorgeousness

University of Glasgow, for which gift the College placed his marble bust, with a bible in his hand, in a niche in the lower part of the spire. Boyd was an avowed Nonconformist, and published a poem on the defeat of the Royal army at Newburn. The following lines will best illustrate his singular style and peculiar sentiments:—

“In this conflict, which was both sowre and surily,
Boues, blood, and brains went in a hurly-burley;
All was made hodge-podge, some began to croole,
Who fights for prelat is a beastly foole.”

On Cromwell coming to Glasgow on 11th October, 1650, the magistrates and ministers fled, but Zachary Boyd remained at his post; and, from a letter by George Downing, dated 18th October, 1650, it appears that in his pulpit addresses he had used no very courteous language to the conquerors. “There was,” says the writer, “one Scotch minister who stayed and preachit on the Lord’s day, and we gave him the hearing morning and afternoon, with all his poor stufte and railings of course. I doe believe the man’s ambition was to have been a sufferer by us, but we would not honour him so fare.” It is stated by several historians, that when Cromwell went in state to the Cathedral Church, it so happened that Mr Boyd preached in the forenoon, when he took occasion severely to inveigh against Cromwell, and that his secretary, Thurloc, whispered him to pistol the scoundrel. “No, no!” says the general, “we will manage him in another way.” He therefore asked him to dine with him, and concluded the entertainment with prayer, which lasted for three hours, even until three in the morning. Boyd was both a prose writer and a poet. In the former walk he will stand a comparison with the writers of the period in which he lived, but in the latter he was poor and cold, and somewhat ludicrous both in his conceits and his

rhymes. “The Four Evangels” in English verse, “The Songs of the Old and New Testament,” “The Songs of Moses” in six parts, and the “Psalms, with Scripture Songs,” are the best known of his rhyming productions. Of his prose works, which are very numerous, perhaps the most notable is, “The Last Battell of the Soul in Death,” originally published in 1629, and republished under the editorship of Mr Gabriel Neil in 1831. The same gentleman edited and published four poems from “Zion’s Flowers” in 1855, with some interesting notes. The catalogue of his whole works extends to forty-five different productions. The following strange letter, addressed as a watchword to the General Assembly, appears after the preface to “Garden of Zion:”—

“RIGHT REVEREND,—Our Schooles and Countrey are stained, yea pestered with idle bookes; your children are fed on fables, love songs, baudry ballads, heathen husks, youth’s poyson. It much concerneth you to see to this, and carefully to banish out of the land all the names of the pagan gods and goddesses, which (as God has expressely told us) should not bee taken into our lips. These words of God in Exodus are verie . . . ‘In all things I have said to you bee circumspect, and make no mention of the names of other gods, neither let it be heard out of your mouth.’ Seeing this by God himself is required, it lyeth upon you to ordaine by the visitors of schooles that all these monuments of idolatrie be removed, and that only such bookes have place that may help children to know God and Christ Iis Son, which is life eternal.

Your humble Servant,

Mr

ZACHARY BOYD.

“From Glasgow, the 28th of May, 1644.”

which gold and mirror can produce, were at that time small, low-roofed, and dismal, each with its half-door usually shut, over which, but too frequently, the shopkeeper leaned, as if looking out for a customer. Few of these shops, or rather *booths*, stretched much beyond a few hundred yards on each side of the Market Cross, and of these the majority were placed under the Doric colonnades, or piazzas, which extended along the basement floors that skirted both sides* of each of the four streets whose centre formed the Cross—colonnades which, although to modern eyes they might appear mean and paltry, nevertheless called forth the wonder of Morer in 1689,† and the praises of the better known Defoe in 1726.‡ Looking southward along the street, whose north-west corner contained

* There is only one of these real old school of shops "below the pillars" now remaining (1856). It is on the west side of High-street, No. 27.

† "Glasgow is a place of great extent and good situation, and has the reputation of the *finest town* in Scotland, not excepting Edinburgh, tho' the royal city. The two main streets are made crosswise, well paved, and bounded with stately buildings, especially about the centre, where they are most new, with piazzas under 'em. It is a Metropolitan *See*, and at the upper end of the great street stands the archbishop's palace, formerly, without doubt, a very magnificent structure, but now in ruins, and has no more left in repair than what was the ancient prison, and is at this time a mean dwelling."—*Morer's Account of Scotland*, 1689.

‡ "Glasgow is the emporium of the West of Scotland, being, for its commerce and riches, the second in the Northern part of Great Britain. It is a large, stately, and well-built city, standing on a plain in a manner four-square, and the five principal streets are the fairest for breadth, and the finest built that I have ever seen in one city together. The houses are all of stone, and generally uniform in height as well as in front. The lower stories, for the most part, stand on vast square Doric columns with arches, which open into the shops, adding to

the strength as well as beauty of the building. In a word, 'tis one of the cleanliest, most beautiful, and best built cities in Great Britain. Where the four principal streets meet, the crossing makes a very spacious market-place, as may be easily imagined, since the streets are so large. As we come down the hill from the North-gate to this place, the Tolbooth and Guildhall make the north-west angle or right hand corner of the street, which was rebuilt in a very magnificent manner. Here the Town Council sit; and the Magistrates try such causes as come within their cognizance, and do all their other public business; so that it will be easily conceived the Tolbooth stands in the very centre of the city. It is a noble structure, of hewn stone, with a very lofty tower and melodious hourly chimes."—*Defoe's Tour* in 1727.

From the following entry in the City Records, it appears plain that the authorities were endeavouring to extend the piazzas in 1751:—"As Messrs Williamsons have taken down their land on the east side of John Armour's tenement in Trongate, in order to rebuild, the Council remit to the said Magistrates, Dean of Guild, and Deacon-Convener, to agree with them for a part of the front of their ground, for making piazzas and arched pillars in a line with those of the Town's-house, and the walk betwixt the shops and these piazzas to be the same breadth as in

the *Old Coffee-house Land*,* and in which street Bailie Nicol Jarvie is said to have been domiciliated, and beyond the point where the piazzas then terminated, was a long succession of *cutré* wooden-faced houses, conveying a clear idea of the cause of the many devastating conflagrations that in former times brought so much ruin on the City, and occasioned so much loss and misery to the occupants of those combustible tenements.†

The most salient objects, on proceeding at that period along the Trongate, were, first, the *Old Tolbooth*, with its crown-like spire, carved

the Town's land, and the pillars and the piazzas to be upon the Town's charge." 24th June, 1751.

* This land took its name from being used as a sort of exchange, or place of meeting, for the merchants, before the erection of the Tontine. It will be remembered for its projecting architectural lantern-storey (about two stories up), which was reported to be much in request in later days by the higher classes of Glasgow for witnessing the "*hangings*" at the Cross. In 1766-9 it was occupied by Robert and Andrew Foulis, the celebrated printers, for the book-auction department of their business.

† In the Records of the Corporation we find the following entry regarding the great fire that took place in Glasgow on 17th June, 1652:—

"22d June.—The same day, forasmeikle as it hes pleased God to raise on Thursday last was the 17th of this instant, ane suddent fyre, in the hous of Mr James Hammiltoune, above the Cross, quhilik hes consumed that close—the haill close—on both sydes, belonging to Wm. Stewart, Thomas Norvell, and others; with the haill landis nixt adjacent therto, quhilik belongit to unqll. Peter Jonstoun and Patrik Maxwell, baith bak and foire; and the haill tenement, bak and foire, on the south syde of the said unqll. Patrik Maxwellis tenement, betwix that and the lands occupyet be Jon Bryssoune and siklyk; the haill houssis, bak and foire, upon bothe sydis of the Saltmercat; with the houssis on the west syd of Wm. Lawsons close in Gallowgait; and the houssis on the west syd of Gilbert Merchellis close; with divers housses on the north syd of the Briggait,—Whereby,

it is fund that there will be neir fourseoir closes all burnt, estimat to about ane thousand families, so that, unless spidie remidie be vseit, and help soght out fra such as hes power, and whois harte God sall move, it is likelie the toune sall come to oute ruin; and, therefore, they have concludit and appoynted that the Proveist, with John Bell, to ryde to Air to the Inglish officers there, quaha lies bein heir, and seen the townis lamentable conditione such as Collonell Overton, and others, and to obtaine from them lettres of recommendatioun to suche officers or judges who sits in Edinburgh, to the effect that the same may be recommendit be them to the Parliament of England, that all helpe and supplie may be gotten therby that may be for supplie of such as hes their landis and guids burnt.

"25th June.—Persons appointed to visit or survey the haill landis burnt, and tak the names of the heretors and occupyers therof, &c.

"*Same Day*.—Regulations for the payer of workmenis wages, 'seeing the work is lyklike to be great aenit the building up and repaireing againe of the decayit pairts of the toune, and that the work is of such a necessitie that it might be presentlie gone about.'

"28th June.—The said day appoyntis those who formerlie teuk up the number of the brunt houssis to tak up now the value of them also, and of other losses sustenit be the laite suddent fyre.

"The same day order takin for cleiring of the calsay of red, and for opening the kirk dooris, as may benefit people now want chalmberis, and other places, to retein to for making of their devotionne."

There was a general collection throughout the kingdom made for the sufferers from this fire, and the Session empower a Committee of Council to distribute all such money.

From these Records, we also find the follow-

front, grated windows, and outside staircase,* flanked by the equestrian statue, cast in Holland, of the hero of the Boyne, but lately presented to

ing order, made by the Magistrates and Council on the 4th December, 1677, consequent on another great fire that took place on the 2d November of that year, and which no doubt tended to improve the City architecture. There were above 130 houses and shops destroyed; and as the Tolbooth at the Cross was at that time crowded with persons who would not conform to Episcopacy, it was broken open under pretence of saving the persons from the fire:—

“4th Dec.—The said day, the said Magistrates and Counsell, taking to their serious consideratione the great impoverishment this burgh is reduced to, throw the sad and lamentable wo occasioned by fyre, on the second of Novr. last, that God, in his justice, hath suffered this burgh to fall under, and lykwayes the most pairt of the said burgh being eye-witnesss twyse to this just punishment for our iniquities, by this rod, which we pray him to mak us sensible of, that we may turn from the evill of our wayes to himselfe, that so his wraith may be averted, and we preserved from the lyk in tyme to come: And becaus such things ar mor incident to burghs and incorporatiounes, by reasone of their joyning hous to housis, and, on being inflamed, is reddie to inflame ane uthir, especiallie being contiguously joyned and reared w^o of timber and deall boards, without so much as the windskew of stone; Therfor, they, out of their dewtie to sie to the preservatioun of their burgh and citie, doe statute and ordain, that, quhen it sall please God to put any of their neighbors in ane capacite and resolutioun to build *de novo*, or repair their ruinous hous, not only for their probable securitie, but also for decoring of the said burgh, That each person building *de novo* on the Ilie-streit, or repairing, sall be obleiged, and is heirby obleist, to do it by stone-work from heid to foot, back and foir, without ony timber or dail, except in the insett thereof, quhilk is vnderstood to be partitions, doors, windows, presses, and such lyk; and this to be done, or engaged to, before they be suffered to enter to building; And seeing that severall heritors at present are not in a capacite to build, and many vthers having vnder boothes, and no intrest in the houses covering them, they being at present either not fitting to build, or unwilling, or may be belonging to minors, by which they have their chops uncovered, repairing to the Magistrats for libertie of covering themselves the best way they can for present,

till it sall pleas God to capacitat the owners to doe the same, which desyre the said Magistrats and Counsell thought but just, Therfor, they thought fitt to licence the same to be done be the grund heritors, They alwayes enacting themselves to uncover the same againe quhen it sall pleas the super heritor to build, and not to com no farther out with the vpper structor nor the foir face of the vnder chops, and to build the same with stone, except the Toune Counsell licence them, quhilk they will tak into their consideratione how far they may, without spoyling the broadnes of the streit, they always repairing it with stone in the foir wark, by arched pillars, and how many as the Toune Counsell, by the advice of architects, sall think most convenient, &c. &c.

“The said day recommends to Provost Bell, the Baillies, Deane of Gild, and Deacon-Conveiner, to lay doune some fitt way for getting the red of the brunt housis taken all the streit.”

On 25th September, 1725, the Corporation paid £50 sterling for a fire-engine got in London. On 22d January, 1726, the following Minute shows the anxiety felt by the Corporation regarding fires:—

“Which day, &c., the Magistrats represented that, in pursuance of a former act, &c., they had mett with the proprietors of the sugar houses, and had received in from them some proposals, viz.: That, upon the town's exeeeming their servants from keeping of the town guard, in respect their labour and work in the sugar house necessarily requyres their working in the night time as well as throw the day, they, in lieu thereof, agree and condescend that the saggur boyley of each of their sugar houses, with their servants, which will be ten, at least, from each sugar house, shall be ready at all tymes when fire happens in the city, on their being advertised by the drum, or bell, or first allarm thereof, to attend the Magistrats, and give their best help and assistance, The town provyding each saggur house with four slings, and stands and buckets, So that, upon the first occasion of fyre, they shall come to the place with them filled with water, and thereafter observe the orders and directions of the Magistrats, and others whom they shall appoynt.”

* There was another Jail or Tolbooth at the Cross before this. It is mentioned in the Session records of 1600. This building had a clock, for in 1610 we find “George Smyth

the City by Governor Macrae;* and next, the *Town Hall*, with its elegant arcade and Corinthian pilasters, fresh from the hands of its builder, Deacon Corse, and expressing, in the grotesque faces which formed the key-stones of the arches, the coming fame of his afterwards more celebrated foreman, Mungo Naismith,† who carved the caricature countenances which so long excited wonder and laughter among crowds of gaping gossippers.‡ Proceeding westward, and abutting on the street, the *Tron Steeple* was encountered, in which was the ancient Tron, and which marked the proximate site of the then unburned Collegiate Church of St Mary and St Anne. Next came the *Old Guard-house*, with its colonnaded front projecting into the street, in which the honest burghers were wont to meet when acting as the sole night-guardians of the City; then *Hutcheson's Hospital*, with its quaint architecture, rustic gateway, and short square steeple;§ and last, not least, "*The Shawfield Mansion*," separated from the street by a high stone parapet, surmounted by an iron railing. This last building was then on the very western verge of the City, but, although a private residence, was remarkable from being

rewler of the Tolbuith Knock." The town had booths or shops when the pillory was taken down in 1626.

"15 May, 1626.—The said day the grund stane of the Tolbuith of Glasgow was laid."—*Council Records*.

"8 Aprile, 1626.—The said day Gabriel Smythie ndernick to scherp the haill masons' irones during the tyme of the building of the Tolbuith and Stipell thereof all the work he ended, for fortie poundes money."—*Council Records*.

* James Macrae, Esq., late Governor of Fort St George, died at his seat of Orange-field, in the shire of Ayr, on 21st July, 1744.

† Of Mungo Naismith several anecdotes are related. He was a hard drinker, but an expert mason. In the building of the portico of St Andrew's Church, with its flat or plain arch, it was thought he would never succeed. On the night of the day it was finished, he retired to a neighbouring public-house, and, after a copious libation, returned alone and slackened the wedges of all the *coombs* which supported the arch. To his satisfaction he

found all would stand the test. The workmen on coming next morning were utterly amazed.

‡ The foundation-stone of the Town Hall and first Assembly-rooms was laid by Pro-vost Coulter in 1736, and the Hall was opened in 1740. When the spire of the Cathedral was struck by lightning in 1756, Mungo Naismith showed great genius in the erection of a scaffold for its repair. As a historical fact connected with this accident, it may be mentioned that a party of recruits being at drill in the nave, a serjeant and one recruit met their death from the fall of some stones.

§ The first building was originally intended for only eleven decayed merchants. The steeple and statues were to the garden front, where the accommodations for the boys was built. Mr Laurence Hill mentions that "in Hutcheson's own house and in his business room, situated most likely on the opposite side of the close from the dining-room, there

associated, as it then was, in the minds of many living citizens, with the baneful effects of mob-law and mob-spoilation,* or, what was still more memorable, with the fact that Charles Edward Stuart, the Pretender, had taken up his abode in it when he and his Highland host passed the Christmas week of 1745-46 in Glasgow, on his flight from Derby.† A few years before this period, the *West Port* or Gate had here formed a real barrier between town and country. This ancient structure,

stood a long fixed oak table with his papers at one end, and at the other a large silver drinking tankard, always replenished with wine or ale for the necessary refreshment, without the ceremony or the show of particular invitation of clients, whose horses came into the close and had their drink *au discretion*. These closes or entrances for horse as well as foot were at that time indispensable from the many booths or cranes for merchandise which then encumbered the street."

* Mr Campbell, the proprietor of the house, having voted for the extension of the malt-tax to Scotland, a number of his constituents took offence, and on the 23d June, 1725, this fine mansion was attempted to be demolished. After damage had been done (for which Parliament paid to the extent of £6,080 sterling), and the silver plate which his lady had brought from West Shields had been carried off, the military interfered, and nine men were killed and seventeen wounded. As it was but too justly believed that the Magistrates sympathised with the mob on the occasion, the Lord-Advocate, accompanied by General Wade, who commanded a considerable force, proceeded to Glasgow, and committed the Magistrates to their own prison, and afterwards carried them to Edinburgh. The following curious song, entitled "*The Glasgow Campaign*," appeared at the period:—

"To Glasgow, to Glasgow, to Glasgow we'll goe,
With our cannon and mortars we'll make a fine
show,
With 3,000 stout men, so gallantly led,
By our ¹Advocate General and his Aidecamp Wade.

"There's ²Daniel the traitor and ³John of Goud sleeves,
And ⁴Campbell of Carrick and his Highland theeves,
With loyall ⁵Sir Duncan and his Diamond so bright,
Which he got for abjuring the Hanover right.

"To chastise these rebels for appearing so keen
For the House of Hanover in the damn'd year ⁶fifteen;
Long live the ⁷grate Walpole, may he wisely thus
reign,
But if George gets his eyesight he may happen to
string."

1 Mr Duncan Forbes, Lord-Advocate.

2 Daniel Campbell of Shawfield, M.P. for Glasgow district of burghs.

3 Provost Campbell, the only Provost who used broad sleeves on his coat.

4 Commander of the Independent Highland Companies.

5 Sir Duncan of Loehiel, Captain of an Independent Company, who went up with an address from the Tory Clans, in the last year of Queen Anne, and had a mark of Her Majesty's favour.

6 Glasgow maintained some companies of volunteers at Stirling camp in 1715.

7 Sir Robert, Prime Minister to King George II., who introduced much bribery and corruption by packing Parliament.

† This mansion, with its garden, passed through several hands. Soon after 1725 it was sold to Colonel Macdowall of Castlesemple, and thereafter in 1760 to Mr Glassford of Dugaldston. In 1792, it was disposed of for £9,850 to Mr Horn, who opened up Glassford-street. The extent of the ground was about 15,000 square yards. Connected with the history of this mansion we find the following curious Minute of the Corporation on

however, like the old wall, and several other portals of the City set up for defence or for dues, had been already swept away.* But still, although the girdle was broken, from the increasing pressure of the population from within, little more than a few thatched cottages, malt-barns, and villas were yet to be seen beyond the site of that western gateway, until the successive little villages of Grahamston, Brownfield, and Anderston were reached.† On either hand, along the road leading to Dumbarton, there were a double row of umbrageous elm trees and a thick hedge-row, with merely a few cottages, surrounded by corn-fields and gardens, resounding in spring with the sweet carol of birds, and in summer with the hoarse yet not unpleasant cry of the landrail.

If this be something like a rude sketch of the outward aspect of the centre of Glasgow, at the period when we would introduce thee, kind reader, to the Anderston Club, how can we convey to thee any distinct

6th May, 1746:—"Which day, John Cochran, Mr of Work, represented that, by advice of the Magistrates, he had sent to London to sell the broken necklace of diamonds, which several years ago were found among the rubbish of Daniel Campbell of Shawfield's house, when mobbed by the crowd in the year 1725, and exposed by some of the mobb to sale, with a piece of gold coin, and that the same had been offered back to the Lady Shawfield, who refused to take it, in regard Shawfield was satisfied by the Parliament as to his damages, and the town fyned upon that account, and that, accordingly, the said necklaee was sold at £30 sterling, and the piece of gold at £2 10s. (Ordain him to pay the same over to the Treasurer)." With the compensation money which Shawfield received from the Government, amounting to £9,000, he was enabled afterwards to purchase the island of Islay, which after a generation or two, has passed into other hands at about £450,000. What a satire on Aristocracy! The father of the individual who built this celebrated mansion was a notary who lived in the "Goose-dubbs." It was built in 1711. For a most interesting account of this mansion, and of

its successive proprietors, see "GLASGOW, PAST AND PRESENT," vol. ii. page 176.

* The ancient Ports of Glasgow, which were in existence in 1574, were as follows:

1. Stabilgrene Port.
 2. Gallowgate Port.
 3. Troyngate Port (West Port.)
 4. The Southe Port (Water Port.)
 5. The Rottenrowe Port,
 6. The Greyfriar Port,
 7. The Drygate Port,
 8. The Port besyde the Castel-gett.
- } Ports to be maid
} sure and lockit.

† A little to the west of this Port, about that period, stood a small hostelry, with the sign of a goodly black bull, with the usual gilt appendages, stuck up in front; and near it was held the cattle market. To its proximity to this ancient hostelry, the new Black Bull Hotel, since converted into warehouses, owed its appellation. The first hostelry belonged to James Graham, and was on the south side of Argyle Street, on the site of the second tenement to the west of Stockwell; and the second was first tenanted by the same individual.

idea of the peculiar appearance and bearing of the living beings who so sparsely perambulated the streets that are now crowded by jostling thousands—streets, it may be remarked *en passant*, which were then but roughly causewayed, replete with dust or mud, and altogether destitute, save at the Cross, of side pavements or crossings? Men and manners have so much changed during a century, that it would require Ovid's pen to paint the metamorphoses. Let us turn, however, to the neighbourhood of the Cross, which was at that period the only portion of the City that could be said to be much frequented, and where we shall find objects for contrast. There, if anywhere, could be seen a specimen of all grades and classes of the inhabitants, from the Highlandman skulking in his tartan kilt and jacket,* ready to perform the most servile office, up to the scarlet-cloaked merchant or physician who, with gold-headed cane, and cocked hat perched on powdered hair or wig with dangling club-tie or pig-tail, strutted about in peacock magnificence, as if he alone of all had the right to pace the *Plainstones*.† On each side of the streets, at a respectable distance from the aristocratic atmosphere around the front of the public offices, might be observed a few tradesmen or shopkeepers—donned in blue or brown coats with clear buttons, breeches of cloth or corduroy, rig-and-fur stockings, and all sporting knee and shoe buckles—watching to catch the eye of their princely patrons, and waiting a signal to make an approach to their acknowledged superior, which they but too frequently did with all the subserviency of a Sir Archy M'Sycophant. Beyond the precincts adorned by the statue of King William, there were few persons seen either loitering within the wooden posts, which in certain parts of the Trongate kept vehicles off the shops, or pacing the “crown of the causeway,” which was rarely trod by plebeian foot. Classes in Glasgow, in those days, were as distinct as the castes in Hindostan. Trade and commerce could not happily, as now, transfer in a few short years the

* “Last week a Highland lad was taken up, and committed to the Guard, for wearing trouse, contrare to a late Act of Parliament.” — *Glasgow Courant*, May, 1749.

† “*The Plainstones*,” the only part of Glasgow that was then paved, extended merely in front of the public offices and Town Hall to the Cross.

industrious mechanic from a stool in the workshop to a seat in the House of Commons; or transmute, even in less time, a knight of the shuttle into a knight of the shire. Society was then altogether differently constituted, for, although the great majority of those who prided themselves on their lineage, or what in Glasgow is still so ill applied, on their "gentility;" only dwelt in *flats*, entering from a common stair, and for the most part received visitors in their bed-rooms;* still it would have been as impossible for one belonging to the then shopkeeping class to enter, at two o'clock, the dining-rooms of the scarlet-cloaked aristocracy, as it was for a craftsman's daughter to thread the mazy dance, at seven, under the vaulted roof of the then new Assembly-room at the Cross.†

It never has been the habit of the better class of ladies in Glasgow to parade much on the street at any recent period, far less a century ago.

* In the ancient Burghal houses of Glasgow of the very first class. "the chamber of dais was often kept or used as a sort of state bedroom, or in the lady's own chalmour or bedroom," where the hostess, seated by her own fire, received her friends and visitors; and when tea came to be offered as a rare and parting refreshment to the ladies, or perhaps when punch, from the increase of the West India trade, began to detain the gentlemen somewhat long at the board, the females retired to the lady's room or fireside, where they sipped a little cup of tea while their sedans or chairs were being got ready.

† The Assemblies, previous to this, were held first in a small Assembly-room, built by subscription, to the west of the Town Hall in Trongate; and thereafter in the Merchants' House, Bridgegate, whither many a fair dame was borne in a sedan chair, the only mode of transport then patronised. Although dancing was considerably in vogue among the higher classes, who were of course very limited in number, especially at the time when the Duchess of Douglas used to patronise them, it seems pretty obvious that dancing was not very generally encouraged by the masses, since Mr David Burrel, who

alone had for two and twenty years previous to 1750 taught this accomplishment, required the aid of the Corporation, in the shape of an annual salary of £20, to enable him to continue his profession. His terms appear to have been reasonable, each pupil being called on to pay only 25s for seven months, with 5s for a ball, and 1s for a practising, when attended. About forty years ago (1816), the old "*Sedan Chair*" was to be seen, but then fast dropping out of existence. If we look back 60 or 70 years we find these conveyances to have been extensively kept by one William Moses, who was a character. He was accustomed to join his servants in being the bearer of a lady in one of his Sedans to an Assembly, dressing himself in the first style of fashion. If the lady had no partner, he introduced her to one, or danced with her himself. He acquired some fortune, and became proprietor of about 100 acres of land and a mansion house, (near the present village of Springburn on the Kirkintilloch Road,) naming the property after himself, *Mosesfield*. In 1793, we find him styled "William Moses, of Mosesfield." His widow was living in 1826, she retaining a life rent on the property, excepting which, all had passed out of her hands.

With the exception of Sundays and other holidays, when every house has been accustomed to pour forth its best-dressed inmates, to grace either church, chapel, or conventicle, it has always been difficult to catch, on the pavé, the precise character and cut of the prevailing fashion. About the time of which we are speaking, a lady or two during a week-day, or what has been more curiously designated a *lawful* day, might occasionally be encountered wending her way—in a towering head-dress, long-waisted gown, and powdered hair—to the public market,* tripping on pattens if the day was wet, or pacing on high-heeled and toe-pointed shoes, under the shadow of a goodly-sized fan, if the sun was shining; or, as the old song says †—

“ Little was stown then, and less gaed to waste—
Barely a millen for mice or for rattens;
The thrifty housewife to the flesh market paced,
Her equipage a’—just a guid pair o’ pattens.

“ Folk were as gude then, and friends were as leal,
Though coaches were scant, with their cattle a-canterin’,
Right air, we were tell’t, by the housemaid or chiel,
‘ Sic, an’ ye please, here’s your lass and a lantern.’ ”

A few servant-girls—either encased in close-fitting, short-sleeved short-gowns, and plain white caps or *mitches*, or enveloped in scarlet *duffles*, and guiltless of shoes and stockings—might be observed, each carrying, probably, a basket, in the wake of her mistress, or bearing a couple of wooden *stoups* or pitchers for water, to be drawn from the few public wells which here and there abutted on the roadway; and towards the most favoured of these—that situated near the *West Port*—the majority of these female drudges were wending their joyous way, unconscious of

* The Flesh-Markets in King-street were opened in May, 1755. For many years about this time fresh butcher-meat could be got only on market-days, except, perhaps, lamb during the summer months. Sea-fish, excepting herrings, was rarely seen; but salmon was both plentiful and cheap; in proof of which, the following extract from the *Glasgow Journal*, of 18th July, 1748, may be quoted:—“There has been a larger quantity of

salmond taken in Clyde this week than has been known for many years past; it was currently sold in our market for about one penny a pound.”

† Perhaps the last public specimen of a lady in the antiquated dress referred to, was Miss Inglis, who kept her brother’s silk and ribbon shop (Mr John Inglis), near the Tron steeple, and who was himself a *trig* sample of the ancient costume.

the still undiscovered luxury of water-pipes, or the thousand and one advantages which have arisen from the modern appliances of hydraulic science.* A few rude carts or cars might be seen moving along at a snail's pace during the day, and were by their masters—having no fear

* During the fifty years previous to 1750, the manners throughout Scotland partook much of the old feudal system. According to the Recollections of Miss Elizabeth Mure, printed in the Caldwell Papers, and presented to the members of the Maitland Club, we find that "every master was revered by his family, honored by his tenants, and aweful to his domestics. His hours of eating, sleeping, and amusement were carefully attended to by all his family and by all his guests. Even his hours of devotion were marked, that nothing might interrupt them. He kept his own sete by the fire or at table, with his hat on his head; and often particular dishes were served up for himself that nobody else shared off. Their children approached them with awe, and never spoke with any degree of freedom before them. The consequence of this was, that, except at meals, they were never together, tho' the reverence they had for their parents taught them obedience, modesty, temperance. Nobody helped themselves at table, nor was it the fashion to eat up what was put on their plate, so that the mistress of the family might give you a full meal or not, as she pleased; from whence came in the fashion of pressing the guests to eat so far as to be disagreeable. Every woman made her web of wove linnen, and bleached it herself. It never rose higher than two shillings the yard; and with this cloth was everybody clothed. The young gentlemen, who at this time (1727) were growing more delicate, got their cloth from Holland for shirts; but the old was satisfied with necks and sleeves of the fine, which were put on loose above the country cloth." At that time "hoops were worn constantly four yards and a half wide, which required much silk to cover them, and gold and silver was much used for trimming, never less than three rows round the petticoat. The heads were all dressed in laces

from Flanders: no blonds or coarse edging used. The price of those was high, but two sute would serve for life. They were not renewed but at marriage or some great event. Their tables were full, though very ill dressed, and as ill served up. They eat out of powder, often ill cleaned. The servants eat ill, having a set form for the week, of three days broth and salt meat, the rest megare, with plenty of bread and small beer." Young ladies were indifferently educated, and were "allowed to run about and amuse themselves in the way they choosed, even to the age of women; at which time they were generally sent to Edinburgh for a winter or two to lairn to dress themselves, and to dance, and to see a little of the world. The world was only to be seen at church, at marriages, burials and baptisms. These were the only places where the ladies went in full dress; and as they walked the street they were seen by every body; but it was the fashion, when in undress, allwise to be masked. They never eat a full meal at table; this was thought very indelicate. But they took care to have something before diuner, that they might behave with propriety in company." The education of the young gentlemen, except those intended for the learned professions, appears to have been as little attended to as that of the ladies. The following pictures of a marriage, a baptism, and burial, we extract from the same interesting volume. "The bride's favours were all sewed on her gown, from tope to bottom, and round the neck and sleeves. The moment the ceremony was performed, the whole company ran to her and pulled off the favours; in an instant she was stripped of all of them. The next ceremony was the garter, which the bridegroom's man attempted to pull from her leg; but she dropt it throw her petticoat on the floor. This was a white and silver ribbon, which was cut in

of any police before their eyes—left quietly on the street during the night. The roads throughout all Scotland were at this period so narrow and so bad, as to resemble more the course of a rivulet than a highway, and consequently even few carts could go beyond the great highways. To

small morsals to every one in the company. The bride's mother came in then with a basket of favours belonging to the bridegroom; those and the bride's were the same, with the livery's of their families, hers pink and white, his blue and gold colour. All the company dined and supped together, and had a ball in the evening." Of the baptism, it is stated that "on the fourth week after the lady's delivery she is sett on her bed on a low footstool; the bed covered with some neat piece of sewed work or white satin, with three pillows at her back covered with the same, she in full dress, with a lapped head-dress, and a fan in her hand. Having informed her acquaintance what day she is to see company, they all come and pay their respects to her, standing or walking a little throw the room (for there is no chairs). They drink a glass of wine and eat a bit of cake, and then give place to others. Towards the end of the week all the friends were asked to the Cummers feast. This was a supper, where every gentleman brought a pint of wine, to be drunk by him and his wife. The supper was a ham at the head, and a pirimid of fowl at the bottom. This dish consisted of four or five ducks at bottom, hens above, partrages at tope. There was an eating posset in the middle of the table, with dried fruits and sweetmeats at the sides. When they had finished their supper, the meat was removed, and in a moment everybody flew to the sweetmeats to pocket them; upon which a scramble insued, chairs overturned, and everything on the table, warsalling, and pulling at one another with the utmost noise. When all was quiet they went to the stoups (for there was no bottles), of which the women had a good share. For, though it was a disgrace to be seen drunk, yet it was none to be a little intoxicate in good company. A few days after this the same company was asked to the christening,

which was allwise in the church, all in high dress, a number of them young lads, who were called maiden cummers. One of them presented the child to the father. After the ceremony they dined and supped together, and the night often concluded with a ball." Of the burials, it is mentioned that the Magistrates and Town Council were invited to the funeral of every person of distinction, 1500 burial letters being sometimes despatched. It had, some years previous to 1727 been the custom "for lads to walk behind the corps in high dress, with coloured cloaths." But at that time the chesting, or coffining, was at the same time, when all the females invited to that ceremonial took part in the procession. So much for the manners of Scotland in general! Of Glasgow in particular!" The late Mr D. Bannatyne states that, during the greater part of the first half of the last century, the habits and style of living of her citizens were of a moderate and frugal cast. "The dwelling-houses of the highest class in general contained only one public room, a dinning-room, and even that was used only when they had company; the family at other times usually eating in a bed-room. The great-grandfathers and great-grandmothers of many of the present luxurious aristocracy of Glasgow, lived in this manner. They had occasionally their relatives dining with them, and gave them a few plain dishes, all put on the table at once; holding in derision the attention which they said their neighbours, the English, bestowed on what they ate. After dinner the husband went to his place of business, and in the evening to a club in a public-house, where, with little expense, he enjoyed himself till nine o'clock, at which hour the party uniformly broke up, and the husbands went home to their families. Up to the years 1750 and 1760 very few single houses had been built, the greater part of

country towns and villages, goods were almost invariably carried in sacks on horseback; and the carriers from Glasgow to Edinburgh had baskets or creels on each side of the horses, and the *cadger* placed between them. With respect to anything like coach communication between distant parts of the country, that may be said to have been almost unknown. Journeys then, even between the most important cities, were both difficult and tedious.* For, even so late as the year 1763, there was only one stage-coach in all broad Scotland in communication with London, and that "set out" from Edinburgh only once every month, its journey thither occupying no less than from fifteen to eighteen days! At this period there was very rarely the rattle of a four-wheeled carriage heard in any quarter of the town, for the plain reason that there was only *one* gentleman's chariot kept in the City; and the only other vehicle that could be encountered, was either some nobleman or gentleman's coach from the country—when it was certain to arouse the curiosity of the passing citizen, and excite the astonishment of the youthful urchin—or else the "Edinburgh Heavy," which, after ardently pursuing its course from morning's dawn, reached "Auld Reekie," "God willing," long after "set of sun!" †

the more wealthy inhabitants continuing, to a much later period, to occupy floors, in very many cases containing only one public room." Perhaps nothing can mark the mode of living more clearly than the fact, that the City clergy were paid, in 1750, only £111 2s 2d for stipend and communion elements.

* Every mercantile house in Glasgow doing a "country business," kept what is called their "*rider*," who made periodical journeys throughout Scotland on horseback. This practice arose from the general badness of the roads and the want of public communication between towns; and from this circumstance it is said *riding* became not only fashionable but useful.

† The establishment of the first regular stage-coach between Edinburgh and Glasgow may be gathered from the following Minute of the Council of Glasgow, dated 29th July,

1678:—"The said day, ordains Frederick Hamilton to have ane warrant for the sume of four hundred merks, payed to Wm. Hoome, merchant in Edinburgh, for twa yeares salerie, advanced to him in hand, for setting up and keeping the Stadge Coach betwixt this and Edinburgh, conform to the agreement made thereanent, quhilk agreement was produced and red to the Proveist and Baillies commissionat to subserve the same in name of the toune." Sixty-five years after, it appears that the difficulty of making a regular communication between the two cities was equally felt; for, by a Minute of Council dated 15th October, 1743, we find that "there was a proposal produced, signed by John Walker, merchant in Edinburgh, for erecting a stage-coach betwixt Edinburgh and Glasgow; and to set out twice a-week from Edinburgh to Glasgow, and twice a-week from

Such were a few of the most interesting objects which, at the period we allude to, must have occasionally attracted the eyes of the aristocratic set of worthies who every Saturday paced, with solemn step, towards the comfortable hostelry of Anderston, beneath whose roof all were wont to expect one afternoon of fun and frolic out of the seven; and where, so soon as the clock struck two,* there was sure to appear the erect figure of the president entering the door of the club-room; immediately after whose arrival there was placed on the white-covered board a dish which both Dods and Kitchener have failed to register. This strange and now long-forgotten *plat*, which has been sacrificed to the *Julienne* and *Mulligatawny* of modern days, was denominated "hen-broth," and was nothing more nor less than a simple decoction of two or three *howtowdies* (Anglice, fowls) thickened—to use Mrs Hannah Glass's phraseology—with black beans, and seasoned with black pepper. To the devotees of our modern apoplectic cookery, it will perhaps appear apocryphal how so coarse and so simple a condiment could have provoked an inhabitant of Glasgow to undertake what was then considered a Sabbath day's journey; yet true it is, and of verity, that the said *hen-broth* proved the

Glasgow to Edinburgh; and the coach or lando to contain six passengers, with six sufficient horses, for twenty weeks in the summer; and the rest of the year once a week; and each passenger to pay ten shillings sterling, and to be entitled to fourteen pounds weight of baggage; and that as long as he continues the stage-coach, that the town should insure to him that two hundred of his tickets shall be sold here each year." The proposal was remitted to a committee, but it does not appear that it was entertained. What a singular insight this gives us into the condition of Scotland not quite a hundred years ago! The following advertisements appear in the *Glasgow Courant* of 1749:—"That the Glasgow and Edinburgh caravan sets out this day at nine o'clock, and goes to Livingston this night, and is to be in Edinburgh on Tuesday about nine in the morning; sets out

from Edinburgh at 3 afternoon, and back to Livingston at night, and at Glasgow Wednesday night; sets out again Thursday, from Glasgow, at 9 o'clock, and to Livingston at night and to Edinburgh." "This, the Edinburgh stage-coach, being now to come to Glasgow by the Falkirk road, it will be at the house of James Young (the George Inn), above the College, on Tuesday next, from whence it sets out for Edinburgh, by the same road, on Wednesday at 6 o'clock in the morning.—*October, 1749.*"

* The common dinner hour among the citizens was one o'clock, husbands returning to business in the afternoon; while their wives gave tea at four to their female friends. For a long period this meal was vulgarly called "*four-hours*," even after it was postponed to six. Shopkeepers usually locked their shops during breakfast and dinner hours.

acknowledged attraction, and the material link of union, as has already been hinted, to some of the wisest and most notable of Glasgow citizens.*

As a key to the particular *set* who planted their legs under John Sharp's *plane-tree*, we have to recall the name of the founder of the club, Professor Simson, the celebrated mathematician. Every Saturday, for years, did this gifted personage sally forth from his comfortable bachelor manège in the University, as the College clock struck one, and turned his face in the direction of Anderston. The Professor, like all individuals who have devoted their energies to the study of the exact

* Although, previous to 1750, the general characteristic of the inhabitants of Glasgow had been an attentive industry, combined with a frugality bordering upon parsimony, it appears that they, notwithstanding, paid some little attention to cookery, which taste may perhaps be traced in some degree to their original connection with France. The following singular entry, in the Council Minutes of the 8th May, 1740, shows that the northern Corporation of Glasgow were, like many others in the south, not insensible to the benefits to be derived from a knowledge of the culinary art:—"Which day, aent the petition given in by James Lohead, Teacher of Cookery, mentioning that he being regularly educated by his Majesty's cooks, under whom he served in the art of cookery, pastry, confectioning, candying, preserving and pickling, and of making milks, creams, syllabubs, gellies, soups and broaths, of all sorts; and also taught to dress and order a table, and to make Bills of fare for entertainments of all kinds; and that of late he has successfully taught severall young ladies, to their own and their parents' satisfaction; and that for instruction of his scholars he is obliged to provide, on his own charge, flesh, fowls, fish, spiceries, and severall other ingredients, but when drest, lye on his hand for want of sale, by which he is a loser, and will be obliged to lay aside his teaching unless he be assisted in carrying it on; and, therefore, craving a yearly allowance, &c., renit to the Magistrates to agree with him as to teaching, and

allow him £10 Sterling yearly during their pleasure." The following advertisement is taken from the *Glasgow Courant* of 1749, relative to the foregoing individual:—"That James Lohead, at his house, opposite to Bell's-wynd in Glasgow, begins, upon the 10th inst., to teach, as formerly, in a plain and easy manner, how to dress, with very small expense, all sorts of Flesh, Fowl, and Fish; also Pastry and Pickling, preserving any kind of meat in summer, from spoiling; dressing Roots and Herbs; likewise he teaches many useful things fit for families of all ranks, too tedious to mention. Any person who designs to be taught to dress meat, &c. as above, will be attended upon in his school, at any hour of the day, and will agree with them by the month, at a very easy rate. He hopes great satisfaction will be given to the ladies who are desirous of learning the art of Cookery, &c., by which in a short time, they will be able to direct their servants to dress any dish of meat to their own mind. And if any persons have occasion to make publick Entertainments, he is ready to attend them, to their satisfaction, as he has had the opportunity to be frequently employed on such occasions, both in Scotland and England." In more modern times, young ladies, as a branch of education, were accustomed to attend the cooking department in such Hotels as the Tontine, and to see the laying out of a public dinner and sometimes even to serve the guests, for all which a certain fee was paid to the landlord.

sciences, was in everything precise to a fault. It was his rule to assert or believe nothing without a Q. E. D.; and hence his life might be said to have been the very beau ideal of ratiocination. Upon no occasion whatever, when absent from the walls of *alma mater*, was the Professor of trigonometry ever at a loss to tell the exact number of paces that would bring him back to his own snug elbow-chair. Invariably in his promenades did he note each step he took from home; and, although accosted by an acquaintance, was never put out of his reckoning, from the habit he had acquired of repeating, during the pauses of conversation, the precise number of paces he had journeyed. To his friends this love of mensuration often proved singular enough—to strangers it was sometimes absolutely ridiculous. As an instance of the latter kind, the following anecdote may be taken as an illustration. One Saturday, while proceeding towards Anderston, counting his steps as he was wont, the Professor was accosted by a person who, we may suppose, was unacquainted with his singular peculiarity. At this moment the worthy geometrician knew that he was just *five hundred and seventy-three* paces from the college towards the snug parlour which was anon to prove the rallying point of the *hen-broth* amateurs; and when arrested in his progress, kept repeating the mystic number at stated intervals, as the only species of Mnemonics then known. “I beg your pardon,” said the personage, accosting the Professor; “one word with you, if you please.” “Most happy—573!” was the response. “Nay,” rejoined the gentleman, “merely *one* question.” “Well,” added the Professor—“573!” “You are really too polite,” interrupted the stranger; “but from your known acquaintance with the late Dr B—, and for the purpose of deciding a bet, I have taken the liberty of inquiring whether I am right in saying that that individual left five hundred pounds to each of his nieces?” “Precisely!” replied the Professor—“573!” “And there were only four nieces, were there not?” rejoined the querist. “Exactly!” said the mathematician—“573!” The stranger, at the last repetition of the mystic sound, stared at the Professor, as if he were mad, and muttering sarcastically “573!”

made a hasty obeisance and passed on. The Professor, seeing the stranger's mistake, hastily advanced another step, and cried after him, "No, sir, *four* to be sure—574!" The gentleman was still further convinced of the mathematician's madness, and hurried forward, while the Professor paced on leisurely towards the west, and at length, happy in not being balked in his calculation, sat down delighted amid the circle of the Anderston Club.

Here the mathematician ever made it a rule to throw algebra and arithmetic "to the dogs," save in so far as to discover the just *quadratic equation* and *simple division* of a bowl of punch. One thing alone in the Club he brought his mathematics to bear upon, and that was his glass. This had been constructed upon the truest principles of geometry for emptying itself easily, the stalk requiring to form but a very acute angle with the open lips ere its whole contents had dropped into the œsophagus. One fatal day, however, Girzy, the black-eyed and dimple-cheeked servant of the hostelry, in making arrangements for the meeting of the Club, allowed this favourite piece of crystal, as many black and blue-eyed girls have done before and since, to slip from her fingers and be broken. She knew the Professor's partiality for his favourite beaker, and thought of getting another; but the day was too far spent, and the Gallowgate, then the receptacle of such luxuries, was too far distant to procure one for that day's meeting of the fraternity. Had Verreville, the city of glass, been then where it has since stood, the mathematician's placid temper might not have been ruffled, nor might Girzy have found herself in so disagreeable a dilemma.* The Club met—the hen-broth smoked in every platter—the few standard dishes disappeared, the *Medoc* was sipped, and was then succeeded, as usual, by a goodly-sized punch-bowl.†

* The manufacture of flint-glass or crystal was first introduced into Glasgow, at Verreville, Anderston, in the year 1777. A bottle-house, for the manufacture of green bottles, had been established at the foot of Jamaica-street so early as 1730.

† Little wine was then drank at the tables of the middle class of the people; and a dinner given to any beyond the family circle, which was always of the most ordinary kind, was even a rarity.

The enticing and delicious compound was mixed, tasted, and pronounced nectar—the Professor, dreaming for a moment of some logarithm of Napier or Problem of Euclid, pushed forward to the fount, unconsciously, the glass which stood before him, drew it back a brimmer, and carried it to his lips; but lo! the increased angle at which the Professor was obliged to raise his arm, roused him from his momentary reverie, and, pulling the drinking-cup from his lips, as if it contained the deadliest henbane, exclaimed, “What is this, Girzy, you have given me? I cannot drink out of this glass. Give me my own, you little minx. You might now well know that *this* is not mine,” holding up the crystal with a look of contempt. “Weel a wat it is a’ I hae for’t, Maister Simson,” answered Girzy, blushing. “Hush, hush,” rejoined the mathematician, “say not so; I know it is not *my* glass, for the outer edge of this touches my nose, and *mine* never did so.” The girl confessed the accident, and the Professor, though for some moments sadly out of humour, was at length appeased, and swallowed his *sherbet* even at the risk of injuring his proboscis.*

Of the other members of the Club, it might be reasonably supposed we should next say a little, but alas! the scanty muniments of the fraternity that remain make the task somewhat difficult. It may be sufficient, however, to state, that of the many highly-gifted individuals who originated and then formed the famous “Literary Society,”† which met

* Dr Simson was exceedingly absent. As a proof of this, Lord Brougham mentions that “one of the college porters, being dressed up for the purpose, came to ask charity, and, in answer to the Professor’s questions, gave an account of himself closely resembling his own history. When he found so great a resemblance, he cried out, ‘What’s your name?’ and on the answer being given, ‘Robert Simson,’ he exclaimed, with great animation, ‘Why, it must be myself,’ when he awoke from his trance.”

† The following is a list of the members of the Literary Society of Glasgow during the years 1752 and 1753:—

Mr James Moor, Professor of Greek.
 Dr Robert Hamilton, Professor of Anatomy.
 Dr Leechman, Professor of Divinity.
 Mr James Clow, Professor of Logic.
 Mr Hercules Lindsay, Professor of Law.
 Dr R. Dick, Professor of Natural Philosophy.
 Rev. Mr Craig, Minister of Glasgow.
 Mr George Ross, Professor of Humanity.
 Dr Wm. Cullen, Professor of Medicine.
 Mr Adam Smith, Professor of Moral Philosophy.
 Mr Richard Betham.
 Dr John Brisbane.
 Mr Wm. Ruat, Professor of Church History.
 Mr Robt. Bogle, Merchant, Glasgow.

every Friday evening in the University during the session, there were not a few present every Saturday in the Club-room of Anderston. Among these we may merely notice Dr James Moor, the accomplished Professor of Greek; Dr Cullen* and Mr Thomas Hamilton,† the great advancers of medical science; Professor Ross, a very Cicero in Roman literature; Adam Smith, the now world-renowned political economist; and, though last not least, the brothers Foulis, the never-to-be-forgotten Elzevirs of the Scottish press. With a few such men at every meeting, eked out with several of the more literary and intelligent of the mercantile aristocracy, it may well be conceived that the conversation with which the dinner was wound up was of no ordinary kind, or such as now rarely falls to the lot of any diner-out to listen to. Would that stenography had been then as generally practised as it is in the present day, and that some cunning reporter could have been so placed as to have given us but a single "night with Simson and the Club!" What a couple of hours' delectable disquisition we should now possess on philosophy and science,

Mr Alexander Graham.
 Mr William Crawford, Merchant, Glasgow.
 Mr George Maxwell.
 Dr Robert Simson, Professor of Mathematics.
 Sir John Dalrymple, Advocate.
 William Mure of Caldwell.
 The Rev. and Hon. P. Boyle.
 Walter Stewart, Advocate.
 Mr Thomas Melville.
 John Grahame of Dougalstown.
 John Callender of Craigforth.
 Mr David Hume.
 Mr George Muirhead.
 Mr Robt. Foulis, University Printer.
 Mr John Anderson, afterwards Professor of Natural Philosophy.
 Mr Ferguson.
 Mr Wait.

Dr Joseph Black, Professor of Medicine.
 Mr Andrews.
 Dr Alexander Stevenson, afterwards Professor of Medicine.
 Rev. Mr McKay.
 Mr Thomas Hamilton, Professor of Anatomy.
 Mr James Buchanan, Professor of Hebrew.
 Rev. Mr James Crombie.

* Dr Cullen was elected to the Lectureship of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow in 1746, and afterwards to the Professorship of Medicine in 1751, which he held till 1756, when he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, after which he obtained the Professorship of Medicine. After a life of professional reputation to which few attain, he died in 1790, in the 80th year of his age.

The additions from 1753 to 1760 were:
 Mr Andrew Foulis, Printer.
 Mr William Campbell.
 Mr Alexander Wilson, Professor of Astronomy.

† Mr Thomas Hamilton was Professor of Anatomy and Botany in the University, and father of the more celebrated Dr William Hamilton.

on art and literature,—on all the world then knew, and all that it was predicted it would become! When it is recollected, too, that in the present times the blatant blusterings of every muddle-headed charlatan who has the impudence to place himself on a public platform must necessarily be *pencilled* and *typeset*, before the lapse of a few hours, to meet the eager eyes of modern quidnuncs, may we not keenly regret that there was no Club Hansard to catch and retain for posterity the thoughts and sayings of those gifted men, many of whom have left elsewhere splendid proofs of their wisdom and philanthropy? If, however, we cannot now give the *ipsissima verba* of a Club-sitting at Anderston, we may safely assume, from the characters who composed it, that the president, in spite of occasional abstractions, generally indulged in a succession of humorous anecdotes connected with the various correspondents with whom he was in daily communication, and was, moreover, ever ready to troll out a Greek ode to notes of modern music, with the view of adding to the hilarity of the afternoon. Only imagine how a Sapphic or Anacreontic stanza, in all its original purity, would now be understood or relished by the most erudite of our present club-going citizens! Even Latin, we fear, in these unscholastic and utilitarian days, might be found at a serious discount, when it is well known that several commonplace quotations lately made use of by a classical Bailie were absolutely received with gaping wonderment and ignorant astonishment by those who were not *at* but *of* the Bar!

That the Hellenic poesy of Professor Simson should have been, as it certainly was, highly relished in the Anderston Club, will not appear strange, however, when it is remembered that there were at least two listeners in the company, in the persons of Dr Moor and Mr Ross, whose classical acumen had done much to render the typography of yet another listener, Robert Foulis, so justly celebrated for its correctness.*

* In addition to Dr Moor and Mr Ross, Mr L. Muirhead contributed much to the correctness of Robert Foulis's printing, the

whole of these gentlemen having been the *readers* of his finest works, and particularly of his folio edition of Homer.

At that period, too, the practice, with few exceptions, was, that all professors in Scottish colleges gave their prelections in the Latin tongue; and hence, not only were professors themselves better versed than they now are in the dead languages, but students also were obliged to *grind* assiduously before they could with any hope of profit enter a class-room. We must recollect, also, that Dr Cullen, although he was the first in the Glasgow University who broke through Latin trammels, and gave his lectures in English, was nevertheless a first-rate scholar; and also that Adam Smith had been a respectable exhibitioner at Baliol. In a congregation of such men as wagged their bag-wigs or pig-tails round the Anderston board, it can readily be imagined that there was never any lack of instructive and agreeable converse. The gentlemen unconnected with the college had always some tale or adventure to tell in relation to Prince Charlie and his bare-legged followers during his late fatal expedition*—of his peculiarly princely aspect but dejected expression†—of his fondness for Miss Catherine Walkinshaw‡—of Provost Buchanan's pertinent reply to the demand for £500,§ and of the evils arising from the

* Prince Charles's forces, on entering Glasgow, did not exceed 3600 foot and 500 horse. To conceal their weakness, the Prince caused his men, after passing from the Trongate into the gate of Mr Glassford's house, to return by Ingram-street and Queen-street to the front, and again march in, as if they were fresh troops.

† According to a writer in the *Attic Stories*, who had the information from an eye-witness, Charles Edward's appearance was indeed princely, "and its interest was much deepened by the dejection which appeared on his pale countenance and downcast eye. He evidently wanted confidence in his cause, and seemed to have a melancholy foreboding of that disastrous issue which ruined the hopes of his family for ever." Gib, who acted as steward of the Prince's household, mentions that he dressed more elegantly when in Glasgow than he did "in any other place whatsoever." This compliment to the ladies does

not, however, appear to have softened their political prejudices, or gained a smile from any fair lips but those of his favourite and admired Catherine Walkinshaw.

‡ Catherine Walkinshaw was the third daughter of John Walkinshaw, of Barrowfield. Her beauty attracted the notice of the Prince. Whether the *liaison*, which at a later period existed between Charles and Miss Walkinshaw commenced in Scotland, is not perfectly known; but it is certain that from 1751 she lived with him, sometimes in Switzerland and sometimes in Flanders, as his mistress. By her he had a daughter, who was legitimised in July, 1784, whom he created Duchess of Albany. She died in 1789, having survived her father twenty months.

§ Provost Buchanan, of Drumpeller, when required by the rebels to contribute £500 for their immediate use, coolly replied, "They might plunder his house, if they pleased, for he would not pay one farthing."

cruel contribution which the Prince had levied on the City, leading almost to its bankruptcy*—of the successful mission of Provost Cochrane and Bailie Murdoch to London,† whereby they obtained no less than ten thousand pounds indemnity for the loss sustained by the City—of the disapprobation shown by the populace to those who patronised the first theatre, which was then erected against the wall of the Episcopal palace near the Cathedral (when such matters were looked upon by the mass of the inhabitants as a sin),—and, in fine, of a thousand other ruling topics of the day.

* The demand made on Glasgow for broad-cloth, tartan, linen, bonnets, and shoes, amounted to nearly £10,000 sterling, besides which the rebels got a sum of money. At that time the whole annual revenue of the City was only £3,000, and its expenditure £3,081.

† From the following Minute, extracted from the Council Records, we are presented with the details of Provost Cochrane and Bailie Murdoch's expenses to and from London. The minute is dated 28th Jan., 1760:—

“The which day Andrew Cochrane, Provost, and George Murdoch, late Bailie, gave in an account of their charge and expenses in relation to their late journey to and from London about the town's affairs, which is as follows:—To a chaise and maker's servant, £28 2s 6d. To John Stewart, the servant, at several times on the road, £6 7s 2d. To ditto at London to account, £5 8s. To the servant, to carry him with two horses, £1 10s. To charges at Whitburn, and four days at Edinburgh, £8 10s. To charges on road to London, 11 days, £28 10s. To lodging at London, and house account for coals, candle, tea, sugar, breakfasts, &c., £61 15s 9d. To Wm. Alloce, the servant, for wages, boarding, and incidentals at London, and for turnpikes and expenses on road down, £17 13s 3d. To shaving and dressing, £2 7s. To Mr Burden for liquors to quarters, £4 12s. To chaise-mending 10s. To post hire from London to Edinburgh £21. To hostlers, riders, horses, &c., £2 2s. To charges on road from London, £5 12s 6d. To charges at Edinburgh and Whitburn, £2 13s 6d. To charges from Edinburgh home and the driver, £2. To extraordinary entertainments in London, £30. To writing copies petition and memorial, &c., £7 11s. To expenses and incidentals, ordinary and extraordinary, at London, viz.,

By Andrew Cochrane, £125 12s. By George Murdoch, £105 4s ½d. To a writing-master to come down [no doubt to improve the character of the City penmanship], £5 5s. To charge of advertisements, 6s—extending the said sums to £472 11s 8½d sterling.”

Considering the then value of money, it seems pretty plain that the civic authorities of that day understood deputation expenses as well, if not better, than their successors in office. The vast difference between the Corporation transactions a century ago, and those of the present day, may be briefly illustrated by the following entry in the Minutes of the Magistrates and Council of the 26th September, 1754:—

“Resolve, that a cash account be opened with the New Bank Company [Glasgow Arms], upon the Town's account. To draw by a cash account from thence what sums the Town shall stand in need of, and that the Provost for the time being be their operator and drawer of those sums. The sums to be drawn by the said cash account not exceeding *One Thousand Pounds Sterling*, and to be drawn for as the Town shall have occasion for the same.”

The Glasgow Arms Bank was commenced about the latter end of the year 1750. The firm was “Cochrane, Murdoch, & Co.,” the two celebrated Provosts. The office was built in the Bridgegate, and thereafter moved, in 1778, to the south end of Miller-street, and continued there till it stopped payment in 1793, along with the Merchants' Bank and the Thomsons' Bank. It is satisfactory to state that all the three Banks paid their debts in full.

But there was certainly no topic, of a local kind, on which the Club were more cordially agreed than this, that never was there a period in the history of the nation in which greater feebleness and misconduct, on the part of a Government, was more strikingly manifested than during the rising of 1745; and that no community had so much reason as Glasgow to complain of its interests being compromised and neglected. Well might Provost Cochrane complain, as he did, of the craven withholding of assistance on the part of the Minister for Scotland, the Justice-Clerk, and the deliberate abandonment of the community to the harsh measures of a retreating and undisciplined army. At this time of day, the conduct of the authorities in Edinburgh is indeed scarcely credible. Occasionally Dr Moor detailed the hairbreadth escapes he had made, and the difficulties he had encountered in his journey to London, in those days when men made their wills before undertaking such a dangerous pilgrimage; and when he, though a leal and devoted Protestant, hurried, at all risks, to the English metropolis, to do what he could to save the life of his kind but unfortunate patron, Lord Kilmarnock, whose misguided zeal in the Stuart cause brought him to the scaffold.* Next came Professor Ross, who, forgetful for a moment of the higher walk of Greek and Latin criticism, at once leapt into a disquisition on the more immediate literature of the day, and particularly on the then just published works of

* Dr Moor was Professor of Greek in the University. After finishing his college education he became tutor to the son of the unfortunate Lord Kilmarnock. He afterwards became tutor to Lord Selkirk, and with both he travelled on the Continent, and was introduced into the first society in Europe. On returning to Glasgow, Mr Moor was appointed Librarian to the University, and was afterwards, through the kindness of Lord Selkirk, elected to the Chair of Greek, on the payment of £600 to the occupant to retire. Dr Moor took the deepest interest in the classical publications of his brother-in-law, Robert Foulis. Along with Professor Muirhead he superintended the printing of the

famous Homer in 4 vols. folio. Every proof-sheet of this celebrated work was read over six times. David Allan, the well-known Scottish Painter, was bound an apprentice to Messrs Foulis in 1755, and it is mentioned, in a late biography of that artist, that there is a sketch by him in Newhall house, representing the inside of this academy, with an exact portrait of Robert Foulis in the act of criticising a large picture, and giving instructions to his principal painter about it. In the latter years of Dr Moor's life, he had an irreconcilable quarrel with Robert Foulis, his brother-in-law. In 1853, Mr Gabriel Neil published a series of curious papers, respecting this quarrel, in the "*Reformer's Gazette*."

Tobias Smollett, viz., “Roderick Random” and “Peregrine Pickle.” We think we hear the laughter yet of the merry group, over such extracted scenes as those where Bowling chastises the cruel-hearted schoolmaster; where Commodore Trunnion and Lieutenant Hatchway are found journeying to the marriage of the former; where the exploits of Strap, whose type was then living in the City, are recorded; or where are given the unfortunate *contretemps* of Pipes and Pallet! Thereafter, too, might be heard Robert Foulis expatiating on all he had seen in France and Italy—descanting on the *chefs d'œuvre* of art at Rome, Florence, Parma, and Bologna—and telling all he had himself done to bring art to Glasgow, and all he still proposed to do for its encouragement and extension. And, when these subjects were not his theme, which was rarely the case, he would doubtless portray the rise and progress of the Glasgow press—not forgetting his predecessor Urie, and his contemporary, Andrew Stalker—that editor of the *Glasgow Journal* who, curious to state, was only remarkable for what editors of the present day cannot certainly be accused of, shameful timidity.* And then, to crown all, the author of the “Wealth of Nations” might be there heard telling, as he was often wont, of his experiences at Oxford, where he was deterred

* In 1744, Mr Robert Foulis brought out what has been called his “immaculate” edition of Horace. The work was so carefully executed, that each sheet, previous to its being worked off, was hung up in the College, and a reward offered to all who could discover an inaccuracy. Notwithstanding all this trouble and care, Dr Dibdin points out six typographical errors. Mr Gabriel Neil, who has a copy of this valuable volume, states, however, that there are only *five*. In the year 1751, Mr R. Foulis went abroad for the fourth time; but before this journey was undertaken, the scheme for instituting an Academy for the Fine Arts in Glasgow had been pretty well digested, and often formed the subject of debate in private conversation. The following extract from Mr Richard Duncan’s contribution to the Maitland Club, will best

explain the rise and fall of this unfortunate institution:—

“Robert Foulis having previously sent home his brother with a painter, an engraver, and a copperplate printer, whom he had engaged in his service, returned to Scotland in 1753, and soon after instituted his Academy for Painting, Engraving, Moulding, and Drawing. The University allowed him the use of what is now the Faculty Hall, as an exhibition-room for his pictures, and of several other rooms for his students; and three Glasgow merchants, with a liberality which reflected the highest credit on themselves, afterwards became partners in the undertaking. These were Mr Campbell of Clathie, Mr Glassford of Dougalstone, and Mr Archibald Ingram—the last a man certainly of no literary pretensions, nor even liberally educated, but possessed of intelligence and public spirit. The students, according to the proposed plan, after having given proofs of genius at home, were to be

from adopting the clerical profession, in consequence of the unceremonious manner in which he was treated by the superiors of Baliol, when they discovered him studying one of the early lucubrations of Hume. While, what was still better, he might be heard pouring forth his incipient ideas of the advantages of Free Trade, which, strange to say, many of the merchants who then listened to him, although monopolists in heart and practice, did not even deny; and which, after many party conflicts, are now acknowledged by all who lay claim to the character of statesmen.*

sent abroad at the expense of the Academy. The whole scheme seems generally to have been considered romantic, and we have Foulis's own testimony that 'there seemed to be a pretty general emulation who should run it most down.' This opposition, however, only increased his determination, and the Academy was continued long after he might have known that it would ultimately ruin him if persevered in."

The Academy was broken up on the death of Mr Ingram in 1770, and the collection of pictures was sent to London, whither Robert Foulis also repaired. The pictures were afterwards sold at a ruinous loss, and Foulis's mortification was most acute. He returned back to Scotland, and expired in Edinburgh, on 2d June, 1776, on his way to Glasgow. His brother Andrew died of apoplexy, September 18, 1775. The printing-house of Messrs Robert & Andrew Foulis, in Shuttles-street, was advertised for sale on 31st October, 1782. From a careful analysis made by Mr Neil, of the 2 vol. catalogue of Mr Foulis, there were, *inter alia*, in the Academy 553 pictures, which comprehended 4548 square feet of painting on cloth, wood, and copper, &c., the average size of each picture, 8-224 square feet.

* Adam Smith was born at Kirkcaldy on the 5th June, 1723, and entered the University of Glasgow in 1737. Chosen an exhibitor on Snell's Foundation, he was sent to Baliol College, Oxford, in 1740, whence he returned to Kirkcaldy in 1747. In the end of the year 1748, he removed to Edinburgh,

where, under the patronage bestowed on him by Lord Kames, he delivered lectures during three years on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres. His literary reputation being now well established, he was elected in 1751 Professor of Logic in the University of Glasgow, and in the following year he was removed to the Chair of Moral Philosophy. In this situation he remained for thirteen years, which he used to consider the happiest of his life. In 1759 he published his "Theory of Moral Sentiments," a work which greatly contributed to extend his fame and reputation as an author. Towards the end of 1763, he was induced to leave the University Chair of Glasgow, to accompany the then young Duke of Buccleuch during his tour of the Continent. In 1766, Dr Smith returned with his pupil to London, and soon after took up his residence with his mother at Kirkcaldy, where, with the exception of a few occasional visits to Edinburgh and London, he resided constantly during the next ten years, engaged habitually in intense study. In 1776, he published his "Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations;" after which he resided for two years in London, where his society was courted by the most distinguished persons in the Metropolis. He was thereafter appointed, unsolicited, to a Commissionership of Customs in Scotland, and he removed to Edinburgh, where he spent the remainder of his days. In 1787 he was elected Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow. He died in 1790. In the "Bee"

In such society, it may well be conceived that time passed more quickly than usual; but however happy the members always were, still the arithmetical precision of Professor Simson never permitted even the most interesting discussion to prevent him calling the bill at an early hour, and of dissolving the meeting so as to enable all to reach their homes in the City within *elders' hours*;* a matter then perhaps more necessary than in these days of gas and watchmen, when it is remembered that even an oil-lamp was a rarity on the Trongate, and when the only light to guide the footsteps of the members through the streets in winter, was a farthing candle stuck in a shop window, or a brace of "*muttons*" blazing from the street-openings of some joyous dining-room, whose occupants would probably not part till a portion of them, at least, lay under the table! Notwithstanding, however, the absence of all those municipal blessings which improved manners and increased taxation have brought about, we have never heard of any accident befalling any member of the Anderston Club, on their homeward course to the City, during the many long years they met in John Sharpe's hostelry. With the death of Professor Simson the Club was finally closed, and like him, all its members have since finished their earthly course; but it may be truly affirmed of this fraternity, what can rarely be said of any other club-going brotherhood of the City, that although the greedy grave has long ago swallowed up the mortal coil of each and all of its members, their spirit still lives to enlighten, to guide, and to instruct the generations which have already succeeded and may yet succeed them. Peace to the manes of the Anderston Club!

for 1791, will be found many interesting and curious anecdotes of Dr Adam Smith, evidently furnished by college contemporaries. There is also a portrait of the Doctor with his wig and pig-tail tied up in ribbons. In the Town Hall of Glasgow there is a fine bust of Smith, by the late Mr Patric Park.

* The phrase "*elders' hours*" was synonymous with all belonging to the family being in the house in time for evening prayers, which were offered up immediately before supper, then a common family meal. At this period almost all ranks adhered more or less to the habits of the Covenanters, and hence family worship was almost universal.