

THE COMPLETE SCOTLAND

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED TO EDINBURGH

THROUGHOUT this, the final stage of the East Coast Route to Edinburgh, the L.N.E.R. keeps the road close company, throwing out branches to North Berwick and Gullane.

BERWICK-UPON - TWEED.

Distances. - Edinburgh, 58 m.; Dunbar, 30 m.; Newcastle, 63 m.; London, 345 m. Kelso, 23 m.

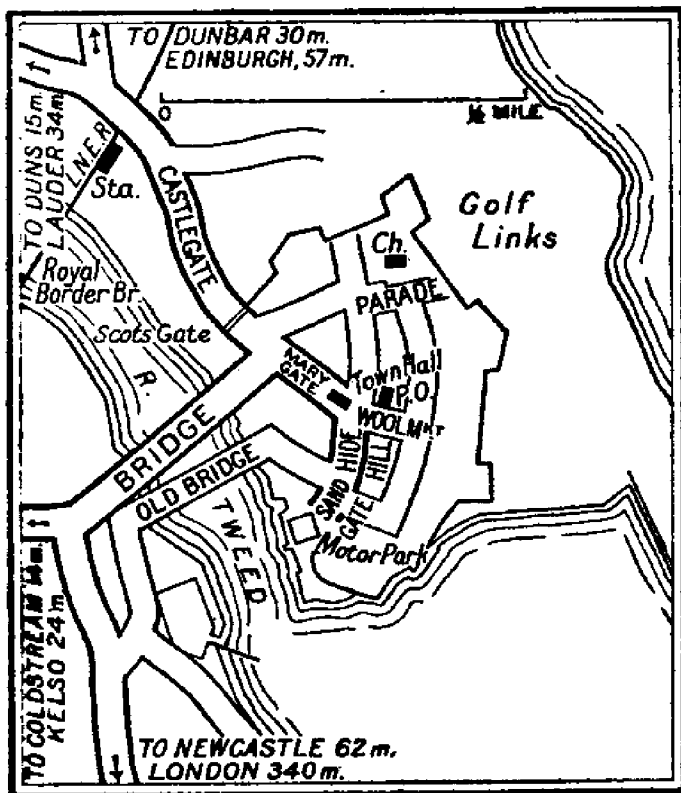
Early Closing. - Thursday.

Hotels. - *King's Arms* (30 rooms; R. & b., 9s. 6d.), *Red Lion, Castle* (20 rooms; R. & b., 7s. 6d.).

Motor Parking Places. - Quayside and the Parade.

Sports. - Bowls, tennis, bathing, boating, golf. Good fishing for brown and sea trout in Tweed and Whiteadder.

Geographically speaking, the crossing of the Tweed at Berwick should take one from England into Scotland or vice versa. Actually, although it stands on the far side of the Tweed, Berwick is accounted part of England (itself a county, it is included for administrative purposes



in Northumberland), and at one time it held an even more anomalous position, since it claimed to be neither in Scotland nor in England. The town is spread over the western flank of the tongue of hilly land which turns the Tweed south in the last mile of its course to the sea. On the seaward side of the promontory are golf links, sands and bathing pools; the town itself looks down upon the river and bridges, and the military strength of its position in olden times, when it hung like a portcullis over the Great North Road, led to incessant sieges and changes of ownership. Of those days the principal memorials are the relics of the walls built by Edward I and those built to enclose a smaller area in Elizabeth's time: the narrow Scotsgate which so sorely hampers traffic in mid-season is part of the Elizabethan defences. The most

historic spot in Berwick - the Castle - was demolished to make way for the railway station, and in view of the Castle's bitter story one is inclined to wonder whether Stephenson had only the building of the railway in mind when he caused the words "The final act of union" to be inscribed over the station.

Certainly the history of the Castle tells of deeds best forgotten. With the town, the stronghold was burnt by the English during William the Lion's invasion of England in 1174, and subsequently formed part of his ransom. Henry II rebuilt the Castle; Richard Cœur de Lion sold it back to William the Lion and a few years later Richard's son John captured it anew, the town being burnt in the process. In 1292 Edward I from the Castle hall gave his decision concerning the rival claims of Bruce and Balliol to the Scottish throne, and four years later Balliol rebelled and held the Castle against the English. When Edward took and sacked Berwick, the Castle surrendered, though the garrison marched out with military honours, and there in 1306 he imprisoned the Countess of Buchan, for her offence in crowning Robert Bruce. Tradition asserts that the lady was hung in a cage outside the wall, but Edward's instructions make it plain that the cage was a device for solitary confinement inside a turret. The Castle was recaptured by Bruce in 1318, after the town had been taken in a brilliant night-attack by Douglas and Randolph. In 1333 Edward III, in a vain attempt to induce the governor, Sir Alexander Seton, to surrender, hanged his son Thomas, whom he held as hostage, within sight of the walls. The town and Castle were surrendered to him after the Scottish defeat at Halidon Hill. In 1461 Henry VI, a refugee in Scotland, gave up town and Castle to the Scots, but in 1482 they were regained, for Edward IV, by his brother Richard "Crook-back," later Richard III. And Berwick remained a pillar of the English defences against Scotland till the Union of 1603, when these defences became unnecessary. Berwick later obtained a peculiar status as an independent town, belonging to neither country. This was its condition until the Reform Act of 1885, and until that time all Acts of Parliament, etc., contained the special allusion "and to our town of Berwick-upon-Tweed."

The Bridges of Berwick are interesting sentimentally and historically. The river-crossing here was responsible for the rise of the town and has been the cause of the greater part of its history down to the present day, when motors and vehicles of all kinds pour across the two road bridges - the many-arched seventeenth-century bridge and the severely practical structure of reinforced concrete built a few years ago - and trains rumble over the lofty viaduct.

It is possible to walk along the Elizabethan walls, and more or less extensive fragments of the earlier fortifications also remain, but the glamour of Berwick the Border town is to be recaptured rather from a perusal of its history than by walking its streets. Of these the principal is the broad, cobbled street known as Marygate, extending from the Scotsgate to the Town Hall. Eastward of Marygate lie the Parish Church, the Barracks and bastions; on the other side various streets lead down to the riverside, whence one can walk round to the Pier.

Across the wide mouth of Tweed (*ferry*) is **Spittal**, the borough's seaside suburb; at the western end of the bridges is the more industrial suburb of **Tweedmouth**.

The salmon of Tweed are famous, and Berwick is a good centre both for the angler and for those interested in watching the proceedings of the net fishers.

Although Berwick has been deprived of its state of splendid isolation between England and Scotland, the County and Borough of the Town of Berwick-on-Tweed is still an entity, and its landward boundary, running from sea to Tweed some 3 or 4 miles north and west of the town, still serves as the Anglo-Scottish border. The coast-road and the railway cross the Border by **Lamberton**, which once had a reputation among runaway couples and their irate parents akin to

that of Gretna, at the other end of the Border, and Coldstream, nearer at hand.

In a narrow valley running steeply to the sea a mile or so from Lamberton is the primitive fishing village of **Burnmouth**. A mile or so farther is **Eyemouth** (*Home Arms, Ship*), which to its original reputation as a fishing centre is now adding a name as a holiday resort of the unconventional kind. Golf, bathing, boating and fishing are the principal occupations. At one time the local alternative to herring-fishing was smuggling, and it has been said that the secret cellars and subterranean passages were so numerous that only a half of the town appeared above the surface, the other half being underground.

On again is **Coldingham** (*New Inn, Anchor; several private hotels*), a sleepy village famed for the remains of a Norman Priory and coming into notice on account of the allurements of Coldingham Sands.

Coldingham Priory was founded in 1098 as a Benedictine establishment on the site, it is said, of a nunnery founded some centuries earlier by that St. Ebba whose name is commemorated in that of the neighbouring St. Abb's Head. The site is a little east of the village cross. There is an isolated archway, but the most noteworthy remnant of this once extensive establishment is what now forms the north wall of the parish church. The tragic episode concluding the second Canto of *Marmion* was suggested to Scott by the discovery, at Coldingham, of a female skeleton standing upright built into the wall. In bygone days apostate nuns were buried alive in this position.

St. Abb's Head is the most striking promontory on this coast, rising more than 300 feet above the sea. The Lighthouse, 224 feet above the waves, flashes every ten seconds and is visible 20 miles. Hardly less striking than this headland is the spot known as **Fast Castle**, 4 miles westward. Little remains of the Castle, which was built on a precipitous crag connected with the mainland by a narrow ridge. It must have been wellnigh impregnable: a miniature Dunnottar or Tintagel.

The road from Coldingham to **Cockburnspath** (colloquially "Co'spath") rejoins the main road shortly after passing above the charmingly wooded *Pease Dean* by a lofty bridge from which the stream can be heard but not seen as it rushes through the woods below. The main road: (now provided with a by-pass) winding across this eastern end of the Lammermuirs amply illustrates the origin of the name Cockburnspath, and explains the presence of the fortress figuring as "Ravenswood Castle" in the *Bride of Lammermuir*.

Siccar Point, near Cockburnspath, is of interest to geologists as the site of Hutton's famous unconformity, where gently inclined Old Red Sandstone beds rest on the upturned edges of the Silurian.

From Cockburnspath to Dunbar the coast is seldom out of sight. The tall white lighthouse at Barns Ness is away on the right; then on the left is the field where Leslie's men found themselves on the morning of September 3, 1650, a sight which, according to Bishop Burnet, moved Cromwell to cry, "The Lord hath delivered them into our hands!"

DUNBAR.

Distances.- Berwick-on-Tweed, 30 m.; North Berwick, 10½ m.; Edinburgh, 29 m.

Early Closing.- Wednesday.

Hotels.- *Belle Vue* (R. & b., 10s. 6d.); *Roxburghe Marine* (60 rooms; R. & b., 10s. 0d.); *Royal, Craig-en-Gelt* (25 rooms; R. & b., 9s.); *Bayswell* (25 rooms; R. & b., fr. 8s. 6d.), *Albert*, etc.

Sports.- Bathing, boating, bowls, golf, tennis, sea-fishing.

Famed for centuries on account of its almost impregnable Castle; and afterwards as an agricultural and fishing centre, Dunbar has of late won regard as a holiday resort. There are golf (two first-class courses), tennis, bathing, fishing, etc., and the inexhaustible attractions of two harbours. The chief feature of the long, wide street around which the town groups itself is the old Town House with its tower. The large building at the end of the street was originally a seat of the Lauderdale family; more recently it has become a military barracks. From this wide street one turns to the right for the Harbour and to the left for the modern promenade overlooking Bayswell Beach, with its boating lake and swimming pool.

Of the Castle - "built upon a chain of rocks stretching into the sea and having only one passage to the mainland, which was well fortified" - there are sufficient remains to kindle the imagination of those who know their Scottish history. Here Edward II, fleeing from Bannockburn, sheltered until a boat took him on to Berwick; here, in 1338, in the absence of her husband, the Earl of Dunbar, "Black Agnes" defied the Earl of Salisbury for nineteen weeks, until the siege was raised on the arrival of supplies by sea; here, too, Mary Queen of Scots sought sanctuary after the murder of Rizzio in 1565. Two years later she was brought there, willing or unwilling, by her abductor, Bothwell; a third time she returned, this time to prepare for the disastrous encounter on Carbery Hill. Not without reason, the Regent Moray ordered the dismantling of such a favourite refuge, and to-day only the crumbling red sandstone walls remain to tell of one of the most formidable strongholds in Scotland.

The direct road from Dunbar to Edinburgh runs via East Linton and Haddington. In the vicinity of East Linton (Sir John Rennie was born at Phantassie House, near the east end of the by-pass, in 1761 and is commemorated by a memorial seat beside the road) are the recently restored **Hailes Castle** (*weekdays* 10 - 4, 5 or 6; *Sundays* 2 - 3 or 4; 6d.), once a stronghold of the Earl of Bothwell, and Smeaton House, containing relics of Queen Mary and Bothwell. On **Traprain Law**, a hill which assumes striking proportions when viewed from east or west, was discovered in 1919, along with other antiquities, a pit, 2 feet deep and 2 feet wide, filled with a rich collection of fourth-century silver plate, crushed and broken as if destined for the melting-pot. It is supposed that the plate (now restored and exhibited in the Edinburgh Museum of Antiquities) was concealed by Angle or Saxon pirates at the beginning of the fifth century, though the site was plainly occupied for centuries by earlier inhabitants.

Seventeen miles from Edinburgh is **Haddington**, a royal burgh of the time of David I. It has associations with John Knox and Edward Irving, and in its churchyard - the ruined choir of "the Lamp of Lothian" (destroyed by the English during "The Burnt Candlemas" of 1356) - is buried Jane Welsh Carlyle.

The road for Tantallon and North Berwick turns northward from the main highway about

4 miles west of Dunbar, running across the woods and rich pastoral lands of Tynninghame to **Whitekirk**, with its interesting Parish Church, burned by suffragettes before the War, but since restored.

The place was the scene of the labours of the seventh-century St. Baldred, but owed its early importance to a well credited with miraculous powers of healing. The Countess of March, fleeing in 1294 from Edward I at Dunbar, drank of its waters and was cured of a wound, and in gratitude built a chapel in honour of Our Lady. So famous did the well become that upwards of 15,000 pilgrims came to it in 1413; while in 1435 the future Pope Pius II walked barefoot from Dunbar, a feat which so convinced James I of the worth of the well that he took the place under his care, added to the buildings and changed the name from Fairknowe to White Chapel.

About 2 miles north of Whitekirk and 2 miles east of North Berwick are the magnificent ruins of -

TANTALLON CASTLE.

(Open weekdays June-Sept. 10 - 7, March-May, 10-6, Oct.-Feb. 10-4. Sundays March-Sept. 11-4; Oct.-Feb. 11-3. Admission, 6d.)

Tantallon was a stronghold of the Douglasses, and dates back to the latter part of the fourteenth century. The Castle occupies a striking position on a rocky promontory overlooking the North Sea. Readers of Scott will recall the well-known lines in *Marmion*:

" Tantallon's dizzy steep
Hung o'er the margin of the deep."

Hugh Miller's description is also worth quoting: "Tantallon has three sides of wall-like rock and one side of rock-like wall."

The impregnable character of the stronghold gave rise to a local legend: "Ding doon Tantallon! Mak' a brig to the Bass" - feats considered equally impossible of achievement. In 1528 the Earl of Angus successfully defied James V and even captured the King's artillery. But in 1689 the Covenanters compelled the small garrison of the 11th Earl (1st Marquess of Douglas) to surrender; in 1651 the Castle was captured from the Scots by General Monk, after a heavy bombardment, and never again did it rank as a fortress, though it has since been in some parts restored.

Opposite the Castle and 1½ miles out to sea is the **Bass Rock** (313 feet), about a mile in circumference, its sides in many places rising perpendicular from the water for some 250 feet. In summer there is a frequent service of motor launches from North Berwick harbour, and the trip is certainly one that should not be missed. The island was a favourite haunt of St. Baldred (*see above*, under Whitekirk), and those whose visits are made on days when the tide permits landing on the rock may search the vicinity for the saint's well, cradle and cobble - the last-named a great rock which "at his nod" was transplanted from a position off the island where it was dangerous to shipping. In later times the island was used as a prison for the Covenanters. Nowadays the rock is the haunt of innumerable sea-birds, notably the gannet or solan goose, which line the cliffs in such numbers as to give them at a distance the appearance of chalk. It will be remembered that David Balfour's adventures on the island form an exciting episode in Stevenson's *Catriona*. The Lighthouse shows six flashes in quick succession each half-minute. Foghorn: three blasts each two minutes.

NORTH BERWICK.

Distances.- Berwick-on-Tweed, 40 m.; Dunbar, 11 m.; Edinburgh, 23 m.

Early Closing.- Thursday.

Hotels.- *Royal* (50 rooms; R.& b., fr. 10s 6d.), *Marine* (100rooms; R.& b., fr. 13s.), *Imperial* (24 rooms; R. & b., fr. 8s. 6d.), *Redcroft*, *Dalrymple Arms* (R. & b., 9s.).

Motor Launch Trips in season from harbour to Bass Rock and other islands off the coast.

Population.- 3,473.

Sports.- Tennis, bowls, swimming pond, yachting, and golf on a dozen courses, including some of the best in Britain. Day tickets for the Old Course from 2s. to 5s. according to season; weekly from 10s. to 20s. For the Burgh Course, June-Sept., 3s. day, 12s. 6d. week; rest of year, 1s. 6d. day, 6s. week. There are also excellent putting courses along the front.

In modern times the name and fame of North Berwick have been so linked with golf that one looks almost with surprise upon the ruins of a twelfth-century Church and of a nunnery of like antiquity. North Berwick is a prosperous little town with splendid sands and other natural facilities for holiday-making, to which have been added tennis courts, bowling greens, swimming pool and yacht pond - and the golf links. Golf was played at North Berwick in the early seventeenth century, and to-day there are two full-sized links and a shorter course, while within a few miles are a dozen or more courses of varying characteristics. Of these the most famous is that at **Muirfield**, 4 miles south-west, the Championship Course of the Honourable Company of Golfers (*visitors - introduced - 7s. 6d. day*). The way to it passes through pretty little Dirleton, with a ruined Castle (*open daily, 8 - 5; Sunday, 2-5; admission, 6d.*).

Gullane (*Marine (56 rooms; R. and b., fr. 7s. 6d.), Bisset's (25 rooms; R. and b., 9s. 6d.)*), another famous golfing centre, adjoins the Muirfield links. There are three courses (*2s. 6d., 3s. and 5s a day, no Sunday play*), and also a (*free*) children's course. At **Kilspindie** is yet another course (*2s. 6d. day; Sunday, 2s. 6d. with member, 7s. 6d. on introduction*); in fact, the road from North Berwick towards Edinburgh is a veritable golfer's progress, so numerous are the links. Some miles away to the south the Hopetoun Monument on Garleton Hill is prominent; in the other direction are views across the Forth.

Beyond **Aberlady** the road runs close to the coast - a favourite neighbourhood with picnic parties. **Longniddry** is a growing little summer resort, and then comes Port Seton, in the vicinity of which are **Seton Chapel** and House, the latter erected in the eighteenth century on the site of Seton Palace, where dwelt the fifth Lord Seton, the staunch adherent of Queen Mary, who with Bothwell spent a week here after Darnley's murder. The Chapel, a sixteenth-century collegiate building, consisting of choir, transepts and tower, is of much archæological interest.

The final syllable of the word **Prestonpans** is a reminder of that local industry concerned with the abstraction of salt from seawater, but the name also introduces us to a small area which for various reasons became the site of three important battles.

Chronologically, the first of these was the **Battle of Pinkie**, fought a few miles south-west of Prestonpans in 1547, when the Protector Somerset, with 18,000 men, utterly routed a very much larger Scottish force, slaying at least 10,000, though the English losses were only about 200.

The next affair in point of time hardly merits the name of battle in comparison with Pinkie, but

its effects were at least as momentous, for it was at **Carbery Hill** in 1567 that Mary Queen of Scots, after leaving Bothwell, surrendered to the insurgent nobles, to enter upon that long term of imprisonment which began at Lochleven and was to last almost without interruption until her death.

The **Battle of Prestonpans** was probably one of the most heartening incidents of Prince Charlie's 1745 adventure. The English under Sir John Cope had failed to engage his ragged force in the Highlands, and had therefore been shipped from Aberdeen to Dunbar in order to encounter them from the south, and so the two forces met at Prestonpans on the afternoon of September 19, 1745. Each side prepared for battle on the morrow; but the English placed too much confidence in a morass between them and their foes, who found a way through it during the night and at break of day staged such a surprise that in the brief space of fifteen minutes Cope's army was utterly routed.

The village of Preston boasts a fine seventeenth-century Mercat Cross, now under the charge of H.M. Office of Works.

The ensuing few miles to Edinburgh are a sad contrast to the fine open country through which the way has passed so far, but it is not only in Scotland that more attractive dwellings for the poorer classes are a recent innovation, while here and there among the older buildings will be noticed a fine old mansion bravely clinging to its remaining shreds of dignity, though its windows are curtainless and even unglazed and its main doors are never closed. At **Musselburgh** the Esk is crossed by a venerable bridge generally alluded to (though incorrectly) as "Roman." Across the river is **Fisherrow**, which as its name implies is absorbed in fishing; and then come **Joppa** and **Portobello**, exceedingly popular seaside resorts. Portobello beach - and the open-air swimming pool - on a busy day must be seen to be believed.

Beyond Portobello the rugged heights of Arthur's Seat are seen beyond the houses to the left as we run through Restalrig, and as the road climbs the shoulder of Calton Hill to enter Edinburgh a glimpse will be caught on the left of the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

For Edinburgh see later chapter.

BERWICK TO KELSO.

Between Kelso and Paxton, where the Liberties of the Borough and Town of Berwick come down to the river, the Tweed forms the Anglo-Scottish boundary for the greater part of the distance. There are good roads on each side of the river; the L.N.E.R. follows the English bank for the whole run of some 25 miles.

Some 5 miles from Berwick, and on the Scottish bank, is the village of **Paxton**, supposed to have suggested the song of "Robin Adair." The neighbouring suspension bridge is of interest as the first of its kind to be built in Britain. Beyond Horncliffe is **Norham**, with the massive remains of a twelfth-century Castle celebrated as the opening scene of Marmion. (*The ruins are open daily; 6d.*)

From its bold position, the Castle must have appeared as hardly less a fortress than a challenge, and it is not surprising that it changed hands incessantly. King John here concluded a treaty (1209) with William of Scotland which was so ambiguously worded that a year or so later Alexander of Scotland, the Papal legate and a representative of the English sovereign met at Berwick to define its meaning. Edward I was here during the Scottish interregnum, 1290 - 2, and here presided over the preliminaries for the Bruce-Balliol debates. In 1497 the celebrated Mons Meg was brought from Edinburgh Castle to

assist in the unsuccessful assault and in 1513 James IV captured and partially wrecked the Castle on his way to Flodden.

Norham Church is interesting as a Norman building which has also seen warlike days, for in 1318 the Scots made it a strong-point during a siege of the Castle, and one of the numerous Anglo-Scottish treaties was signed within its walls.

Across the river from Norham is **Ladykirk**, owing its name to a vow of James IV, who when in danger while fording the river promised to build a church to the Virgin Mary if he came safely to land. *Upsettlington*, on the outskirts of Ladykirk, is historically important as the place where Edward I extracted from the candidates for the Scottish throne the promise of vassalship - a promise which was fraught with such momentous results for Scotland and hardly less for England.

A few miles above Norham the Tweed is joined by the Till, and finely placed in the angle formed by the two streams are the ruins of **Twizel Castle**, which, for all its Norman architecture, dates only from the eighteenth century. Near by are remnants of a small chapel in which the remains of St. Cuthbert rested when, tiring of Melrose Abbey - let us quote Scott:

"In his stone coffin forth he rides,
A ponderous bark for river tides;
Yet, light as gossamer it glides
Downward to Tillmouth cell."

Scott's footnote is also interesting: "This boat is finely shaped, 10 feet long, 3½ feet in diameter and only 4 inches thick, so that with very little assistance it might certainly have swum. It lies, or at least did so a few years ago, beside the ruined chapel of Tillmouth." Twizel might have been a greater name in history had James IV been wise enough to prevent, or to try to prevent, the English from crossing the Till in 1513. As it was, they crossed unchallenged and so followed the **Battle of Flodden Field**, one of the most tragic of the many tragic encounters on the Border. The site of the Battle is 3½ miles south-east of Coldstream.

The object of James IV in crossing the Border was to cause Henry VIII to recall the forces with which he was warring against Louis XII in Flanders, and Pitscottie adds the information that the French Queen urged him to the invasion by sending him the ring from off her finger, fourteen thousand crowns to pay his expenses and inviting him to "come three feet on English ground for her sake." On the morning after the battle the chivalry of Scotland was no more, the King, his natural son, an archbishop, a bishop, two abbots, twelve earls, fourteen lords, many knights and gentlemen and about nine thousand men were slain; on the English side few men of title were slain. A monument near Branxton Church is said to mark the spot where James IV fell.

Coldstream is (*Newcastle Arms; Temperance*) famous the world over by reason of the regiment of guards founded here in 1660 by General Monk. Overlooking the site of a ford (replaced by a picturesque bridge designed by Smeaton in 1700), Coldstream has always been of considerable importance, but most of the military crossings of the Border at this point seem to have been undisturbed, and the more exciting happenings in the history of the village have been provided by the runaway couples who came to be married at the bridge toll-house or elsewhere in this, the first village over the Border (*see also Gretna Green*). It is a remarkable fact that no fewer than three Lord Chancellors of England were married thus - Lords Eldon, Erskine

and Brougham.

Coldstream is the point at which the Border is crossed by motorists using the Morpeth-Wooler-Lauder-Edinburgh road, and as such is a very busy place in the season. For those going north the road leaves the Kelso road about 2 miles from Coldstream, almost opposite Wark Castle. Greenlaw is 12 miles and Lauder 24 miles from Coldstream.

West from Coldstream a mile or so, and on the English bank, is **Wark Castle**, the traditional scene of the ball at which Edward III, retrieving the Countess of Salisbury's garter, uttered the words "Honi soit qui mal y pense," which became the motto of the most Noble Order of the Garter. Here as elsewhere, however, tradition and historical truth do not march side by side, and the whole episode is regarded as fiction.

Carham has little to show of historic interest, but it has been the scene of battles innumerable, a fact which is perhaps explained by the former existence of a bridge across the Tweed. The bridge has long vanished, but **Birgham**, on the far side of the river, was at one time significantly spelt *Brigham*. Here, too, are few signs of the historic incidents which it witnessed - the signing of the marriage treaty (1289) between the Prince of Wales and the Maid of Norway being the most important.

KELSO.

Distances. - Berwick, 24 m.; London, 349 m.; Newcastle, 68 m.; Edinburgh, 45 m.; Hawick, 21 m.

Early Closing. - Wednesday.

Hotels. - *Cross Keys* (30 rooms; R. & b., 9s.), *Queen's Head*, *Ednam House*, *Spread Eagle* (12 rooms; R. & b., 6s.), *Abbey* (temp.), *Border* (temp.).

Races. - February, May and October.

Sports. - Golf (9-hole course); tennis; putting, swimming, fishing for trout in Tweed and Teviot, apply Kelso Angling Association.

Finely placed in a bend of the Tweed, where that river is joined by the Teviot about 25 miles above Berwick, Kelso is one of the most attractive of the Border towns, having a fine wide market-place (seen at its best on Fridays), good shops and romantic surroundings. The chief monument of the town are the remains of **Kelso Abbey** (open weekdays) - little more than the tower of the building founded by David I in the twelfth century. Standing so near the Border, the Abbey had a chequered history, and was finally besieged by the Earl of Hertford in 1545. Subsequently it was "restored," but happily the signs of restoration were removed a century or so ago and from the few remains one is able to gain some idea of the original complete building. Kelso has claims to a place in the history of literature, for it was at the local Grammar School that Scott received part of his education and made friends with the then youthful Ballantynes, who later became his publishers.

Ednam was the birthplace of James Thomson, author of "The Seasons" and other poems.

On the western outskirts of Kelso are the grounds of **Floors Castle**, enclosed in a formidable wall pierced, at the point nearest the town, by good modern iron gates. A holly tree in Floors Park marks the spot where James II was killed by the bursting of a cannon during the siege of Roxburgh Castle in 1460. **Roxburgh**, now a mere village, was formerly more important than Kelso, but the decay of its Castle towards the end of the sixteenth century spelt the doom of the old town also.

BERWICK TO LAUDER VIA DUNS.

Although not much used as a through route, this road is a very pleasant introduction to the southern slopes of the Lammermuirs, especially for those with time to explore some of the roads running up into the hills. The route leaves Berwick by the Scots Gate. Keep to the left after crossing the railway, soon passing on the right **Halidon Hill**, the site of a memorable battle in 1333, when the Scots endeavouring to relieve Berwick Castle were themselves severely beaten.

Chirnside is a favourite angling centre, as also is the historic town of **Duns**. From *Duns Law* (714 feet) there is a wide view over Lower Tweeddale. From Duns a wildly beautiful road runs across the hills to Haddington, following the Whiteadder almost to its source.

The Church at **Polwarth**, a few miles west of Duns, has several features of interest. Lauder is 15 miles farther on.