

ANGUS
OR
FORFARSHIRE,

THE
LAND AND PEOPLE,

DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL.

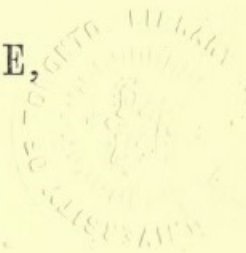
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"THE LINEN TRADE," AND "THE BURGH LAWS OF DUNDEE,"

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CHAP. XLIX.—NEWTYLE.

The Church of *Newtyl* (Newtyle) was in the diocese of St Andrews. It was dedicated by Bishop David in 1242, but the patron saint is not known. The church was given by William the Lion to the Abbey of Arbroath. It was rated in the Old Taxation at 20 merks, but in the Reg. de Aberb., p. 239, the amount is expressed thus, xx (xxx ?) merks. It may therefore have been 30 merks.

The previous Church of Newtyld, now Newtyle, was built in 1767. It stood on a slight eminence at the west side of the village of Newtyle, and was taken down in 1870, having stood a little over one hundred years. The new church was built on the site of the old one. It is somewhat ornate, and has a lofty roofed tower for a belfry. Within it is neat and commodious. The church bell bears the date 1736. It had done service in a still older church than the last one.

In 1574 Newtyld and Nava were served by Maister Robert Boyd, minister, with a stipend of £80 and kirklands. George Halden was reidare at Newtyld with a salary of £20, both sums *Scots*. Matthew Moncur, reidare at Nava (Navey, the haill vicarage). The superintendent of Angus, Mernis, Stornmonth, and Gowrie, £446 13s 9³/₄d *Scots*. Summa of the money assignit to

the Ministerie within the bounds of Anguss, Mernis, Gowrie, and Starmonth, iij^m. iij^s. liij li. xv^s. j^d. $\frac{1}{3}$ pt. d.—Off quheit, v ch.—Off beir, xlvj ch., xj b., ij fr., ij pect.—Off meill, lix ch., v b., j fr., $\frac{2}{3}$ pt. pect.—Off aittis, xij b. (Mis. Wod. Soc., p. 355).

In former times there was a chapel upon the Hill of Keillor, about a mile to the west of the church, near to which is a large block of gneis, which stands upon a tumulus of earth and stones, in which cists containing bones were found, and near to which ancient sepulchral remains were found. The stone has a smooth face, on which the figure of an animal, with the spectacle and other symbols underneath, are incised. The stone was broken across, but the two parts have been united and the stone placed on its old site. In the beginning of the century a weem, or Pict's house, was discovered a short distance south of the farmhouse of Auchtertyre.

The parish is bounded by Lundie on the south, on the west by Kettins, on the north by Meigle, on the east by Nevay, and on the south-east by Auchterhouse. It is about two miles in length from east to west, and the same in breadth from north to south. It contains 5194·828 acres, of which 2·509 are water.

The southern portion of the parish is hilly, but, as the hills are verdant, they afford good pasturage for sheep and cattle. They are not of great altitude, but from the summit of each—Keillor, Newtyle, Hatton, Kinpurnie, &c.—the views are grand.

The land lying beyond the boundary of the hills, to the north, is generally fertile, of excellent quality, consisting of black earth and clay, cultivated with assiduity, care, and skill, and it produces large crops of superior grain, turnips, potatoes, &c.

Hugh Watson, who long farmed Ochtertyre and Keillor, gained a name and fame as an agriculturist and a breeder of stock. He died in 1865. The reputation which he acquired, and deserved, has stimulated others to follow in his footsteps, and the farmers in the parish maintain a high position for their agricultural attainments.

In the village of Newtyle there is, besides the Established Church, a neat Free Church. Each of the churches has comfortable manses, but the Free Church has no glebe. The moral and spiritual interests of the inhabitants of the parish are well cared for. There is a good hall and an excellent public library in the village.

Sir William Oliphant, knight, of Aberdalgie, was a faithful adherent of The Bruce. He was one of the barons who signed the famous letter to the

Pope, and he was the ancestor of the Lords Oliphant. An account of them is given in Vol. II., p. 35-41.

King Robert Bruce granted to Sir William Oliphant, knight, a charter of the lands of Newtyle and Kynprony (Kilpurnie), to be held in free barony, with all the liege and native men of said lands, performing the fourth part of a knight's service in the King's army. It is dated at Newbotyll, 21st December, 1317 (His. Man. Com., 5th Report, p. 622).

On the resignation, by Neil of Carrick, into the King's hands of the lands of Ochtertyre, which had belonged to John Comyn, Robert, King of Scots, gave a charter of them to Sir William Oliphant, knight, for the service of three archers in the King's army, and Scottish service used and wont, dated at Scone, 20th March, 1326 (do., do.).

Walter Oliphant, son of Sir William, resigned into the King's hands the lands of Newtyle and Kynprony, "in pleno consilio nostro," at Perth, 20th January, 1364, the King, David II., now confirmed them to said Walter and Elizabeth, his spouse, the King's sister, rendering for the said lands a pair of silver spurs at the feast of All Saints, at Halton of Newtyle yearly, in name of Blench Farm, with three suits at the King's Court at Forfar. Dated at Edinburgh, 28th February, 1364. A similar charter, of same date, confirming to said Walter and his spouse the lands of Ochtertyre and Balcraig, on the resignation of the said Walter, the reddendo being three broad arrows on the feast of St Martin yearly at Ochtertyre, in the name of Blench Farm, with three suits at the King's Courts at Forfar (do., do.).

The blench duties payable to the Crown for these lands are curious. The same family paid other duties, equally so. For Gask, "a chaplet of white roses" at the Manor of Gask, on the feast of St John Baptist; for Glensaucht, "a chaplet of mastick" at the manor of Kincardine, on the feast of SS. Peter and Paul; for Muirhouse, &c., "a tersel of falcon" at the Castle of Edinburgh; for Turin and Drymie, "a silver penny" at Christmas; for the barony of Galray (Gallery) "a pound of ginger" at Pasch (Easter). "All the liege and native men," given with the lands of Newtyle and Kinprony, show that the serfs were then slaves, passing from owner to owner with the land when transferred.

David Guthrie of Kincaldrum, Sheriff-Depute at Forfar, granted testimonial, signed with the Seal of the Sheriff of Forfar, on 7th December, 1457, "that in virtue of the King's brieve he had given sasine, at the Chemys of the third part of Ochtertyre and mill, to William Hakate, of the third part lands of Ochtertyre, Balcraig, and mill" (do., do.).

A writ, dated 13th November, 1524, sets forth that Elizabeth Aytoun, spouse of John Halket of Pitfirren, appeared at Edinburgh in presence of Mr Thomas Cowtis, perpetual vicar of Cargyll, &c., and there, apart from her husband, resigned her third part of Ochertyre and Balcraig in favour of Robert Marsar in Mekillour. A fine seal of the official is on the writ (do., do.).

On 24th September, 1508, before Andrew, Lord Gray, Sheriff of Forfar, a cognition at the Myre of Newtyle, betwixt the lands of Newtyle and Ochertyre, belonging to John, Lord Oliphant, and the lands of Migill, belonging to John, Earl of Crawford (do., do.).

The family of Billenden must have been proprietors of Newtyle in at least part of the 16th century, as Thomas Billenden of Newtyle was appointed a Lord of Session in 1557 (Doug. I., p. 210).

The entry in the retours regarding Lord Oliphant's Newtyle lands is as follows:—On 2d July, 1605, Lord Oliphant, heir of Lord Lawrence, his grandfather, was retoured (No. 45) in the lands and barony of Newtyle and Kilpurny, with the mill of Newtyle—A.E. £10, N.E. £32; the one part and the other of the lands and barony of Auchertyre and Balcraig—A.E. £10, N.E. £40. Lords Oliphant were also proprietors of Turin and Drimmie, and of Gallery, but we omit the retours of these lands here. On 28th April, 1643, Patrick, Lord Oliphant, heir of John, Master of Oliphant, his father, was retoured (No. 609) in the town and lands of Pitnepie, in the barony of Newtiber—A.E. 12s, N.E. 48s.

The Oliphants retained possession of these lands until the early part of the seventeenth century, when they were acquired by the Halyburtons of Pitcur. The first of the name who acquired them appears to have been Sir James Halyburton, knight. His son, William, succeeded on 6th October, 1627 (Ret. 170-1), to the lands and barony of Newtyle, Kinpurnie, Auchertyre, and Balcraig, the town and lands of the Kirkton of Newtyle, and the town and lands of Balmaw. On 11th January, 1653, James Halyburton succeeded (Ret. 316-7) to same lands. On 14th May, 1667, James Halyburton of Pitcur, heir of his father, succeeded (Ret. 427) to the same lands, and many others. On 22d October, 1679, David Halyburton succeeded (Ret. 455) his brother, James, last mentioned, to the same lands; and on 25th October, 1681, he was again retoured (No. 487) in the same lands.

The croft or land of the vicar, or church lands of Newtyle, belonged to the Lindsays in the 16th century. On 2d October, 1596, Patrick Lindsay of

Barnyards, son of David Lindsay of same, was retoured (No. 585) in these lands, the feu on which was £11.

Shortly after the date of the above-mentioned retour (487), the lands and barony of Newtyle, Kinpurnie, Auchtertyre, Balcraig, Kirkton, and many others were acquired by Lord George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh. The lands which belonged to the Mackenzie family passed by inheritance to the Stuart Wortleys, who are now represented by the Earl of Wharnccliffe. His Lordship's fine seat, Belmont Castle, is within about a mile of the church and village of Newtyle.

On 22d October, 1691, George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, heir of Lord George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, his father, was retoured in the lands and barony of Newtyld and Kilpurnie, with mansion there of Newtyld, and mill, and advocation of the Church of Newtyld; the lands and barony of Auchtertyre and Belcraige, with pendicles of same called Dennend, Reidfurd, Newbigging and Boghead, and land of Burnemouth; lands of Clinsh, in the barony of Auchtertyre and Newtyld, with teinds—A.E. £12 13s 4d, N.E. £25 6s 8d; lands of Hilend or Templebank, and acre in the lands of Hatton of Newtyld; croft of land, with garden, in the village of Hatton of Newtyld—E. 44s *feudifirmæ*; church lands of Newtyld, with teinds, comprehending the town and lands of Kirkton of Newtyld and Brewlands, with teinds, also the lands commonly called Kirklands, in the parish of Newtyld—A.E. 20s, N.E. £4; half of the half town and land of Balmave, extending to the fourth part of the lands of Balmave, for principal, and in warrandice of same, the fourth part of the land of Balmave; two quarter parts of the town and lands of Balmave, in said parish—E. £3 16s, &c., *feudifirmæ*; and first in lands of Henderstoune and Sillieseat, with holding and superiority of the lands of Eddertie; lands and barony of Neutibber, comprehending lands of Pitnappie, with holding and superiority, &c., of Coustoune, Davestoune, and mill of Milnhole; pendicle of Burnside of Newtyld—A.E. £5, N.E. £20; dominical lands of Dudhope, in the barony of Dundee—A.E. 7s 6d, N.E. 30s; teinds of the rectory of all the lands of Newtyld—E. — —, united in the barony of Newtyld; dominical lands and mansion of Wester Keillor, with mill; pendicle called lands of the Hill of Keillor; Deansyde—A.E. £5, N.E. £20; western half of the land and town of Easter Keillor, in the barony of Lintrathen—A.E. 16s 8d, N.E. £3 6s 8d; an annual payment of 40s from either of the half lands of Easter Keillor—E. 1d *albæ firmæ*; an annual payment of £200, corresponding to 300m., from the lands and barony of Pitcur, Gask, Balgove, Balluny, New-

toun of Balluny, Balgillo, Eastounend of Keattins, and Pitdounie, in the parish of Keattins—E. 1d *albæ firmæ*.

The Castle of Newtyle, or Hatton Castle, as it is usually called in the district, and in old writs *Halton Castle*, bears the date 1575. It was probably erected by Laurence, the fourth Lord Oliphant, as that date corresponds to his period. It is situated on the north-west border of Hatton Hill, and some distance above the village of Newtyle, from which, and from the district around, the ruins are well seen. It is a picturesque ruin, but little of the castle now remains except the bare gaunt walls, which are yearly becoming more ruinous. Architecturally it had neither been a handsome nor an imposing structure, and it never was, nor from its situation could it ever have been, intended for a fortalice, but it narrowly escaped being attacked in 1645-6. It was then occupied by the Earl of Crawford and a garrison in the interest of the Covenanters.

The great Marquis of Montrose, who before then had left his old friends and espoused the Royal cause, while in the north, heard the state of matters in the south, and resolved to strike a blow at Lord Lindsay. Shortly after the battle of Aldearn, he left Badenoch and marched rapidly south as far as Newton of Blair, on his way to Hatton Castle. Confident of an easy victory, he made his preparations for the assault; but, instead of proceeding to the attack, the Gordons deserted him, and his other troops, the Highlanders, stole off to their native glens with the plunder they had gathered in this expedition. These events compelled the Marquis to abandon his design against Lord Lindsay. He retraced his steps to the north, contenting himself with burning Newton Castle, Blairgowrie. Vestiges of a camp, said to have been occupied by his men, were visible near to Ochtertyre.

An observatory was erected upon the summit of Kinpurnie Hill, by the Honourable James Mackenzie, Lord Privy Seal. This hill, one of the Sidlaw range, commands a most extensive prospect in all directions, and no better site could have been chosen for the observatory. The hill forms part of the Belmont estate, of which he was then proprietor. The observatory has long been roofless, but the bare walls are still nearly entire, and, being lofty, it is a prominent and striking object seen from the vale of the Dighty on the south, and the vale of Strathmore on the north, and from many other points. For further details of the observatory see Vol. IV., p. 336-7. The Lord Privy Seal spent many nights in the observatory in company with Professor Playfair, both of whom were keen astronomers.

The Rev. Principal Playfair was a native of Bendochy. He was minister, first of Newtyle, then of Meikle. He married a sister of Dr James Lyon, minister of Glamis, and by her he had a large family. One of his sons, Lieut-Colonel Sir Hew Playfair, was long Provost of St Andrews, and contributed largely to the improvement of that ancient city; another was George, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Bengal, father of Lyon Playfair, [C.B., and M.P. for the Universities of Edinburgh and St Andrews.

The Bannatyne Club, a famous literary society in Edinburgh, was so named in honour of George Bannatyne.

In the Pope's confirmation of the Abbey of Lindores, A.D. 1198, a carucate (104 acres) of land in Newtile is mentioned as part of the possessions of the Abbey.

The barony of Balmaw, in the parish of Newtyle, and other lands, were gifted by King Alexander III. on 12th November, 1247, to the Abbey of Lindores. This grant was confirmed by King David II. on 20th September, 1365. Balmaw or Balmain (Gaelic) signifies *a good town*.

In a rental of the Abbey, circa 1480, there is this entry:—

Balman fewit for xv. lib.
xij. geis, xxxvj. powtre.
withe the harrag and carrage.

And in a subsequent rental of the kirks and teinds pertaining to the Abbey, sett for money the assumption of the third of the Abbey of Lindores (No. 68) the lands of Balmaw and Newtyld, xvij. li. viij. s.

The maillis of the lands in Angus, among which (No. 68) Balmaw and Newtyld yearlie sevintyne poundis viij. s.

It is not stated to whom these lands had been feued.

On 13th April, 1542, the Abbot of Lindores and Convent thereof granted charter to Janet Blair, relict of Archibald Anderson of Bournemouth, in life-rent, and George Blair of Gairdoun, brother of Janet, in fee, of the lands of Balman or Balmaw, Newtyle. Besides the reddendo of money, the vassals were bound to provide sufficient carriages for conveying the Abbot's goods bought in the market of Cupar, in Angus, to the water of Tay, near Lindores, as they had been in use to do. They were also to ride with the Abbot's men in the army of the King, or to find a sufficient horse, with his attendant on foot, to bear the Abbot's carriages, with his men, against invaders of the realm in time of war, whenever it might be necessary. To give lodging to the Abbot's servants, with his cattle bought beyond the Mounth, and provide them

in all necessaries at their own proper charges. The charter was signed at Lindores by John, the Abbot; James Carstairs, sub-prior; and eighteen monks.

From this it would appear that Archibald Anderson had previously held these lands, but, having died without male issue, this new charter of them had been granted to the widow and her brother, as the reddendo binds them to give the services "they had been in use to do."

This shows that the Abbot was soldier as well as priest, and had to arm his vassals and dependants that they might be ready to ride and fight in defence of the State in a time of war. The tenants had many other troublesome services imposed upon them which farmers would not submit to now.

These lands afterwards came into possession of the Bannatyne. Thomas Bannatyne, who was a prosperous lawyer in Edinburgh, acquired the old manor house of the Kirkton of Newtyle, and made it his country house. It was his brother George who transcribed the Bannatyne Manuscript in the turret of his brother's house. Thomas Bannatyne was raised to the bench in 1557 (Doug. p. 210) having been one of the Lords of Council and Session in the time of King James VI. under the title of Lord Bannatyne. He either built or enlarged the house, which has been long known as Bannatyne House. In 1596 James Bannatyne, son of Lord Bannatyne, was retoured heir to his father in the lands of Kirkton of Newtyle, with the brew-house and teind-corn, and half the barony of Balmaw.

Balmaw appears to have passed from the Bannatynes to a family named Gray. On 9th June, 1643, Ann Gray, spouse of William Luke, notary in Forfar, heir of William Gray, Sheriff Clerk of Forfarshire, was retoured (No. 281) in the fourth part of the town and lands of Balmaw—E. 25s 4d. On same date Isabella and Euphemia Gray, heirs portioners of William Gray above designed, were retoured (No. 282) in said lands. On 5th January, 1671, William Gray, heir of John Gray, scribe in Forfar, his father, was retoured (No. 446) in part of the town and lands of Balmaw—E. 50s 8d, &c., *feudifirmæ*. On same day William Luke, scribe in Forfar, heir of Ann Gray, his mother, was retoured (No. 447) in part of the said town and lands—E. 25s 4d *feudifirmæ*. On 13th July, 1693, George Brown of Lidgertlaw, son of the late Major George Brown of same, his grandfather, was retoured (No. 526) in a fourth part of the town and lands of Balmaw, and in the shadow half of the same town and lands, &c.—E. £7 12s, &c., *feudifirmæ*.

Balmaw, Bannatyne, the kirk lands of Newtyle, &c., &c., are now included in the extensive estates of the Earl of Wharnccliffe in Newtyle and Meigle.

Bannatyne or Ballantyne House, which stands a little to the west of the church, belonged to the Bannatynes, and it was built about 1589, a contract of that date being extant. (M. of A. and M., 19.) It is in the castellated style, and still in excellent preservation. Some years ago an addition was made to the old house.

In 1568 a pestilence broke out in Edinburgh which carried off many of the citizens. A young man named George Bannatyne then lived in the city. He was well acquainted with the poetical writings of Dunbar, Douglas, Montgomery, and other poets, which he had read in manuscript, as few such productions were printed in those days. He was himself addicted to writing poetry, and gave some part of his time to the Muses. At that terrible period every one was anxious about his own safety, and young Bannatyne left the city, and went into retirement in Bannatyne House. There he shut himself up, and devoted himself for three months to transcribing the fugitive productions of his rhyming predecessors into a goodly volume. This local story may be groundless.

During that period he copied, in a good hand, from the imperfect manuscripts he possessed, three hundred and seventy-two poems, which filled eight hundred folio pages. This great task and labour brought him fame in his day, and he will have the gratitude of his countrymen for ages to come. The volume, called the BANNATYNE MANUSCRIPT, still exists in the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, and it is a venerable and venerated manuscript. A turret on the north-east corner of the house is pointed out as the small room in which he wrote his, now, historical volume.

The lands of Davidston were in possession of the Scrymgeours of Dudhope in the early part of the 16th century, if not in the end of the 15th century. On 15th April, 1552, Sir John gave to John Middleton of Kirkhill and Isobel Falconer, his spouse, a charter of the lands of Davidston and other lands in Forfarshire (Doug. II., p. 230). Probably Couston had been included in that charter, as they are united in the next notice we have seen, vizt. :—On 10th May, 1591, Gilbert, third son of Patrick, sixth Lord Gray, had a charter of the lands of Couston and Davidston (Do. I., 671). On 6th December, 1592 James, second son of Lord Gray, and brother of Gilbert, had a charter of both these properties.

On 23d August, 1600, William Brough, heir of his father, William Brough of Wester Davidston, was retoured (No. 19) in these lands in the lordship of New Tibber and barony of Dundee. On 25th April, 1643, James, Viscount

of Dudhope, Lord Scrymgeour, was served heir (No. 280) to his father Viscount John, in the barony of Newtibble, including the towns of Couston Davidston, and Pitnappie, and mill of Millhole. On 4th November, 1644, John, Viscount of Dudhope, heir male of Viscount James, his father, was retoured (287) in same lands, and others.

On 28th April, 1643, Patrick, Lord Oliphant, heir of John, Master of Oliphant, his father, was retoured (No. 609) in the town and lands of Pitnappie, in the barony of Newtibble—E. 12s, N.E. 48s.

On 14th May, 1667, David Halyburton of Pitcur, heir of his father James, was retoured (No. 427), in the lands of Couston, Davidston, Pitnappie, and mill and Millhole, and other lands. On 22d October, 1672, David Hallyburton was served heir to his father (No. 457) in same lands. On 25th October, 1681, David Halyburton was again retoured (487) in same lands.

The Halyburtons had sold the lands shortly thereafter to the Mackenzies of Rosehaugh. On 22d October, 1691, George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, heir of George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, his father, was retoured (No. 519) in the lands of Couston, Davidston, Pitnappie, &c.

On 26th January, 1699, Francis Drummond, heir of his father, David, was retoured (No. 551) in the lands of Wester Couston or Davidston, in the barony of Newtibble—E. £10, &c., *feudifirmæ*.

Couston subsequently came into possession of William Bruce, who owned it in 1822; thereafter of Mrs Knight. The estate was afterwards acquired by the late Andrew Whitton, who died 14th May, 1861, aged 68 years. This family have been long resident in the district, a tombstone to the memory of Andrew Whitton, one of his ancestors, dated 1730, being in Newtyle churchyard. Couston, together with Scotston, in the parish of Auchterhouse, is now the property of Andrew Whitton, who is local factor for the Earl of Wharncliffe. Andrew appears to be a favourite Christian name in the family, as several of the members have borne it.

The late Andrew Whitton of Couston, in the parishes of Auchterhouse and Newtyle, married Agnes, daughter of the late James Arnot, Ingliston, parish of Kinnettles, by whom he had Andrew Whitton of Couston, born 1838. In 1864, he married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Patrick Webster of Westfield and Flemington, and has a son, Andrew, born 1867, and other issue. He was educated at Dundee, then at St Andrews, and he is a Justice of Peace and a Commissioner of Supply for the county of Forfar.

The lands of Davidston came into possession of the Kirk Session of Dundee,

who held them for some time. They were subsequently acquired by Patrick Miller. The estate is now the property of Robert Millar of Davidston, who resides at Mains Cottage, Dollar, Stirling.

We have already given some details of the proprietary history of the lands of Keillor in the chapters on Eassie and Nevay, and will here only mention the following details. Easter Keillor came into possession of the family of Haldane, as we formerly stated. On 6th June, 1645, Susanna Halden, heir of Alexander Halden, portioner of Easter Keillor, her brother, was retoured (No. 288) in the lands of Easter Keillor, adjoining the inrig in the barony of Eassie—A.E. 16s 8d, N.E. £3 6s 8d.

On 8th January, 1648, James Halyburton of Keillor, heir of George of Keillor, his father, who was killed at the battle of Tippermuir, was retoured (No. 298) in the lands of Wester Keillor, with the mill and pendicle called the Hill of Keillor and Denside—A.E. £5, N.E. £20; half the town and lands of Easter Keillor, in the barony of Linlathen—A.E. 16s 8d, N.E. £3 6s 8d and an annual from the lands of Easter and Wester Keillor.

On 29th October, 1695, John, Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, heir of Earl Patrick, his father, was retoured (No. 446) in the lands of Keillor and many others. Robert III. gave to Walter Ogilvy a charter of the lands of Easter Keillor, whilk John Barclay of Keppo resigned (In. to Ch. 143-94). The Ogilvys retained possession of these lands for some time.

The Castle of Balcraig, of which vestiges were visible when the first Statistical Account was written, stood at a short distance south of Hatton Castle, but all traces of it have now disappeared. Near to Auchtertyre is the Crew Well, adjoining which are the remains of a small camp of square form, said to have been formed by the Marquis of Montrose, as related above.

In the north-west of the parish is Graham's Knowe, probably so named from some association connected with Montrose; and the King's Well, probably so called because Macbeth, in his flight from Dunsinane, may have drank out of it, as we may well suppose his flight and anxiety would make him thirsty.

The Templeton, to the east of Newtyle, no doubt takes its name from some connection the Knights Templars had had with the land in early times. In the beginning of last century the Bishop of Aberdeen lived for some time in Hatton Castle, and exerted himself to uphold Prelacy. In the "'15" the church was shut against the Presbyterian minister, and the soldiers forced him to "abscond" for a time.

In 1790-1 the arable land, about 1600 acres, was divided into fifteen large

farms and six small ones. The average rent of the best of it was 17s 6d to 20s, and the inferior land 10s to 12s per acre. There were then 59 ploughs and 106 carts in the parish. Little wheat was grown. Butcher meat of all sorts was sold at from threepence to fourpence per pound; fowls, one shilling to one shilling and fourpence each; butter, eightpence to ninepence per pound; and eggs, fourpence per dozen. These rates are nearly three times as much as the same articles brought a quarter of a century previously. The wages of labourers were sixpence in winter and eightpence in summer, besides their victual; wrights, eightpence in winter and one shilling in summer, with provisions; masons, twenty pence in summer, without provisions; male servants, from seven to ten pounds per annum; and female servants, about three pounds. The wages of servants were then nearly four times as much as they had been about 1760, and yet the Statistical Account of the parish says "the servants saved no more money than formerly, owing chiefly to their extravagance in dress."

Although the wages of servants at the present time are from three to four times the rates paid in 1790-1, it is doubtful whether very many of them save more now than the same classes did then, owing chiefly to the same cause—their extravagance in dress. There was a great scarcity of provisions in 1782-3, and many suffered severe privations. Coarse flour and bran mixed was their only bread.

Newtyle was favoured with railway communication at an early period. The line between Dundee and Newtyle was the pioneer of the system in Scotland. The line was projected in the first half of the third decade of the century, and operations were commenced with its formation at both ends in 1826. It was opened in 1832, was about $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and cost about £100,000. It was a single line of rails, had three steep inclines, wrought by stationary engines, the trains being dragged up each by wire ropes wound round a large drum, which was unwound by the descending train. The first of these was at the Dundee end, the second in the centre, both being required to take the trains to the summit level from the south. The third was at the village of Newtyle, the northern termination of the original line. For some years the two intermediate distances between the inclines were wrought by horse haulage, but this primitive mode was supplanted by the steam horse. A railway is still carried from Dundee to, and beyond, Newtyle, but the route has been nearly all changed, and the stationary engines and inclined planes are things of the past.

The projectors of the original line began a village at the northern terminus,

in the expectation that it would soon grow into a thriving town, but in that they were disappointed, as it remains a village, and has made little progress for many years. The new line of railway skirts the village, at which there is a convenient station, and joins the main line through Strathmore, from whence branch lines lead to Blairgowrie, Alyth, and Kirriemuir.

The village of Newtyle was neatly laid out. The streets run parallel to each other, and they are crossed at right angles by others. The land upon which it is built was given off in feus by the Earl of Wharncliffe, and comfortable cottages have been built upon it. Some of these are of one floor, and some of two storeys, and many of them have flower plots in front, which give them a tidy appearance.

In the Valuation Roll of 1683 the lands in the parish are entered as follows :—

				Estates and Proprietors, 1822.			
My Lord Advocate,	£1900	0	0	Newtyle, Jas. S. M'Kenzie,	£1900	0	0
Milnhole,	66	13	4	} Parts of the estate of Newtyle, James Stewart M'Kenzie,	66	13	4
Lady Pitcur for Denside,	33	6	8		33	6	8
Major Brown for Balmaw,	140	0	0		140	0	0
W. Gray and W. Luke's part,	70	0	0		70	0	0
Edderty,	100	0	0		100	0	0
Easter Keillor,	166	13	4	166	13	4	
Couston,	133	6	8	Couston, Wm. Bruce,	133	6	8
Davidston,	120	0	0	Davidston, Kirk Session of Dundee,	120	0	0
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£2730 0 0				£2730 0 0			