



## NOTES AND REMINISCENCES OF PARTICK.

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WE begin our Notes of Partick in olden times by quoting the substance of a most interesting paper by John Buchanan, Esq., one of our eminent local antiquarians, upon some Roman remains found on Yorkhill in 1867, published in the *Glasgow Herald* newspaper, 4th March, 1868, which shows unmistakably that a Roman station had been at Partick at least 1700 years ago:—"Yorkhill stands high, and overlooks a large tract of country. A ford existed in the Clyde in the immediate vicinity. This was a locality very likely to have been chosen by the Romans for a small outpost to command the ford, as well as to watch the mouth of the Kelvin, which in its upper course swept close past and through the Antonine Wall at Bemulie and Cadder, but till the present discovery no remains of a Roman character have been met with at Yorkhill. Lately a new garden was formed on an elevated portion of these beautiful grounds, and in the process of trenching the workmen came upon a variety of Roman remains, proving unmistakably the occupation of Yorkhill by that ancient warlike people. These consist of several coins, one of which is of the Emperor

Trajan, who reigned from A.D. 98 to A.D. 117. It is of great brass, and commemorates his victories in Dacia, which included the modern Hungary and the region on both sides of the Danube. On the *obverse* of this coin the laureated head of Trajan in profile, and the inscription, with the name and title, are plain and distinct. The *reverse* of the coin is much corroded, but the figure of a female descended from an ancient Iberian family, draped and sitting in profile, holding a garland, can be faintly traced; the inscription, however, is gone. Judging from similar coins struck of the same character, probably it was *Optimo Principi*: a well-deserved compliment, for he was one of the greatest men that ever sat on the Roman throne. The other coins discovered, though decided Roman in workmanship, are quite obliterated. Beside the coins were found two rings of bronze, ornamented. One of these was worn on the middle finger, the other on the thumb, and both probably belonged to a Roman officer. There are also portions of a small and very delicate glass vase, the glass ornamented, indicating objects of luxury at this little Roman outpost; and a considerable quantity of pottery of the well-known Samian manufacture, the fragments of which have formed portions of jars, pitchers, &c. Last of all, a quantity of wheat, charred precisely similar to that found at the great fort at Castlecary many years ago, and at various other stations, for making bread to the soldiers. This discovery is valuable and interesting. It is the first satisfactory instance of Roman remains found in the immediate vicinity of what is now Glasgow.

“On the curious map of this country by Ptolemy, the Egyptian geographer, constructed *circa* A.D. 141, this

region of Caledonia is a complete blank, while at *Van-duara* (Paisley) the well-known Roman station there is distinctly represented—perhaps the Yorkhill outpost was subordinate to the large camp at Paisley, and communicated with the latter by means of the ford in Clyde and by the vicinal military way—which branched off from the main line, and is still recognized under the modern name of the Causewayside, an old street in Paisley. The idea of the outpost is more than probable, for the Paisley camp was intended to guard the shallow in Clyde opposite the line of the Antonine Wall, which, in its westward course, comes pretty near the brink of the river, while this Yorkhill outpost, on the opposite side, a few miles up, guarded the embouchure of the Kelvin, a stream which pierced the grand line of the Antonine barrier in the interior of the country. Perhaps the garrison on Yorkhill was under a centurion, and composed of picked soldiers for this dangerous outpost duty. But, then, it may be asked, why place a fort so far within the Antonine Wall, which of itself sufficiently protected from inroads of the natives this portion of the Roman province? The answer is, that at the time the coin of Trajan found at Yorkhill was struck, and the probable erection of the *Castellum* on that commanding spot, the military curtain which connected Agricola's row of forts between the Clyde and the Forth had not been constructed. The spaces between these forts, about two miles, were therefore quite open, and afforded opportunity for the fierce and hostile natives to make sudden raids in the Roman district. It was not till the time of Antonine Pius, two reigns later than Trajan, that these openings between the forts

were closed by the great rampart and fosse which became known as the Antonine Wall. The large camp at Paisley owed its origin to the same circumstance, and was continued till a late period of the Roman occupation to overawe the warlike people of a wide range south and west."

This important find corroborates certain traditions that were common in the village of Partick many years ago—that Yorkhill had at one time been a place of great importance—that a battle or battles had been fought upon or near it—and that a fragment of a sword and some other remains had been found at the foot of the hill by some of the tenants at Bridge-end when digging their gardens. We have never seen any of these relics, but the natives of Partick generally considered that they belonged to the Covenanters, or to these times, as conventicles were said to have been held in that locality; but, in all probability, had they been examined by any one skilled in antiquarian matters, these relics would have been found to be of Roman manufacture.

How long the Romans held Yorkhill as a station is not known; it may have been for centuries, as the Romans occupied and colonized this country for a period of 350 years, from A.D. 80 to A.D. 430. When the Romans invaded a country they never failed to avail themselves of the voluntary or compulsory labour of such of the natives as they could command and had occasion for. These were at once put to the construction of roads, bridges, and earthworks, and to raising provisions for the supply of the army and its followers. The Romans carried their arts into every country

they conquered; most of the common soldiers had both seen and practised farming, and many of them looked forward to retiring, according to rule, about the age of forty-five to settle down in farming villages, where they had a right to form military colonies, and to receive as their own property four acres of land. Thus the permanent occupation of any station by a large number of troops and followers attracted many to the neighbourhood, and created an increase of cultivators near the army for the sake of a market; and as many soldiers married natives, many of these, when they retired, preferred land near their comrades and relatives, so there always grew around such stations towns and villages of less or more importance, according to the size of the station. Thus we have Paisley, Crawford, Lanark, Castlecary, &c., &c. So that it is not too much to assume that if there was no village at Partick before the Romans converted Yorkhill into one of their stations, even although only an outpost, there would very shortly rise up a village on the northern bank of the Kelvin, close to the station, whose inhabitants would cultivate its fertile grounds, and probably use the natural advantages which Kelvin gave as to water-power. A people who were so far advanced in the knowledge of the useful arts, especially in relation to farming, as to use reaping-machines for cutting down their grain, would in all probability also have the knowledge of how to use water-power for the grinding of their grain, so that it is all but certain Partick has been a village since, we may say, the second century of the Christian era.

There existed an old road, or causeway, which ran

along the north-east side of what is now called Downhill, till about the beginning of this century, which was called the Roman Road. The proprietor of Downhill made many efforts to close this road against the general public, without success, for a few public-spirited individuals walked over it at short intervals for the purpose of maintaining the public right; but, said my informant, after the death of Thomas Douglass of the Scotstoun Mill, who was amongst the last who took an interest in the matter, the practice was discontinued, and a dinner to some of the neighbouring proprietors and a few pounds to the poor of the village prevented further opposition, not only to the closing up of this Roman Road, but also to an encroachment upon the public common in the Coarse Loan (Hyndland Street), above the Dumbarton Road, of which common we will have more to say hereafter. Referring to this Roman Road in a letter to Mr. Buchanan, he replies, "I have no doubt but Yorkhill was a small Roman outpost. I never heard of a road through Hyndlands to Kelvin. There certainly was a branch line from the great Roman Iter (which came from the eastward of Glasgow up Drygate, Dobbie's Loan, &c., on to West Kilpatrick), as shown on the ancient maps. This small branch *via* branched south at a point supposed about where Glasgow now stands (then a wilderness), and crossed Clyde at a ford supposed at Broomielaw, and thence to Vanduara (Paisley). Now, it is very likely that there may have been another short *via* running parallel with Clyde on the right bank, branching from the point where, as I have said, the road to Paisley crossed the ford and going westward to Yorkhill, for the Romans, as a matter of

course, always made a substantial road to all their stations, large or small, for marching the troops and conveying stores. I cannot, however, say anything positive as to a road coming through Partick, and therefore you must not lean to any conjecture of mine." We quite agree with Mr. Buchanan in supposing that there would be a road connecting the station of Yorkhill with the branch road crossing the Clyde, which would not be many hundred yards distant; but, in addition, we think it is not at all improbable that there was also another road from the station northwards joining that passing to Kilpatrick. The description of the old road called the Roman Road, passing through Downhill, given to me by the late George Craig, who knew it well, was, that it was laid or bottomed with large stones and blinded with smaller stones, and, although greatly out of repair, had the appearance of having been once a firm, good road; and this construction agrees with the description given of the Roman roads made through the wild country by the soldiers.

After the Romans withdrew from this country, there poured into it Saxons, Normans, and others, with new habits, laws, and forms of government, and then sprung up a series of petty kingdoms, of which Clydesdale, or Strathclyde, formed one. A few years ago, when searching for notices of Partick in the works of former writers, we were in high hope of being able to speak of our little native village as having been at one time the seat of royalty, from noticing a paragraph in Chalmers' "Caledonia," in which he mentions that King Roderic, who was contemporaneous with St. Kentigern, had a seat at Pertnet, which the learned author says is now Partick, a

village on the Clyde below Glasgow. But, in a series of papers in "Northern Notes and Queries," it has been satisfactorily shown that the Pertmet where Roderic resided is a place in the neighbourhood of Rutherglen, which town took its name from the same King Rutheric. We are therefore necessitated to speak of Partick as a plebeian village, depending for its continuance as a town on its own rural beauty, and on its local capabilities and advantages for manufacture.

In early charters, and other notices of Partick, the name is never found with the modern spelling, but variously, as *Perdeyc*, *Perthec*, *Pertiq*, *Perthwick*, *Perdehic*, *Perthnic*, *Prewyc*, and *Perthaic*. How and when it got the modern spelling we have not been able to ascertain. The nearest to it is in an old session book of the sixteenth century, where a person named Craig, belonging to the Waulk Mill of "*Partic*," is rebuked for non-attendance at the Kirk on the Sabbath-day. In a document, dated 1483, disposing of certain lands, it is spelt *Perthic*; while, in 1555, in a charter granted to John Stewart, fifth Provost of Glasgow, it is spelt *Perthwick*, as in earlier charters. Thus it is evident no particular rule was followed until after the sixteenth century, when the more frequent use of it in the drawing up of titles to land compelled a more definite mode of spelling the name, although they may all have had a similar Phonetic sound.

Much speculation has been advanced as to the origin and etymology of the name, which the different ways of spelling make difficult to trace. Most of these, however, are mere guesses, or modern inventions, which the following ingenious derivation will show:—



The Kelvin being a noted stream for the *Par* (young salmon), and that part of the river, from the Clyde to the waterfall above the village, being the best locality for the take of these fish, it was consequently named *Partake*. The old name Perthwick will not adapt itself to this fancy.

Dr. Leishman, in his "Statistical History of Govan Parish," supposes that the name is derived from Particate, a certain measure of land; for, when the Crown granted these lands to the Church, it described them as so many particates of land. This also is no more than a mere guess, and we think not a very happy one, for if the use of the measure gave a name to Partick, we would find many Particks in Scotland, as King David was very liberal with these grants, which were all defined by a similar mode of measurement. Prewyc could hardly originate from particate. But the land is named Perthic in the grant itself, which is conclusive internal evidence against it being subsequently named from a term used in the deed.

Another supposition is that *Per* in the *Cymro-Celtic* means *sweet fruit*, and *teq* or *deq*, *clear, fine, beautiful*. This locality in olden time being famous for its orchards and the quality of its fruits, its waters being clear and scenery beautiful, may have conferred upon the locality the name *Pertiq*.

Another derives the name thus: *Per*, in Latin, means through, and *thec*, or *theca*, a place of safety or deposite; and the ancient highway from Dumbarton to Glasgow being through Partick, this locality may have been fixed upon as a convenient resting-place or a place of safety for parties travelling in that direction, hence the name Perthec.

In an interesting book, published in 1871, entitled "Druidism Exhumed," by the Rev. James Rust of Slains, the rev. author argues that the names of most places in Scotland have a Celtic origin, many of them closely connected with the religious worship of the Druids, which was once universal throughout this country in ancient times. So struck were we with the whole question, as therein stated, that we wrote to the author, asking what were the probable etymologies of Partick and Kelvin, deriving them from the Celtic language, to which the rev. gentleman kindly replied in two letters, as follows:—"With regard to the etymology of some of the names of places, a person may require to see the neighbourhood before he can speak with certainty as to the exact translation or shade of meaning of the original word both for Kelvin and Partick. I would like to see the scenery about Partick. They are undoubtedly both Celtic names. Philologists, however, have always given Kelvin, as you say, from *coille*, f. a., wood; *abhainn*, f. a., river—making it *coille abhainn*, Kelvin, *wooded river*.

"Partick is, in Gaelic, descriptive of the locality which had been Druidical, although the remains have been removed, perhaps, at a very early Roman period. *Par* comes from *Barr*, s. m., a point or height, *dubh* (*bh* here always silent) signifying black or Druidical *iuge*, Gen. of *iug*, f. a., a nook, or retired, solitary hollow, cave, or den, the whole pronounced *Barduig*, *Parduic*, *Pardylke*, *Perthec*, &c., meaning the Druidical height at the nook or hollow, as the case may be. The river Ugie, in Aberdeenshire, gets its name from abounding in nook-bends and solitary hollows; you will see if the nook forming Partick refers to the nook formed by the rivers

at their junction." In another letter he says—"When formerly I wrote I had not laid my hands on my best map of your district, but since I have done it I am fully convinced of the accuracy of the etymology of Partick with which I furnished you. *Barrdubhiuge, the Druidical height at the nook*. This is descriptive of Partick's position upon the tongue of land formed by the bend, in the vicinity of Kelvingrove, of the river, which nearly reverses the direction of its flow. I also hinted at some additional information which I desiderated, in order to feel satisfied as to the correctness of the common etymology of Kelvin. In preference to *coille abhainn*, the wooded river, as others make it, I derive it from *cuil abhainn*, the *cornered nooky*, or *bending river*, which is most descriptive of its meandering course from its head to its embouchure into the Clyde."

We have given Mr. Rust's etymologies in full, and think them very ingenious. There is not so much difference between Barduig and Partick in their phonetic sounds as between Partick and Prewyc. The corruptions of names arising from similarity of sound are many. In the neighbourhood, in a part once called Wester Partick, we have Blawart Hill. In our young days it was called *Blood Hill*. It was so named on the farmers' carts, and is still called so by old people. It was a popular belief that it received that name from some bloody deeds done there by Claverhouse, who was said to have belonged to the neighbourhood. This same place, in old deeds, is named as *Blavat Hill*, *Blawat Hill*, *Blart Hill*, and now *Blawart Hill*. Following up Mr. Rust's suggestion, we have made search and inquiry for Druidical remains, but

without any real success. One farmer remembers a large stone, standing in a field on his farm, which was broken down and removed a great many years ago. As we have seen that the Romans had a station in, and probably a road through, Partick, it is possible that they removed any Druidical remains then existing, or such may have remained until a later period, and been removed by the proprietors of the land. The existence of Druidical remains in the neighbourhood was believed in by many of our local celebrities. We extract the following reference to Glasgow from the late Principal Macfarlan's "Statistical Account of the Parish:"—"It has been reported by tradition that the space now occupied by Glasgow had been previously covered by an extensive forest, within the recesses of which were celebrated the religious rites of the Druids. It is well known that the first teachers of Christianity generally established their churches on the spots which had, in the estimation of the people, been previously hallowed by the habitual performance of their devotions. It is probable that Kentigern, following this principle, founded his Church here on the vestiges of the Druidical circle." However, we must not forget that the researches of the archæologist at the present time are not favourable to much that has been said respecting the Druids in former times—a controversy we are not competent to enter upon, even were this the place.

The earliest notice we have seen of Partick is an account of the consecration of the Glasgow Cathedral, in 1136, when King David endowed it with a part of the lands of Peidyec. "Some time before the year 1147," says Cosmo Innes, "King David I., with consent of his son

Henry, granted Govan and the See of St. Kentigern of Glasgow in pure alms, and soon afterwards Herbert, the Bishop, erected into a prebend, in the Cathedral of Glasgow, the Church of Govan, with all its ecclesiastical rights and pertinents, and with the Islands between Govan and Perthic, together with that part of Perthic which David the King gave to the Church of Glasgow at its dedication, and that other part of Perthic which the same King afterwards gave in pure alms to Bishop John and his successors." Again he says, "It seems probable that before 1152 Govan and Perthic, which were distinct manors, were also distinct parochial territories, the latter lying on the north and the former on the south side of the Clyde. The islands in the river, then existing between them, have now disappeared and become part of the mainlands."

From many references in old charters it appears that the name Partick was applied to a pretty large tract of land, extending from Yoker on the west to Gilmourhill or Kelvin on the east. In a long article, addressed to the editor of the *Glasgow Herald* in 1864, the writer makes an exhaustive inquiry into the question of the application of the name to the west portion of these lands, viz., Yoker, Blawerthill, &c.; evidently in answer to a doubt thrown out by William Semple, who, in writing a continuation of Crawford's "History of Renfrew," which he published in 1782, wrote:—"How Mr. Crawford comes to mention Wester Partick I do not know, for although I made diligent inquiry at the Blawerthills and Yoker, I found no such name." The writer, after an apparently careful research amongst Charters and Rent Rolls, says of Wester Partick:—"It befalls us now, how-

ever, to refer to the lands of Wester Partick; and, in doing so, to keep in view that in 1451 the lands which were let to Walter Stewart, Squire, were not denominated 'Wester Parthwic,' but generally 'all and sundry' the King's lands of Perthwic; that in the title made up in 1471 (twenty years later than the life-rent tack) by Elizabeth Stewart, the lands are then described as 'Wester Partick,' and that this Wester Partick, in 1505 (of which Craighends and Mynto were portioners) was composed of the following pendicles:—Bertanlug, Yoker, Philpiland, and Rywray—four in number. But a puzzling question is—Did the appellation 'Wester Partick' in 1471 embrace all the lands let by James II. in 1451 to Sir Walter Stewart? Ten pounds Scots was the rent payable under the life-rent tack; while Craighends and Mynto each paid five merks only, in name of feu farm duty, or ten merks in all, as is discovered from the instrument of 1505. In the old retours and 'taxt rolls' of the county, about the middle of the sixteenth century, the 'King's proper lands' at Renfrew stand valued at ten pund Scots, or fifteen merks, under these appellations—Yoker, five merks; Blawarthill, five merks; and King's Meadow (or Insche), five merks. There can be no reasonable doubt that the name Wester Partick embraced the lands of Yoker and Blawarthill; but did it also include the five merk land of King's Meadow? We might be induced to hold that it did, if the statement of Hamilton of Wishaw could be relied on, which is given in his history of Renfrewshire, written about the beginning of the eighteenth century, and a little before the time when George Crawford published his history. Hamilton says, in describing the parish of Renfrew,—

'There is also within this parish, upon the north side of the Clyde, the Yoker, Blawarthill, and King's Meadow.' He is characterized by Mr. George Crawford as 'an antiquary of no little fame;' and we can hardly conceive how, if the King's Meadow lay not on the north but south side of the Clyde, he could get into the glaring error of connecting this pendicle with the other two, and saying that it was on the north; and yet it would appear that, if there was a King's Meadow on the north, there was one also on the south side of the Clyde, for Mr. Crawford speaks of having seen a tack 'of the Castle of Renfrew, with the orchards and meadows, to Robert Lord Lyll' in 1468 (1458?); and the Rev. Mr. Macfarlane, minister of Renfrew, and writer of the 'New Statistical Account,' mentions that 'immediately adjoining, and stretching away from the burgh, there had been an extensive orchard, and part of the fruit trees are remembered; and farther on was 'the King's Meadow.' It is still called by the same name; the lands formerly an orchard are still called the 'Orchard;' the site of the castle is still called 'Castlehill.' Again, supposing that Wester Partick did not embrace the King's Meadow, a question which arises is—Did it extend to those other lands on the north side of the Clyde, in the parish and county of Renfrew, now called Scotstoun and Jordanhill? That it did we doubt, for reasons to be afterwards stated. Yoker is a name which is still in use. Rywray is now, we believe, Blawarthill, but Bartoun louge and Philpisland have gone into desuetude; and it is difficult to determine to what lands these names applied. That both, or either of them, had reference to Scotstoun or Jordanhill does not anywhere appear; and

Scotstoun, as a name, was in use as early as 1505, and even before that period; and it is in that year, in the instrument referred to, that the names of Bartoun luge, Yoker, Philpisland, and Wryray, are first discovered as the names of the different pendicles of which Wester Partick is composed."

Scotstoun and Jordanhill have also been considered as parts of the land designated Partick. That the former was, we think there is little doubt; but, so far as we can find, it did not include Jordanhill, and on this subject we again take the following from the paper already referred to:—"There must be very great doubt, however, that Scotstoun or Jordanhill were ever parts of Wester Partick. The former is a £9 land of old extent and the other a £5 land, while Wester Partick, called Yoker and Blawerthill, is only a ten merk land. Curious enough, Yoker, Blawerthill, and King's Meadow are entered in the old retours of the county as each a five merk land, or the three in conjunction a £10 land (fifteen merks being equal thereto), while the names of Scotstoun and Jordanhill do not appear, showing either that they were comprehended in these three five merk lands, or were attached to some other estate larger in extent, and the name of which alone was entered on the Taxt Rolls of the county. Scotstoun was held by a Robert Montgomery under that name as early as 1488; and as to Jordanhill, it was under that appellation conveyed by Laurence Crawford, of Kilbirnie, for the endowment of a chaplainry at Drumry, near Garscadden, before the year 1476. Crawford, the historian, says that Captain Thomas Crawford, the son of Sir Laurence, obtained the lands

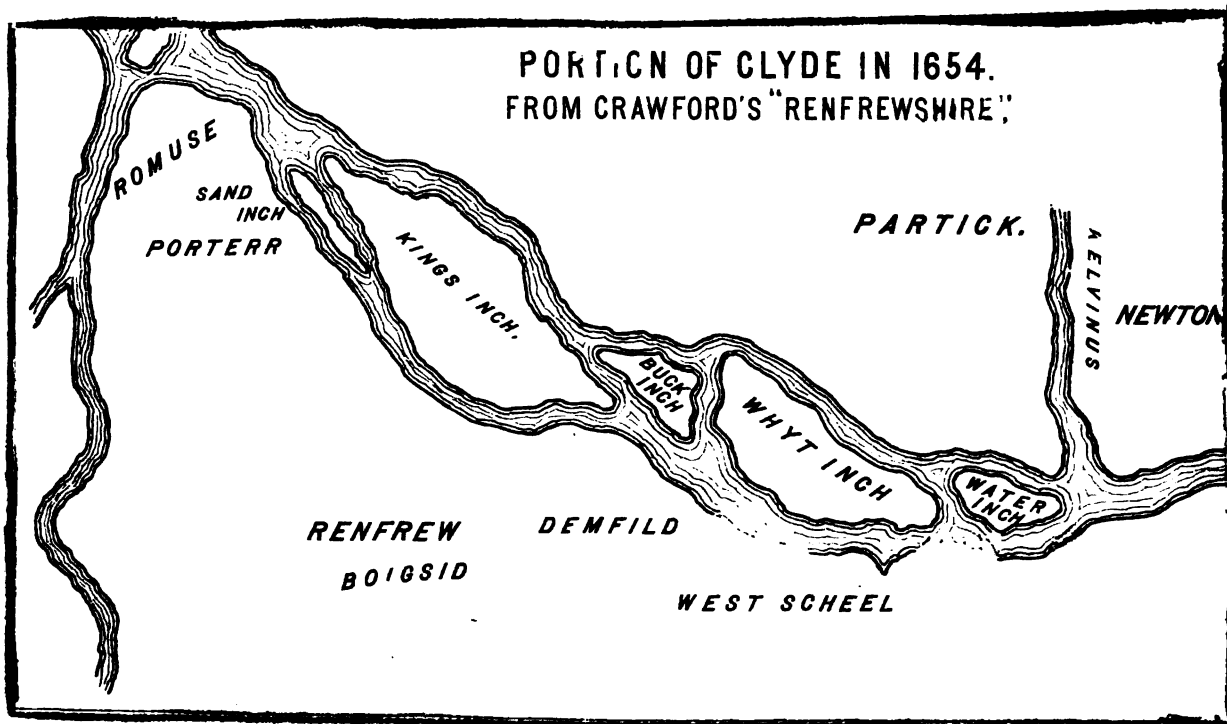


in 1562, on the dissolution of the religious houses, from the chaplain, a Bartholomew Montgomery. In the remarks on the Ragman Rolls appended to Nisbet's 'Heraldry' (vol. ii.), by, it is said, Mr. George Crawford, a different version is enunciated. It is there said that an Alesandre Scot de Perthick was one of those magnates Scotie who swore fealty to Edward of England about 1296, and that from him the land was named 'Perthick Scot'—that this property passed from Scot to a 'Nicholas de Strivelyng de Busbie,' and that by the daughter and heiress of the latter it went to John Semple, a brother of the house of Eliotstoun, who, in 1409, was designed 'Dominus de Perthic'—that from the Semples it was carried by an heiress to Sir Walter Stewart, of Arthurlie, who, in 1439, was designed 'of Arthurlie,' both in the register and in a charter, which was in the hands of Lord Ross—and that from Sir Walter, two daughters, his co-heiresses, carried it to the Stewarts of Minto, and Cuninghames of Craigends; Mynto having received, as his share, the land of Perthec Scot. In this statement there is some truth, no doubt, but yet, as we fear, a very considerable amount of error. We have seen that Scotstoun, Easter and Wester, was, in 1484, in the hands of a Robert Montgomery, and we presume that the lands now called Scots-toun is the same as Perthic Scot. At the same time, we are informed that there were Montgomeries of Scotstoun down to a period not very distant, and much later than either 1439 or 1471, when Elizabeth, the co-heiress of Sir Walter Stewart, was invested. Moreover, the author of 'Caledonia' remarks (iii. p. 772) that Macfarlane of Macfarlane, a distinguished antiquary, had seen a transumpt

of a charter (i.e., an authenticated copy), dated in 1414, granted by Robert Stewart of Scotland, afterwards Robert II., 'of the lands of Wester Perthnick to Nicholas de Strivelin.' Now, this charter being granted by Robert II. when Stewart of Scotland, must have been prior in date to 1370-1, the date of his accession; and, in the second place, it regarded Wester Perthwick, and not Perthick Scot, the two being seemingly confounded by the author of the remarks on the Ragman Rolls. How long this land of Wester Partick remained with Nicholas de Strivelin, or his descendants, may not appear; but in less than a century afterwards we find them in the hands of the Crown, and being let to Sir Walter Stewart in 1451, which contradicts the view that it was by a daughter and heiress of Sempill that those lands came to Sir Walter. Besides, it is abundantly clear that it was not Perthick Scot that Mynto received with the daughter of Sir Walter Stewart, but a fourth part of Arthurlie, and a half of Wester Partick.

"That Perthwick Scot received its name from 'Alexandre Scot, designed de Perthick,' would seem to be true; and, if so, it must have come to him from the High Stewarts, to whom all the barony of Benfrew belonged, but how or when it passed from him or his family does not appear. At a very early period, however, it is found in the hands of the Stewarts, who were designated of Derneley, a branch of the High Stewarts."

These extracts suggest that the district of land originally called Partick was subdivided into Wester Partick., Partick Scot, Easter and Wester, and Easter Partick, in which latter the village was situated; but I have never seen any documentary evidence that the east portion



PORTION OF CLYDE IN 1654.  
FROM CRAWFORD'S "RENFREWSHIRE";

ROMUSE

SAND  
INCH  
PORTERR

KINGS INCH.

BUCK  
INCH

WHYT INCH

WATER  
INCH

AELVINUS

NEWTON

RENFREW  
BOIGSID

DEMFILD

WEST SCHEEL

PARTICK.

was called Easter Partick. In King David's grants to the Church, which are lands situated in the east portion, nothing is said of Easter Partick; however, there being a Wester Partick, I think it reasonable to conclude that there was also an Easter. The name Partick has long since ceased to be applied to any portion of these lands west of Whiteinch, or out of Lanarkshire. Renfrewshire was included in Lanarkshire until 1406, in which year it was disjoined. This no doubt tended to separate the connection between what we call Partick proper and the western districts. Some of the theories into the origin of the name Partick are much affected by the consideration that it was applied to a large district of country, instead of a village on the immediate banks of the Kelvin, to which most of the guesses apply.

The bed of the Clyde was formerly very broad, and had several channels, which at places diverged further north than the present channel. These channels were divided by islands termed Inches. The first of these stood about 150 yards below where the Kelvin joins the Clyde, and was known as the "Water Inch," then the "White Inch," "Buck Inch," "King's Inch," and "Sand Inch." Tradition says there were several smaller Inches, the names of which are lost. Water Inch and White Inch have been joined to the north side of the river. Elderslie House stands on what was formerly King's Inch. The accompanying Map shows these Inches in 1654. The Water Inch existed till within these thirty years, although joined by a narrow point of land to the meadow. The water between it and the meadow was called the *Isle*, which grew full of reeds, and was a haunt for pike and eels.

There is a singular difficulty in connection with the piece of land on which the Pointhouse stands, or probably we should say stood, for it used to be nearer Govan than at present. This is the only part of the parish of Govan that stands south or east of Kelvin, and a few years ago this led to some disputes who should lift the rates. Dr. Leishman, writing in 1840, gives it as probable that formerly the Kelvin joined the Clyde on the south or up side of the Pointhouse; or perhaps, he says, the ground on which the Ferry House was built may originally have been a delta, and cannot in any other way account for the fact that this is the only part of the parish which is found east of the Kelvin. If the Clyde formerly ran so much farther north than it now does, is it not probable that the Clyde ran on the north side of the original ferry, and that the first house was built on a point of land on the Govan side of the river? In former times the almost entire interest in the ferry belonged to Govan, and it was more probable that the house was in Govan than on the opposite side of the river. That it was originally built on a delta we think inadmissible, for during a great part of the year people could not reach the ferry without wading, or by steps. It may, however, have been that the Kelvin entered the Clyde above the ferry-house, in which case it would show that the convenience of Partick people was an item with those who established the ferry, and that the Kelvin, and not the authorities, had been to blame in its being placed in the most unsuitable place for them.

A regular ford for horse from the meadow, through the Kelvin to the ferry, existed within these sixty years,

opposite where Messrs. Tod & M'Gregor's works now stand, which the late George Oswald of Scotstoun kept open while he lived, by riding through it several times in the year. And we have seen Mr. M'Latchie, Mr. Oswald's factor, doing the same after Mr. Oswald's death. When Mr. Gilbert of Yorkhill banked, with a stone dyke, the south side of the Kelvin, he did not provide a passage or road for a horse at the ford, but he was afterwards obliged to make one, which passage remained long after Mr. Oswald's death. The ford ultimately became impassable by reason of the deepening and other improvements of the Clyde and mouth of Kelvin.

We have already said that there was a common impression amongst the old inhabitants of Partick that it was at one time a place of great note, apart from its local advantage for water-power. We have endeavoured to find out upon what this impression was based, but, excepting the Roman occupation, the only thing we can find is its connection with the Church, and the Bishop of Glasgow having had a residence in or near it.

"The Bishops of Glasgow," says the author of "*Parochiales Scotiae*," "had a residence in Partick before 1277. In 1362 the compromise of a dispute between the Lord Bishop and his chapter took place at the *Manor-House* of Perthic." It is stated that this compromise was brought about by a meeting of the following:—The Bishops of Dunkeld, Brechin, Orkney, and Gallo-way, and the Abbot of the Holy Cross, Edinburgh. Now, if these great men met at the house in Partick, which is indicated by the document being dated from there, then the house must have been one of con-

siderable pretensions; and in the "*Registrum*" we read of Helias de Perthic, Petrus de Perthic, Rector of the Church of Rutherglen, Johannes de Perthic, Dominus Petrus de Perthic, Jocelinus de Perthic, and others, a string of notables and persons of such dignity that they would necessarily require many dependants, whose accommodation would form a little village alone. It has been stated, and we have read somewhere, that the bishops continued to reside in Partick till the time of the Reformation, 1560, and that Bishop Bethune, after collecting many of the sacred relics belonging to the Cathedral, secreted them in his meal mill in Partick till an opportunity was afforded him to remove them with himself into France. It is said that he fled from his Manorium in Partick. In connection with these historical references we have the names of certain localities still existing, as Archbishop's Mill, Bishop's Byres (now Victoria Street), Bishop's Meadow and Orchard (now forming the docks and meadow lands west of these), and the Bishop's Road (now forming Mill Road and Queen Street); but, strange to say, we have no idea where the palace or manor house itself stood. All we can find is a statement in "*Parochiales Scotiæ*" that "it is supposed to have stood on the bank which overlooks the junction of the Kelvin and the Clyde."

Till within these thirty-five years an old ruin stood on the bank of the Kelvin, opposite the slit mills, which Chalmers in his "*Caledonia*," and Clelland in his "*Annals of Glasgow*," called the "Bishop's Castle." Chalmers note runs—"That Archbishop Spottiswood, who greatly repaired our Cathedral and the archiepiscopal palace,

also built, in 1611, a castle at Partick to serve as a country seat for the archbishops, as one of his castles was destroyed at the Reformation." This statement, as we will see, lacks authority. Mr. Laurence Hill, in his interesting pamphlet "*Hutchesoniana*," has satisfactorily shown that this ruin, called "The Bishop's Castle," was erected by George Hutcheson as a country residence; and, to put the matter beyond doubt, Mr. Hill, in the above-named pamphlet, publishes a copy of the actual contract and specification for the building, headed, in the quaint language of the time, "Contract betwixt me and ye masoun in Kilwynning anent the bigeing of the house in Partick," 1611. The late Mr. James Smith of Jordanhill compared the (said) contract with the ruin, and had no hesitation in identifying it as the ruin of George Hutcheson's mansion.

By the kind permission of Mr. W. H. Hill, we are enabled to give the contract, which in itself is a perfect treat:—

THE CONTRACT AND Specification for BUILDING  
PARTICK CASTLE.—1611.

"CONTRACT BETWIXT ME AND YE MASOUN IN KYLWYNNING  
ANENT THE BIGEING OF THE HOUSE OF PARTICK.

"AT Monkriding and Glasgow the Nynt and fourteine days of Januar The yeir of god J<sup>m</sup> vj<sup>o</sup> & allewein yeiris It is appointedt agreit and finallie endit betwix George huchesoune noter in Glasgow as principall and James hamiltoun mercheand burges of glasgw as cautioner and souertie for him for fulfilling of his pairt of y<sup>m</sup> p<sup>m</sup> contract cōiunctlie and seuerallie on y<sup>o</sup> ane pairt William Myllar masoune in Kilwynning as principall and thomas



Newing of monkridding as cautioner and souertie for him for fulfilling of his pairt of y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>re</sup> contract cōiunctlie and seuerallie on y<sup>e</sup> vther pairt In y<sup>e</sup> maner Forsamekle as the said george hawing ane hous foundit in partik w<sup>it</sup>in ye baronie of Glasgw and ane pairt of y<sup>e</sup> wallis and grund yrof alreddie layid qlk being intendit to haue bene maid ane eard hall and now of Intentioun to alter ye same In forme and maner following . Thairfoir the said william binds and obleississ him be himself his airis exores and assigns / and sufficient layars hewairs and barrowmen In sufficient number To enter to ye performance of the work following anent ye biging of ye hous efterspeit betwix and the first day of apryle nixtocum And to big and pforme to ye said george his airis or assigns Ane hous / ane Jame / Turnpyiks and all uther easmentis yrof concerning ye stanework & masounwork of ye samyn To wit the said william In ye moneth of marche nixtocū sall caus Tak down the stanework alreddie biggit and to cast the grund of ye house qll the grund be fund sufficient qron to lay the grundstane and to caus hew ye stanes alreddie won in ye said moneth of mche Sua y<sup>e</sup> ye said william and his seruands may enter to the laying the said first day of apryle nixtocū and to vpbig ye samyn hous & Jame of sufficient thickness of ye walls yrof as may serwe for ane woltit hous . The mayne hous being maid thrie futtis and ane half of the said georges awin fute betwix cuuingze and cuuingzie langer nor the gavils yairof ar pntlie layid containing twa woltis laiche and the Jame aff ye north west side of ye maynehous to be ane wolt fra ye syde-wall of ye maynehous to ye kitching braiss being saxtein futtis wtin ye walls of breid and saxtein futtis of lenth

compting twa elnes for sewin fuittis with ye odyer pend and kitching brais In ye gabill of ye Jame of sufficient forme & quantitie as becumes by the lenth of ye saids saxtein fuittis Ane turnpyik to be biggit and raisit be it self at ye northeist nuk of ye maynhous of nyne or ten futis wyde wtin ye walls / qlk turnepyke sall ryis be ane gawill be it self abone ye sydewall of ye maynehous w<sup>t</sup> ane paittet gawill to serve for ane cabinatt be ane hewin dure yrto in passage fra ye eist chalmer The newalls alwayes of this turnpyek passand be fair passage to ye halldure and geisht abone to serwe the cabinatt and ane passage be ane woltit trans fra ye turnepyik yet to ye laiche sellars & kitching Ane paintrie to be maid vpoun ye north syde of ye hall be west the hall dure w<sup>t</sup> ane passage yrfra inneth the same doun to ye eistmest sellar / And at ye west syde of this paintrie vpoun ye aingill ane kirnall turnpyik to ryis be ane hewinn dure passing aff the syde of ye hall to serwe the hail heiche chalmers and wairdroip of convenient breid and heicht for eissie passage y<sup>t</sup>o with guitarr stanes hewin & layid at the aingills of ye turnpyik for conuoying of ye wattir dropis fra ye mayne hous & jame The heicht of ye walls of ye mayne hous to be threttie thrie fuittis of heicht fra the grund yrof to the wall-heids Comptand twa elnes for sevin fuittis and ye walls of ye Jame to ryis of sik heicht abone as may mak ye ruiff of ye Jame als heiche as the ruiff of the mayne hous The hall hawing foure Ingangand windois and ane lyand window of sufficient heicht and breid; Ane fyne yett / hall dure / twa sellar duires / kitching dure paintree dure kirnall turnpyik dure chalmer of dais dure heich-chalmer dures and all uther dures and windois

neidfull Ane chynay in ye west gawill of ye hall and ane chynay in ilk chalmer being all sufficientlie pendit as becumes w<sup>t</sup> all uther windois and lichtis necessar to serue the same with dry preweis maist comodious & easfull in ye walls of ye chalmers and hewin dures yrto to serue the vse yrof Thrie paittit gawills of ye mayne hous & Jame and the hall turnpyik gawill paittit & the hail walls tymmer tablett sufficientlie hewin & the chyney heids weill basket / with jaw hoills bowells gaigis and vther comodious lichtis as may be haid to the hous and Jame yrof heiche and laiche In sufficient number as the said George pleisses To hew and lay the hail lyntalls and harth stanes . The hail durs and windows to be pendit outwith abone ye lintalls and inwith at ye back of ye lyntalls be pendyt stanes cleinlie hewin And the said Williame binds and obleissis him at the said Georges pleasur aither to big ane heiche pend upone aine pair of ye north sydewall of ye mayne house that the heiche chalmer abone the chalmer of daiss of ye Jame may be conjoinet w<sup>t</sup> ye breid of ye hall and maid ane galrie fra ye gawill of the Jame to ye south syde of ye maynehous alongistoward the westgawill south and north Or gif ye said george will haue the heiche chalmer abone ye chalmer of dayis rather maid in ane chalmer be it self nor be ane galrie as said is In y<sup>t</sup> cais the said Williame sall big ane braiss to ye said chalmer in ye kitching gawill w<sup>t</sup> tua windois to serve that heiche chalmer swa y<sup>t</sup> abone ye foresaid chalmer thair may be ane wairdroip in ye ruiff of ye Jame and ane passage fra ye kirnall turnpyik yrto The Jame y<sup>thv</sup> being four hous height In ye qlk wairdrop the said w<sup>m</sup> sall big ane fair storme window on ye west syde with ane storme windou in ilk

heiche chalmer abone ye hall w<sup>t</sup> ane window to ilk ane of ye saids twa chalmers in ye twa gavills of ye mayne hous AND becaus all thingis anent ye finishing of ye masoune work foresaid cannot be set doun in writ Thairfore the said williams binds & oblisses him as the work ryiss to work the same sufficientlie with all Comodities and necessar easmentis to ye said georges profeitt alyke as gif everie Comodious easment war set doune pticularlie herin w<sup>in</sup> ye heicht breid and lenth of ye hous Jam and turnpyiks forsaid That thair sall be na occasion of ony new task or new agriement y<sup>anent</sup> At the qlk work the said williams w<sup>t</sup> hewars layars and barrowmen sall abyde fra ye day of y<sup>e</sup> enterie foirsaid sua lang as the said george hes materialls qll ye same be compleit And gif in default of materialls they be constraint to leif work . The said williams w<sup>t</sup> his seruandis how sone ye said george beis prowydit sall enter againe to ye work and abyde y<sup>e</sup> at qll ye same be endit . And the said william sall caus his borrowmen mixe the lyme & sand mak ye mortar and fetch watter yrto Qlk premisses the said williams and his said Caur binds and obleiss thaim y<sup>e</sup> airis exoris & assigns coniunctlie and seuerallie To fulfill & performe to ye said George and his foresaid FOR performing & compleiting of ye qlk work The said george as prin<sup>u</sup> & his said caur Bindis and obleiss thaim y<sup>e</sup> airis exoris & assigns coniunctlie and seuerallie Thankfullie to content pay and delyuer to ye said Williams myllar for himself his seruands and borrowmen The soume of *ffyue* hundrethe threttie merkis gude & vsuall money of Scotland To wit ffoure hundrethe threttie merks yrof for ye work and ane hundrethe merkis in satisfioun of all morning and

efternoines drinks disjoynes sondayes meitt drink at  
 onlaying of lyntalls or ony uther thing can be crawit fra  
 ye said george in ony sorte (Except the said williames  
 bountethe as maister masoun according to his deserwing  
 at ye end of the work be the discretioun of williamie  
 andersone of Stobcross to quhome baith ye Pteis has  
 submittit thame selffis yranent . ) QLK sowme sould be  
 payet as followes viz . ane hundrethe twentie pundis at  
 ye beginning of ye work qrof the said w<sup>m</sup> grantis the  
 resseit of fourtie merks in hand at ye date of yir pntis  
 dischairgingye said george and his caur yrof the remanent  
 extending to sewinscoir merks to be payet at ye said  
 williames enterie to ye laying of ye work at ye first day  
 of apryle foirsaid Ane hundrethe pundis at ye geistis  
 laying of ye hous and Jame ane hundrethe merkis at  
 sydewall heicht quhen ye walls are lawellit and ane  
 hundrethe merkes at the Compleiting of ye said work  
 In full payment of ye haill sowme forsaid Lykeas ye said  
 george sall caus scharp y<sup>r</sup> irnes and furneis ane wricht  
 to help to mak ye schaffels and futegangis and to mak ye  
 syntreis and lay the timmer yron for beiring of the pend  
 mak ye cowmes to ye pendis of the dures & windowis and  
 mak all vther tymmer work necessar And gif any of the  
 said pteis failis to fulfill y<sup>r</sup> pairtis of ye premisses sua  
 y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup> other party sall be constrayned to registrat this  
 . . . . . or to rays or use ony execution In y<sup>r</sup> case  
 the pte brekar and his said caur obleississ thame  
 Cōiunctlie & seuerallie To pay to the uther pairtie the  
 soume of ane hundrethe pundis money of liquidat  
 expenses besyde execution for fulfilling of ye premisses  
 And ye pteis obleisses thame y<sup>m</sup> airis exors assignis and  
 q<sup>t</sup> sumever intrors w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup> guidis & geir To warrand freith

relief and skaitless keep y<sup>r</sup> saids cautioners in ye premises and of all cost skaith danger entres & expensess can be incurrit hereby . And for ye mair securitie the ptes and caurs ar content and consentis that yir pntes be actit and regrat In ye buikis of counsell or Comissars buiks of glasgw athir of y<sup>r</sup> decreitts and auctoriteis interponit heirto W<sup>t</sup> lres & executorialls of horning poynding and warding on ane single chaarge of Sax dayes allanerlie to pass hereon And to yis effect constitutes

thair prors Cōiunctlie and sewerallie promitten de rata In witnes qrof yir pntes writtine be mr Johne huchesoun servitor to the said George Huchesoun the pairteis and Caurs hes subscriyvit w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup> hands as followes At day zeir & place foirsaid Before yir witnesses viz at Monkriding Robert fergushill of that ilk James Hamiltoun of ardoche hew montgomery of Smythsoun and ninian Nevin brother germane to the said Thomas / And befoir thir witnesses to ye subscripun of ye said george and his cautioner the said fourtein day of Januar viz Robt pebills mchand in Kilwyning the said m<sup>r</sup> Johne huchesoun and Mr thomas Huchesoune writtar thar (*subscribed*) George huchesone w<sup>th</sup> my hand . James hamiltoune cautioner . William miller with my hand . J Nevin of monkriding cautioner . R Fergushill witness . James hamiltoun witness . hew montgomerie witness . Mr John huchesoune witness . Mr thomas huchesoun witness .

In 1632, in the Will of Mrs. Hutcheson, there are items of some interest to us, such as—In Partick property there were:—

“*Item.*—Three kye, ane stirk, and ane calf, estimate to £44 Scots.

*Item.*—Standing in the barne of Partick, 39 threaves of beir, whilk grew upon the orchard, estimate to contain 14 bolls; price of ilk boll with the fodder, £6 13s. 4d.

*Item.*—29 threaves mashloch oats, qlk grew there the said year, estimated to contain —— bolls; the price of ilk with the fodder, £5 6s. 8d.”

These two items are of importance. As they show that the orchard was not at the time used as such, but for serial crops, or as a common park, its use as an orchard must have preceded this date. Among the list of heritors of Govan in 1578 there is a William Younger mentioned as having the yard called Bishop's Orchard. As the word yard is synonymous with garden, it may be that it was kept as such before it came into the possession of George Hutcheson. We remember some famed fruit-trees in gardens in Partick which were said to have been taken from the orchard.

The house in Partick seems to have been let after the death of Mrs. Hutcheson, for in 1663 there is an account for glass-work against Mrs. Thomas Hutcheson, wherein occurs the following item;—“In Partick fyve glase windoes in George Mures house and four wyrees in the forsyd and tuo glase windoes to the house of Partick are fourtiffive foots and ane half foot inde, ij 5 0.”

Before pursuing the progress of the house to decay, let us inquire why the private residence of George Hutcheson got the designation of the Bishop's Castle, as so distinctly affirmed by both Chalmers and Clelland. It has been suggested that probably the house was let out after the death of George Hutcheson to one of the Episcopal bishops—Burnet or Spottiswood—and hence the name. “Bishop Spottiswood,” says M'Ure, in his

"History of Glasgow," "was a benefactor to the Cathedral, which from the time of the Reformation had been much ruined and neglected ever since the suppression of Popery, and to the archiepiscopal palace—I mean the Bishop's Castle—both which he put into tolerable good condition of repair." This cannot refer to Partick, as the Bishop came to Glasgow in 1612. Hutcheson's house was founded 1611, and the Bishop left Glasgow in 1615, before the Partick house was let.

Bishop Burnet may have rented the house in Partick, so far as dates are concerned, he being translated from Aberdeen to the Archbishopric of Glasgow in 1664, and continued till 1669, when he was deprived of his See and retired to a private state of life, and was again restored to the Archbishopric in 1674, and remained till 1679. He was a high Episcopal man, and disposed to carry conformity to the full standard of the law, and made himself very active against the Presbyteriana. On his information it is stated that Mr. James Dunlop of Househill was summoned before the Privy Council in 1676, and fined in 1000 merks for neglect of his duty as Bailie-Depute of the Regality of Glasgow, in allowing conventicles to be held at Partick, Woodside, &c., and was declared incapable of holding his office, although he was not accused of maladministration. In connection with these conventicles, the snug little valley on Kelvin bank above the Garrioch Mills, and the *Craft-cryne* on the north-west side of Partickhill, at that time a wooded dell, have been pointed out as the places where these meetings were held. This may have given some colouring to the Bishop having a house near the localities named, but only apparent, as he was equally active



throughout the whole of his diocese. Even had Bishop Burnet lived for a short time in Mr. Hutcheson's house, which would then be fifty or sixty years old, it is very unlikely that this circumstance would confer upon it the name of the Bishop's Castle; and it is to be remembered that the whole locality around the castle had Church designations before Mr. Hutcheson built his house. As Bishop's Orchard, Bishop's Meadow, there were also Bishop's Byres and Bishop's Mills. Our opinion is that Mr. George Hutcheson's house was built on or near the site of the old manor belonging to the Catholic Bishop of Glasgow. Supposing this manor-house existed in good repair at the Reformation, it is more than probable that it was allowed to get out of repair, as the Act for transferring the property of the Church to the Crown was not passed until 1587; and although the lands, such as the Orchard, were rented out by the Bishop, possession would not be taken of the house until the Crown granted authority and power to dispose of it. It appears from the contract for building Mr. Hutcheson's house that he had began to build before 1611, but, having gone on a certain length, he had changed his mind as to the size and plan, hence the contract embraces the taking down what had been built and the laying a new foundation. This contract, it is to be observed, is merely for workmanship, the materials being supplied by Mr. Hutcheson, so that we think he used up much of the old materials which existed in the Bishop's manor. Were it not from some such cause, it is difficult to account for the short time, comparatively speaking, that this house of George Hutcheson existed in good repair. According to the contract the foundation-stone was to be laid on the 1st



M. P. 1850

CASTLE, FROM SOUTH EAST, WITH OLD MERKLAND FARM HOUSE.

of April, 1611, and the house was unroofed and in ruins in 1783. From inquiries I have made at old people who remembered it being inhabited, I have learned that its last tenant left it about 1770, and that for some years before this its occupants were common tradespeople, who let out the hall or upper room for dancing and other public amusements. None of my informants had ever remembered *gentry* living in it. The account of the house given to me by a person who had often been in it when it was inhabited, was, that the under flat was partially sunk and vaulted. The second flat was entered by a few steps up, and had a stone floor laid on the arches. There were several apartments in this flat, which formed a sort of hostelry. The top flat had a deal floor, and consisted of a large hall, which was used for public gatherings, balls, and dancing parties, and over this flat were attics, which were used as bedrooms and for holding lumber. There was a well outside the house. The main entrance door was covered with large-headed nails, so also was a two-leafed door which formed the outer entrance to the grounds, the grounds being surrounded by a stone wall. This entrance door was at the head of the Vennel. Towards the north of this gate, outside the wall, between it and the old Dumbarton Road, stood the barn, behind which was the stackyard of the old Merkland farm-house. Probably this was the barn referred to in Mrs. Hutcheson's will, where the "beir" was stored. Now, that a house of such pretensions, erected by such a shrewd and cautious man as George Hutcheson, should only be habitable by the class of people for whom it was built during little more than 120 years, is unaccountable, except on the supposition

that old materials were partly used in its construction; and that it was in the stone-work the destruction took place is also probable, from the circumstance that in 1783, when it was unroofed in order to build the old Merkland farm-house, the wood-work, which was oak, was so good that the builder retained it, and used new wood of a different sort for the farm-house. This farm-house, built from the old stones of the Castle, was only habitable for sixty years: so much for old materials. There is a house in Partick, built with new materials in 1619, only nine years after the date of the erection of George Hutcheson's house, which is yet in habitable repair. (*See Sketch.*)

This popular identification of George Hutcheson's house with the Bishop's Castle made difficult our attempts at eliciting precise information from old people on the subject. In 1859, at our request, Mr. John M'Arthur, a native of Partick, who was personally acquainted with the late Mr. Robert Reid ("Senex"), wrote to him on this question of the castle and house, detailing much of what we have here written on the subject, and asking him if he could throw any further light on the matter. Mr. Reid replied in two letters, which we here give, because of their valuable suggestions; they show also how far even such an observer as "Senex" has been led away by popular opinion:—

"STRAHOUN LODGE,

"MILLPORT, 27th October, 1859.

"Sir,—I received yours of the 25th instant, but I am afraid that I cannot give you any information regarding the

old building which stood upon the banks of the Kelvin, except such as, no doubt, you yourself possess. In my early days it was always called the Bishop's Castle, and the tradition was that it had been the summer residence of the Bishops of Glasgow. I do not recollect of hearing anything said as to its having been built by Hutcheson before this century. During last century it was always considered as having been erected by one of our bishops. Our Glasgow historians have given us little or no information on the subject, but from my recollection of the building I think it was erected long before the time of Hutcheson of Lambhill, who died in 1640. The castle was in the baronial style, somewhat similar to the ruins of the archiepiscopal palace, taken down in 1794, when the Infirmary was built, whereas the style of first-class dwellings in the time of Charles I. and II. was that of having dormer windows in front, such as old Hutchesons' Hospital, built about 1640, and Blythswood's house in the Bridgegate, also two houses in Stockwell. Besides Partick on the Kelvin, there was 'Wester Partick, lying upon the north side of the river Clyde, anciently a possession of the Stewarts of Arthurly' ('Crawford's Renfrew,' page 67). The lands of Scotstoun appear to have formed part of Wester Partick, and Crawford (page 68) says—'John Montgomery of Scotstoun alienated these lands in the reign of King Charles I. to Mr. John Hutcheson.' There may have been, therefore, some confusion regarding John Hutcheson of Wester Partick and George Hutcheson of Lambhill. From Archbishop Law's Testament ('Hamilton's Lanarkshire,' page 150), 'Item' (Due) 'be George Hutchesoune of Lambhill liij.s.iiij.d. money yierlie the yeiris of God 1616-1631, as an tak of aught bollis meill, astrictit be the Archbishops of Glasgow to him, extending in hail the saidis yeiris, the said tak-dewtie to xliij.li.xiiij.s.iiij.d.' Hamilton takes notice of my great-grandfather (page 29) as follows:—'At Little Govan there is

a new house built by Robert Reid,\* late Baillie of Glasgow, in a pleasant place, and convenient gardens projected and designed. And where Kelvin falls into Clyde is the house of Pertique, a well-built and convenient house, well planted with barren timber, large gardens, enclosed with stone walls, which formerly belonged to George Hutcheson, founder of the Hospital (Hutchesons') in Glasgow, and now to John Crawford of Mylntoun.' This last is clearly the description of a modern mansion-house, and in my opinion cannot refer to an ancient baronial castle. It is evident that George Hutcheson held lands from the Archbishops of Glasgow, and most likely built the house of 'Pertique' on them. At page 160 Hamilton writes:—'Perdeyc, Perdehic, Perthait, Perthaic—Partick, near Glasgow, where the Bishop had a residence.'

"It appears to me that Partick and Govan formed parts of a large tract of lands belonging to the Bishopric of Glasgow, which went under the name of Bishop's Forest. After the Reformation a considerable portion of the said lands became the property of our University, who, I believe, still draw a revenue from some of the Govan lands, and are the patrons of the Govan church.

"But to return to the Hutchesons. Stuart in his 'Views,' page 50, says—'The father of George and Thomas Hutcheson seems to have been a person of considerable substance and repute. He was apparently what may be termed a gentleman farmer, and was for some time a tenant under the Bishops of Glasgow of the lands of Gardbraid, on the Kelvin; eventually, however, he became proprietor of the same, under a feu granted in 1588 by Walter, Commendator of Blantyre, who possessed the royal authority for disposing in this manner of a portion of the Church lands. George, the eldest

\* He was shot in the Saltmarket in 1729, endeavouring to quell a riot. The murderer fled the country.

of the two, was born probably about the year 1585, and, after a life of honourable prosperity, he died in 1640. Thomas, as appears by the inscription on his tombstone in the Cathedral grounds, was born in 1588 or 1589, and survived his brother but a single year.'

“ ‘Carta Davidis 1<sup>mo</sup> Regis de Terra in Perdeyo—

“ ‘David Rex Scottorum, Baronibus, Ministris et omnibus fidelibus suis, clericis et laicis totius regni sui, salutem. Sciatis me Dedissee et Concessisse, Deo et Eccesie Sancti Kentigerni de Glasgu, terram illam in Perdeyc, in perpetuam elemosinam, pro animo mea, et patris et matris mee, et fratrum et sororum mearum et salute Henrici filii mei \* et omnium antecessorum et successorum meorum: quam Arcelinus ejusdem ecclesie Archidiaconus de me tenebat, in nemore et plano, aquis et piscinis, pratis et pascuis: et in omnibus aliis locis per rectas divisas sicut Ailsy et Tocca eas tenebant die quo predicta terra fuit in meo dominis: Ita tum mihi facere solebat: Scilicet annualim uscam marcam argenti pro omnibus servitiis et consuetudinibus quamdiu vixerit: Post discessum vero Archidiaconi remaneat predicta terra ecclesie deservienda, ita libera et soluta et quieta, sicut melius et liberius tenet suas alias terras et elemosina (cum) eisdem libertatibus. Peresentibus testibus, Herberto Abbate, de Rochesburgh, Willelmo Cancellario, Willelmo filio Dunicani, Malis Comite, Dunicane Comiti, Fergus de Galweia. Aad cum Barba, Malduveri, Macmurdac, Maloderi de Soona, Maloderi Marescallo, Radulpho filio Donegal, Duverald fratre ejus, Uchtred filio Fergus, Hugone Britore, Herbertro Camereno Gileberto Fimbogo, Gileberto de Strwelin Dusoter de Calentaria. — Apud Glasgu, carta Herberti Episcopi Glasguensis Help, clerico suo.’

“ ‘Herbertus Dei gratia Episcopus universis, &c., salutem—

\* Henry died in 1152, eleven months before his father.

Sciatis Me Dedisse et Concessisse, et Episcopali auctoritate confirmasse Help, clerico meo, in liberam et quietam elemosinam, unam Prebendam in Ecclesia Sancti Kentigerni de Glasgu Ecclesium de Guvan cum omnibus ecclesiasticis rectitudinibus eidem ecclesie pertinentibus: et insulas inter Guvan et Perthec: et illam partem de Perthec quam David Rex Scotie dedit in dotem Ecclesie de Glasgu, in ejusdem dedicatione: Et aliam partem de Parther quam idem Rex David postea dedit predecete Ecclesie de Glasgu et Johanni Episcopo ejusque successoribus, in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam pro salute anime sue et animarum antecessorum suorum: Quam partem prius ad Prebendam non pertinentem pro augmento honoris et dignitate ecclesie mee predictae Prebende, augeo, dono, et perpetualiter confirmo cum Insulis adjacentibus et piscinis: Itæ libere et quiete &c. sicut antecessor meus tenuit, liberius, &c., et carte successorum Episcoporum penitus testantur et confirmant.'

"From the above charter it appears that there were several islands then situated at the confluence of the Kelvin with the Clyde, and it is extremely probable that the Bishop's Castle was originally built upon one of these islands, by which, as a baronial or ecclesiastical castle, it would have become a fortress of very considerable strength. David I. succeeded his brother Alexander I. in 1124, when all the Scottish barons held fortified castles as their places of residence, which system was followed by the high dignitaries of the ecclesiastical establishment.

"I have not been able to ascertain when or by whom the Bishop's Castle on the Kelvin was erected. I will be happy if the foregoing loose jottings should be found of any use to you in your inquiries regarding the early history of Partick.

"I am, your obedient Servant,

"ROBERT REID.

"Mr. John M'Arthur."



"MILLPORT, STRAHOON LODGE,  
5th November, 1859.

"Sir,—I received yours of the 3rd instant, and certainly find it difficult to reconcile Mr. Hill's statement regarding the erection of the Bishop's Castle with the other accounts on the same subject which have come down to us. Stuart states George Hutcheson's birth to have been about 1585, and you say that he is said to have built the Castle in 1611. He must then have been twenty-five years of age, and died without leaving children. It appears to me that it is extremely unlikely that a farmer's son just entering business life should have then erected a baronial castle. If you look at the tenement in the Trongate No. 142,\* you will see the style of first-class dwelling houses in Glasgow at the period in question. The date of its erection, in front (1596), is now covered by a signboard or by the water pipe. The style of this tenement is very different indeed from that of the said Bishop's Castle. Our Glasgow historians have given us little information regarding the early history of the Bishop's Castle at Partick. Pagan, who published the 'History of the Cathedral and See of Glasgow' in 1851, dismisses the subject very shortly, as follows:—'Upon the accession of this prince (David I.) to the Crown he made large donations to the See of Glasgow, and on the occasion of the consecration he conferred upon it, in addition to his former gifts, the lands of Perdeyc (Partick), which still form part of the episcopal revenue, and where subsequent bishops erected a rural seat or *palace*, part of which remained on the west bank of the Kelvin, within a few yards of its junction with the Clyde, until within these last ten years. Partick, with the church of Govan, was soon afterwards erected into a

\* Nearly opposite to the Back Wynd.

prebend of the Cathedral.' When Mr. Pagan wrote the above he might have seen Mr. Hill's 'History of Hutcheson's Hospital,' but says nothing on that subject.

"Hamilton (p. 229) states that a dispute having arisen between Bishop Walter, of the See of Glasgow, and William, Abbot of Paisley, the matter was referred to four ecclesiastics, one of whom is thus described—'Magister Christianus Philippus de *Perthec*, rector de ecclesie de Rotherglen.'

"About 1180 the following names appear as witnesses to a charter granted by 'Robertus de Londiniis filius Regis Scocie' (William the Lion):—'Domino Jocelino Glasguensi Episcopi, Herberto Decano de Glasgu, *Helia de Perthec*, Willielmo Beda, *Helia* Canonicis de Glasgu, Henrico de Cormanoch, Kentigerno et David Clericis ejusdem ecclesie.'

"If I rightly understand the following quotation from Hamilton (p. 29), George Hutcheson's house of 'Pertique' could not have been the Castle:—'There is also lying upon the north side of the Clyde, within this parish (Govan), the lands of Ballshegry, formerly belonging to Stewart of Rosay in Bute, and now belongs to Walter Gibson, late Provost of Glasgow (Provost in 1687 and 1688). And above this, where Kelvin falls into Clyde, is the house of Pertique, a well built and convenient house, well planted with barren timber, large gardens, inclosed with stone walls, which formerly belonged to George Hutcheson in Glasgow and now to John Crawford of Mylton.\* This is not a description of a baronial castle, but of a modern house; and, so far as my memory reaches, it does not agree with the condition of the

\* John Crawford of Mylneton occurs in the testament of Gabriell Conyngham, late Provost of Glasgow, quha deceist in Merche, 1651. George Hutcheson died 1640.

Castle grounds in my early days. If I have not forgotten facts, the Castle stood a solitary building, without trees, or nearly so; no gardens beside it, and surrounded by no stone walls. Miss Oswald, who is in the ninety-third year of her age, and possesses lands adjoining to Partick, will most likely remember the Bishop's Castle better than me, and, I think, is able to give you a good deal of valuable information regarding Partick.

"You say that the Castle was unroofed in 1783. The following advertisement is taken from the *Glasgow Mercury* of 8th December, 1789:—'To be Let, for such a number of years as may be agreed upon, that Printfield situated in the village of Partick, on the bank of Kelvin, having a beautiful south aspect, with the printing, boiling, and dyeing houses, and other buildings, and a convenient dwelling-house, *newly* finished, consisting of a dining-room, bedroom, closet, and kitchen on the first flat, and two bedrooms and closet above, all as at present possessed by Mr. William Euing.—Apply to William Robb, the proprietor, at Meadowside, Partick.' The William Euing here mentioned was the father of William Euing, sharebroker, and uncle of James Smith of Jordanhill. The impression upon my mind is that the said printfield was erected upon part of the Castle grounds, but of this I am by no means certain. I think, however, that you will find no difficulty in ascertaining the site on the bank of the Kelvin which it occupied, Robb of Meadowside being proprietor.

"With regard to Wester Partick, the following extract from 'Crawfurd's Renfrewshire' is more particular than the short notice of it which I gave you in my last letter:—'Near this burgh (Renfrew), upon the River Clyde, stands the Inch Castle, one of the ancient seats of the Barons of Ross of Halkhead. Opposite to that, upon the north side of the River Clyde, lie the lands of Wester Partick and Blawert-

hill, anciently a possession of the Stewarts of Arthury; for of these lands I have seen a charter, granted by King James II., an. 1452, to Walter Stewart of Arthury; and by marriage of one of the co-heirs of that branch of the Stewarts of Darnly these lands came to the family of Minto, and are now the property of Sir John Maxwell of Pollok, Baronet, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, as the lands of Blawerthill are of Mr. John Maxwell.'

“‘Not far from this, toward the east, are the house and lands of Scotstoun, an ancient inheritance of the Montgomeries, a branch of the family of Eglintoun. John Montgomerie of Scotstoun, the last of this race, alienated these lands in the reign of King Charles I. to Mr. John Hutcheson, and they came, by marriage of Margaret, his daughter and heiress, to Archibald Stewart, second son of Sir Archibald Stewart of Blackhall, and from George Hutcheson of Scots-toun, their son, these lands were acquired (an. 1691) by William Walkinshaw (son of John Walkinshaw of Borrowfield, descended from a younger brother of the family of Walkinshaw of that ilk, in the reign of King James VI.), by whom this place is much improven by a very handsome house, well finished, and adorned with curious orchyards and gardens, stately avenues and large inclosures, sheltered with a great deal of planting, so that it has become one of the sweetest seats upon the River Clyde in this shire.’

“Page 347.—‘George Oswald, Esq., succeeded to the estate of Scotstoun in 1766. He married in 1764 Margaret Smyth, second daughter of David Smyth, Esq. of Methven. She died in 1792, leaving four sons and seven daughters, viz., (1.) Richard Alexander Oswald, Esq. of Auchencreeve, in Ayrshire, who married, first, in 1793, Miss Louisa Johnston, who died in 1798, leaving a son, Richard, and a daughter, Margaret Hester. He married, secondly, Lady Lilius

Montgomery, second daughter of the present Earl of Eglington. (2.) David went into the army, and died in the West Indies in 1797, unmarried, major of the 38th Regiment. (3.) James, a post-captain in the Royal Navy. (4.) Alexander, an advocate. — (1.) Elizabeth. (2.) Katherine Cochrane, married Robert Haldane, Esq. (3.) Margaret, married to Major John Wilson. (4.) Christian, married to Alexander Anderson, Esq., merchant in London. (5.) Mary Ramsay, married James Denniston, Esq. of Colgrain. (6.) Camilla, died in 1808. (7.) Isabella.'

“ I shall conclude these jottings by giving you the copy of a letter which appeared in the *Glasgow Mercury* of 10th of August, 1780 (from an Englishman), illustrative of the state of society in Partick in my early days:—

“ ‘ To the Printer of the *Glasgow Mercury*.

“ ‘ Returning on the evening of Friday last from a pleasant excursion through the country side beyond Dumbarton, I arrived at Partick, a village in the neighbourhood, where I was not a little astonished to see a great number of decent people and country gentlemen, not fewer, I presume, than 2000, gathered together about the town. Upon inquiry I found that this vast multitude was assembled to choose a prees for the ‘ Ancient Society of Millers upon Kelvin.’ I at first looked upon such a scheme to be trifling, but when given to understand that their funds are considerable and well managed, and that a large sum thereof is annually distributed to a number of poor and infirm people in the neighbourhood, I was soon prejudiced in favour of this respectful corporation, and waited, though not without apprehensions from such a concourse, till their whole business was transacted, when a great majority of votes were in favour of a gentleman of property hard by; and the parties, though keen at first, dismissed, to my agreeable surprise, without any altercation or disturbance whatever, but with an air of satisfaction and of goodwill to each other—a circumstance not always to be met with among my own countrymen on the other side of the Tweed, where, even at county meetings, in choosing of a Parliament man, I have often seen

the assembly not near so manageable, nor the candidates more respectable, than those here.—I am, &c., 'ANGLUS.'

"If the foregoing jottings can be of any service to you, it will give me pleasure.

"I am, your obedient Servant,

"ROBERT REID.

"Mr. John M'Arthur."

The bleachfield referred to by Mr. Reid, as having been advertised by Mr. Euing, is that now occupied by Mr. John Walker. In these times, however, there were no buildings along the side of Kelvin. Where these now stand was the bleaching-green, as all cloth was then bleached by the sun; the Merkland farm-house and garden stood between the Castle grounds and bleachfield. The printing operations in connection with the bleaching were conducted in the houses standing along the street. The little slate house, opposite the foot of Douglass Street, referred to as being newly finished, 1789, was the proprietor's dwelling-house, and was then considered a handsome residence. The advertiser was the father of the present William Euing, shipbroker, who was born in this house.

That the ruin of George Hutcheson's mansion was identified as the Bishop's Castle can easily be accounted for,—the researches of archæologists and antiquaries are but recent studies. When Chalmers found from old charters that the bishops had a manor in Partick, without any particular spot being named, inquiry was naturally made as to its site; and the ruins of George Hutcheson's house on ground contiguous to, and, indeed, known as, the Bishop's Orchard and Meadow being found, it was at once accepted as the *bona fide* article. I may

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mention that the idea of that ruin being the Bishop's Castle is not a tradition of Partick. I have inquired at old people whose recollection dated back to about 1770, and they stated that it was not called so in their youth, but that their information had been given them by parties who had seen it so stated in books.