



Plate I.

**HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY,
K.G., ETC.**

**CAPTAIN-GENERAL OF THE ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS,
AND GOLD STICK OF SCOTLAND,**

IN THE MESS UNIFORM OF THE COMPANY.

From the Portrait in Archers' Hall, by Sir Francis Grant, P. R. A.

The History

OF THE

Royal Company of Archers

The Queen's Body-Guard for Scotland

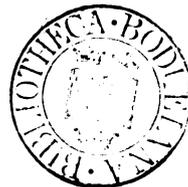
BY

JAMES BALFOUR PAUL

ADVOCATE OF THE SCOTTISH BAR

ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL COMPANY

Published under the Authority and by Direction of the Council



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P R E F A C E.

AT an interval of nearly a hundred and fifty years since it was first talked of, the history of The Royal Company of Archers has been written,—with what success it is for the members of the Company, and those of the general public who may take any interest in the matter, to judge. The work, which has several times been taken in hand, but never till now completed, is simply a compilation from the minutes of meetings and other records, which have been kept with wonderful regularity since its embodiment in 1676; these have been condensed as much as possible, a few remarks thrown in as connecting links, and some notes on the general history of Archery in Scotland inserted in the first chapter.

The Royal Company may well be proud of the position which it at present holds. Few societies can boast of so long and so honourable an existence. It possesses authentic records covering a space of two centuries, and there is much reason to believe that the period of its original organisation extends considerably beyond the date of its first records. And it is yet far from sinking into the dotage of a too long extended life; on the

contrary, it not only exists with unimpaired vigour and undiminished prestige, but with an increasing number of members, and a more and more widely-spread popularity. May it long continue to keep up its reputation both for skill in archery, and for untarnished loyalty to that Sovereign Lady whose Body-Guard it has the honour to be !

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NOTE.—The six coloured portraits are from water-colour copies taken (by Mr John Adam) from the original paintings in oil, and engraved and coloured by Messrs Kronheim & Co., London. The eminent autotypists, Messrs Spencer, Sawyer, Bird, & Co., have depicted the prizes by their permanent process.

THE HISTORY
OF THE
ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS,
THE QUEEN'S BODY-GUARD FOR SCOTLAND.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY NOTICES OF THE BOW IN SCRIPTURE—NOTICES OF ARCHERY BY HOMER—
PROGRESS OF ARCHERY IN ENGLAND—WORKS UPON ARCHERY—ARCHERY IN
SCOTLAND—EARLY ACTS OF PARLIAMENT ON THE SUBJECT—DISCOURAGEMENT
OF FOOTBALL AND GOLF—THE SCOTTISH ARCHER-GUARD OF FRANCE—ITS
MYTHICAL ORIGIN—DESCRIPTION OF THE BODY—GRADUAL DECLINE—SCOTS
ACTS FROM JAMES II. TO JAMES V.—“CHRIST'S KIRK ON THE GREEN”—
DECLINE OF ARCHERY IN SCOTLAND AS A MILITARY ART—QUEEN MARY AN
ARCHER—LADIES' ARCHERY CLUBS—OLD BURGH ARROWS IN SCOTLAND—
INSTITUTION OF THE ROYAL COMPANY IN 1676.



IN the following chapters we propose to narrate the history of the Royal Company of Archers—now the Queen's Body-Guard for Scotland—from the time of its first institution, or at least from the period at which its earliest authentic records begin, down to the present time. It is a history not unworthy of being written, being that of a body which has comprised among its members men of the greatest eminence in the most various walks of life, and some of whom are intimately connected with the political and social his-

tory of Scotland herself. It is a body, too, which has accomplished with the greatest success the object for which it was formed—namely, to keep up the practice of archery in Scotland, and to prevent falling into disuse a healthful and manly exercise, in which our forefathers so much excelled. Before, however, entering upon the narration of our story, it may not be out of place briefly to glance at the progress which archery had made in Scotland, and the decay into which it was falling previous to the latter part of the seventeenth century.

The use of the bow is undoubtedly of very ancient origin. It was probably used in the first instance as a weapon of the chase, in order to slay animals for the food of man. We read in Genesis that Ishmael “dwelt in the wilderness and became an archer;” and again, we find the instruments of archery more directly referred to when Isaac says to his son Esau, “Take, I pray thee, thy weapons, thy quiver and thy bow, and go out to the field and take me some venison.” It was not long, however, ere the bow came to be used for less innocent purposes than the slaying of beasts. As a more artificial state of society grew up, the bow was speedily turned into an instrument of war. It is curious how little its shape has changed during the long ages in which it has been used, the bows employed by the ancient Egyptians being almost identical with those of more modern date. The arrows, too, of that people were, as regards the feathers, made in a manner exactly similar to our own. The arrow itself was of wood, with a metal head, the latter most commonly lance-shaped. Quivers and bow-cases were also used by the Egyptians.

Among the nations of antiquity renowned for their skill in archery, the Scythians and the Persians stand pre-eminent. The Greeks were also well skilled in the use of the bow, the origin of which they attributed to Apollo. From a description by Homer, horn would seem to have been the material used in fashioning the weapon, and it is probable that most of the Asiatic bows were made of it, at least in some degree. The bow of Pandarus is thus described :—

“’Twas form’d of horn, and smooth’d with artful toil,
 A mountain goat resign’d the shining spoil,
 Who, pierc’d long since, beneath his arrows bled ;
 The stately quarry on the cliffs lay dead,
 And sixteen palms his brows large honours spread :
 The workman join’d, and shap’d the bended horns,
 And beaten gold each taper point adorns.”

—Iliad, iv. 137 (Pope).

A few lines further on we find the mode of drawing the bow described :—

“ Now with full force the yielding horn he bends,
 Drawn to an arch, and joins the doubling ends ;
Close to his breast he strains the nerve below,
 Till the barb’d point approach the arching bow :
 The impatient weapon whizzes in the wing,
 Sounds the tough horn, and twangs the quivering string.”

—*Ibid.* iv. 152.

From these lines it would seem that the ancient method of shooting was by drawing the butt of the arrow close to the breast, and not to the ear, as is the modern practice. It was owing to this that the Amazons are said to have cut off their right breasts. In a picture prefixed to Moseley’s ‘Essay on Archery,’ an archer is represented drawing a bow to his breast ; but there is no doubt that the fashion of drawing to the ear has prevailed for a very long time, the superiority of the latter method being easily apparent.

Many other allusions to archery are made in Homer, but we will only refer to one more. From it we may see that the art was not only practised as a part of the art of war, but mingled in the sports of the arena. In the funeral games following the death of Patroclus, there is a description of what would now be termed “papingo” or “popinjay” shooting—that is to say, a bird was fastened to the top of a pole, and he whose arrow pierced the captive gained the prize. In the case to which we allude, the prize was ten double-edged battle-axes, to be won by the slayer of the bird ; he whose arrow only cut the bonds was to receive an

equal number of single-edged axes. Achilles proceeds to make arrangements for the contest :—

“ The mast which late a first-rate galley bore,
The hero fixes in the sandy shore ;
To the tall top a milk-white dove they tie,
The trembling mark at which their arrows fly.”

The competitors then, in modern archery parlance, “ draw a party : ”—

. . . “ Experienc'd Merion took the word,
And skilful Teucer ; in the helm they threw
Their lots inscrib'd, and forth the latter flew :
Swift from the string the sounding arrow flies,
But flies unblest ! no grateful sacrifice,
No firstling lambs, unheedful ! didst thou vow
To Phœbus, patron of the shaft and bow ;
For this thy well-aim'd arrow turn'd aside,
Err'd from the dove, yet cut the cord that tied :
Adown the main-mast fell the parted string,
And the free bird to heaven displays her wing.”

Merion then shoots, after vowing a sacrifice to Apollo :—

“ The dove, in airy circles as she wheels
Amid the clouds, the piercing arrow feels ;
Quite through and through the point its passage found,
And at his feet fell bloody to the ground.
The wounded bird, ere yet she breath'd her last,
With flagging wings alighted on the mast ;
A moment hung, and spread her pinions there,
Then sudden dropt, and left her life in air.”

—Iliad, xxiii. 1006–1040 (Pope).

Passing from classical times and scenes, and looking at our own island, we find the introduction of the bow into Britain involved in much obscurity. That it was known at an extremely early period is certain from the many flint arrow-heads which have from time to time been discovered. The Saxons were acquainted with its use, as is seen from many representations in manuscripts, though it does not seem quite clear that they employed it as a weapon of war. After the Norman conquest, however, the bow rose rapidly

in estimation as a military weapon. The people were encouraged in the practice of archery, and the English bowmen were soon of world-wide reputation, and showed their prowess in many a well-fought field. It is curious, nevertheless, to find, that even when the glory of English archery was at its height in the reign of Edward III., a complaint was made by that monarch to the sheriffs of London, declaring that other and useless games were interfering with the practice of archery, and ordering them to see that more time was spent by the populace in shooting with the bow : offenders were to be punished with imprisonment. Similar regulations were promulgated in the reigns of Richard II. and Edward IV. King Henry VIII. granted a charter to certain gentlemen, empowering them to form a company or guild of "artillery of long-bowes, cross-bowes, and hand-gonnes." This company was called the Fraternity of St George, and still exists, though in a somewhat different form, as the Honourable Artillery Company of London. They were granted certain privileges of dress, being allowed to wear any sort of embroidery or silver "in their gownes, jackettes, cootys and dublettys, and any maner of silkys, as veluet, satten, and damaske (the colours of purple and scarlet oonly excepted) on theyr gownes and jackettes." They were also permitted to practise shooting at all kinds of marks and butts, and at the popinjay. The members of the Company were exempted from serving as jurymen. If any person happened to be wounded by one of them, the shooter was not to be held responsible, provided he had called out the word "fast" before shooting. A second charter to the Artillery Company was granted by James I., by which the marks which had existed in the time of Henry VIII., and which had been destroyed, were ordered to be again put up. Charles I. also granted a similar charter ; and the "merry monarch" himself, if we are to judge from the preface to Wood's 'Bowman's Glory' (1682), was an archer of some skill. Long previous to his reign, however, the fate of the bow as an instrument of war had been sealed, though down to comparatively late times there have

not been wanting those who advocated its use in preference to firearms. Even as an amusement, archery seems to have been much neglected for many years. In the first half of the eighteenth century, the only societies which practised shooting with the bow were the Royal Company of Archers in Scotland, the Honourable Artillery Company, and perhaps one or two societies in the mid-land counties of England. In 1780, the Toxophilite Society was founded by Sir Ashton Lever; and about that time several other archery companies began to be formed throughout England. From this time a strong reaction in favour of archery set in; and now there are few counties in England that cannot boast of a good company of bowmen, and the largely-attended meetings of the various bodies prove how popular the art has again become.

Of books on the subject there is no lack; but a really good history of archery has still to be written. The earliest book of the kind is Roger Ascham's 'Toxophilus, the schole or partitions of shooting, contayned in two books, Pleasaunt for all gentlemen and yomen of Englande. For theyr pastime to reade, and profitable for theyr use to followe both in warre and peace.' Ascham wrote this treatise in 1544: it is in the form of a dialogue between Philologus and Toxophilus, the first part being an account of ancient archery and a disquisition on the merits and advantages of the art in general, and the second part containing practical hints as to shooting with the bow. It is written in a graceful and flowing style, the language being much superior to the usual English written in that day. It is a book many parts of which may be even yet read with pleasure and profit. The standard works on archery are Moseley's 'Essay on Archery' (1792) and Roberts's 'English Bowman' (1801); but both treat more of the practical portion of the art than of its history. Both, too, want arrangement, the facts not being laid down in very lucid order. There are several books of 'Anecdotes of Archery,' but they do not contribute much to the history of the subject. The best modern work is 'The Theory and Practice of Archery,' by Mr Horace Ford, himself an excel-

lent practical archer. He confines himself, however, to giving instruction in shooting, and does not enter at any length on a historical account of the art.

Having taken the above extremely cursory glance at the progress which archery made in the sister kingdom, let us turn our attention a little more particularly to the history of the art in Scotland. Without referring to prehistoric times, or discussing the question of flint arrow-heads, and the knowledge of archery possessed by the aboriginal inhabitants of North Britain, let us look at the first mention of bows which occurs in the statute-book. We find this in the reign of King William the Lion, in the latter part of the twelfth century. Of course, by this time the long-bow, the use of which the Normans had introduced, or rather revived, in England, was a recognised instrument of warfare, and so we find it playing a prominent part in the equipment of a soldier of that period. The Act to which we refer is entitled—"of them quha comes to the hoist;" and after saying that all men between sixty years of age and sixteen are to be armed according to their position in life, it is enacted "that he quha hes fiftene pond lande, or fourtie merks worth in moveable gudes, sall have ane horse, ane habergeon, ane knapiskay¹ of iron, ane sword, ane dagger.

"He quha hes fourtie schilling land or mair until ane hundredth schilling land, sall have ane bow and arrowes, ane dagger and ane knife.

"He quha hes less than fourtie schilling land sall have ane hand-axe, ane bowe and arrowes.

"And all others quha may have armour sall have ane bowe and arrowes, outwith the forrest; and within the forrest, ane bowe and pyle.¹

"Item, it is statute that wapinschaw sal be kepted and haldin."

From this Act we see that every man, unless mounted, was expected to have at least a bow and arrows. For the practice of archery, too, weaponshawings were to be held. It is impossible to

¹ Helmet.

² Probably an arrow with a square head.

say whether this part of the statute was carried out in its integrity. It is doubtful whether it was, as in almost every subsequent enactment similar to this, the same injunction respecting weaponshawings is laid down, which would hardly have been done, we think, if those meetings had been popular, and had become part of the established order of things. In fact, notwithstanding all the Acts passed for its promotion, archery never took such a deep root in Scotland as it did in England, as is clearly shown from the tone of many subsequent Acts.

The next enactment having reference to the bow as a part of military equipment is one passed in the reign of Robert the Bruce about 1319. By this it is commanded, "that ilk man have and the valour of ane kow in gudes sall have ane bowe with ane schaipe of arrowes, that is, twentie-four arrowes, or ane speir. . . . Item, it is the king's will that all schirefs and lords of the land sall make inquisition anent the premises, and sall make wapinschawin after the octaves of Pasche next following."

We hear nothing more of archery in Scotland for a number of years; but the long series of troubles in which the country was involved after the death of the Bruce must have taught the inhabitants to respect the prowess of English bowmen, and to endeavour to cope with their enemies by means of similar weapons. Accordingly, among the earliest Acts passed after the return of James I. to his dominions, we find it ordained, that "all men busk them to be archers fra they be twelve zeir of age, and that in ilk ten pundis worthe of lande, their be made bowe markes, and specialle near to parochie kirkes, quhairin upon halie days men may cum and at the least shute thrise about, and have usage of archerie; and quha sa usis not the said archerie, the laird of the land sall raise of him a wedder, and gif the laird raises not the said paine, the king's schireffe or his ministers sall raise it to the king."

Other games which, however they might serve to keep up the muscle and sinew of the country, did not tend directly to practical use in time of war, seem to have interfered to a considerable

extent with the sport of archery. The following Act was accordingly passed in the same Parliament, the first of James I. : “ Item, it is statute, and the king forbiddis that na man play at the futeball, under the paine of fiftie schillings, to be raised to the lord of the land als often as he be tainted, or to the schireffe of the land, or his ministers, gif the lordes will not punish sik trespassours.”

Football and golf seem to have been the natural enemies of archery in Scotland, as we find frequent enactments against them similar to the above. In later times, however, many members of the Royal Company have been as distinguished “ baculo globisque,” as Scot of Thirlestane terms golf, as with the bow and arrow. Having ordered all men to “ busk ” themselves as archers, James’s next care was to ordain times for shooting ; and in his second Parliament it was therefore enacted, “ that in ilk scheriffdom of the realme be made weaponschawinges four times in the yeir.” This brief instruction was explained at greater length in an Act passed next year, 1425 :—

“ Item, it is ordained in the second Parliament of our Sovereign Lord the King, that ilke schireffe of the realm should gar weaponschawinges be made four times ilke zeir in als monie places as were speedful within his bailliarie ; bot the manner how weaponschawinges suld be received was not appoynted. Therefore our Lord the King, throw the hail ordinance of his Parliament, statutes that ilke gentleman hauand ten pounds woorth of land or mair be sufficientlie harnished and armed with basnet, haille legge harnes, sworde, spear, and dagger, and gentlemen hauand less extentes of landes, nor na landes, sall be armed at their gudlie power after the discretion of the schireffes, bot all other zeamen (yeomen) of the realm betwixt xvj. and sextie zeir sall be sufficientlie bowed and schafted with sword and buckler and knife ; and that all the burgesses and indwellers within the burrow townes of the realme in like maner be anarmed and harished, and make weaponschawinges within the burrowis of the realme four times in the zeir, and that be the aldermen and baillies, upon the quhilk the

chalmerlane and his deutes sall knaw and execute the said thinges, and that all men seculares of the realme be well purveyed of the said harnes and weapons be the feast of the nativite of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the paines followand," &c.

In order to provide the necessary arms for the people, it was enacted that "all merchants of the realme passand over the sea for merchandise bring hame as he may gudly thoile after the quantity of his merchandise, harnes and armoures, with speares, schaftes, bowes, and staves ; and that be done by ilk ane of them als oft as it happenis them to passe over sea in merchandise." From this it would appear that there were few, if any, bow-makers or armourers then resident in Scotland, and that most of the arms required had to be imported from abroad. James I. appears to have taken much interest in the arming of the people and keeping them prepared for war ; but notwithstanding all his exertions, archery did not become at all a universal accomplishment, as is seen from a somewhat later statute of his reign—"Item, that ilk zeaman that is of twentie pund in gudes have a gud doublet of fense, or ane harbergeon, ane iron hat, with bow, schafif, sword, buckler, and knife ; and the zeaman that is na archer nor cannot draw a bow, sall have a gude suir hat for his head, and a doublet of fense, with sword and buckler, and a gude axe, or else a brogged staffe." It is said, too, but upon doubtful authority, that James formed a body-guard of archers for his own person, selected from the most skilful marksmen at the weaponshawings. Whether or not he did this, another body-guard was established about this period, which has made its name famous in the annals of history. This was the celebrated Scottish Archer-Guard of France. This company boasted of much greater antiquity than that which we now assign to it, claiming to have been originally instituted in the time of Charlemagne, between whom and Achaius, the King of Scotland, a close alliance is said to have existed. In 882, Scotsmen are mentioned as having been in the service of Charles III. of France ; and Louis IX. is said to have instituted a corps of

Scots Guards about the middle of the thirteenth century. The establishment, however, on a regular footing, of the Scottish Archer-Guards, seems to be due to Charles VII., who selected them from a body of their countrymen who had come to France under the leadership of the Earl of Buchan. They had distinguished themselves by their bravery at the battle of Verneuil in 1424, and had suffered severely in that action. From the survivors were formed the Archer-Guard, who, foreigners though they were, ever proved themselves the most faithful troops in the service of the French Crown. All who have read 'Quentin Durward'—and who has not?—will remember the description which Scott there gives of this company in the time of Louis XI. He says: "Each of them ranked as a gentleman in place and honour; and their near approach to the king's person gave them dignity in their own eyes, as well as importance in those of the nation of France. They were sumptuously armed, equipped, and mounted; and each was entitled to allowance for a squire, a valet, a page, and two yeomen, one of whom was termed *coutelier*, from the large knife which he wore to despatch those whom in the *mêlée* his master had thrown to the ground. With these followers, and a corresponding equipage, an archer of the Scottish Guard was a person of quality and importance; and vacancies being generally filled up by those who had been trained in the service as pages or valets, the cadets of the best Scottish families were often sent to serve under some friend and relation in those capacities, until a chance of preferment should occur." For a description of their uniform, we must refer the reader to the book from which we have quoted.

The following description of their duties we take from 'The Scot Abroad.'¹ "According to the old courtly creed of France, the privileges of the Scots Guard had an eminence that partook of sacredness. Twenty-four of them were told off as the special protectors of the royal person. They took charge of the keys of the chamber where the king slept, and the oratory where he paid

¹ Dr Hill Burton's 'The Scot Abroad,' i. 49.

his devotions. When, on a solemn progress, he entered a walled town, the keys were committed to the custody of the captain of the Guard. They guarded his boat as he crossed a ferry, and were essential to the support of his litter when he was carried. On ordinary occasions two of them stood behind him; but in affairs of great ceremony—the reception of embassies, the conferring high honours, the touching for the king's evil, and the like—six of them stood near the throne, three on each side. It was deemed a marked honour to them that the silk fringe with which their halberts were decorated was white—the royal colour of France.”

When more friendly relations began to be established between England and Scotland in the sixteenth century, the distinctive nationality of the Scots Guard began to wane. In 1660 they still possessed a Scotch officer,¹ but half a century later it does not appear to have comprised any of that nation among its numbers. It retained its old name, however; and “there were still preserved,” says the author of ‘The Scot Abroad,’ “among the young Court lackeys, who kept up the part of the survivors of the Hundred Years’ War, some of the old formalities. Among these, when the *Clerc du Guet* challenged the guard who had seen the palace gate closed, ‘il repond en Eccossois, I am hire—c’est à dire, me voilà;’ . . . in the mouths of the Frenchmen, totally unacquainted with the barbarous tongue in which the regimental orders had been originally devised, the answer always sounded, ‘Ai am hire.’” As an appendage of the Court for purposes of display, the Scots Guard existed until all things under the old *régime* were swept away. The fighting strength of the Guard was, we are told, incorporated into the British army in 1662;² but it appears to us doubtful if this was really part of the old Scottish Archer-Guard of France.

¹ For various information on the subject, see “Papers relative to the Royal Guard of Scottish Archers in France,” Maitland Club, 1846. The initial letter of this chapter represents one of the six Scottish Guards who attended the consecration of Louis XV.

² See the Records of the 1st Regiment of Foot (Royal Scots), published by authority, 1847.

To return, however, after this digression, to the history of archery in Scotland : the importance of keeping up the art was recognised no less by his successors than by James I. In 1457 it was ordained by James II. "that the weaponschawinges be halden be the Lordes and Barounes spiritual and temporal four times in the zeir. And that the fute ball and golfe be utterly cryed down and not to be used, and that the bowe markes be maid at ilk parish kirk, a pair of buttes and schutting be used. And that ilk man shutte sex shottes at the least, under the paine to be raised upon them that cummis not, at the least twa pennyces to be given to them that cummis to the bowe markes to drinke. And this to be used fra Pasche till Alhallow-mes after, and be the nixt midsommer to be reddly with all their graith without failzie. And that their be a bower and a fledgear in ilk head town of the schire. And that the toun furnish him of stufte and graith after as needs him thereto, that they may serve the countrie with. And as tutching the fute ball and the golfe to be punished with the barrounis un-law, and gif he takis not the un-law, that it be taken be the kings officiares, and gif the parochin be meikle, that their be three or foure or five bowe markes in sik places as gainis therefore, and that all men that is within fiftie and past twelve zeires sall use schutting."

Notwithstanding all these statutory enactments anent archery, the shootings at the parish butts do not seem to have thriven, as in 1491 we have another Act passed by James IV., which is virtually the same as that one of James I. which we have previously quoted, ordering the arming of men according to their rank, and their attendance on weaponshawings. Immediately following this Act is another, launching fulminations as before against football and golf. "Item, it is statute and ordained that in na place of the realme there be used fute ball, golfe, or other sik unprofitable sports, for the common gude of the realme and defense thereof, and that bowes and schutting be hanted,¹ and bowe markes maid therefore ordained in ilk parochin under the paine of fourtie

¹ *I.e.*, practised.

schillings, to be raised by the Schireffe and Baillies foresaid, and of ilk parochin ilk zeir quhair it beis founden that bowe markes beis not maid nor schutting hanted, as is before said." Just twenty years before this Act, a similar one had been passed by James III., all which serves to show how strongly the people were attached to their more national games, and how averse they were to archery, which more particularly pertained to the English. In fact, archery could not be kept up by mere Acts of Parliament unsupported by the spirit and inclination of the people themselves, and accordingly the meetings for the practice of the art never throve. In 1503 yet another Act was passed, ordering weaponshawings to be held; and in 1540 James V. orders two such meetings every year, in June and October; "and because they have been sa lang out of use of making of weapon schawing, it is thocht expedient that the samin be maid thrise for thè first zeir."

The view given of Scottish archery at this period in the poem of "Christ's Kirk on the Green," ascribed to James V., does not give a favourable impression of it. In a row at a fair, one man draws a bow at another, "but comes not nigh him by an acre's-breadth." A friend

"Cried fy!
 And up an arrow drew;
 He forged it so furiously,
 The bow in flenderis flew.
 So was the will of God, trow I!
 For had the tree been true,
 Men said that kend his archery
 That he had slain anew
 That day
 At Christ's Kirk on the green."

After another man shoots without effect, one starts up, and fitting an arrow to the string, promises to hit him, and does so, but so feebly that his leather jerkin turns the blow. Some one else then shoots; but, alas for the skill of Scottish bowmen!—

"The bolt flew o'er the byre.
 One cried, Fye! he had slain a priest
 A mile beyond the mire.

Then bow and bag from him he keist,
 And fled als ferse as fyre
 Of flint
 At Christ's Kirk on the green that day."

With the fifth of the Jameses all mention of archery disappears from the statute-book.¹ The gradual improvements in artillery and other firearms which were taking place, made the bow of much less importance as a military weapon than it was before. As a pastime, however, archery still lingered on, and it is interesting to find Queen Mary amusing herself (certainly at rather an unfit time) by shooting at butts with Bothwell at Seton Palace.² This was shortly after the murder of Darnley in 1567. The practice of ladies shooting with the bow was not an uncommon one, and it is difficult to conceive a more healthy and graceful amusement for the fair sex than archery. So early as the fourteenth century we find many representations of ladies hunting both rabbits and birds with the bow and arrow. In later times it would seem to have been a more uncommon recreation for women, as in King James's 'Book of Sports' it is mentioned that the king's pleasure is, "that after the end of divine service, our good people be not disturbed, letted, or discouraged from any lawful recreation, such as dancing, either men or women, *archery for men*," &c. In recent days ladies' archery clubs have become quite an institution, and few wield a light bow more deftly than the fair members. At short distances, such as are usually shot at in England, archery is a sport in which both sexes may mingle on an equal footing, and with equal chances of success; and while our fair countrywomen continue to lay in a stock of health and strength by indulging in such an excellent exercise, we need not fear that succeeding generations will keep up Britain's old renown for strong arms and stout hearts.

¹ In 1574, during the regency of Morton, an Act anent weaponshawings was passed, in which bows are mentioned as one of the arms to be practised with at these meetings; but evidently much importance is not attached to them. In 1600 the bow is not alluded to in similar Acts.

² Burton's Hist. of Scotland, 2d ed., iv. 199.

It is difficult to say at what precise period the bow was disused in battle. It is stated that the Marquess of Montrose employed it in his campaigns; but this is questionable, as that commander relied chiefly on his Highland troops, whose mode of fighting was by the impetuous dash with pike and claymore, and had not the steadiness and discipline indispensable to a body of archers. In a curious little work published in 1791, called the 'Memoirs of Sergeant Donald Macleod,' an old soldier, who was at that time, it is stated, in the 103d year of his age, we are told that about the year 1699 the Royal Scots Regiment (now the 1st Royal Scots), then commanded by the Earl of Orkney, wore steel caps, and were armed with bows and arrows, and swords and targets.¹ It is probable, however, that if such were their weapons at that time, they were soon discarded; for a very few years after the regiment was sent to Flanders, and took part in the battle of Blenheim, in which it is not likely that Marlborough employed the aid of archers.

Although archery had never taken very deep root in Scotland, its practice was, nevertheless, by no means abandoned during the whole of the seventeenth century. As we shall have occasion to see, many towns possessed arrows which were annually shot for by the burgesses and others. The arrows belonging to Musselburgh, Peebles, and Selkirk, are still competed for by the Royal Company; but besides these there were probably several others. St Salvator's College at St Andrews had an arrow which was shot for by the students from 1619 to 1751. The Kilwinning Club, too, now unhappily in a somewhat moribund state, was in full vigour, having been instituted so far back as the close of the fifteenth century. Notwithstanding all this, archery would not seem to have been in a very active state—at all events, in the vicinity of the Scottish metropolis; and it was to revive the ancient sport that the

¹ In all likelihood this statement is incorrect, bows and arrows having been generally abandoned in the army in the seventeenth century. Pikemen, however, survived to a later date. See Cannon's Historical Records of the 1st Foot (Royal Scots), 1847.

Company whose history we now propose to chronicle was started, under the presidency of the Marquess of Atholl, in 1676.

In concluding this necessarily very brief and imperfect sketch of archery in Scotland, we cannot but congratulate the Royal Company not only on the spirit with which they have kept up the *prestige* of the body for so many years, but on the many honours which have been bestowed on the Company during the period of its existence. Distinguished alike as it has been, and still is, by the eminence of many of its individual members, by the hospitality and good-fellowship which has invariably characterised them, and last, but not least, by their skill in archery, we may express our earnest hope, that though the landmarks of the "olden time" are being day by day swept away from among us, it may be many, many years ere the sovereign's Archer Guard of Scotland be numbered among the things that were.



CHAPTER II.

FIRST EMBODIMENT OF SCOTTISH ARCHERS—EXISTENCE OF AN ARCHERS' COMPANY PREVIOUS TO 1676—EARLY RECORDS OF THE ROYAL COMPANY—REGULATIONS FOR THEIR GOVERNMENT—APPLICATION TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL—APPOINTMENT OF BOWMAKER—CAPTAIN-GENERAL THE MARQUESS OF ATHOLL—UNIFORM—PARADE OF 4TH JUNE 1677—COMPETITIONS PREVIOUS TO 1676—TARBAT ELECTED LIEUTENANT-GENERAL—BLANK IN THE HISTORY OF THE COMPANY FROM 1679-1703—PROBABLE EXISTENCE OF THE COMPANY DURING THAT PERIOD—TARBAT APPOINTED CAPTAIN-GENERAL—SHOOTING AT THE GOOSE—NEW CHARTER GRANTED TO THE COMPANY BY QUEEN ANNE—LETTER OF THANKS TO THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL.

THE origin of the Royal Company of Archers, if not quite "lost in the mists of antiquity," is yet involved in considerable obscurity. It is asserted, though upon somewhat doubtful authority, that it owed its first institution "to the commissioners appointed in the reign of James I. of Scotland for enforcing and overseeing the exercise of archery in different counties. These commissioners, who were men of rank and power, picked out from among the better classes under their cognisance the most expert bowmen, formed them into a company, and upon perilous occasions they attended the king as his chief body-guard, and in that situation they always distinguished themselves for their loyalty, courage, and skill in archery."¹ There is also a tradition which has been current in the Company for a very long period, that on the field of Flodden the body of the Scottish king was found covered and surrounded by the bodies of his archers' guard.² It is said that

¹ Encyclopædia Britannica—art. "Archery." Hargrove's Anecdotes of Archery: York, 1792.

² See her Majesty's Journal of our Life in the Highlands, Sept. 1, 1842.

the ancient records of the Company were destroyed by fire about the end of the sixteenth century; but whether or not this is the case, there is certainly reason for supposing that the Company existed in one shape or another for some time previous to the period of the commencement of its present records. The Musselburgh Arrow, which since 1676 has been shot for by members of the Company, alone bears medals reaching back so far as 1603; but, of course, it is possible that the competitions in those early days may have been open to all comers, and not confined to the Royal Company, or the body then representing it, exclusively. Another hint which seems to point to the previous existence of the Company is contained in a minute, of date 18th August 1677, which says:—

“The whilk day the Council of Archers taking to their consideration some former acts made by them anent the way and manner of shooting for publick prizes at Ed^r, Kelso, Stirling, and other places (*to which places they have been in use to send some of their number*),” &c. Now, considering that the Company—if we are to take the date of its first minutes as the period of its commencement—had only been in existence for about a year, this was rather a peculiar phrase to employ; and we cannot but think that it points to a previous existence of a Company of Archers, perhaps not so well and legally constituted as the body now was, but still a Company who sent representatives to various places to shoot for prizes along with competitors from other districts.

It appears not at all improbable that such a Company would exist in Edinburgh; for if Kelso, Stirling, and other towns were in the habit of giving prizes to be shot for by the bowmen of their respective districts, it is unlikely that in the metropolis of Scotland the art of shooting with the bow should not have been practised by the inhabitants, especially as the competition for the Musselburgh Arrow proved a field for the exercise of their abilities close at hand. Passing, however, from the region of hypothesis to that of actual fact, we find that we have a distinct account of the found-

by a future practice thereof, as the best mean for the encouragement and increase of Archers in time coming, so famous in antient times of Forrain Invasion and Warrs; and withall considering how ready his Majesty has ever been to cherish and incourage the Contryvers and Undertakers of such noble designs, HAVE, THEREFORE, of ane unanimous consent, Agreed and Resolved (the approbation of his Majestie's Secret Counsell being alwayes obtained thereto), To Enter and List themselves in a particular Society and Company for Arching and Shutting with Bows and Arrowes, to be called His Majesty's Company of Archers in time comeing, which may not only be a nursurie for Archers in these parts, but may likewayes be a ready mean to raise ane emulation in others, and incourage them to use and practise Archerie in other places of this his Majestie's Antient Kingdom; and for that effect have agreed upon and subscryved the following Articles and Rules to be observed by them for the Right Regulateing and Ordering of the said Company in tyme comeing."

FOLLOWS THE LAWS.

- " *Primo*, It is appointed that, by the common Vote and Suffrage of the haill Company, there be a Council constitute Yearly, to consist of seven of their number (whereof one is to be Preses), who shall have power to meet, and to contryve, frame, and make Laws, Acts, Statutes, and Rules for Regulateing, Manageing and Ordering all things relateing to Archerie, and to cause put said Acts and Laws to due execution, by Fyneing or otherwayes punishing any of the Company who shall contraveen, disobey, or gainsay the samen.
- " *Secundo*, That the said Council shall design, nominat, and elect three of the most knowing Archers to be Judges, to cognosce, desyde, and determine, in all debates and contraversies, att Butts or Rovors, in shooting for any Publik Prizes, or at any other occasion.
- " *Tertio*, That the said Council likeways appoint ane Clerk, Fiscal,

Box-master or Thesaurer, and Officers, which Clerk is to have ane Book for Recording all their Acts and Sentences, and who shall give furth their warrands and orders, subscribed by the Præsés, and direct to the Officers for putting the same in execution.

- “ *Quarto*, That after the erecting and setling of the said Company, none shall be Licenced to Arch within the said City of Edinburgh or Suburbs thereof; but such as shall List themselves, and be entered in the said Company, and who at their entry to that Society, shall undergoe a tryall of the saids three Judges, and thereupon get an Act of Admission under the Clerk’s hand, by warrand of the Judges; which Act shall have appended to it the Company’s Seal, bearing for their Arms, Cupid and Mars, with this motto, ‘IN PEACE AND WARR.’
- “ *Quinto*, That some be appointed by the Company to teach and train Intrants and Beginners, who desire to List themselves in the said Company, until they be in a condition to abyde a tryal of the Judges, in order to their admission.
- “ *Sexto*, That ilk Person, at their Entry and Admission, give into the Company’s Box ane certain Soume, according to their quality and discretion, not being under the sum of fifty-eight shillings Scots, and that the Thesaurer or Box-master be answerable for the samen, and for all fines, unlaues, and americiaments which shall be uplifted by him, to be furthcoming to the Council’s Order for defraying of public charges.
- “ *Septimo*, That there be Public Butts erected, either upon the Company’s charges, or procured by their supplication from the Good Town of Edinburgh, which shall be always patent and accessible to Strangers and Young Archers, who are listed, or any of the Company, without payment of any Butt Mail or other acknowledgement.
- “ *Octavo*, That there be ane Public Pryze at the Company’s charges (if none be presented by any others), which shall be shott for

once every year, viz., upon the Secund Munday of June yearly, which Pryze shall be according to the Counsills direction, either a Silver Arrow, Cup, or other Peice of Plate, which shall be shot for; the first tyme at Butts, and thereafter att Rovors, in case it shall not be winn at Butts, and which Prize shall be kept (but redemption) be him that gains the first three shott without intermission. The solemnities to be observed at and after the winning thereof being alwayes left to the Councillors pleasure.

“*Nono*, That the Hail Company be in readiness, or so many of them as shall be called by the Counsills Order, to meet and convene at any time and place to be appointed for shutting at Butts or Rovors, for any other Pryze that shall be presented to them, or any other Publick account, as they shall be warned by the Officers, none to be excused for absence without a lawful impediment or excuse.

“*Decimo*, That there be ane Public Wapenshawing of the Hail Company once every year, viz., upon the first Monday of August yearly, and that they be modelled and drawn up in a formal Company with Drums and Colours, whereof the Officers are to be chosen by the said Councill, and which Company so framed, shall meet on the Links of Leith, or wherever the said Councill shall appoint, where ilk person shall be holden to appear, with sufficient shutting graith, carrying the Company's Seal and Arms in their Hatts or Bonnetts, as their proper Badge and proper Cognizance, and shall be fitted in such other equipage and order, and performe such fates, and solemnities as the said Councill of Archers shall hereafter be pleased to appoint.

“TO WHICH RULES, AND ARTICLES, particularly above specified, and to all Rules, Acts, Statutes, and Laws, to be hereafter made and sett down by the said Council of Archers (or quorum thereof being the major part), and to all the Decisions and Determinations

of the said Judges to be elected by them, in all contraversies at Butts or Rovers, the said haill Company shall submit themselves : Likeas ilk ane of them undersubscribing for their own part, hereby Bind and Oblige themselves to submit thereto, and to Obtemper, Observe, and Underly the samen Lawes, Acts, Rules, Decisions, and Sentences, in all points, ilk person under such paines as the Council shall modifie, not exceeding the soume of Ten Pounds Scots money, for ilk contravention. And in cases of great enormities and misdemeanours, with power to the said Council to exclud the offenders from the said Society, and inflict such other punishments as they shall think fitt.

“ AND FINALLY, To the end the said Company of Archers may be lawfully constitute and sufficiently authorised, THEY HEREBY ORDAIN their Clerk to be nominate by them to supplicat and petition the Right Honourable the Lords of his Majesties Privy Counsill to interpone their authority hereto, and not only to ratifie and approve thir presents and haill Laws and Articles thereof above specified, whereby they may be empowered and authorized to convocat and keep public Wapenshawings in manner above prescryved, but also to grant such other powers, privileges, freedoms, and immunities, as their Lordships shall think fit.

“ Sic Subscritur, ATHOLL.”

The petition to the Privy Council is not extant. It was, however, presented. A committee was appointed to take it into consideration ; and a report was shortly issued by them, approving of the regulations of the Company, and recommending the Privy Council to authorise the Treasury to grant a sum of money for the purpose of buying a prize to be competed for by members of the Company.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ANENT THE ARCHERS.

“ There being a Petition presented to your Lordships, in Name of several Noblemen and Gentlemen, desiring your Lordships to

by the above report being approved of, and a handsome prize authorised to be granted as an encouragement to the new society.

“*Edinburgh, 6th March 1677.*—The Lords of his Maj^{ties} Privy Council having considered this Report, they approve the same, and recommends to the Commissioners of his Majestie’s Treasury to allow Twenty pound ster^s for the expense of a Prize to the effect within specified for this year, and declares that no further allowance shall be granted upon that account hereafter.

“Sic Subsc^r. ROTHES, *cancell: j.p.d.*”

Thus, then, was “The King’s Company of Archers” firmly established upon the basis of rules drawn up by themselves. By these regulations the Company would appear to have been granted a monopoly of the right to practise archery within Edinburgh, but were bound to receive all applicants for admission upon their satisfying the judges that they were able to shoot; if not, the judges were required to teach them. No uniform was required, the only distinctive mark of members being “the Company’s Seal and Arms on their Hatts or Bonnetts.”

The first meeting of the Council of which we have any account was held on the 16th August 1676, but it is evident from the minute recording it that it was not the first held. The minute runs thus :—

“Resolved and ordered by the Council that Alex^r. Strachan, Drummer to the Castle, Shall be officer and Drummer to the Company for a year to come, Notwithstanding of any former Nomination of James Comrie. And it is ordered that the Thesaurer Shall provide him a Coat of green colour, with a white sash to wear about his weast, and a buss of white Ribbons on his shoulder, and a green Smal Staff which he is to wear upon all publick occasions, or when he is ordered to warn the Archers to meet. And the said Staff is to have on the top thereof the King’s Arms and the Company’s Seall. Likeas he being called, gave his oath *de*

fideli. And it is ordered that he shall have for his fee Twenty Pounds Scots, which is to be paid yearly by the Thesaurer at the election in March, and to have three shillings Scots from each Archer at publick prizes at Butts or Rovers, and such allowance from Intrants as they shall think fitt to give.

“Ordered that the Company of Archers shall, upon the first day of every month from March to October, meet either at Leith or Edinburgh, as the Præses shall order, eight-and-forty hours before give advertisement[*sic*]; appointing every person who shall not come, to give in to the Thesaurer half-a-crown for their dinner, under the penalty of being unlauded in the sum of ten pounds Scots, except they can make it sufficiently to appear they were out of town about their necessar affairs before they were warned. Sic subscribitur,

GEORGE DRUMMOND.

CH. ARASKINE.

AERCHBALD HAMILTON.

AL. ROBBSON.

AL. M'KENZIE.

JOHN LINDSAY.”

Having appointed an officer, and made arrangements for the meetings of the Company, the Council do not appear to have met again this year, as their next minute bears date the second Monday of March 1677, being shortly after the above-mentioned formal approval of the Privy Council was issued. At this meeting all that was done was to re-elect, with one exception, the Præses and Council of the preceding year. On the 2d of April the Council met at Leith; but much interest in the new Company does not seem to have been taken by its members, if we are to judge by the minute:—

“The officer of the Company of Archers being called to give ane execution of his diligence in warning the archers to have compared this present day, being the first Monday of the month, to have given their advice anent the publick affairs of the archery,

conform to ane Act of the Council, Gave ane account that he had cited the persons following," &c.

Then follow the names of ten gentlemen who had been cited, but who neither appeared nor sent their half-crown for their dinner, as had been ordered. The Council then fined all the absentees half-a-crown, "and ordains the officer to do diligence and exact the same be poynding and otherways as accords, but suspends the exacting of the ten pounds Scots in which they are lyable for their absence." Surely the awful threat of having their goods poynded to the value of half-a-crown would have the effect of making those worthy citizens more attentive to their duties.

At a meeting held in the end of April, the Præsides stated that he and some other members of the Company had been invited to go to Stirling and shoot for a prize offered by the magistrates of that burgh. The Council then nominated three gentlemen to go to Stirling,—“they always,” says the minute, “observing the Council’s method of shooting, and to bring back the prize to the Council if gained by y^m.” Whether this method of the Council was inferior to that which prevailed in the west, or whether the individual competitors sent by them were not sufficiently practised in the art, we know not; but certain it is that there is no mention made in the records of the prize having been brought to Edinburgh.

It would appear that, notwithstanding all the Acts which had been passed to encourage the art of shooting with the bow in Scotland, the trade of bower or fletcher¹ had fallen entirely into disuse, at least in Edinburgh,² as we find at the same meeting as the one we have just referred to, “ane order was passed for sending Robert Monro to London to be bred for making bows and arrows, and the treas^r appointed to give him twenty shillings sterling for his fraught and victuals, and thirty shillings when he arrives at London.”

¹ *i.e.*, Fledger, or featherer of arrows.

² The writer of a notice in Kay’s Prints (ii. 207) states that James VI. constituted in 1603 one William Mayne fledger and bower “to his Hienes, alsweill for game as weir.” The authority for the statement is not given.

Certainly no great sum for the equipping of an apprentice for London—at least, according to our present ideas.

The Council having got other preliminary matters arranged, began to think it proper that there should be a uniform for members of the Company in which to shoot and appear at parades. Accordingly we find them approving a garb shortly described as consisting of a white vest, green breeches, and bonnet. What colour the coat, which one would imagine to be the principal part of the uniform, was to be, is not mentioned; but we may fairly conclude it was green also,—whether green tartan or plain green cloth, it is, however, difficult to say.

As we have already mentioned, it was provided by the constitution of the Company that the Council was to have the management of its affairs; and amongst other duties, not the least important was that of choosing their officers;¹ that is to say, gentlemen to whom would pertain the military arrangements of the body when they “were modelled and drawn up in a formal company with drums and colours.” The Council seem to have elected, although there is no minute of their having done so, the Marquess of Atholl as their captain, and Charles Erskine, Lord Lyon, as their lieutenant.

John, second Earl and first Marquess of Atholl, was born in 1735, so that he was at this time in the prime of life. A devoted Royalist, though not ultimately a strong Jacobite, he had led two thousand men into the field to muster under the king’s standard, set up by the Earl of Glencairn in 1653, and was on this account exempted from Cromwell’s Act of Indemnity in the following year. On the Restoration, however, he was not forgotten, and was appointed a privy councillor in 1660, Justice-General in 1663, and an Extraordinary Lord of Session ten years after. He was

¹ The question as to whether the Council alone had the power of choosing the officers was afterwards disputed. The regulations (Art. 10) seem to say they have; but the terms of the Report of the Privy Council Committee appear to include the Company in general. See page 25.

created a Marquess in 1678. On account of opposition to Lauderdale, he was deprived of his office of Justice-General, but officiated as President of Parliament in 1681. Although when young he had drawn his sword freely in defence of a Stuart, yet he took an early opportunity of waiting on the Prince of Orange after the rebellion. Family connection may have had something to do with this step, as he was allied to that nobleman by ties of marriage. Not being received with much favour by the Hanoverian Government, he joined the Episcopal party, and was appointed President of the Convention of Estates in 1689, being elected by a majority of votes in opposition to the Duke of Hamilton, who was the nominee of the Presbyterians. He died in 1703, and is buried at Dunkeld. Of his private life few records remain to us; but that he must have possessed a large measure of popularity is evident both from the number and kind of offices he was chosen to fill. Altogether, we can have little doubt in believing that his social qualities were of a high order, as they would have almost as much weight as his public honours in his appointment as captain-general; and it is probable that he was no unworthy progenitor of the long line of distinguished noblemen who have since held that office.

A captain having been elected—though, as we have mentioned, we do not know exactly when—it was resolved at a meeting of the Council and many others of the Company, held on the 4th of June 1677, to attend his Lordship at Leith Links on the 11th of that month in full uniform. Such of the members as were noblemen, and who did not attend on that day, were to be fined twenty dollars, and all under that degree ten dollars, and the officer was ordered to warn all to be present. When the day arrived, it was found that there were eleven noblemen and fifty-three gentlemen who did not answer to their names, and so were fined accordingly; “but,” the minute goes on to say, “in regard it hath been pretended by several of the saids Archers that they had not timely advertisement so as to be in readiness at the first meeting,

but are very willing to be present the next meeting, being the last Monday of July, in the Archer's garb, the Council supercides the exacting of the saids fynes till the said day, and declares they will remit the former fynes of such as shall come that day in the garb. But declares they will exact the fynes of such as will not come both for the first and last dayes absence without any favour or defaulcation, conform to the subscribed articles under their own hands, ratified by his Majestie's Privy Council; and recommends to the ffiscal to cause the officer make timeous advertisement hereof to all persons concerned, and to return ane execution thereof in write under the hand of the officer." Whether the Marquess of Atholl met the Company at Leith on this occasion, and what was done there, we have no information.

The list of absent noblemen comprises the names of the Earls of Mar, Linlithgow, Kinghorn, Wigtown, Seaforth, Balcarras, Panmure, and Aboyne, with Lords Elphinston, Ross, and Duffus. From the number of gentlemen that are mentioned as not having turned out, it would seem the Company was already possessed of a large muster-roll. Political feeling, however, rather than love for archery, may have prompted many to join the new Company; but if the sixty or seventy names mentioned as absent represented only a small minority of the body, it must have already attained a very considerable size.

At a meeting held on the 19th June 1677, the Company were informed that a "fletcher" in London named Egertoun was willing to take Robert Monro, whom it will be remembered they had sent there about two months previously, as his apprentice for a year, for a "consideration" of £20 sterling. For this amount he was to furnish him with meat, drink, and washing, and teach him to make bows and arrows. The Company agreed to pay this sum, on condition of Monro promising to come to Scotland at the expiry of the year, and serve the Company. This arrangement appears to have been carried out, and to have succeeded extremely well; for in a letter from the Company to the Marquess of

Atholl, dated 15th April 1779, in which they style him the *founder* and hitherto promoter of the body, they proceed to say :—

“ We must acquaint your Lo/ that your Lo/ design has taken so good effect, that M^r Monro has done beyond expectation in his calling, and made so many excellent bows of stings¹ we caused bring from Norway, and arrows, that our Company will be sufficiently furnished at home, which gives encouragement to many to enter to the Society.”

All this points to the Company being in a very flourishing state, although it had been so short a time organised. We have previously stated our belief that it may have existed for some considerable time previously as a less formal corporation, without any express sanction from the authorities. In support of that view, we quoted an extract from a minute relative to the sending of representatives to various local competitions. As this minute is, in chronological order, the next entry of importance in the records after those we have been considering, it may not be out of place to consider it a little more carefully here. It is dated, Musselburgh, 18th August 1677, and runs thus :—

“ The whilk day the Council of Archers taking into consideration some former acts made by them anent the way and manner of shooting for publick prizes at Ed^r., Kelso, Stirling, and other places (to which places they have been in use to send some of their number), the Council finds it convenient to keep ane uniform way in their shooting for and gaining all publick prizes, and therefore discharges any of their Company to shoot for any publick prizes in any burgh or place within this kingdom, unless they be free prizes (except the town of Musselburgh), in which it shall be free for any of the Company to shoot for the annual prize of their silver arrow in the ordinar manner, in regard of the antiquity and old standing thereof; Providing always that the magistrates of said Burgh prepare and present yearly hereafter ane other free prize to be shot for at Butts, the same day that the

¹ Poles—generally used to denote staves or spears.

silver arrow is to be shot for at rovers, and to be carried away by him who shall gain the first three shots without intermission."

Now, in looking at this entry, what first occurs to us is to see what "the former acts anent the way and manner of shooting" were. Only one appears on the records, and it is that relative to the deputation to Stirling, which we have already mentioned; but it is not impossible that the Council may have made other regulations which are not recorded. The phrase "to which places they have been in use to send some of their number," presents most difficulty. There is not a word mentioned in the existing records of any competitions at Kelso or other places, except Stirling; and we are therefore rather inclined to think, as we said before, that this phrase points to the Company having sent representatives to various competitions for some time previously. On the other hand, it is doubtful if, even supposing the Society had been in existence, it would have sent members for very many years before 1677; as in the minute we are now considering, members are allowed to shoot for the Musselburgh Arrow by reason of the great antiquity thereof. Now the Musselburgh Arrow was shot for first in 1603; so that, if an arrow of little more than seventy years old was then called ancient, the other prizes must have been of comparatively recent date. Whatever may be the real facts, it is certain that it was now settled that, with the exception of the Musselburgh Arrow, members of the Royal Company were not to shoot for prizes which were not to become their own property. It was, perhaps, thought derogatory to the dignity of the Company as it now had State sanction, however praiseworthy it might have been in former times when it possessed a more private character, supposing it to have existed before its formal incorporation in 1676. The passage in the minute, however, is one of considerable difficulty, and of which, with the scanty information we possess, it is not very easy to see the meaning.

There is no account of the shooting for the Musselburgh Arrow in 1677, although the minute is dated in that town. The arrow

had been shot for, as we see from the medals attached to it, in the year 1675. There is but one medal between that and the one of 1678, but it does not bear any date, which almost all the others do. As we have no mention of shooting for this arrow in the minutes of 1676, we may fairly presume that it was shot for in this year.

During 1678 we hear no tidings of the Company. The Musselburgh Arrow, as we have observed above, was shot for and won by a member of the Company. On the 3d March 1679, however, we find a largely attended meeting held, at which Baillie George Drummond was re-elected Preses, and a Council chosen, among whom we find the name of David Drummond, who continued for many years, as we shall see, to take a leading part in the affairs of the Company.

Three judges, a clerk, fiscal, and box-master, were also elected; and the famous Lord Tarbat, who was at this time Lord Justice-General, was appointed Lieutenant in place of Charles Erskine, Lord Lyon, who had died. At this meeting, also, was written the letter to the Captain of the Company to which we have formerly alluded. After mentioning the satisfaction which Monro has given, it proceeds: "My Lord,—We have made choice of the Lord Tarbat, Justice-General, to be our Lieutenant, of which we doubt not your Lo/ will approve. We desire this to be signified to your Lo/ by our Præses, subscriber of this. And we hope to make such progress in that worthy design as your Lo/ shall not need to be ashamed of the patroning you have given to, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and devoted servants," &c.

Of the progress so hoped for, however, we look in vain; for from this date down to 1703, there are no minutes. No doubt, at this time the minds of men were taken up with more important matters than the practising of archery. Possibly the Company may have been looked upon with disfavour by the Hanoverian Government, as containing a large proportion of men favourable to the old dynasty; but we have no ground for believing that it

was actually dissolved. Indeed, as we shall immediately point out, there is internal evidence in the later minutes to show that the Company was in existence at some period at all events between 1679 and 1703. Beyond this, however, nothing is known of the position in which the Company stood during that time. The date of the first entry after the long blank in the minutes is 17th May 1703—"On which day," we read, "the Council, *and other officers* of the Royal Company of Archers, having mett and taken to their consideration that the office of Cap^t-General of the said Company is now become vacant through the death of the Marquis of Atholl, and likeways, considering that the Right Honourable the Viscount of Tarbat, now Prin^{tl} Secretary of State for the Kingdom of Scotland, hath been a member of that society ever since the erection thereof, and that long since he did them the honour to accept of the office of Lieutenant of their Company, they did all with one voice nominate, elect, and choice the said Noble Lord George Viscount of Tarbat to be Captain-General, *with all powers and privileges that ever any Captain could claim or pretend to,*¹ promising to abide by and observe whatever order or commands he shall think fitt to communicate to the Council or Company." The meeting then appointed four of their number to wait upon his Lordship to ask his acceptance of the office.

Several expressions in the minute from which we have taken the above, point to the fact that the Company had not altogether ceased to exercise its functions since its last recorded meeting, however much it may have been under a cloud. We find Mr William Dundas of Kincavel mentioned as President of the Council. The meeting also appointed a new clerk, "having considered that, since the death of M^rKenzie, they had not had ane fixed clerk, to the great disadvantage of the Society." Now, at the last recorded meeting, in 1679, Hugh Stevenson

¹ Seeing that we only know of one previous Captain-General, this expression is peculiar, and goes some way to the support of the theory that the Company was in existence before 1676.

was continued clerk, so Mr M'Kenzie would seem to have been appointed since that time.

The Musselburgh Arrow, too, was shot for pretty regularly up to the year 1688, from which period it does not seem to have been contested until 1702. The names of the winners almost all occur in the list of members of the Company. So that we feel justified in presuming that the body was exercising the functions for the pursuit of which it was organised, at least until 1688. In addition to all this, there are about thirteen leaves left blank in the Minute-Book from 1679 to 1702, as if for the purpose of being filled up at leisure, probably from a draft—the accomplishment of which design may have been prevented by the death of the clerk, and consequent confusion of the papers.

Another reason for supposing that the Company was not extinct during those years, may be gathered from the fact that the office of Captain-General was not allowed to be long vacant, as the Marquess of Atholl had just died the same year that Tarbat was appointed; and it is unlikely that an almost defunct Company should meet so opportunely almost immediately after the death of their chief. Be this as it may, it is certain that Tarbat was elected very shortly after the death of the Marquess, so that there was no unnecessary interregnum in the Captaincy.

The nobleman who was now raised to the head of the Company was a son of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, and was born in 1630, so that he was at this time by no means a young man. He succeeded his father in 1654, and was appointed a Lord of Session in 1661—an office, however, which he was not long allowed to enjoy, being deprived of his seat on the bench in 1664, on account of his opposition to Lauderdale, who was then at the head of affairs. Having subsequently succeeded in making his peace with that statesman, he was appointed Justice-General in 1678, and Clerk-Register in 1681. On the accession of James II. he was created Viscount Tarbat. Though a violent Cavalier, and supporter of the Stuarts, he made no objection to take office in the service of King

William, who, nevertheless, left him unemployed till 1592, when he was again appointed Clerk-Register. Accused of falsifying the minutes of Parliament, he resigned his office in 1695, upon a pension of £400 per annum. On Queen Anne ascending the throne, he was made Secretary of State for Scotland, but resigned this office for that of Justice-General in 1704, which he held till 1710, having been created Earl of Cromarty in 1703. Towards the end of his life he retired to his estate in the Highlands to save money to spend in London. This, however, he did not live long enough to do, as he died on August 17th, 1714, in the 84th year of his age. He is said to have been a very good-natured man, "possessed of a great measure of polite learning and good parts, and master of an extraordinary gift of pleasing and diverting conversation, which rendered him one of the most entertaining companions in the world." He was one of the original Fellows of the Royal Society, and reckoned one of the most able members. At the age of seventy he married "a young and beautiful countess in her own right,¹ a widow, wealthy, and in universal estimation." The following distich was composed on the occasion :—

"Thou sonsie auld carl, the world has not thy like,
For ladies fa' in love with thee, though thou be ane auld tyke."

Lord Cromarty was the author of several works, some of them of a very curious nature ; but none have been counted worthy of remembrance by posterity. There is an obelisk erected to his memory in the neighbourhood of Dingwall.

Lord Tarbat having accepted the office of Captain-General, was received in person by the Company at a meeting held in August. After a match had been shot at butts, and the health of the Captain-General and the Company drunk, we are told that "several overtures were made for the further improvement and encouragement of Archerie." A committee was appointed to

¹ The Countess of Wemyss, whose son by a former husband was afterwards Captain-General of the Royal Company.

consider these overtures, and to report to the next meeting ; also to take into consideration the best method of choosing their officers and members of Council. At a committee meeting held shortly after, this was decided to be done by giving in signed lists of those persons whom each member desired to belong to the Council. The selection of the military officers would seem to have been left with the Council.

A largely attended general meeting of the Company accordingly was held on the 4th of September. The first portion of the proceedings consisted in the ancient sport of shooting at the goose. To quote the words of the minute—"They went to the butts, where a living goose was fixed a convenient distance from the north but, and nothing but her head in view. The same was shot through by the Captain-General, the arrow entering the left eye and going out a little behind the right eye, above four inches quite through, so as she never mov'd after she receiv'd the shot. Then returning to John Monro's, the whole company was nobly entertained by their Captain-General." This cruel sport of shooting at a goose was continued for many years. We shall have occasion to advert to it more particularly when treating of the goose prize in a subsequent portion of this work. The most striking circumstance, however, in connection with this particular competition is, that the Captain-General should happen to be the fortunate winner. A suspicion naturally arises either that the "convenient distance" was a very short one, or that the courtesy of the other members, and their deference to their newly appointed Captain-General, conspired towards making his lordship the champion of the day. We are the more inclined to think this, as we do not find any record of his ever having shot with the Company on any other occasion ; and in addition to all this, he was at this time over seventy years of age—a time of life at which most men are thinking of giving over the sports of their more youthful years.

The suspicion of some favour having been shown to the shooting of the noble Captain becomes almost a certainty when we look at

the account of similar meetings in the after-history of the Company, and find that on the occasion of a new Captain-General shooting with the members for the first time, the prize invariably fell to his lot. At Kilwinning, the custom till within late years, we believe, has been to haul down the popinjay to the shot of the Captain of the year, whether or not he hits that somewhat difficult mark. But to go back to Lord Tarbat and the goose.

After the shooting was over, and dinner duly discussed, business was proceeded with. A Council of seven was elected by means of signed lists, and they having retired, re-elected Mr Dundas of Kincavel to be their Præses, he having apparently been the holder of that office during the previous year. The Council then called in the Captain-General, who "signified to them the great respect he bore to the Royal Company, and how much he was inclined to encourage and propagate the use of ancient arms, of bows and arrows; and as he promised fidelity to the former Council at his reception to his office, so he now heartily renew'd the same in presence of the new Councillors." He then signed the laws, and the Council proceeded to elect the other officers. The Earl Marishal was chosen Lieutenant, and Lord Elcho, Ensign, being the first election to this office of which we hear. The Captain-General proposed that, for the better managing of the Company, four Brigadiers should be appointed, which was agreed to; and the Master of Tarbat, William Bennet, younger of Grubbet, James Ogilvie of Boyne, and the Laird of Tulloch, were chosen accordingly. The Council then re-elected their former treasurer and clerk, and appointed a fiscal.

We are not aware whether or not the elections of the lieutenant and ensign were re-elections; but from other circumstances, we may pretty clearly infer that the Company during the long period which elapsed between the record of the last election of Council and officers and this one, was not altogether in abeyance. There is a list of about a hundred and thirty noblemen and gentlemen who were admitted members between 1676 and 1687; and between

ninety and a hundred from that year down to the time at which this meeting of Council was held, 1703. So we may fairly assume the number of members at this period to have been considerably over a hundred. The jealous eyes with which the Government looked on any large body containing such a number of persons of known Jacobite leanings, no doubt prevented many from joining who would otherwise have done so. But the Secretary of State now being at the head of the Company, was considered as sufficient guarantee for at least their outward loyalty, and therefore, there was no lack of intrants in a few years—though, so far as can be gathered from the records, the number admitted about 1703 was small.

The Company being now in a flourishing condition, and being composed almost entirely of men who had a common tie in their attachment to the house of Stuart, it was thought a favourable opportunity to get the body established on a more secure basis than the mere sanction of the Privy Council. This was proposed to be done by getting a new establishment from the Queen, who had lately succeeded to the throne. One circumstance, too, which made this the more easy of accomplishment, was the fact that the Captain-General, now created Earl of Cromarty, was Principal Secretary of State for Scotland, and thus possessed of considerable influence. A letter (16th October 1703) was written to him, asking him to “interceed with her Ma/ to grant us ane new Establishment of the Royal Company of Archers, Endueing it with such powers and priviledges as her Ma/ in her Princely wisdom upon your Lo/ Information shall think fitt to insert.” The letter concludes by recommending to his Lordship’s generosity the petition of James Clerk, her Majesty’s graver in the mint, who had presented a seal for the use of the Company. The Earl brought the subject under her Majesty’s notice successfully; and in the month of January 1704, the Company received a charter under the Queen’s hand, of which the following is a translation :—¹

¹ For original Charter, see Appendix No. 1.

“ANNE, by the grace of God, Queen of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, and Defender of the Faith—To all good men to whom these our present letters shall come, greeting.—Forasmuch as we graciously considering the use of Bows and Arrows, and the constant exercise thereof, to have been carefully provided for by divers ancient statutes, laws, and Acts of Parliament; made during the reigns of our illustrious ancestors, in our ancient kingdom of Scotland, as a useful measure towards the defence of the kingdom; and yet, notwithstanding laws of this nature, and of acts of Privy Council in favour of Archers and Bowmen, that the ancient practice of these arms of Bows and Arrows has of late almost become obsolete; and considering how much it will concern the public welfare to revive the use of these ancient arms, and to furnish a fitting incentive to the Royal Company of Archers—KNOW THEREFORE US, with the advice and consent of our very faithful and well-beloved cousins, James Earl of Seafield, High Chancellor of the said kingdom, William Marquis of Annandale, President of our Privy Council, James Duke of Queensberrie, our Principal Secretary of State, Alexander Earl of Eglinton, Hugh Earl of Loudon, David Earl of Glasgow, our Treasurer-Depute, and Mr Francis Montgomery of Giffan, our Treasurer-Comptroller and Treasurer of our new Augmentations; as also with advice and consent of the remaining Lords and other Commissioners of our Exchequer within the said kingdom, to have revived and ratified, and for us and our successors to have confirmed for ever, to the Royal Company of Archers, as now constituted under a President and Council and such Officers as they shall name, according to their former use and wont, and to their successors in office, all laws and acts sanctioned in their favour in the time of our illustrious predecessors, and the rules and constitutions framed by them for their own better government, in so far as the same are by no means contrary to the laws and Acts of Parliament in the said ancient kingdom: And we will and grant, and for us and our foresaids give and concede, to our foresaid Royal Company of Archers and their Council,

full power of assuming such other members as they may judge fit, and of nominating, electing, and appointing such other officers who to them shall seem proper, for the constitution and management of the said Royal Company, and of making such rules and orders for the greater encouragement and advancement of Archery, consistent always with our laws; as also, of convening in military fashion, by way of weaponshaw, under the guidance of their own officers, to be nominated by themselves from time to time, and of going forth as often as to it shall seem proper, at least once in each year, about midsummer, to shoot arrows with a bow at a butt or to a distance, or in both fashions, according to the ancient laws and Acts of Parliament, and under the penalties therein contained: And we will and grant, and for us and our royal successors, with consent foresaid, decree and ordain, the foresaid general ratification and confirmation to be as valid and sufficient, and of as great force, strength, and effect, as if each law, act, and regulation had been verbatim inserted in these presents, although the same be by no means done: Whereanent, and with all that might be objected against the same, we have dispensed, and for us and our royal successors, for ever dispense—To be holden of us and our royal successors, as immediate lawful superiors of the said Royal Company, in free blench-farm for ever, with free ingress and regress to all public butts, plains, and pasturages legally allotted both for shooting arrows with the bow at random or at measured distances, and that freely, quietly, well, and in peace: Prohibiting by these presents all Magistrates, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Masters of Butts, and any others whomsoever, to cause any obstacle or impediment to the said Royal Company in the lawful exercise of the ancient arms of Bows and Arrows, whether at measured distances or at random: Rendering therefor yearly, the said Royal Company, to us and our successors, one pair of barbed arrows at the term of Whitsunday, if asked only.—In witness whereof, we have commanded our Great Seal to be appended, at our Court of St James, the thirty-first day of the month of December, in the

year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and three, and second year of our reign.

“ By Signature superscribed by the hand of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, and subscribed by the hands of certain Lords and others, Commissioners of our Treasury and Exchequer.

“ Written to the Great Seal, and registrate the sixth day of March MDCCIV.

“ Sic Sub. CHARLES KERR.

“ Sealed at Edinburgh, the sixth day of March one thousand seven hundred and four, by special order, till the seal be renewed. In absence of Sir Alex^r. Ogilvie of Forglen,

“ Sic Sub. JO. STEWART, *Dept.*
Gratis.”

Having received this important charter, upon which the Royal Company is still constituted, the Council ordered a letter of thanks to be written to the Captain-General, which commences as follows :—

“ EDINBURGH, 29th Jan. 1704.

“ MY LORD,—The signature under her Ma/ hand in favors of the Royal Company of Archers was delivered to us by the Honourable Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, your son, which we received with the cheerfulness and respect due to so valuable a gift, and will always acknowledge that the procuring of this patent is the greatest testimony your Lo/ could give of your concern in the Royal Company of Archers, and gives you a just title to be called not only the restorer, but (under her Ma/) the founder of a society which is hoped in a short time, by your Lo/ conduct and patronage, will revive the ancient exercise of bows and arrows, so much of

late neglected, tho' of great use to this nation in time of our war like progenitors."

The letter goes on to thank Lord Cromarty for his favourable consideration of the petition of Clerk, mentioned in the previous letter, and ends with many hearty wishes for his Lordship's long life, health, and prosperity.

In April of this year the Council agreed to meet on the first Monday of every month till October. These meetings were chiefly held for the purpose of admitting new members, and for transacting any other business connected with the Company that might happen to occur. If any member of Council appeared after 10 A.M., he was to be fined four shillings Scots; and if absent, six shillings.



CHAPTER III.

CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF THE COMPANY—PRIZE OF EDINBURGH ARROW INSTITUTED—LETTER FROM THE EARL OF CROMARTY—PUBLIC MARCH—BUTTS AT THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE—ANOTHER LETTER FROM THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—RULE ANENT SHOOTING—UNIFORM FIXED UPON—CHAPLAIN APPOINTED—COLOURS PRESENTED BY OFFICERS—GRAND MARCH TO LEITH, 1714—ARRANGEMENTS WITH BOW-MAKERS—DEATH OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—APPOINTMENT OF THE EARL OF WEMYSS—ANOTHER MARCH—THE ROYAL COMPANY ATTEND THE THEATRE—EXPENSE OF A LAST-CENTURY DINNER—DEATH OF THE EARL OF WEMYSS—HIS SON THE FIRST WINNER OF THE SILVER PUNCH-BOWL—DUKE OF HAMILTON AND BRANDON APPOINTED CAPTAIN-GENERAL—ALLAN RAMSAY—MUSSELBURGH ARROW—PUBLIC MARCH TO SHOOT FOR EDINBURGH ARROW—YEWS PROCURED FROM LOCH LOMOND—HISTORY OF THE COMPANY PROPOSED TO BE WRITTEN, 1728—NEW COLOURS GOT, AND GRAND MARCH—THE GOVERNOR OF DAMASCUS—MARCH AND COURT-MARTIAL OF OFFICERS—DAVID BEATT—FREEBAIRN'S FRENCH POEM.

THE Company from this time appears to have gone on steadily and favourably, the Council meeting from time to time and admitting new members. The shooting meetings of the Company are not recorded; but we hear of the Council ordering a shooting at rovers on Leith Links, to which all the members were warned to come under a penalty of half-a-crown. No doubt, however, many a merry match was shot, not unmingled, perhaps, with sighs for the "good old days" when a Stuart sat on the throne, and not unlikely concluded with a dinner, at which the toast of the "little gentleman in the velvet jacket" was pretty sure to be given over their cups. The Council and office-bearers were elected regularly every year,¹ but nothing specially worthy of note took place for

¹ There is no record of their election in 1707: but there is no reason to doubt of its having taken place.

some period. The Company, however, seems to have grown in numbers and respectability; for in the year 1709 we find that the Magistrates of Edinburgh granted them a prize of a silver arrow, similar to the one at Musselburgh, which was to be shot for annually, an account of which will be found in its proper place. The first shooting took place on the 27th June on the Links at Leith, and the prize was won by Mr David Drummond, advocate, a gentleman whose name is intimately associated with the Royal Company at this time.

The shooting members of the Company having some time previously subscribed for a "free" prize to be shot for, it was won in July of this year, and took the shape of a "fine silver pick-tooth." This is the first subscription prize which we find noticed. Many others were afterwards shot for—either subscribed for amongst members, or granted from the funds of the Company; but of late years this practice has been allowed to die out, although we think it might with advantage be revived. At present no prize can be retained as the property of the winner except the Queen's, all the others being merely challenge prizes, held for one year. The prizes which the Royal Company shoot for are now so numerous that there is less necessity for private prizes being granted than there was formerly. We cannot but think, however, that it is less satisfactory to compete for a prize to which the winner has only the privilege of affixing his medal, than it is to possess a piece of plate which will always commemorate the owner's prowess with the bow.

In the summer of 1710 a subscription was raised for the repairing of the butts, which seem to have been situated in a yard attached to a tavern, as we read that a committee "spoke with Mrs Balfour, the present landlady of the house and yard where the butts are, who most freely and heartily agreed to allow the Royal Company of Archers to put up the butts in the yeard now possest by her, upon their own charges, and is very willing to furnish the Company with Liquors or other necessaries, any or all

of them and their followers need." Whether they were to erect new butts or to repair the old ones, does not very clearly appear, as "put up" may mean restore any portion which was fallen down.

That the Captain-General did not forget the Company of which he was commander, is evident from the following characteristic letter, which was received by the Council from him in May 1713 :—

"SIR,—Nothing on this side of necessity would have hindered me from waiting on you this day, as I resolved, but that being the highest pressure, I hope you will, and intreat that you will excuse, for necessity secures pardon to the involuntar sinner. I am in some measure hopefull of the honor to wait on you this week in town, where my difficultys are more superable than in longer walks; meanwhile you cannot hinder, nor can I hinder myself from giving you all the good wishes, conjunctly and severally, which I am capable to give, and (I think) near to what you can receive. If you find it fit to order anything that's new in the Company's concerns, I have both duty and inclination not only to submit but to concur with your Judgements, and to go along with your determinations. The nearer your officers and ministers be to our Capitall of Ed^r the more expedite will they be for your service. I am much in hopes to be tolerably fit for a try at Butts, though scarcely for a journey at Rovers; meanwhile I wish a merry sederunt, and pray accept the will for the deed, for no Captain can be more desirous to serve a Company nor hath any better reason for being so than, Hon^{ble}. Sir, your most humble servant and affectionate comrad,

" CROMARTIE.

"For the Hon^{ble}. the President of the Court,
In the Royal Society of Archers."

To this epistle the Council indited a dutiful answer, in which, after thanking his Lordship for all his interest in them, they say that they should not readily have proceeded in any affair of consequence without his Lordship's presence; and when his Lordship

shall think it proper to appoint a time for a meeting with them they shall think it their duty to attend.

The election of the Council took place at Leith (on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow), on the 8th June. Several changes were made amongst the officers; and the President of the Council, Mr Dundas of Kincavel, who had filled that office for a good many years, having either died or resigned—it does not appear which—Mr David Drummond, advocate, was elected in his place. This gentleman was an advocate practising in the Court of Session, having been called to the Bar in 1683. He presided many years over the Council of the Royal Company, and died in 1741, as we shall have occasion to notice, universally regretted.

The Earl of Cromarty's hope that he would be able to meet them at an early date seems to have been fulfilled, as, after the shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow, which succeeded the election of Council to which we have referred, the Company "marched in order through Leith with the ensign (Earl of Lauderdale) on their head, and Marchiston, one of their briggadiers, in the rear, and received from the guard the usual honours, to the place where they dined, and were there attended by their Captain-General and Magistrates of Edinburgh." This is the first account we have of a public march having been made by the Company, but in all likelihood there had been others previously. This seems the more probable from the very constitution of the society, as one of the original laws expressly ordains that there should be a public meeting every year for shooting, and that the Company be "modelled and drawn up with drums and colours."

During this summer a subscription prize was shot for of the value of twelve shillings—to be won by three successive shots. The first compulsory entry-fee seems to have been enacted at this time. Each new intrant was to pay to the treasurer eighteenpence for keeping up the butts, &c. It is true that by the laws each member was bound to pay "ane certain soume according to their quality and discretion, not being under the sum of fifty-eight

shillings Scots ;” this does not appear, however, to have been exacted. In the regulations for shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow, the Company are said to be willing and ready to admit all qualified persons, upon their application to them. And no mention is made in the minutes of such dues ever having been paid, any expenses incurred being defrayed by subscription.

During this year the Company got a grant from the town of a piece of ground on the west side of the Parliament House, on which to erect butts ; but of this we shall have occasion to speak more fully in a subsequent chapter. The shootings hitherto had generally taken place near a tavern, as we find the whole archers recommended to pay for their servants at all public shootings, “ so that there may be no article in the bill for them, only two shillings sterling, which is to be given to the officers, pipers, and drummers.”

On the occasion of shooting for the Musselburgh Arrow on the 4th of August, there was received the following quaint letter of excuse from the Captain-General :—

“ ROYSTON, 4th Aug. 1713.

“ RIGHT HON^{BLE}.—The strength of my desire to wait on you did support my hope to have obtained it this day, but my desire is disappointed, not by my fault but by my fate. I cannot—necessity is a chain stronger than what power can break : what is committed or omitted from that invincible lett, needs no excuse ; for it is no fault. Yet this my omission carries in it and with it a punishment ; for such is whatever detains a lover from what is loved. This misfortune may hide my respect from others ; but even necessity cannot lessen and far less extinguish that in me, unless it extinguish me with it. To be of your Royal Society was an exceeding favour ; but the rank I was honor’d with in it, is an honor above my merit. I was always sensible of my impotence for performing duties suitable to it. But to retain it whilst I can do *nothing* is what I ought not, what I cannot bear. To be set where a head should stand, without capacity to perform or direct, is to make my defects, if not the greater, yet the more conspicuous. If

your generosity will not cutt me off, yet I think discretion obliges me to slip off, so that for and in place of dissatisfaction I may have the pleasure to see you have a Captain-General worthy of so great an honor. That *Consular Paludament* is fitter to adorn a triumph than to decore a burial. I imagine that the good old King, when the Royal Robes were too heavy for him, when the Royal duties were impracticable, yea, even when *Abishai's* embraces did lose their charming powers, yet he found satisfaction in knowing his qualified successor before he died. My great esteem of this noble station I have evidenced in demitting many whilst I keep this. Nor can I disown a reluctancy in my present offer, tho' I think it a duty ; but I presume that in a few days I may have strength to carry it myself to your meeting at Edinburgh, and courage and resolution to give it a farewell. And indeed it is to lay down what I cannot hold up. I need not tell, that tho' absent, yet with a friend or two this day I will remember you ; for indeed you cannot be forgot by him who is at once

“ Your old Captain,
Your faithfull friend, and
Most humble Servant,
CROMARTIE.”

No further notice of this gallant and somewhat touching letter is taken in the minutes, but the Earl continued to hold his office till his death, the year after.

At a subsequent meeting this year, the clerk received some old papers and an old minute-book belonging to the Company from a former clerk. He was ordered to rewrite them all in a new book, which was accordingly done ; and thus the earlier minutes have come down to us only as copies of the original documents, but copies of which there is no reason to doubt the perfect accuracy. The charter was to be given up afterwards, which was done ; but this valuable document has been since lost. The minutes from this date are kept with great regularity.

The new butts to the west of the Parliament House were finished this year, and shooting commenced at them. The following rule anent shooting at Rovers was laid down by the Council: "Any person who shall touch or pierce the mark shall carry the shot before any other that does not touch or pierce, though he be nearer to the mark; and that this be a standing rule in time coming." Shooting at Rovers may be done in two ways, we are informed in Roberts's 'English Bowman:': either by choosing some natural mark, such as trees or stones, and shooting at them at various distances; or by having a target, and shooting at a long distance. It is this latter method of shooting which seems always to have been practised by the Royal Company; although, it is true, the expression used in a letter of the Captain-General, which we have quoted, saying that he was not able for a journey at "rovers," would seem to point to the former mode. The mark, however, was not made of plaited straw and canvas as it is now. Such targets do not appear to have come into use till some time after this period. The mark in use at the date under consideration was a square piece of canvas stretched on a frame, without any backing of straw or anything else;¹ this was called "the Clout." After each day's shooting, the holes made in this mark were pasted over with paper, so that the markers might know next day what were new shots. Even to this day the term for a shot which strikes the target is a "clout." The mark, then, being thin and easily shot through, it might happen that an arrow going quite through the mark would lie further away from it than one which had fallen just short; and it is to regulate the marking in these circumstances that the above-quoted rule seems to have been laid down. This style of shooting, though always termed "rovers" in Scotland, seems more akin to what Roberts calls "prick-shooting." It is distinguished, he says, from other kinds of shooting, by the mark being generally fixed to one spot at a less distance, and not varied, as in Rovers proper. Hence the statute, 33 Henry VIII. c. 9, terms it a standing

¹ See Plate, page 53.

mark. The favourite range at present in the Royal Company is 180 yards, which is considerably longer than the usual field range in England. All arrows, however, within 24 feet of the target count, the nearest being the shot. "Clouts" count for two points, whatever the ring be in which the arrow is.

In October of this year "the Council resolved to wait upon the Earl of Weems to Leith, to take the diversion of shooting at Rovers. After some hours in the Links, the Council attended the Earl to Leith, where his Lo/ entertained them at dinner."

It will be remembered that, very shortly after the first institution of the Company, a uniform was fixed upon, and all archers ordered to appear in the proper "garb" on public shootings. Whether this had fallen into disuse, or was thought an unbecoming dress, we are not told; but about this time the Council took into consideration the propriety of having another uniform, and accordingly took estimates and patterns for the same. They ultimately fixed upon a Stuart tartan for the coat, and resolved that the lining should be "of fine white shalloon, and white stockings, with a white lining bow-case, with a green worsted bob, and a blew bonnet with a St Andrew and a Coque of white and green ribbons, and the officers are allowed to trim or adorn their habits as they think proper, according to their ranks." The shalloon was found not to be procurable, so members were allowed to line their coats with anything that was white except silk. The only difference in an officer's dress was the trimming; the uniform itself was to be made of the same stuff, both inside and outside, as the others. Officers were a little later allowed the exclusive privilege of wearing silk stockings, the other members wearing white worsted. The appearance of the Company in uniform is thus described in the 'Caledonian Mercury' of the 11th July 1732, when noticing a public parade held in that year. There had probably been no important change made in the dress from the time of its adoption. "Yesterday about 9 of the clock, the Royal Company of Archers paraded in the Parliament Close in their proper habits (being the

Plate II.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
DAVID, FOURTH EARL OF WEMYSS,
CAPTAIN-GENERAL 1715-1720.

From a Picture in the possession of Henry G. Watson, Esq.







antique Roman dress made of tartan, trimmed with green silk fringes, and a blue bonnet trimmed with green and white ribbons, the badge of St Andrew in front; their bows, swords, &c., hung with white and green ribbons; their officers' dress is of the same form and figure, but laid over with silver lace)." It is difficult to say on what authority the 'Mercury' states that the uniform was after an ancient Roman pattern. Not a hint to that effect appears in the minutes; and a tartan coat and blue bonnet would, we fancy, have excited no little surprise amongst the legionaries of the great empire. Besides, the mere shape of the coat does not seem to bear the least resemblance to any Roman dress. Be that, however, as it may, the uniform was fixed upon, and the treasurer was ordered to wait on the Captain-General arrayed in a specimen "habite," which he accordingly did, and his Lordship was pleased to approve of the dress. This, so far as we know, continued to be the uniform of the Royal Company down to the year 1788, when several important changes were made on it. The accompanying illustration of the early uniform of the Company is from a picture in the possession of Henry G. Watson, Esq., and represents, it is believed, the Earl of Wemyss, who in 1713 held the position of Lieutenant-General of the Company. The dress, it will be seen, is a very handsome one. The sleeve is widely puffed out and slashed with white satin; indeed it is so curious as to suggest to one's mind the exclamation of Petruchio—

"What's this? a sleeve? 'tis like a demi-cannon.
 What? up and down, carved like an apple tart?
 Here's snip and nip, and cut and slish and slash,
 Like to a censer in a barber's shop."

The whole dress is lavishly trimmed with lace or white silk fringe, but this, it must be remembered, was an officer's distinction. The ordinary members had merely a short fringe of green silk, but they also wore the slashed sleeves and other ornaments.

On the 26th of April 1714, Mr Patrick Barclay was admitted "to be one of the chaplains and member of the Company." Notwith-

standing the above expression, which would seem to imply that there was already a chaplain to the Company, we do not find the name of any gentleman in holy orders on the roll up to this time, if we except two bishops, John Paterson and Jo. Hamilton, who were admitted at an early date shortly after the formation of the body. Neither does there appear to have been another chaplain elected for more than a century afterwards. The clergy, it must be confessed, would not in all probability find the mess-table a very congenial place for the display of their talents. Latterly, however, this is all changed, and "the chaplain" is always a welcome addition to the dinner-table of the Company.

It seems to have been determined to have the shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow on the Links at Leith, in 1714, conducted on a scale of more importance than usual; at least we have a very particular account of the preparations for it. A subscription of a crown each was ordered to be made from all the archers in town, to be collected by the gentleman who had won the arrow the previous year. Two brigadiers—Sir William Bennet of Grubbet, and John Murray, yr. of Polmäis, sent excuses on account of the state of their health; but the latter adds, in a postscript, "I shall be sure to mind all your healths on Thursday." Hugo Arnot, in his notice of the Royal Company in the 'History of Edinburgh,' appears to think that this alludes to the Pretender's health. It may certainly, but it is not inconsistent with a perfectly innocent reading. In view of the approaching march, the Council suggested that a pair of colours, which the Company had not yet possessed, should be got, subject, as all their proposals were, to the approval of the Captain-General. The matter being brought before his Lordship's notice, he approved of the proposal, and suggested that the colours should be paid for by the officers. We afterwards find that he and Lieutenant the Earl of Wemyss each subscribed two guineas for this purpose. The colours were accordingly got ready. They bore on one side a yew tree *proper*, supported dexter and sinister by an archer, with a bow in one hand

and an arrow in the other, being a representation of the common seal of the Company. A committee was appointed to adjust a bill of fare for the dinner, which was to follow on the shooting.

At a largely attended meeting to arrange the details for the day, it was unanimously determined to march through Edinburgh on their way to Leith, and not simply to assemble at the tavern there, as had been their former custom. The use of the "Burrow-Room," or Council Chamber, was to be solicited from the Magistrates, in which the Company might assemble and don their uniform and accoutrements. The hour of meeting was appointed to be at eight o'clock in the morning, and every person absent at that hour was liable to a fine of one pound ten shillings Scots. An Adjutant-General was nominated in the person of Sir Robert Montgomery of Skelmorley, who was to "dispose and draw up the Company in such regular order as to him shall seem proper, after reviewing of the Company in the said room; in doing of which it is recommended that he have a particular regard to the bulk and size of the persons to be ranked together, without distinction of characters or quality." It was further ordered that any member of the Company who was provided with the garb, and who failed to march with the Company on the day in question, was to be fined twenty-four pound Scots.

On the 14th of June, then, the Company met as determined; and it being the usual anniversary day for the election of their officers, &c., they accordingly proceeded with the choice of their officers, council, and other officials. "Thereafter," it is recorded, "the said Royal Company, the Right Honourable the Earl of Cromartie, Captain-General, upon their front, and Mr David Drummond, Præses of their Council, a small distance behind him; the Right Honourable the Earl of Weems, Lieutenant, at the rear; the Right Hon^{ble}. the Earl of Lauderdale, Ensign, in the Center, carrying the Colours; and the Laird of Marchiston and Lord Ogilvy, Briggadeers, on the right and left of Sir Robert Montgomery of Skarmorley, Agitant-general, did march, hand-

somely drest in their proper garb, with their bows unbent in their right hands, and a pair of arrows on the left side under a white bow-case, from the Parli^{at}. Close in good order down through the streets of Edin^r. and Canongate to the Palace of Hollyrood House, and received from the respective guards they past by the usual honors that are due to any of her Majesties forces, and from thence went in coach to the Links of Leith, to shoot for the silver arrow set out by the town of Ed^r., where it was resolved that the winning of the said silver arrow should be determined in five ends if three successive shots did not interveen—Which the Right Hon^{ble}. the Earl of Weems did win by having the most shots, in presence of fifty-four of the said Royal Company.

“ Thereafter the Royal Company marched in order as above from the Links of Leith through the town of Leith, and received from the guard the usual honors as said is (the ships having their flaggs out and firing guns) to the place where they dined, and were there attended by the Magistrates of Ed^r., Major-General Wightman, Commander - in - Chief of her Majesty’s forces in Scotland, Major Fleeming in Colonell Hamilton’s regiment, and the Hon^{ble}. M^r Thomas Bruce, son to the Earl of Kincardine—which three were complimented with their acts of admission to the said Company.”

Such is the account, as preserved in the minutes, of the first public march of the Royal Company. And certainly it must have been an imposing sight in those days to have seen the fifty-four gentlemen, all handsomely dressed in their proper garb, marching, no doubt with pardonable pride at their novel appearance, down the Canongate, while the bright eyes of wives, sisters, and sweet-hearts, glanced from the windows above. Leith, too, evidently held holiday on the occasion, and sought to do the gallant archers all honour. And doubtless, in the after accounts of the march, given by some worthy citizen who had taken part in it, the circumstance of the ships having “ their flaggs out and firing guns ” was not forgotten.

But besides the mere show, this public appearance of the Company had the effect of bringing a considerable number of new members to their ranks; and it was resolved that each member admitted was to pay ten shillings sterling entry-money, besides clerks' and officers' dues. Up to this time the fixed amount of entry-money had only been eighteenpence; but the expenses of the Company had increased so much that it was found necessary to appoint a larger sum. The finances, however, cannot have been at a very low ebb, as the Council almost immediately after appoint a free prize to be shot for, provided by them out of the funds, to the value of twenty or twenty-five shillings sterling. This was appointed to be shot for at Rovers and Butts alternately, for three hours at a time, till it was won by three successive shots. All members shooting for this prize were to pay sixpence to form a fund for another.

During this summer the Captain-General presented the Company with a steel crossbow, which he desired might be the symbol of investiture for the office of Captain-General in all time coming. This has unfortunately disappeared, though it was probably employed, as designed, on some occasions.

At the shooting for the Musselburgh Arrow this year, there was paid 10s. for hautboys, and 4s. 3d. to a piper for playing before the Company; but it was ordered that after this there was to be no music at any public meeting unless ordered by the Council.

It will be remembered that in the year 1677 Robert Monro was sent to London to learn the art of making bows, and his excellence in his trade was favourably noticed in a letter to the Marquess of Athole from the Company in 1679. He had continued from that time in their service in the capacity of officer and bow-maker. In order, amongst other objects, to have a person properly trained to the making of bows and arrows, a somewhat curious agreement was entered into between the Company and Robert Monro in 1714, of which the following were the principal heads. It is singular, however, that in the document there is no

mention made of bows, only of arrows; but we may fairly presume that the intention of the deed was to provide for proper instruction in the making of both. The Council were to advance Monro twenty-four pounds Scots to purchase wood for the making of arrows, which he was to sell to the Company at the rate of one shilling sterling each; to deliver twelve every week till the sum advanced was repaid. Monro was to take into his service one George Neilson, and instruct him in the art of arrow-making—the Council being at the cost of his maintenance; he on his part becoming bound to serve the Royal Company as their “aimer and bower, and in every other particular thereto appertaining, after the decease of the said Robert Monro.” There were several other unimportant stipulations; but the whole are drawn out in a very precise and formal legal document. The deed is curious as illustrating the care which the Council seem to have taken that the trade should not die out, and that they might always have a competent person to make their bows. At that time there would in all probability be no other bow-maker in Scotland; and the great manufactory for arrows was at Ghent, which town still keeps up its reputation for their production. From that time down to the present the Royal Company have always had their bows and arrows made by their own officer; and the world-wide reputation of their present bow-maker is an ample guarantee that the art has in no wise degenerated.

From the treasurer's accounts of 1715, we find the Company in a prosperous state, there being a balance in their favour of £24, 1s. 9d. sterling, and new members admitted very frequently. The most important business transacted by the Company during this year was the election of a Captain-General. Full of years and honours, the Earl of Cromarty had closed a long and eventful life in August 1714. His connection with the Company seems, judging from the letters preserved, always to have been of a most pleasant and hearty description; and it is somewhat surprising to find only the following very curt notice in the minutes:

“The commission of Captain-General being vacant by the deceis of the Earle of Cromartie, and ane overture being made that the same be supplied, the Right Honourable the Earle of Weems chosen to succeed to that office, and his commission to be expread accordingly.” David, fourth Earl of Wemyss, who was now advanced to the head of the Company from the rank of Lieutenant-General, had a sort of family claim to the post, in addition to that which his former office gave him, as he was step-son to old Cromarty—his mother, Countess of Wemyss in her own right, having married that nobleman; his father, and her first husband, having been Sir James Wemyss of Caskyerry, afterwards Lord Burntisland. Lord Wemyss was created by Queen Anne Lord High Admiral of Scotland, was one of the Commissioners for concluding the treaty of Union, and eventually one of the representative peers of Scotland. It will be seen, then, that the new Captain-General was no undistinguished man, but one who would keep up the credit and high character which the Royal Company had already attained. It was agreed to appoint two lieutenants and ensigns, and eight brigadiers, thus doubling the number of officers, on account of the large increase of members which had lately taken place. The two lieutenants were the Earls of Lauderdale and Linlithgow; the ensigns, Lord Ogilvie and Sir William Bennet of Grubbet.

The Company had again this year a peculiarly brilliant march through the town, on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh silver arrow. As many as one hundred and twelve members turned out, and each paid ten shillings towards the expenses. They were marshalled in six divisions, commanded by the respective officers, and attended by music. It is again carefully noted that they received from the guard the usual honours. After entertaining at dinner “a great number of persons of distinction,” they proceeded to the tennis-court, where they saw a play acted, and “thereafter marched in order back to this city, and concluded the appearance by lodging the colours in the house of the treasurer to the Company.”

The tennis-court where the play was performed was probably the one at Holyrood, mentioned in Chambers's 'Traditions.' The accomplished author of that work says that the theatre was in those days chiefly patronised by such Jacobites as Dr Pitcairn. Now, as Dr Pitcairn was an archer, it is extremely probable that he and some similar spirits made arrangements for this play on the occasion of the march. Dr Chambers relates an anecdote of Miss Pitcairn, the old Jacobite doctor's daughter, refusing to go with a friend to hear Mrs Siddons in 1784, saying—"Laddie, wad ye hae an auld lass like me to be running after the play-actors; me that hasna been in a theatre since I gaed wi' papa to the Canongate in the year *ten?*" And although Dr Chambers cannot trace any performance having been given in the tennis-court after that time, yet it is more than probable that that is the place indicated in the records of the Royal Company.

The dinner-bill amounted to £40, 15s. sterling, which in our days would be considered as a very moderate expenditure for a public dinner of over a hundred guests. No doubt, however, the feast was both ample and hospitable; and considering the manners of the times, it is quite open to question whether the ranks of the gallant archers were quite so regular on the return march as they were at starting from the "burgh room" in the morning. In the treasurer's accounts there is a suspicious entry, too, of "incidents that day when the bill was paid," suggesting that the worthy treasurer, and perhaps some old crony, had made a trip to Leith, and run up a small bill at George Cumming's tavern, amounting to seven shillings and eightpence, on the occasion of settling the account for the dinner. And we may be sure that nobody grudged it, as the accounts were unanimously approved of.

There was nothing worthy of record done this year after the public parade; but the members employed themselves in shooting frequently for free prizes of money granted by the Council.

In 1716 there was no shooting either for the Edinburgh or Musselburgh Arrows—the magistrates having declined to expose

the former, probably on account of the late disturbed state of the country, and the pretext which a parade of the Royal Company might afford for a gathering of the friends of the Chevalier. From an entry, however, in 1725, it would seem that the Company had refused to shoot for the Edinburgh Arrow unless the usual premium of £5 was given to the winner by the Council—and this perhaps is the more probable cause why that prize was not shot for from 1716 to 1726.

In 1720 the Company were deprived of their Captain-General the Earl of Wemyss, who died in the spring of that year. About the same time, the prize of the silver Punch-bowl was instituted, which will be more particularly noticed in its proper place. We allude to it here in order to mention that the first winner was the Earl of Wemyss, the son of the late Captain-General, who bore it off from a field of twenty shooters. It is, of course, impossible to say whether it was a competition *bona fide*, or whether the prize was allowed to be gained by the young Earl as a sort of compliment to the memory of his deceased father. The latter supposition is not an unlikely one, when we consider that it was probably etiquette to allow the Captain-General to win the prize when he was shooting with the Company; and this is all the more likely to have happened on the occasion of shooting for an entirely new prize.

Nothing worthy of remark occurs in the annals of the Company for some years after this. The various competitions went on steadily, and dinners were held at various taverns. The vacant office of Captain-General seems not to have been filled up for some time, though the reason for this does not appear; indeed it is not until the year 1724 that we hear of a successor to Lord Wemyss being appointed. James, fifth Duke of Hamilton and second of Brandon, was the nobleman then elected to the vacant post. He had been admitted to the Company at a meeting held at Holyrood in December 1716, but had not as yet held any office in connection with the body. He was still a young man, having been born in 1702. He occupied the position of Lord of the Bed-

chamber to George II. in 1727, but resigned that office in 1733, disapproving of Sir Robert Walpole's administration. He died at Bath in 1743.

In this year the poet Allan Ramsay was admitted an honorary member (*i.e.*, without entry-fees having been exacted), and appointed Bard to the Company. Although we shall notice more fully in a subsequent chapter his contributions to the poetry of the body, we may be pardoned for inserting here a short poem of thanks for his admission :—

“The restless mind of man ne'er tyres
To please his favourite desires ;
He chiefly that to fame aspires,
With soul enlarged grasps with delight
At every favour which conspires
To place him in a proper light.
Such are the followers of the Nine,
Who aim at glory for reward ;
Whose flowing fancies brighter shine
When from the best they meet regard.
I not the least now of that train
Who frae the Royal Archers gain
Applause, while lovely ladies deign
To take me too beneath their care.
Then though I boast, I am not vain,
Thus guarded by the brave and fair ;
For which kind fate to me this day,
First to the powers supreme I bow ;
And next my gratitude I pay,
Brave sons of Caledon, to you.”

Under his signature in the original roll of members appear the following lines, written by himself :—

“Apollo ! Patron of the Lyre,
And of the valiant Archers' bow,
Me with such sentiments inspire
As may appear from thee to flow,
When by thy special will and dread command,
I sing the merits of the Royal Band.”

Doubtless the acquisition of the genial and witty poet, Jacobite

too as he was, was much valued by the Royal Company, and his presence looked upon as a pleasant and cheering addition to their already jovial and hospitable mess-table.

In the month of August a muster of sixty-eight turned out at a march on the occasion of shooting for the Musselburgh Arrow. The newly appointed Captain-General graced the occasion with his presence, and took part in the competition for the prize, which was contested for by seventeen shooters. As usual when the first officer did the Company the honour of shooting with them after his appointment, the prize fell to him, and the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon was declared the victor for the day. The next year about the same number turned out, but the Captain-General was not so fortunate, and the arrow fell to the lot of one of the ordinary members. The Duke, however, frequently appears to have shot with the Company. Inhabiting as he did apartments in Holyrood House, as Hereditary Keeper of that Palace, he had more frequent opportunities for attending competitions than his predecessors in office had ; and the fact of his attendance on the prize shootings induced a large number to turn out who would not otherwise have done so.

In the year 1726 the Edinburgh Arrow was delivered over to the Company to be shot for, after a lapse of ten years, occasioned chiefly by a dispute about its custody and the premium usually given to the winner. The particulars of this misunderstanding will be given in their proper place.

During this year a large number of new officers were appointed, —about eleven new brigadiers, besides other officers, being created —among whom were the Earls of Strathmore, Cassilis, Rollo, Aboyne, Kintore, and some other noblemen and gentlemen. Lord Lauderdale, who was appointed Lieutenant-General in 1715, having refused to attend on the Company, he was superseded, and the Earl of Wemyss nominated in his place. There is no reason given for the simultaneous appointment of so many officers ; but in all probability, as there had been very few commissions issued

for about ten years, many of the officers then created were either dead or out of the way.

The misunderstanding between the Company and the Edinburgh Town Council about the silver arrow being finally adjusted, it was resolved to have a grand public march through the town of Edinburgh to the Links of Leith. A public parade of the Company on a similar occasion had not taken place since 1715, and more than ordinary preparations were made in prospect of it. Everything being arranged, the procession came off with great *éclat* on the 11th of July. We cannot do better than give the following description of the march, taken from the minutes :—

. . . “The said Company accordingly met at nine in the morning in their archers’ habit in the burrough room, and from thence they marched through the town of Edin^r to the Links of Leith in the following order. The Right Honourable the Earl of Wemyss, first Lieutenant-Colonel (in absence of his grace the Duke of Hamilton, Captain-General), marched on the front, being preceded by a detachment of the City Guards commanded by Captain Douglas, and the silver arrow carried by the officer of the Company, and a sett of trumpets and hautbois that were alternately answered by drums and Highland pipers posted in the several divisions, all in the Companies liveries. Next after the Earl, at a proper distance, marched M^r David Drummond, Præses, on the head of the Council. Then followed M^r Douglas of Glenbervie and the Earl of Strathmore, Brigadeers, on the head of the first division, wherein marched the drums betwixt the first and second rank. The second division was led by the Lo/ Rollo, Brigadeer, the third by the Earl of Aboyne, the fourth by the Lo/ Bruce. And next followed the collours, which were carried by John Lowis of Merchistoun, second ensign, supported by M^r Hepburn, younger of Keith, on the right, and M^r S^t Clair of Rosline on the left, two Brigadeers upon the head of the fifth division, in which marched a Highland piper betwixt the first and second ranks; then the sixth division by Sir Archibald Primrose; the seventh by

the Earl of Kintore ; the eighth by the Lord Ramsay ; the ninth by the Earl of Cassils ; and the tenth and last by Sir John Nesbitt of Doun, in which division marched two drums betwixt the first and second ranks, and a Highland piper betwixt the second and last rank ; and the rear was brought up by the Earl of Wigtoun, second Lieutenant-Collonel. The Company on their march were ordered by the Right Honourable the Earl of Crawford, their major, attended by Mark Carse of Cockpen, and Sir Robert Baird of Saughton Hall, adjutants,—all three on horseback, the major riding on the front of the Company, and the adjutants along the sides of the several divisions : In this order did the Company march, to the number of one hundred and forty-three, in their proper habit, with their bows unbent in their right hand, and a pair of arrows on the left side stuck in a white bow-case worn by way of sash, and received due returns from the Lo/ Provost of Edin^r and the Duke of Argyle and General Wade to the salutes the officers of the Company made in their march, as also the usual honours from the respective guards they past, which were doubled on this occasion. When the Company came to the Links they shot for the silver arrow, conform to the Council of Edinburgh's agreement with them, which was gained by their second Lieutenant-Collonel, the Earl of Wigtoun, as having most shots in three ends. Thereafter the Royal Company marched in the above order from the Links of Leith through the town of Leith (the silver arrow being carried before the Earl of Wigtoun in the rear by John Drummond, Esq.) to the place where they dined ; and after a splendid entertainment that had been prepared for them, where the Lo/ Provost, Dean of Guild, &c., were present, they about eight clock in the evening returned to Edinburgh."

Certainly we may suppose that the gallant archers were pretty well tired after eleven hours' marching, saluting, shooting, and dining, besides listening to the strains of such music as was provided by trumpets and hautboys, answered by drums and bagpipes. The presence of the Duke of Argyle and General Wade

as spectators of the march, and the fact of the military guards being doubled for the occasion, alike serve to show the respect and consideration with which the Royal Company were regarded at this time, embracing as they did, in their ranks, many members of the noble houses of Scotland. In the list of those who marched we find the names of seven earls, three lords, and many baronets and lairds, along with whom are a number of professional men, merchants, jewellers, &c. All respectable persons of any position were welcome to become members of the Royal Company; and in this way many were brought into contact who, but for the common tie of being brother archers, would have seen little of one another. Nobleman and burgess sat round the same festive board, listening, perhaps, to the bard Allan Ramsay, as he sang the praises of archery over bumpers of claret; and though the great social and political changes which time has since then brought have compelled the adoption of more exclusive principles of admission to the Company, still the mess-table brings around it men of the most varied opinions and stations in life.

In 1727, we find it stated that Mr Colquhoun of Luss, having been waited on, very readily granted the use of his yew woods to the Council for the use of the Royal Company. This was for the purpose of employing the yew in the making of bows by their bowyer. This office was now held by George Neilson, who we have seen was taken into the employment of Robert Monro under articles of agreement in 1714. Monro himself, who had been connected with the Company since 1677, had been dismissed—for what reason we are not told—in 1720, four years after which the treasurer was authorised to give him a crown in charity. He ultimately died in 1729. His apprentice Neilson succeeded him, and in his turn took an apprentice, the son of one John Dickson, club-maker in Leith. Neilson himself remained in the Company's service for many years, was granted a pension in 1760, and died much respected in 1763. To return, however, to Mr Colquhoun's yews. The officer reports in February 1728, that he has been to

the island in Loch Lomond to cut yews, conform to a warrant from the laird, and that he has brought two cart-loads thereof, having expended £6 by the way in expenses of carriage, &c. The Council order him to cleave the said wood, that it may dry and prevent "golling."

Even at this early period of the existence of the Royal Company, the design of preparing a history of the body was seriously entertained. An abstract of the Scots Acts of Parliament relating to archers and archery was prepared, and Mr Bayne of Ryries, one of the members of the Company, was asked to draw out an account, not so much of the Royal Company exclusively, as of the origin, history, and progress of archery in general, and the encouragement it had met with in Scotland in particular. This he readily agreed to do; but all that came of it seems to have been a paper which was read to the Council by Mr Baynes, entitled, 'A short View of the Use and Dignity of the Bow; and its ancient as well as later Honours.' It was ordered to be engrossed at the end of the then current volume of minutes. It is a paper displaying considerable ability and research, but contains little or no information about the Company itself. The history of the Company has since been attempted to be written by several gentlemen, some of them of considerable literary eminence, but from the remains of any notes which are in existence, it is evident that they have had too ambitious an aim; they have essayed to give a history of archery in general, and have not confined themselves to delineating the rise and progress of the Royal Company alone. Indeed, one gentleman begins with notices of archery previous to the Flood, and seems to have contemplated continuing the history through all time, and among all peoples, from the heroes of Homer to the Hottentots of Africa. Of this subject, however, we shall have again occasion to speak, so we will return to the due course of our story.

Nothing worthy of observation occurred in the affairs of the Company for some time, although the minutes of meeting of Council, and the notices of shooting for the various prizes, are all

carefully kept. In 1731 the Council announced a prize of a different kind from what they usually put out. The method of shooting for it was this : Not less than five shooters were to shoot ten ends once a-week for a month, and every shooter gaining an end was to receive one shilling. This sort of prize had the merit of being able to be divided amongst a number of competitors, and each man was rewarded according to his ability or luck. Such prizes were frequently shot for afterwards, but of late years have been discontinued, probably on account of there being a much greater number of other prizes open to be shot for than the Company possessed at that time.

In 1732, it was thought that it would be for the interest of the Company to have a public parade and march on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow. It was six years since the last one had been held, and the Captain-General had not been much with the Company. He was accordingly communicated with, and asked if he could attend. In his reply he expressed his willingness to meet the Company whenever they should appoint. Letters were despatched to the other officers desiring their presence on the occasion, several new commissions to sundry noblemen and gentlemen were made out, and the following advertisement was inserted in the newspapers of the day : “ These are to advertise all the members of the Royal Company of Archers, that they do attend the Captain-General and the other officers of the Company, in their proper habits, on Monday the tenth of July next, at nine of the clock in the morning, in the Parliament Close, in order to march in parade through the city of Edin^r to the Links of Leith, and there to shoot for the silver arrow presented them by the good town of Edin^r”

“ This by order of the Præses and Council,

“ D. DRUMMOND, P. WILL. BROWN, *Secretary.*”

The Captain-General was written to, and asked to appoint a day before the march to meet with the officers, to concert the

order of march and arrange the details; and he was assured that nothing had more "revived the spirit and raised the hopes of the Company than the assurance your Grace has been pleased to give to the Council of your being at their head on this occasion."

Preparations were accordingly vigorously gone on with. A new set of colours was ordered, in addition to those presented by the officers in 1714. They bore on one side a lion rampant *gules* on a field *or*, with the motto, *Pro patria dulce periculum*; and on the reverse a St Andrew, with a large thistle above his head, and the motto, *Nemo me impune lacessit*. The Lord Provost also undertook that the musical bells in St Giles's should play during their march, "and that the whole streets should be redd and cleared of stones and rubbish for their greater ease in marching." The streets at this time cannot have been in a very creditable state, as in 1735 an Edinburgh merchant and magistrate presented a proposal to the Estates for their cleaning. "Seeing," he says, "the nobility and gentry of Scotland are, when they are abroad, esteemed by all nations to be the finest and most accomplished in Europe, yet it's to be regretted that it's always casten up to them by strangers, who admire them for their qualifications, that they are born in a nation that has the nastiest cities in the world, especially the metropolitan." He offered £500 a-year for the refuse; but nothing seems to have been done.¹

Everything, then, being got in readiness, on the 10th of July a large muster took place in the burgh room at nine in the morning. A detachment of thirty-six archers, under the command of Lord Wemyss, first Lieutenant-General, marched down to the Captain-General's lodgings in the Abbey of Holyrood House, and brought up the colours to the main body, who waited under arms to receive them. Shortly after the Duke of Hamilton himself arrived, and having reviewed the Company, they set forth through the Canongate to Leith Links "in the following beautiful order." We quote from the minutes—

¹ Book of Scottish Anecdote.

“First, the coach, equipage, decked horses, &c., of the Captain-General, which were very splendid on this occasion.

“And after them the officer of the Royal Company, carrying the silver arrow that was to be shot for.

“Next followed the musick, consisting of trumpets, core de chases [*sic*], and hautbois, which were alternately answered by nine drums posted in the several brigades, all in the Company's livery.”

“Then his Grace the Duke of Hamilton marched on the front, being preceded by the Right Hon. the Lord Bruce on horseback, who acted as Major-General in absence of the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford. After his Grace, at a proper distance, marched Mr David Drummond, Præses of the Council.” Then followed the whole Company, to the number of considerably over a hundred, divided into eight brigades, commanded by their respective officers, among whom were the Earls of Wigtoun, Cassilis, and Kilmarnock, Viscount Oxfurd, Lords Garlies, Rollo, Kinnaird, Cranstoun, and several other noblemen and baronets. The procession was closed by the coach of the Earl of Wemyss and many other private carriages. In an account of the march given in the ‘Caledonian Mercury’ of the day, it is stated that there was “an infinite crowd of spectators, who came from all quarters to see this splendid procession, and who express their satisfaction by loud acclamations.” After the shooting, the Company marched into Leith, where they dined, and returning to town in the evening, patronised the theatre, where they saw performed the tragedy of “Macbeth.”

On this occasion General Wade formed one of the spectators, viewing the march from a balcony in the Earl of Moray's house. There was, too, another singular onlooker in the person of one Joseph Jamati, “Backlator General,” or Governor of Damascus. He appears at this time to have been making a sort of progress through England and Scotland for the purpose of raising money in order to pay some heavy fines and contributions which had been

laid upon his city by the Grand Vizier and Turkish Pasha. As regards his appearance and creed, the following quaint notice is taken from the newspapers of the time : " As to his religion, he is *in general* a Christian. His complexion reddish black, low in stature, somewhat lusty, and seems well shaped ; has a grey beard (not peak'd, but broad) half a foot long, and wears a scarlet mantle or gown trimmed with silver lace ; has on a red turban set round with white muslin twisted. He appears to be about 60 years old, a grave, well-looking gentleman, courteous and affable." He was attended by an interpreter and companion.

To come back to the Royal Company. Under the date 11th June 1733, we find recorded that there was admitted as a member John Murray, son to Sir David Murray of Stanhope. This was the gentleman who afterwards became Private Secretary to Prince Charles, and we shall afterwards have occasion to mention his expulsion from the Company, on account of his conduct subsequent to the Rebellion of 1745. In 1734, Mr Drummond, the President of the Council, who had held that office for upwards of twenty years, sent in his resignation. He was, however, asked to reconsider his determination ; and though, on the same day, he sent a letter adhering to his resolution, he seems to have been continued in office for another year, although he did not make any public appearance. He had certainly a good excuse, as he was now nearly eighty years of age. His death occurred a few years after this time, when we shall more particularly allude to him.

Another public march of the Company took place in 1734. Instead, however, of being shot for on the Links of Leith, as in former years, it was agreed, on the representation of some of the officers and the Town Council of Edinburgh, that the Company should assemble at Holyrood, and thence march through the town to Bruntsfield Links, and there shoot for the silver arrow, the magistrates agreeing to pass "ane Act, allowing the Royal Company of Archers to shoot for the said arrow in any place within a mile of the town of Edin^r or its privileges, as it shall please the

Council of the Royal Company to appoynt from tyme to tyme, notwithstanding of the former agreement, or any Act of the Town Council to the contrary." The march accordingly took place in very much the same fashion as on previous occasions. About one hundred and twenty members turned out, the officers on this occasion having, on the recommendation of the Captain-General, a tuft of green and white feathers on the left side of their bonnets. Two days after the parade, there was held for the only time in the whole history of the Company a Court-martial of the officers. The members consisted of the Dukes of Hamilton and Queensberry, Earls Wigtoun, Crawford, Cassilis, Kilmarnock, and Dundonald, Lords Rollo and Cranstoun, Sir Alexander Macdonald of Macdonald, Sir Archibald Stuart of Castlemilk, Col. John Stuart, the Master of Rollo, Messrs Hepburn of Keith, Lockhart of Carnwath, Hamilton of Baldoon, and Leslie of Balquhain. The Court being constituted—

"The officers who were absent from the late march having attended and given their reasons, or such as could not attend having sent their reasons, the same were received by the Court-martial; at which time it was signified to them by the Court-martial that, for the future, they did expect they should be more exact in the performance of their duty.

"The Court-martial further recommends to the Council that they will take the most proper method of acquainting the gentlemen of the Royal Company of Archers who did not attend on the late march, and, in particular, those who were in or near the town of Edinburgh, that particular notice had been taken of their non-attendance; and that unless relevant excuses were made when any of them were absent, the officers and the Council would proceed according to the powers vested in them.

"The Court-martial further recommends to the Council to be very cautious in admitting any members into the Company but such gentlemen as they think will be agreeable to the whole.

"The Court-martial further recommends to the Council that

they will be so good as advertise in the newspapers the members to attend at the annual meeting for electing the councillors, and that at least three weeks before the day of election.

“ The Court-martial appoints the Earl of Crawford, Mr Lockhart, Mr Hamilton, Mr Hepburn, and Mr Stuart, to attend the Council (and any other members of the Court-martial), to meet this afternoon at five of the clock, and to inform them of the resolutions taken by the Court-martial, and to report to the Captain-General of the Council’s return.

“ Sic subs^r. HAMILTON & BRANDON.

“ Sic subs^r. J. LOCKHART, *Clerk*.”

The Council having had these recommendations submitted to them, approved of them all, and expressed their intention of putting them in execution. That one as to not admitting gentlemen into the Company who would not be agreeable to the whole, probably meant that all who were not adherents of, or at least friendly to, “ the good old cause ” of the Stuarts, were to be made to see that their presence was not desired by the Jacobite members of the Company. It is perhaps worthy of remark, that the account of this year’s march, as well as the account of the meeting of the Court-martial and Council, are most beautifully inserted in the records, being ornamented with a great deal of black-letter printing and scroll-work. This was done by Mr David Beatt, writing-master in Edinburgh, and a member of the Company. He also executed a very artistic title-page to the then current volume of records, and inserted the charter of the Company from Queen Anne, beautifully illuminated and printed in black-letter. For writing the account of the march, &c., we find the treasurer authorised to meet Mr Beatt, and present him with three guineas “ over a glass of wine ; ” which injunction was no doubt carried out by the treasurer in some of those dingy taverns in which the inhabitants of old Edinburgh used so much to delight. Mr Beatt afterwards became a personage of some historical celebrity, as it was he

who proclaimed King James at the Cross on the occasion of Prince Charles's entry into Edinburgh in the '45, and also read the commission of Regency from James to his son, and two manifestoes by the Pretender and the Prince.

In commemoration of this march, Mr James Freebairn, a member of the Company, and a teacher of French in Edinburgh, composed a dramatic poem in French, entitled 'La Parade des Archers Eccossois—poeme dramatique, adressé au très haut et puissant prince Jacques, Duc d'Hamilton et Brandon, &c. &c. : Capitaine-General, et a tous les officiers de la Compagnie Royale des Archers Eccosois.' We shall refer to this poem at greater length in another chapter.



CHAPTER IV.

DEATH OF DAVID DRUMMOND, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—POEM IN MEMORY OF HIM—OTHER VERSES IN CONNECTION WITH HIM—PARADE OF ROYAL COMPANY AND BALL—DEATH OF THE DUKE OF HAMILTON, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE EARL OF WEMYSS AS CAPTAIN-GENERAL—ROYAL ARCHERS IN THE '45—LOCKHART OF CARNWATH—EXPULSION OF MURRAY OF BROUGHTON—VARIOUS PRIZES PRESENTED BY PRIVATE MEMBERS—DR NATHANIEL SPENS—SILVER BOWL ENLARGED—MAITLAND'S HISTORY OF EDINBURGH—DEATH OF LORD WEMYSS, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY AS CAPTAIN-GENERAL—GEORGE NEILSON—ANGELO TREMOMONDO—DR CARLYLE—ARCHERS' HALL BUILT—THEATRE PATRONISED BY THE ROYAL COMPANY—ST CLAIR OF ROSLIN—INDIAN LONG-BOW—BALLOT FOR ENTRY INTRODUCED—DEATH OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH—STAMPING BOWS—GOOD SHOOTING—REINDEER HORNS PRESENTED—PEEBLES ARROW—DISTINGUISHED INTRANTS—COUNCILLORS' MEDALS PRESENTED—DIPLOMA FROM THE TOXOPHOLITE SOCIETY, AND ANSWER FROM THE ROYAL COMPANY—"TWO STRINGS TO YOUR BOW."

IN 1741 died Mr David Drummond, who, we have seen, resigned his office of President of the Council some years previously. His interest in the Royal Company had been very great, and his name is seldom absent from the list of the members present at the Council meetings, even although there may only have been purely formal business to transact. The Council, in dutiful respect to his memory, caused an epigram and set of verses to be inserted in their records. The name of the author is not given, though we may reasonably enough suppose it to be Allan Ramsay, who was Bard to the Company. If not by him, it was probably the work of one of several members of the Royal Company at this period, who were in the habit of filling up their hours of leisure in verse-writing. Whoever the author may be, the verses display decided

talent and elegance of diction, though perhaps it is rather much in the stilted and somewhat severely classical style which was so much in vogue at the time in which it was written. The following is the entire entry in the records :—

“ In obitum clarissimi atque integerrimi viri

DAVIDIS DRUMMONDI, *Iti*:

In præfectura Edinburgensis olim vicecomitis Juridici, ac sub illustrissime Comite Erroliaë Scotiæ vice-Constabularij ; Nummophylacij Scotici per 40 amplos annos Quæstoris fidelissimi :

Qui fatis concessit 3 Non : Martias 1741, æt. 85.

EPIGRAMMA FUNEBRE.

Si quis forte virum justum, Sanctique tenacem
Propositi, cupida fingere mente velit ;
Si quis et ingenij vires, mentemque capacem
Quærat ; amicitiaë et pignora sacra colat ;
Qui gravitate sua cunctos ita flectere possit
Ut sileant juvenes, suspiciantque senes ;
Te DRUMMONDE ! sibi statuens effingat ad unguem
Egregij surget maxima imago viri.

ALIUD.

In eundem per complures annos Concilij Regiæ Sagittariorum apud Scotos Cohortis Præsidentem ; in ipsa adolescentia primum Andreapoli, anno 1674 ; ac deinde in annuis dictæ Cohortis certaminibus, bis Conchipsoli totiesque Edinburgi, annis 1687, 1709, 1717, et 1724, Victorem.

Te duce, sæpe Cohors pharetris ornata refulsit
Regia, fausta canens, lætitiæque fumens
Nunc at acerba gemens, te deflet lumine cassum
Qui pater et princeps, concilijque caput.”

TO THE MEMORY OF MR DAVID DRUMMOND.

ADDRESS'D TO A FRIEND.

Cadit et Ripheus, justissimus unus
Qui fuit in Teucris, et servantissimus æqui.—VIRG.

Forgive the Muse that with a heart sincere
With thee desires to drop a friendly tear ;
In grateful verse a common loss to mourn
And weep awhile o'er Drummond's sacred urn.

Let others praise a gilded thing that's great,
 A titled bubble or a fool of state ;
 Be mine the more exalted work to scan
 The Muse's noblest theme—an honest man.

And sure whate'er deserves the poet's lay,
 Whate'er a raptured Bard inspired can say
 Of just, of right, of what is good and true,
 To honesty and Drummond all is due.

Through all the stages of a lengthened life
 (Unknown to discord, ignorant of strife),
 He acted every part with just applause,
 Constant to virtue and to virtue's cause.

Of faith untainted, hospitably kind,
 The best companion and the firmest friend ;
 In every scene still faithful to his trust,
 Steady to truth, and resolutely just.

He knew no flattery, no disguise or art,
 He ever spoke the language of his heart ;
 His love and charity were unconfined,
 And flowed like light to all the human kind.

In youth, in manhood, in old age, beloved,
 In every character of life approved ;
 In paths of truth and equity he trod,
 And served his king, his country, and his God.

And when Heaven's awful summons called him hence,
 Soft peace, integrity, and innocence—
 The sweet attendants of his latest breath—
 Hovered around the bed and calmed his death.

No guilty thoughts his peaceful mind controul,
 Disturb his conscience or afflict his soul ;
 On Heaven his virtue steadily rely'd ;
 All clear within—he blessed his God and died !

O Lælius ! may it be your fate and mine,
 Whatever length of years the powers design,

Like him to pass the fleeting hours away,
 While virtue crowns the labours of the day!
 'Tis all the solid bliss beneath the sky
 With such a character to live and die."

THE ANSWER OF LÆLIUS.

" Though little skilled in verse, I must commend
 Your care t' embalm the mem'ry of your friend ;
 His character is just, your judgment true—
 I judge, I love, I weep, and pray with you."

" Justum et tenacem propositi virum,

Si fractus illabatur orbis,
 Impavidum erient ruinæ."—HOR.

Such were the words in which the Council mourned the death of their old chief. He must have been a man singularly lovable in character; and we find many Latin verses on him, written by the gentleman mentioned above, and which are published in a collection of verses and poems, to which we shall afterwards have occasion more particularly to allude. The reader, however, may perhaps pardon one or two extracts in this place while on the subject of Mr Drummond. Here is one by Thomas Kincaid, on the occasion of the winning of the Company's bowl by Mr Drummond in 1724 :—

" Hanc palmam, Drummonde, novam, tot jam ante relatis
 Adjices, et votis non datur ultra locus.
 Victor eras juvenis, vix pubescentibus annis
 Et senior factus nunc quoque victor ovas.
 Defices in nullis, iterumque iterumque triumphas,
 Sufficiunt vires ingeniique vigor.
 Exornat virtus senium, provector ætas
 Virtutem decorat, queis tibi verus honor,
 Laude mea longe es sublimior, ipsaque Olympi
 Culmina cum superes, deficit eloquium."

" *Posuit Sodalís Pharetrætus.*"

T. K.

One other extract and we have done. It bears the initials Sir

W. B.—in all likelihood Sir William Bennet of Grubbet—and is inscribed to Mr David Drummond :—

“ Hail, veterane, in Vict'ry gray,
 Whose arrow oft has borne away
 The Conquest of the dubious day !
 Old Caledon does know thy fame,
 Each archer-field reveres thy name,
 Who came, saw, conquered where thou came.
 No higher can your glory rise :
 Through many a tough contested prize
 You've reached Olympus by degrees ;
 Now at the post of Jove's great son
 Lay your strong bow and arrows down,
 Mellow with age and in renown.”

In 1742 another public parade of the Company was held, but was not quite so largely attended as some of the previous ones. This may in some measure be accounted for by the absence of the Captain-General, who was prevented through illness from attending. Still the procession was a brilliant one—General Clayton, who was in command of the troops quartered in Edinburgh at that time, receiving the salutes of the Company's officers on foot, seeing, he said, that so many of the nobility and gentry of Scotland were marching past on foot. After the usual dinner subsequent to the shooting, it is said that they “concluded the evening with great mirth, and a splendid assembly for the ladies, at which the archers danced in their habits, the Right Honourable the Earl of Wigtoun having begun the Ball.” This is the first ball given by the archers of which we have distinct account. So far back, indeed, as May 1677, there is an entry to the following effect : “ Referred to the Præses & Thes^r to agree anent the Ball and pay him, and to pay for printing the advertisem^t ;” but to what this exactly refers, or whether there was any ball at the time, we have not been able to discover. It is not likely that one did take place, as any public dancing was almost unknown in Edinburgh till a somewhat later period.

By the death of the Duke of Hamilton a vacancy in the Captain-Generalship occurred in 1743. It was filled up by the Earl of Wemyss, the head of a strong Jacobite family, and whose father had been, as it will be remembered, at the head of the Royal Company previous to the Duke of Hamilton. He himself had held the post of first Lieutenant-General, and had thus been connected with the Company for some time. His son, Lord Elcho, who afterwards became one of the officers of the Pretender, was one of the adjutants—so the family may be said to have been intimately associated with the Royal Company. A number of other officers were elected, and all things went on harmoniously in the body, the meetings for shooting being regularly held down to September 1745, when the good people of the Scottish capital were alarmed or elated, according to their different political opinions, by the news that Prince Charles was in full march upon the city at the head of a Highland army. Strong adherents of the house of Stuart as many, if not most, of the members of the Company were, they did not dare to make any appearance as a body to welcome the young Prince;¹ but many individual members displayed in no doubtful manner their attachment to him whom they considered the representative of their hereditary sovereign. We have already noticed David Beatt, the writing-master; and, to take one other example out of many, we may mention Hepburn of Keith, who, with a drawn sword, was the first to welcome the Prince to the palace of his ancestors. Many other names of members who made themselves conspicuous in the Rebellion might be mentioned did our limits permit; but the student of Scottish history will readily recognise them on turning to the list of members at the end of the volume. Not a few of them suffered severely for their principles; and it was not for

¹ There is indeed a tradition that the Company marched out of town a short way to meet the Prince, but dispersed before accomplishing their object. This is, however, to say the least of it, very doubtful. The records of the Company at this time are judiciously brief.

some time after 1745 that the Royal Company ceased to be looked on with a certain amount of suspicion by the Government, so well known was it that the body had been in former years a very stronghold of devotion to the cause of the exiled house. In time, however, this feeling died away; and eventually the spirits of the old Jacobite members might well have stood aghast, if they could have beheld their successors guarding into Edinburgh the carriage of a King of the house of Brunswick, amidst shouts of welcome from ten thousand throats; or, later still, clustered round the person of a young and beautiful Queen, on the occasion of her first visit to her Scottish capital.

No meeting of the Company or Council was held from September 1745 until June 1746, when the latter body met and gave orders for the anniversary meeting for the election of a Præses and Council to be held as usual. The election accordingly was held, and no change was made in the Council, with the exception of appointing Mr Lockhart of Carnwath the Præses, in room of Sir Alexander Macdonald. People, however, had the fear of Government before their eyes, and were still shy of appearing to belong to any body that might be suspected of Jacobite principles; so, in consequence of the scantiness of the attendance on the meeting, the shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow was put off until August this year. Everything eventually went on quite smoothly; and nothing remarkable occurs for us to chronicle till 1747, when a meeting of the Company was held in Walker's Tavern, to present the Duke of Queensberry with his commission as Second Lieutenant-General, which had been extended, but not presented, in 1743. In this year, also, was admitted, without payment of fees, Donald Macdonald, Captain of the Royal Scots in the French service; and the numbers were further increased by the admission of Lord Drumlanrig (son of the Duke of Queensberry), the Earl of March, the Honourable Francis Charteris of Amesfield, and other gentlemen of distinguished position. The gentlemen last named were in the following year made brigadiers, together with the Earls of Aboyne

and Glasgow, Viscount Kenmure, John Forbes of Culloden, and Andrew Wauchope of Niddrie. At the same time a commission as adjutant was made out to the Honourable Charles Elphinstone, who had acted as such as far back as the march in 1734, but had never received his commission.

The Musselburgh Arrow appears to have been shot for in 1748 for the first time in uniform. The Captain-General attended; and this being the first time he had appeared at the head of the Company, he was, as usual, adjudged victor.

As we have before mentioned, Councillor and Brigadier Murray was expelled the Company for his conduct subsequent to the Insurrection of 1745. His name is deleted from all the records of meetings of the Council which he attended. The reasons for his expulsion, however, are not expressly stated: it is only said to have been put into execution "upon serious deliberation and weighty considerations;" but of course there is no doubt as to what the reasons were.

A parade on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow took place in 1749, but sadly shorn of its former glory, as not more than forty members turned out. There is a very short and quiet description of it in the records, contrasting curiously with the spirited and somewhat grandiloquent style in which the former parades are described. But, as we have said, people were still shy of appearing at anything which could be construed into a Jacobite gathering; although it is curious to observe that the number of new members this year are very numerous, there being no less than forty-three admissions; and, as if it were a sort of guarantee of their loyalty, there are the names of as many as six officers of General Marjoribanks's regiment, including the Lieutenant-Colonel.

In 1750, the Council laid down more strict laws as to the management of the Company than had previously been in force. One or two of these may be mentioned. It was resolved that at the annual election of the Præses and Council, the Secretary should read over the laws of the Company to the members present; also, that no

member should introduce a stranger to dinner without the sanction of a councillor ; that he should pay for his guest's entertainment ; "and that at all publick meetings each member shall pay for such liquor as he inclines to call for, and no more." The Council also determined to hold their meetings strictly private. It being in contemplation to hold a public parade the next year, the Council made out several new commissions, the holders of the old ones either having died or being in exile. It was, however, eventually resolved—it is not stated upon what ground—that there should be no parade in 1750. Notwithstanding this, the Company seems to have been in a very flourishing condition, and the shooting meetings were largely attended. A great many prizes were shot for, given chiefly by members. In 1749, the Præses, Mr Lockhart, presented a china bowl to be shot for ; and next year, following his example, the Earl of Galloway gave a silver snuff-box as a prize. The Council, too, ordered that instead of shooting for sixpence an end at rovers, as had hitherto been the practice once a-week, a medal should be given, one every week. Lord Boyd, also, who had been recently appointed one of the Ensigns-General, gave a china punch-bowl ; and John MacIntosh, a merchant in Edinburgh, and a councillor of the Company, presented a silver medal of Queen Anne. Later in the season Mr Lockhart again gave a china bowl, and his gift was imitated by Mr Murray, a brother of the young Pretender's secretary, who had been admitted to the Company shortly before. With all these prizes to stimulate competition, there was no lack of shooting, and the Company was altogether in a very prosperous state. This year was also marked by the admission of Dr Nathaniel Spens, a gentleman whose name is intimately associated with the Royal Company, both on account of the strong interest he always took in its concerns, and of the fact that he is the subject of one of Sir Henry Raeburn's best portraits—one, too, the copy of which on steel is still considered a masterpiece of the engraver's art.

Connected so closely as Dr Spens was with the Royal Company, and taking such a prominent part as he did for so many years in

its affairs, it may not be out of place to devote a little more attention to him than we are able to do to individual members in general. He came of an old Fifeshire family, being the fourth son of Thomas Spens of Lathallan, in that county, and was born 17th April 1728; so that he was just twenty-two years of age when he joined the Company. His uncle, John Douglas, was an eminent surgeon in Edinburgh, and superintended Nathaniel's education, so as to fit him for following the same profession—which he did, though he subsequently abandoned the practice of surgery and became a physician. He held the office of President of the Royal College of Physicians from 1794 to 1796, and seems to have had considerable practice in his profession, as in 1792 he bought the lands of Craigsanquhar in Fife, which had been sold by an ancestor, Alexander Spens, in 1524. He married Mary, second daughter of James Milliken of that Ilk, by whom he had several children, two of whom—Dr Thomas Spens and Colonel Spens—inherited their father's love of archery and attachment to the Royal Company. He died at Craigsanquhar, 21st June 1815. In 1810 he had a dinner given to him by the Royal Company on the occasion of his completing his sixtieth year of membership; and he was then appointed Adjutant-General. His picture shows him to have possessed a handsome person, and his private character was no less estimable. He is said to have been the first person who ever carried an umbrella in Edinburgh, that useful article having been unknown in Scotland (at least in its present shape) till the latter half of last century.¹ During all the long period Dr Spens was connected with the Royal Company, no man did more to advance its prosperity, or was a more regular attender both on the field and at the dinner-table. His memory is still held in affectionate remembrance at Archers' Hall, where his grand portrait

¹ Chambers's Book of Days, i. 243. Kay, in his portrait of Dr Alexander Wood, better known as "Lang Sandy Wood," represents that gentleman with an umbrella under his arm; and it is stated in the letterpress notice that he was the first umbrella-carrier. Dr Wood and Dr Spens, however, being contemporaries, they may both have adopted the *parapluie* at about the same time.

looks down upon his successors as if calling upon each one of them to follow his example, and leave behind him, as he did, the memory of the *beau ideal* of a Scottish archer.¹

The Company's silver bowl had now been shot for since 1720, and its circumference had become so filled up with the badges of the respective winners, that no more could be attached. It was therefore ordered to be enlarged, which was accordingly done by Mr Ebenezer Oliphant, goldsmith.

Under the date 6th March 1751, on the occasion of the first meeting of the season for field-shooting at rovers, we find a circumstance mentioned, from which it would appear that the ordinary competitions were conducted with even more spirit than they are now.

It is stated that "it was recommended to the Secretary to bargain with the two French Horns for their attendance on the Company as formerly." This would seem to point to the fact that the Company generally had music on the field while shooting, the expense being probably defrayed by a collection among the members, as at next meeting £2, 11s. 6d. was got from those present for the expense of the season. The youngest councillor was afterwards appointed to collect the money for the French Horns.

The Council resolved to give four pounds in prizes this year, and accordingly ordered two silver tumblers to be made, with the Company's arms engraved on them, of the value of forty shillings each. The first tumbler was to be won by the person who had the greatest aggregate of shots at the end of six weeks, shooting once a-week; and then the other tumbler was to be shot for on the same terms. This kept up an interest in the shooting over the whole season, and insured a good turn-out of shooters at least once a-week. This plan was found to work so well, and gave such general satisfaction, that it was continued for several years. It

¹ The author is indebted for most of the above facts relating to Dr Spens to his great-grandsons, Walter C. Spens, Esq., sheriff-substitute at Hamilton, and William G. Spens, Esq., Edinburgh.

seems to have been a rule that the victor of any of the public prizes should "stand treat" to the Company at dinner. No doubt this custom, owing to the uncertainty of the extent to which it might be carried, often proved a source of considerable expense to the victor; so the Council laid down a rule, limiting the expenditure to six bottles of wine, "or the price thereof in any other liquor." This took place, however, only on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh and Musselburgh Arrows and the silver bowl of the Company.

Rather a curious prize was subscribed for by the members in 1752. It took the form of a "dividing-spoon," or soup-ladle, and was to be shot for at the butts once a-month during winter; and he who should have the greatest number of points at the end of that time was to be declared the winner.

A singular entry occurs under date 11th February 1754, in reference to Maitland's 'History of Edinburgh,' which was then published, and which serves to show the estimation in which it was then held: "The Council, taking into their consideration the article in the preceding acc^t [the Treasurer's statement for the year] stated payed for Maitland's 'History of Edinburgh,' and that altho' it does not appear there was any written order for subscribing for the Company, yet that they are persuaded it was verbally ordered and designed at that time to encourage ane undertakeing that was expected would have done honour to the country and our antient metropolis; and that therefore they cannot (however insignificant the work is) refuse to sustain the article of discharge to the Treasurer, but were unanimously of opinion it might be roup'd in the Company to the highest bidder, and the produce payed into the Treasurer; and the book having been accordingly put up to sale, and Mr Lockhart the Præses being the highest offerer, having offered fifteen shillings therefore, had the same delivered to him," &c. The subscription price of the book was one guinea.

In this year six new brigadiers were appointed—Lords Elgin,

Blantyre, and Garlies, Sir William Baird of Saughtonhall, and Messrs M'Dougall of Castlesempill and Murray of Broughton, who gave, as we have seen, a china bowl as a prize some years before. The shooting for the silver arrow was graced by the presence of the Captain-General, but there was no formal parade. This was the last appearance of the Earl of Wemyss at the head of the Company, as he died shortly after.

On the 20th of September 1755, there is a record of a remarkable match shot at rovers between Mr Lockhart, the Præses, and Mr Sinclair, one of the Council, who had won the three public prizes this year. "They agreed," we are told, "to shoot the best of ten ends for a Scotch quart of wine (well known in antient times by the name of a tappit hen), and the match was won by the Præses by very fine shooting—viz., one bow, one half-bow, and six feet,¹ which is by appointment recorded *in futuram rei memoriam*."

In the spring of 1756, the Company received with regret the news of the death of their Captain-General, the Earl of Wemyss, who had held that office for a period of thirteen years. In his place was appointed Charles, third Duke of Queensberry, who held the office of First Lieutenant-General. In a letter to him by the Præses announcing his appointment, the writer says: "As I know no person who will fill Lord Wemyss's bonnet more to the satisfaction of every archer, allow me to assure your grace the Council's choice gives every particular pleasure to,

" My Lord, &c.

" G. LOCKHART, P."

A prize was given this year by the Council to young shooters who had never shot for a prize before. It was to be gained by

¹ For the benefit of those of our readers who may not be acquainted with the terms of archery scoring, we may explain, that at a range of 180 yards (the usual range in rovers), and at a target considerably smaller than those now in use, the worthy Præses six times laid his arrow close to the iron supports of the mark,—once he was half a bow's-length, and once a whole bow's-length from the target, measured from the centre of the bull's-eye.

five successive shots, but only brought two competitors into the field, and was won by a younger son of the Præses. The conditions for shooting for the bowl were changed in 1757, it being found that when won too early in the season it had an effect on the after-attendance of shooters. To help to remedy this, it was agreed that instead of three successive shots carrying it off, three successive "ends" would be required. That is to say, by the original arrangement, if a shooter put two arrows nearest the gold in one end it counted two, but now it was only to count one, and in order to win the prize he would require to have the first shot the next two ends. This, of course, made it rather more difficult to gain the prize, and rendered the shooting more likely to continue over a longer space of time.

There is a record of a match shot in 1759, which is deleted in the minutes, for what reason is not very clear. Three gentlemen shot against other three, but one side had an additional arrow, as they thought themselves too weak. "But," we are told, "*as dinner was ready, and in hazard of spoiling*, the match was given up as equal at three all. The match being singular, Mr Boswell insisted to have the same recorded, and payed the usual dues therefore."

An application was presented to the Council in 1760 from George Neilson, the Company's officer, for some assistance, as by reason of his great age and infirmities, he having now served the Company for upwards of fifty-three years, he was no longer able to support himself by his industry. In consideration of his long and faithful services he was granted a pension of the sum of two pounds a-year in addition to what he got as officer to the Company, which, however, was only one or two pounds per annum. For this he seems to have had to deliver circulars to the archers in town, warning them to attend meetings; but whether this was really done, or a mere formal direction, which was inserted in the minutes of Council meetings from a very early period, it is difficult to say. His other emoluments arose from his trade of bow-maker;

but at this time it is not easy to imagine that there would be a sufficient demand to keep a man constantly employed. Nevertheless, old George seems to have made a livelihood in his situation, and no doubt some not inconsiderable portion of his income arose from the individual generosity of the gallant archers themselves. He cannot, however, have made very much by it; for on his death, which occurred in 1763, his son, owing to straitened circumstances, was not able to defray the cost of his father's funeral, and in these circumstances "the Council ordered that three pounds one shilling sterling, the amount of the account given in to them for burying so old and faithful a servant, should be paid by their Treasurer." He was succeeded by Thomas Comb, who had been bound apprentice to him in the year 1749.

For several years about this period the affairs of the Company were such as call for no special remark: it appears to have been in a fairly prosperous state. They possessed about £500 of capital, which was lent out at interest to some members, besides a small floating balance for current expenses. The number of intrants each year kept quite up to the average. The records, however, about this period are unusually short and scanty; and during several years there are no minutes of meetings later than August. This probably is only due to the laziness or inattention of the secretary, as there are generally entries in the accounts relating to payment for geese to be shot at in October, thereby proving that the shooting was by no means suspended.

Two men, both somewhat remarkable, though in widely different spheres, were admitted, one in 1764, the other in 1767, to the Royal Company, without payment of any fees. These were Angelo Tremomondo, "Master Director of the Academy for Riding at Edinburgh," and the Rev. Alexander Carlyle, minister of Inveresk.

Of the former there is a portrait in Kay's Prints, from the letterpress annexed to which we learn that he was a native of Italy, and the first public teacher of riding in Scotland, having

been appointed "Master of the Royal Riding Menage." The writer of the notice in 'Kay' states that he came to Edinburgh in 1768; but this must be wrong, as the date of his admission to the Company is four years earlier. He had an elder brother who was an accomplished swordsman, and once at Paris successfully defended a bouquet, which had been given him by Peg Woffington the actress, against all comers. A life of this gentleman was published by his son, the nephew of the Edinburgh Master, in 1830, under the title of 'Reminiscences of Henry Angelo.' Tremomondo, indeed, seems to have been a name assumed by the riding-master, and it did not at all suit the tongues of the good people of Edinburgh, who reverted to his original name of Angelo, which, however, was soon corrupted into plain Ainslie. He himself signed the laws of the Company as "Angelo, ecuier d'Edenbourg." He died in 1805, aged eighty-four.

Of Dr Carlyle, the minister of Inveresk, there is no need to speak at any length here, as most persons are acquainted with his curious and interesting Autobiography, which was published some years ago. One of the leaders of the "Moderate" party in the Church, he was the friend of many of the most distinguished literary men of his time, and has left us a most elegant and vivid picture of the social and ecclesiastical life in that age. He was fifty-seven years minister of the parish of Inveresk, and died in 1805 in his eighty-fourth year.

In 1765 the Præses of the Council, Mr Lockhart of Carnwath, was removed by death. He had held that office since 1747, and had taken all along a great interest in the affairs of the Company, and testified his liberality several times, as we have seen, by the presentation of prizes. His place was filled by the Earl of Galloway, who also held the rank of Lieutenant-General in the Company. He, however, only reigned three years, and was succeeded by Mr St Clair of Rosline, who kept up all the interest in the Company which had been displayed by his predecessors in office.

A curious arrangement took place in 1767, when it was agreed

that, in consequence of most of the shooting archers being resident during that summer in or near Musselburgh, the shooting for the bowl should be held there on Saturdays—meetings, however, being still kept up in Edinburgh on Mondays. It was won on the first meeting by one of the Council, Mr Graham of Gartmore, who, in order to keep up the shooting for some time longer, presented a prize of a silver tumbler, to be shot for on three successive Saturdays, to be gained by the person who had most shots. Mr Graham distinguished himself this year by killing the goose, and was elected a brigadier shortly after. The bowl having been won in 1770 by the secretary, Mr Hardie, he generously proposed to give it up to be shot for by young shooters who had never won it. His offer did not fulfil his intentions, as on the next occasion of shooting no young archers appeared, so it was carried off by an old member. The competitions of the Company, briefly though they are recorded in the minutes, seem to have excited some public interest, as it is noticed in June 1771, that while shooting some private parties at rovers, the grass in the park was so spoiled by the crowd coming in, that the shooting for the bowl had to be delayed for a few days, until the grass was cut about the marks. It was agreed to apply for a party of soldiers to keep off the crowd when the Edinburgh Arrow was shot for this year. And in connection with this prize it may be remarked that the arrow was carried by the officer through the town some time previous to the meeting. Whether this had always been done is not quite clear. In 1750, it was ordered to be so carried, “as formerly used be done;” and as the advertisements in the early times used to be by tuck of drum, it is likely that the arrow accompanied the drums. The last time the carrying of the arrow is alluded to is in 1792, when it was ordered not to be done on account of riots in the city; and it is probable the practice was given up after that time.

In 1775, the dues of admission were raised from one guinea to a guinea and a half, and at this period what may be called the ancient history of the Company ends, and more modern events now claim

our attention. At this time the Company seems to have been prospering exceedingly. The Council were liberal in granting money for extra prizes; the meetings were held once a-week during summer, and once a-month in winter; and after the shooting the members dined together. The taverns at which they met were various; and although one house was generally solely patronised for a few years, yet we find the minutes are seldom dated from one house for any long period of time. This, of course, must have given rise to considerable inconvenience, and it is in 1775 that we first hear of a proposal to build a house for the special use of the Company, and this idea was very shortly after carried out in the building of the present Archers' Hall. We will, however, defer a notice of the early meeting-places of the Royal Company till another chapter, in which we purpose giving an account of the Hall, and of those places which the members of the Company used to frequent before it was built. Meanwhile we shall go on with our story without interrupting its continuity by such a digression.

The season of 1776 opened with a dinner to celebrate the birthday anniversary of their Præses, Mr St Clair, who was now seventy-seven years of age, and had been a member of the Company for a considerable period. At this dinner the Company admitted, free of expense, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, James Stoddart, Esq., "in consideration of the many obligations the Company lay under to the city of Edinburgh, and of the particular attention paid to them" by his Lordship. Several other ordinary members were admitted at the same time, among whom was Hugo Arnot, the author of the 'History of Edinburgh,' and the celebrated "shadow" of Kay's Prints. Amongst other eminent men who were admitted members of the Company about this time, we may mention the names of Dugald Stewart and Lord Advocate Dundas.

The Duke of Buccleuch was created Lieutenant-General; Lord Elphinston, Major-General; the Marquess of Lothian, Adjutant-General; and several other officers appointed, the dues for their commissions being raised as follows:—

Capt.-General,	.	.	Twenty guineas.
Lieut.	„	.	Fifteen „
Major	„	.	Ten „
Adjutant	„	.	Eight „
Ensign,	.	.	Six „
Brigadier,	.	.	Three „

besides the secretary's fees, which were fixed at from five guineas to half a guinea, according to rank.

We have previously seen that the Royal Company several times patronised the theatre. That was in the times when theatrical representations were looked upon with much disfavour, except by the Jacobites, who were generally less strait-laced than the most part of the community. After various changes, the Edinburgh Theatre at last secured a site at the east end of Princes Street, which it occupied till pulled down some years ago to make room for the present Post Office buildings. It was opened in 1768; and in 1777 we find Mr Digges, the manager, requesting the patronage of the Royal Company, leaving it to them to name any night and any play which they might be desirous to hear. They accordingly, as they were willing to encourage the manager, agreed to patronise the house, and bespoke for the occasion the tragedy of 'Douglas,' which had been first produced in Edinburgh in 1758, and which still held its place as one of the most popular plays of the time.

On the 24th of February 1778, the birthday dinner to the Præses, St Clair, which had now been held for the last two years, ought to have taken place, and been graced by his presence; but Death had pierced him with his arrows, and removed him from the society of his brother archers. The members, however, who had resolved to dine, carried out their intention, and at the mess-board which he had so often enlivened, drank to his memory with all possible regard. The office of Præses of the Council being vacant through Mr St Clair's death, it fell to be filled up at the annual anniversary meeting. The gentleman elected to the post was

the Honourable Charles Hope Weir (Vere), Senior Ensign-General in the Company, and who had been made a brigadier so far back as 1750. On his assuming office, he notified to the Company that it was his intention to present a gold medal to be worn by way of badge by the Præses of the Council for the time being, which offer was accepted with many thanks by the Council. We may mention, in order to keep a correct account of the bow-makers to the Company, that at this meeting George Comb, who had been apprenticed to old George Neilson, and succeeded him in 1760, was dismissed for neglect of duty and general bad conduct, being, the records tell us, "not only of no use, but even a reproach to the Society." Andrew Donaldson, who had been made conjunct officer with Comb in 1774, was continued without a colleague. He, however, seems to have imbibed his predecessor's bad habits, as in a few years we find him in sad disgrace.

A gift was this year made to the Company by Dr Spens of a remarkably long Indian bow. Of its particular history there is no record; but it is probably from North America. It possesses, however, a curious importance, from the fact that the Council resolved that when the officer of the Company delivered any message from the Council to ordinary members with the bow in his hand, he was to meet with implicit obedience. There are only two instances on record of its having been so used: the first about a year after its presentation, when some members who went out to shoot after dinner were peremptorily ordered back again to the table; and the second in 1791, when, on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow, a party dined in a separate room. They had also played bowls instead of going to the field. They "were fined 2s. 6d. each to the marker, and paid their fines under the influence of the long bow."¹

The number of intrants from 1776 to 1779 was unusually large; but the Company being very much in want of money, owing to the expense of building the Hall, the fees of admission were in 1778

¹ 13th July 1795.

raised from a guinea and a half, at which sum they had been fixed in 1775, to two guineas and a half; but this was to include fees to the secretary and officer. A change in the mode of admission was also made this year in the introduction of the ballot, as will be seen from the following minute of 26th September:—

“The Council taking into consideration the present mode of admitting of members, and that it may happen that candidates may be proposed who are not thought agreeable to many of the Company, and perhaps otherwise not altogether proper to be admitted, and that from particular circumstances in cases of that kind the giving a vote or opinion *viva voce* to exclude any person once proposed, is and must always be disagreeable, it was therefore proposed and agreed to that a balloting-box shall be provided, and that in time coming the election and admission of every new member shall be made by a ballot of the established Council, and that in all cases one dissenting vote or black ball shall exclude.” At a meeting held shortly after, it was made to be understood that one black ball in the ballot of the Council not only excluded at the time, but in all time thereafter; so that a person once rejected could not be again put up for election.

The Company, as we have remarked, was at this time—1778—in a remarkably good position as regarded numbers, although, from the expense of the building, the funds were in anything but a satisfactory state. It was thought, however, that a public march should take place in order to bring the Company into notice, “and revive the ancient spirit of archery.” The Captain-General was communicated with, and expressed his entire concurrence with the proposal. Several new officers were made; among others the Duke of Gordon was created one of the ensigns in place of the Earl of Errol, who had died. A committee was appointed to consider the arrangements for the parade (which was not intended to take place till the next year), and everything seemed to promise well for a large gathering, when the plans were rather thrown out by the death of the Duke of Queensberry, the Captain-General

which took place in the autumn of 1778. He had held office since 1756; but as there had been no public appearance of the body after his accession to the post, he had never been associated in any remarkable degree with the Company. His successor was chosen in the person of Henry, third Duke of Buccleuch, who was at this time First Lieutenant-General in the Company. His installation took place on the 21st of January 1779; and on the 14th of March we find the Company attending the theatre to see a play which had been bespoken by him in their name. A good many commissions being vacant, a creation of officers was made some time after the Captain-General's installation—the Duke of Athol, the Marquess of Graham, the Earl of Glencairn, and Mr Macdowal of Garthland, being appointed brigadiers. Notwithstanding this increase of officers, the preparations for holding a parade this year seem to have fallen through, as the Edinburgh Arrow was shot for without any of the “pomp and circumstance” which had been attendant on former public marches. The only difference from former years was that a detachment of troops were there in addition to the usual force of town-guards, in order to keep off the crowd; and the band of the regiment—the West Fencibles—played while marching to and from the field, and also at dinner in the evening.

A curious entry occurs in September relating to the making of bows. It runs as follows: “The Council having had many complaints of insufficient work in bows and arrows made and presented by the Company's present officer, whereby young shooters, not being competent judges of such work, were frequently imposed upon, and exorbitant prices exacted for the same; they resolved and appointed that in time coming the Company's officer shall upon no occasion offer to sell any work of his own, either bows or arrows, until the same is previously examined and approved of by the judges of the Company for the time, or such other of the members as shall be appointed for that purpose; and that a stamp of brass be prepared to be impressed upon all such work as meets

with the approbation of the judges ; and recommends to the Secretary and Treasurer to get a proper stamp made with the following mark or motto thereupon, 'R. C. ARCHERS,' to be impressed with proper ink, so as to bear evidence of such work having been examined and approved of." If this order was ever carried into effect, it did not last long. The probability is that there was soon no occasion for it, as Donaldson the officer did not hold the post much longer ; and he being gone, the manufacture probably improved, as there are no more complaints on record ; while at the present time the bows supplied to the Royal Company by their officer are not only celebrated for their excellence amongst that body, but are favourably known, we may venture to say without exaggeration, in whatever parts of the civilised globe archery is practised. The officer whom the Company had at this time (1780) seems to have inherited, as we have said, the vices of his predecessors in a very marked degree. He neglected his duty of "warning" members to attend the meetings so much, that we find the Secretary recommended to employ a "cadie," that most useful of old Edinburgh institutions, to go round and summon members to the meetings. Donaldson got a most severe reprimand and caution at the anniversary meeting, and was only reappointed officer at the Company's pleasure. In less than two years, however, he enlisted as a soldier, and the Company thus got rid of him for ever. Whether or not he made bad bows, it is certain that the skill of the members in shooting was not bad. One instance of especially good practice is thus recorded on the 26th of May 1781 : "A party of six shooters—who were Dr Spens, Mr Elder, Mr James Brown, Mr Andrew Wood, Mr Alex^r. Brown, and Mr Hardie—being engaged shooting, Mr Alex. Brown won eight successive ends, and nine successive shots in these eight ends, against the whole other of these shooters—an instance similar not known or remembered by any archer present to have happened before." This, it may be explained, occurred while shooting at rovers, and not in the butts, which, of course, makes the fact all the more

wonderful. The gentleman who performed it was the Librarian to the Faculty of Advocates, and was at one time employed in collecting materials for a History of Archery and the Royal Company, but did not proceed very far with it.

In 1782 the first incident connected with the Company that is worthy of notice is the presentation by Mr W. Kerr, one of the members, who was an officer of customs at Leith, of a pair of reindeer horns. A wooden head was ordered to be got, and adorned with the horns, the whole to be put up on the wall of the staircase at Archers' Hall, where they remain to the present time. The account which the donor received with them was also ordered to be inserted in the Company's minutes; and as it is somewhat curious it is here given: "After the most minute inquiry," the document states, "we can only learn that the original proprietor was a native of Russian Lapland, from whence he was sent as a present to Prince Boris Naraskivi, governour of Belgorod, where tiring of his servitude, and endeavouring to gain his native fields, he was slain with an arrow, near the city of Jereslaf, on the banks of the Volga, by Steino Lapzinske, a chief of the Don Cossacks." The antlers are certainly very fine, and their "original proprietor" must have been an extremely handsome and imposing animal.

At the anniversary meeting this year, two men were appointed as joint officers to the body, owing to the reprobate Donaldson having, as we mentioned, enlisted as an artilleryman. His assistant, James Campbell, was appointed to act as his successor, and with him was joined one John Mackintosh. We have mentioned the names of all the officers particularly, in order to show that the present art of bow-making in use at Archers' Hall has been directly transmitted through the various officers of the Company from that "fletcher" in London who taught Robert Monro his trade so far back as 1677. We have seen that the Council in former days were particularly careful to provide their bow-maker with an apprentice; and although they do not seem to have taken so

much care at a later period, yet it is a fact that they always did appoint either the assistant or apprentice of their officer to be his successor.

At the annual meeting for the election of the Council and office-bearers in 1783, a letter was read from the Præses, Mr Hope Weir, resigning his office on the ground of ill health; and in his place was elected Sir James Pringle of Stitchell, Baronet. He was a brigadier in the Company, and had been a member since 1778. He was inducted in his office about a month afterwards by delivery of the gold medal which Mr Hope Weir had presented to be worn by the Præses for the time.

It was agreed at this time to ask Captain-General the Duke of Buccleuch to sit for his portrait to Martin the celebrated artist, who was a member of the Company, and had held several of the prizes. It never seems to have been done, or, at least, nothing ever came of it. But notwithstanding, as we shall see, the Company was not eventually to be deprived of the privilege of possessing a specimen of this artist's work, which still hangs universally and justly admired in Archers' Hall by the side of a portrait painted by his pupil and brother archer, Sir Henry Raeburn.¹

Another proposal of a different sort was also made about this time. The prize of the goose was always shot for in October, at the close of the summer weekly meetings. It is probable that by this period the barbarous habit of shooting at the head of a live goose had been given up, but not for long before, as there are entries for the purchase of a goose in the treasurer's accounts so late as 1768; but as the accounts after that date are not for a long period inserted in the records, it is difficult to say in what precise year it was given up and a glass globe substituted, as is now the case. In 1783 it was suggested that in addition to the prize of the goose, or the equivalent for it, a kite might be flown in the park, and the shooters try their skill at this novel target. But

¹ Martin's principal works are portraits of Lord Mansfield, Franklin, David Hume, Rousseau, and Dr Carlyle.

this original idea does not seem to have been carried into effect, probably from the dangerous character of the experiment, and the chance of erratic arrows alighting on the heads of unsuspecting bystanders. If no novelty was able to be introduced as to the style of shooting, yet there was a little in the way of prizes; for in 1784 Dr Spens presented an ancient bow and a pair of arrows, to be shot for on seven successive Saturdays—ten ends each day—to be gained by the highest aggregate of points at the end of the seven weeks. Another member also presented a bow and pair of Ghent arrows to be shot for.

But one of the most valuable and interesting prizes which the Company have ever shot for was brought under their notice during this year. At the dinner after the competition for the Edinburgh Arrow, Mr Grieve, the Lord Provost of the city, and Mr Alexander, the Provost of Peebles, who were guests on the occasion, were both admitted members of the Royal Company without payment of fees. The latter gentleman brought with him a silver arrow belonging to the town of which he was chief magistrate, and which bore medals dated so long ago as 1661. The Council, it is stated, “desirous that so ancient a prize should be revived and shot for annually, signified their wishes that Provost Alexander do mention their inclinations to his brethren of the Town-council of Peebles with regard thereto, and inform [the Council] of their resolutions upon the matter.” Meanwhile the arrow was left in the hands of the Treasurer of the Company; and the wishes of the Council, as we shall see, were afterwards complied with.

Besides the two provosts just mentioned, another gentleman had shortly before been admitted without payment of the usual fees, as a mark of respect for him. This was William Tytler of Woodhouselee, the father of Lord Woodhouselee, the celebrated historian and *litterateur*, and himself distinguished by his historical and antiquarian researches. He was the author of several works, very popular in their day, but few, if any, of which are now remembered. Perhaps his most celebrated production was an ‘Inquiry,

Historical and Critical, into the evidence against Mary Queen of Scots ; and an Examination of the Histories of Dr Robertson and Mr Hume with respect to that Evidence.' Mr Tytler appeared as a warm champion on behalf of the unfortunate Queen, and his book was translated into French. He was also an enthusiastic musician, and wrote a dissertation on the music of his native country. He was a man eminently popular in all relations of life ; and it is recorded of him, what can be said of very few, that no one ever spoke ill of him.

Another honorary member, who was admitted to the Company about this time, was Sir Ashton Lever, the President of the Toxophilite Society in London, and "a gentleman well known to the world as a great promoter of arts and sciences, and a patron of archery." There was, however, a certain degree of difficulty about admitting him, as all members were obliged to sign the laws before their entry ; and as he was not resident in Scotland, he could not very well do this. It was arranged that the Secretary should write Sir Ashton and mention this difficulty ; and that upon his engaging himself to obey the laws of the Company and sign them when he could, his diploma should be sent. This was probably carried into effect, although it is not particularly mentioned again in the records. The name of Sir Ashton Lever is now principally remembered in connection with his famous museum, at one time (about 1785) one of the sights of London, the average annual amount realised by admission being upwards of £1800. It was disposed of by lottery some years after that date, but the tickets were not taken up at all extensively—only eight thousand out of thirty-six thousand being sold. It eventually came to the hammer in 1806, having been previously offered to the British Museum, but refused by that body. The sale lasted sixty-five days, and the number of lots was no less than 7879. It is matter of regret that such a collection should have been allowed to have been dispersed.

To come back, however, to our proper subject, the next event

which we have to chronicle is that the Præses, Sir James Pringle, emulating the liberality of his predecessor in office, presented during this year each of the members of Council with a silver medal, similar to the gold one held by himself, to be worn by them at the meetings of the Company, attached to a green ribbon. The Company returned him their most grateful thanks, and the Councillors for the time were invested with their newly acquired badge of office. On the very next meeting one of them appeared without his medal, and was fined in two pints of wine; but upon his throwing himself upon the mercy of the meeting, it was reduced to one pint. These medals disappeared in the course of years, and new ones were got to supply their place, which are still worn at "uniform" dinners.

In the year 1786, the Peebles Arrow, which had been brought under the notice of the Company two years before, was shot for the first time by the Royal Archers. There were only seven competitors; but when the difficulty of travelling in those days is taken into consideration, it speaks well for the interest manifested in the competitions that even so many took the trouble of the journey. The Provost, and some of the principal inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, were entertained at dinner, but the account given of the day's proceedings in the records is very scanty. The most part of the guests were then proposed, and eventually elected members of the Company.

In 1785 the Toxophilite Society of London had sent to the Royal Company a diploma conferring the freedom of their Society upon all the members of the Company; and at the anniversary meeting this year the Secretary was ordered to write a letter of thanks, which was accordingly done, and a return diploma sent to them, which is as follows :—

“ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS

TO

SIR ASHTON LEVER, President of the Toxophilite Society at Leicester House, London, and the other members of the said Society,— the Royal Company of Archers, instituted by Charter under the Great Seal of Scotland, send GREETING.

“ The President and Council of the Royal Company having taken into due consideration the general utility of a friendly connection and correspondence among the several companies established in Great Britain for promoting and cultivating the ancient and noble art of archery, and being particularly desirous of conferring every mark of esteem in the power of the Royal Company upon the Toxophilite Society of Leicester House, do hereby, in name and in behalf of the said Royal Company, GIVE, GRANT, and COMMIT to the said Sir Ashton Lever, President, and his successors in office, and to all and each of the members of the said Toxophilite Society, so often as they or any of them shall happen to be in Scotland, full and free liberty and permissing of ever using and practising the said noble and ancient art of archering, either in shooting at butts or rovers, within the properties belonging to the said Royal Company, at all times and upon all occasions ; and hereby order and require all and each of their markers, officers, and servants, to give all or any of the Toxophilite Society free access and admission to their grounds and territories when required. And the President and Council in name of the said Royal Company, DO HEREBY DECLARE that any of the members of the said Toxophilite Society who may happen to reside in Scotland or be occasionally there, shall be entitled to be elected and received a member of the said Royal Company of Archers (and that gratis), upon their subscribing the laws and regulations made by them, and confirmed and enjoined by their Charter ; DECLARING ALWAYS that the said presents shall not be prejudicial

to, but corroborative of, any former act of admission granted by the said Royal Company in favour of the said Sir Ashton Lever, or any other members of the said Toxophilite Society.

“ Given under the seal of the Royal Company at their Hall, near Edinburgh, the 21st day of July, in the 26th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, GEORGE THE THIRD, &c., and in the year of our Lord 1786.

“ WM. DUNBAR, JAMES GRAY,	{	Joint Secretaries R.C.A.	JAS. PRINGLE, President, C.R.C.A.”
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The Toxophilite Society to which the above formal and imposing document was sent, is one of the oldest existing archery clubs in England, though of course very much junior to the Royal Company, being founded in 1780. In connection with this Society, we may give a curious piece of information extracted from the first volume of the ‘Sporting Magazine,’ 1793. The subject of the article is the origin of the expression, “It is good to have two strings to your bow.” The writer seems to think that not only did the archers in former times have a spare string in case the one in use should break, but that this spare string was actually strung on the bow. As an illustration of this fact, he says: “I allude to a figure taken from a seal sent on a letter from Sir James Pringle to Mr Waring of Leicester House (the Toxophilite meeting-place). The letter accompanying the impression contained the following description: ‘I seal this letter with a ring, a very curious antique, a present to me as President of the Council of the Royal Company of Archers, from Mr Gray, our secretary; which ring was found about a month ago near or upon the field of the famous battle of Bannockburn, [fought] several hundred years ago.’ This letter was dated Edinburgh, Feb. 21, 1791. The bow represented in the hands of the archer seems to have two strings attached to it, one of which only is drawn up with the arrow, while the other remains unemployed; and it is presumed

this must have been the method of using the bows thus doubly strung." If the interpretation thus put upon the engraving on the ring be correct it is undoubtedly very curious, as the practice of shooting with two strings is not, so far as we are aware, mentioned in any of the older works on the subject. One would be inclined to imagine, however, that a second loose string would be decidedly in the way of the shooter when the bow was bent.



CHAPTER V.

PROPOSED HISTORY OF THE COMPANY BY HUGO ARNOT AND ALEXANDER BROWN—
KING'S PRIZE INSTITUTED—DIPLOMA TO AND FROM THE WOODMEN OF ARDEN—
ENTRY-MONEY RAISED—UNIFORM CHANGED—DR SPENS' PORTRAIT—LUDICROUS
DUEL—RIOTS IN EDINBURGH—DECLARATION OF LOYALTY—"PAGODA" MEDALS
—INCIDENTS OF SHOOTING—WONDERFUL SHOT OF THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR'S
SECRETARY AT LONDON—SIR JAMES PRINGLE'S PORTRAIT—BUGLE-HORN—
DINNER-MEETINGS ALTERED—MUNGO PARK—POSITION AND STRENGTH OF THE
COMPANY IN 1805—EARL MOIRA—DR SPENS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE
COUNCIL—CAPTAIN-GENERAL THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH SUCCEEDED BY HIS
SON—ANOTHER ALTERATION IN THE UNIFORM—SNUFF-BOXES GIVEN AS PRIZES
—CHALLENGE BY THE BACHELORS OF THE COMPANY—LORD ELIBANK ELECTED
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—ADDRESS TO THE PRINCE REGENT—SELKIRK
ARROW—NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS AT ARCHERS' HALL—THEIR MODE OF
SHOOTING—PERFORMANCES AT THE THEATRE.

WE must now come back to our history, which work would in a great measure have been rendered unnecessary had a proposal been carried out which was made at this time. Hugo Arnot suggested that the Charter and Laws of the Company should be printed, together with a list of all the gentlemen who had been members; and that a short history of the body might be prefixed, mentioning in what manner their former Charter had been destroyed. By this is probably meant the ratification of the Laws of the Company by the Privy Council, which is not now to be found, either in a separate form or in the minutes of the Privy Council. Arnot's proposal was agreed to, and he was appointed to carry it into execution; but shortly afterwards it appeared that Mr Brown, the Keeper of the Advocates' Library, whom we have previously mentioned, had on hand a work of that nature; so it was agreed that Mr Arnot should do nothing in the

mean time. Mr Brown, however, never completed his work. The MSS. which he left, and which is still in the possession of the Company, indicates that he began his undertaking on too ambitious a scale, so that when completed it would have been a history of archery, with comparatively little about the Royal Company in it. It indicates, nevertheless, considerable research and laborious painstaking; but, considering that at that time Roberts had recently published a history of the art under the title of 'The English Bowman,' it is questionable whether the worthy librarian's work would have made much way in the literary world. It is to be regretted that a history of the body was not compiled at this time, as it would have given us a much better idea of the Royal Company, and the estimation in which it was then and had been previously held, than we can obtain now. The generation who had been young men in the troublous times of the '45 had not yet passed away, and a good deal of interesting information might have been put into a permanent shape, at which it is now impossible to arrive.

The most important resolution formed this year was that of applying to the king for an annual prize, to be shot for by members of the Company. A committee was appointed to wait upon the Captain-General to ascertain his views on the subject, and to bring under his notice that the Privy Council of Scotland had granted a prize in the first year of the existence of the Society. His Grace promised to bring the matter under the notice of the king; but being prevented from doing this owing to ill health, he devolved the duty upon Lord Advocate Dundas, who had been a member of the Company for some years, and took great interest in its welfare. The application was successful; for we find the Secretary ordered, on the 11th of August 1787, to write letters of thanks to the Duke of Buccleuch and Mr Dundas for their trouble in procuring the prize, which was £20 sterling per annum. It was shot for for the first time in the following year.

It may be remembered that the Company had in its early days

got a grant of yew from Colquhoun of Luss. There was now a similar gift made by Captain M'Murdo, one of the members, of all the yew fit for the purpose which was growing on his estate, for which he received the most grateful thanks of the Company; and the officer was ordered to proceed to Drumlanrig and bring home the yew to be made into bows, an extended field for exercising which was afforded to the Company by the kindness of the Society called the Woodmen of the Ancient Forest of Arden, who, following the example of the Toxophilite Society, sent down a diploma of the freedom of their body to members of the Company; in return for which, as in the former case, a counter-diploma was sent to them. Their attention did not, however, end here; for in the following year they invited the Company to shoot with them for a silver arrow presented by Lady Aylesford, the wife of their Warden or principal officer. Thanks were also conveyed for this mark of courtesy, the more especially as the range was made nine-score yards, probably as consulting the usages of Scotch archery, that distance being much beyond what is generally shot in England. Lord Aylesbury himself happening to be in Scotland was received into the Company in July 1788, getting a special diploma on the occasion, and was afterwards made a brigadier. The Woodmen were also invited to shoot for all the prizes belonging to the Company whenever they were so minded. The interchange of civilities among the various Archery Societies in the kingdom did not stop here; for we find the Royal Company, in 1789, granting the freedom of the body to the Society of Bowmen of the Border, of which the Præsides of the Council, Sir James Pringle, was Captain. They in return elected the Præsides and Council honorary members, but do not seem either to have conferred that honour on their successors in office or any other members of the Company. We may also mention here, that in 1790 the freedom of the Company was accorded to the Societies of the Royal Kentish Bowmen and Royal British Bowmen, of which latter body the Prince of Wales was patron.

We must now return to the regular order of events, having anticipated a little their regular course. In 1788 was held the first competition for the King's prize. The Captain-General was present, and was followed to the field by forty-five members, the largest number that had turned out at one time since the last public parade. They were escorted by the regimental band and sixty men of the 7th Royal English Fusiliers, and seventeen competitors displayed their prowess on the occasion. The old habit of allowing the Captain-General to win the prize the first time he marched at the head of the Company was not followed on this occasion, and Mr Gray, one of the Secretaries, was the fortunate victor.

The year 1789 was a particularly prosperous one in the annals of the Company, the number of intrants being between fifty and sixty. The entrance-fee was again raised from three guineas, which it is stated to have been at this time (although the last change mentioned was in 1778, when it was only two guineas and a half), to five guineas; the list of officers, which had fallen greatly into confusion, was remodelled, and new commissions granted to many gentlemen. The following is a list of those who held the more important commands :¹

* Captain-General,	.	.	The Duke of Buccleuch.
1st Lieutenant-General,	.	.	The Duke of Hamilton.
2d do.	.	.	Earl of Wemyss.
3d do.	.	.	Duke of Gordon.
4th do.	.	.	Duke of Athol.
1st Major-General,	.	.	Archibald Douglas, Esq.
2d do.	.	.	Lord Elphinstone.
3d do.	.	.	Marquess of Grahame.
4th do.	.	.	Earl of Glencairn.
* 1st Ensign-General,	.	.	C. Hope Weir, Esq.
* 2d do.	.	.	Earl of Galloway.
3d do.	.	.	Earl of Hopetoun.

¹ Those marked * were old officers continued.

4th Ensign-General,	.	Lord Haddo.
1st Adjutant-General,	.	Marquess of Lothian.
2d do.	.	Lord Elibank.
3d do.	.	Earl of Morton.
4th do.	.	Earl of Ancrum.

There were also thirty-three Brigadiers-General—rather a disproportionate number for the size of the Company. Two new offices were created—that of First and Second Vice-President of the Council—which were respectively filled by Dr Spens and Lord Elibank.

The uniform of the Company was at this time taken into consideration, in view of a public march and parade which was at last determined to be held. It had remained almost unchanged since the year 1714, and probably it was thought that both material and style were grown a little antiquated. A slightly different dress in which to shoot was suggested in 1778, but whether it was ever actually used is not known. After a good deal of consideration, the following directions and description of the new uniform were issued to members :—

“ Common Uniform for all Ranks.

“ A green frock, short lapelled, yellow-gilt metal buttons, having struck or engraved thereon a royal crown, pair of cross arrows and a thistle below. White cloth waistcoat and breeches, small buttons, same pattern as on the frock. White silk stockings.

“ Shooting Uniform for Common Members.

“ A worsted tartan short jacket, the tartan same pattern as the 42d Regiment ; green velvet capes, shoulder-straps and wings, trimmed with fringe corresponding to the frogs ; the front of the jacket-pockets ornamented with frogs of blue, green, and white silk. Sleeves and pockets slashed.

Plate III.

DR NATHANIEL SPENS,

ADMITTED 1750—DIED 1815.

IN THE FIELD UNIFORM OF THE ROYAL COMPANY, 1791.

From the Portrait by Raeburn in Archers' Hall.





“Waistcoat, breeches, and stockings, the same as the common uniform, with small black cloth half-gaiters.

“Blue worsted bonnet, bordered with green and white ribbon; a painted Saint Andrew, crown and thistle, in front, handsome black feathers on left side; insertion of the feathers covered with a cockade of green and white ribbon, tuft in the middle.

“Cross white leather belts for hanging a green tassel on the right, and green leather quiver on the left side. The belts fastened with a gilt plate, on which is engraved the arms of the Royal Company.

“(It is left to the Captain-General to fix on every part of his own dress.)

“The shooting uniform of the other general officers to be the same as common members, excepting the following variations:—

“Handsome epaulets, frogs, blue and green silk and silver. Bonnets, blue velvet, with a Saint Andrew, &c., embroidered in front.

“And for distinguishing the different ranks of general officers they are to wear the following colours of feathers in their bonnets:—

Lieutenant-General, White feathers.

Major do. Red do.

Ensign do. Green do.

Adjutant do. Orange and white do.

Brigadier do. Green and white do.

The tuft, binding, and cockades to be of the same colour or colours as the feathers.”

Such was the new uniform. The best idea of the appearance the shooting dress presented may be had from the picture of Dr Spens which now hangs in Archers' Hall, and a copy of which is given on the adjoining page. It was painted by desire of the members by Raeburn in 1791, and is justly regarded as one of the very finest specimens of that eminent portrait-painter. The gallant archer stands with full-drawn bow in the act of quitting his arrow to speed its way to the distant mark, upon which his eye is

steadily fixed. The attitude, though of course somewhat peculiar, is quite free from stiffness, and indeed is full of ease and grace. Dr Spens is in the shooting uniform of a brigadier-general, with party-coloured plume and epaulets, which, however, scarcely met the epithet "handsome." He wears round his neck his badge of office as a member of the Council. A lofty spreading tree forms a beautifully soft and pleasing background; while a large Scotch thistle rears itself at his feet, in illustration, as it were, of the national motto, "Nemo me impune lacessit." The picture was engraved by Beugo, a celebrated master of his art, and is considered one of the best pictures ever produced on steel.

While considering the events which took place in 1791, it may not be out of place here to chronicle a very ludicrous duel which was shot on the Meadows on the 10th of February. We copy the account from the 'Scottish Journal' of the 2d of October 1847. On the day above mentioned, we are told, "Two gentlemen met on the Meadows supplied with bows and arrows, to decide a point of honour. They were accompanied by seconds, and had a surgeon in attendance, in case their Indian artillery should by any chance prove effective. After a harmless exchange of three shots the parties retired, the point of honour being doubtless satisfactorily arranged. If similar weapons were always employed in duelling, this amusement would speedily become unfashionable, seeing that the seconds would run quite as great, if not a greater, risk than the principals." We feel sorry that we have not more details of this extraordinary encounter—such as, at what distance the shooting took place, and whether each combatant was allowed to "dodge," or, to use a Scotch word, "jink," his opponent's arrow. If the range was that usually shot at rovers, 180 yards, the danger to the principals would be greatly reduced; and, indeed, the sly innuendo of the journalist would not be altogether inapplicable. But preserve us, say we, against standing up before a man armed with a 52 lb. bow and sharp-shod arrow at butt distance! Let us hope for the honour of the Royal Company that the two Hectors

— we cannot call them “ fire - eaters ” — did not belong to that respectable and peaceable body.

A pleasing and interesting *reunion* took place this year on the occasion of some members of the Company meeting at dinner to entertain a very venerable bow-maker, Mr Grant, who had been born in the first year of the century. This old gentleman, notwithstanding his years, was, we are told, “ in good health, with all his faculties very active.” It must have been an after-boast of the company present to be able to say that they had sat at table with a man who was alive at a time previous to the death of the first Captain-General of the Royal Company, and who had seen so many important social and political changes in the course of his long life. Although the manufacture of bows was carried on with some success in this country, Mackintosh, the Company's officer, making twenty this year, which were sold to the Company at the price of one pound each, yet Ghent still bore away the palm for arrows and bow-strings. A consignment of these accordingly, to the value of £24, 2s., were received from that city, and were ordered to be disposed of to members, the arrows being charged a shilling each, and the strings sixpence. Further to encourage shooting, the Council this summer gave a prize of a silver cup, of the value of £10, to be shot for on eight successive Saturdays, at the somewhat unusually short distance of ninety-six yards.

The year 1792, fraught as it was with all the horrors of rebellion and war abroad, did not pass over without disturbance at home. The 4th of June, the King's birthday, had been kept with all the usual manifestations of loyalty in Edinburgh, and the inhabitants were flattering themselves that the day had been got through without tumult, when, in the evening, there arose some commotion among the lower class, augmented greatly by boys, who were ready for any mischief. The 53d Regiment were called out, and everything was rendered quiet by nightfall. Next evening, however, the riots recommenced in a more serious form. The windows of the Lord Advocate's house in George Square

were broken, and the troops, who had been again called out, were ordered to fire, which they did, and wounded several persons. The following day a public meeting was held, and a proclamation was agreed to be issued, with the intention of soothing the minds of the people, and calling on all respectable and well-disposed citizens to assist in restoring order. All the public bodies in the town were called together, and voted declarations of loyalty, expressing their detestation of the conduct of the rioters. These declarations were published in the newspapers, and were issued by numbers of bodies—the Merchant Company, the Incorporated Trades of St Mary's, the Incorporations of Goldsmiths, Fleshers, Shoemakers, Hammermen, Bakers, Dyers, Hatters, Skinners, Tailors, Weavers, &c. The College of Surgeons followed their example, and in a short time the Royal Company of Archers did likewise. They say, that “taking into their serious consideration that a spirit of turbulence and disorder may be excited amongst their fellow-subjects by certain inflammatory writings, which have been industriously diffused, they think it their duty to make known upon this occasion their loyalty and affection to their sovereign, and to declare that they are too sensible of the liberty and happiness they enjoy not to be firmly and unalterably attached to the excellent and incomparable constitution of these kingdoms, from whence these inestimable blessings flow. Therefore, resolved that, collectively and individually, they will use their utmost endeavours to counteract sedition, in whatever shape it may appear, and to strengthen the hand of the civil magistrate in the preservation of peace and obedience to the laws; and ordain these resolutions to be signed by their Præses, and published in the Edinburgh newspapers.”

In consequence of the riots, the Edinburgh Arrow was not carried about the town this year previous to the competition, nor was the shooting advertised, being held privately in the Meadows. The other prizes also were probably shot for in as quiet a way as possible; and the custom of carrying the arrow through the town was,

in all likelihood, discontinued from this date, as the fact is never alluded to afterwards in the minutes.

The Company's bow-maker and officer, Mackintosh, having died in the beginning of 1793, William Buchanan was elected his successor along with Lindsay Rae, who had been Mackintosh's apprentice. The office does not seem to have been a very paying one, as we find in the treasurer's accounts an entry for a loan of £12 to him—and one of £9, 1s. 9d. for his funeral. His furniture was sequestered by the Company on his death, but generously given to his widow, who was appointed sash and bonnet trimmer to the Company. The fees of his successor for marking were fixed, along with a variety of other matters, by regulations drawn up for his observance. On every prize-day he was to receive half-a-crown from the winner and a shilling from each of the other shooters—two shillings from gentlemen who did not dine. On ordinary days of shooting at rovers, sixpence from each member shooting, and a shilling more if he did not dine. No fees were to be paid for butt-shooting.

The prize of the "Pagoda" medal was this year presented to the Company by Dr Spens. There were two medals given, which had been made from fifty pagodas which formed part of the money (three crores and thirty lacs of rupees) paid by Tippoo Sultan at the treaty of Seringapatam. They were sent by Dr Spens' son, who was a Major of the 73d Regiment, serving in India. One of the medals was appointed to be shot for at long rovers, or 180 yards, and another at short rovers, 100 yards, during the season—the winners to wear the medals for one year, and then to return them to be again competed for. It would seem, however, that one of the medals was either not competed for, or not won in accordance with the regulations laid down for shooting it, as we find the Council ordered it to be shot for at butts during the winter, and shortly afterwards it was fixed to be given to the winner of the goose prize. Dr Spens also gave a prize of a bow to the winner in the following competition: A hollow piece of wood of the size and

shape of an egg was to be hung by a thread from the top of the butt three inches from the hay, and whoever pierced or broke this egg was to gain the prize. Whether or not this idea was ever carried into practice is not certain, as there is no mention in the records of its having been shot for. The liberality of the Spens family did not stop here ; for Major Spens presented a china bowl the following year, which was to become the property of the winner. It was gained by his brother, Dr Thomas Spens ; but as he refused to accept it, Colonel Maxwell, who was next him in the competition, was awarded the prize.

Another gift to the Company, of a very different kind, was made in March 1794 by the Præses. We are told that an extra meeting "was called by Sir James Pringle to eat a hare shot by him with an arrow, which was accordingly placed with the arrow with which she was shot stuck into her forehead, in the place where she was struck. The meeting appointed the head and arrow to be placed on the staircase adjoining to the deer's head."¹ It is curious to contemplate the gallant Præses walking through his grounds armed like an ancient Briton with bow and arrow, and trying shots at the *feræ naturæ* which abounded in the woods of Stitchell. We question much if there had been any instance of an animal shot with an arrow in this country having been eaten for many long years before this feast, and it is equally doubtful if such a thing has ever occurred since.²

While on the subject of remarkable shots, we may mention that there is inserted in the minute-book of the Royal Company a leaflet bearing to be an extract of a letter from Thomas Greene, Esq., of Gray's Inn and Bedford Square, London, to Mr Charles Hope, Advocate (afterwards Lord President and Justice-General). It is dated 11th July 1794, and is signed by Mr Hope as a true copy. The following are its contents :—

¹ This was probably never done; at least it has never been seen by the oldest member.

² Our excellent officer, Mr Muir, no less celebrated as a shot than as a bow-maker, once killed a hawk and a crow in two successive shots, at a distance of between twenty and thirty yards.

“ Wednesday was a target-day. The Secretary and suite of the Turkish Ambassador did us the honour to attend. The Secretary brought his bow and arrows with him. He did not shoot at a mark, but said if we had a mind to see how far he could shoot, he would go into the fields with us. Mr Waring and I went with him accordingly, and to our utter astonishment he shot *against* the wind, by my stepping, 415 *yards*—and back again *with* the wind, 463 *yards*. He had a short Turkish bow, an arrow of about 25 or 26 inches, very light, with small feathers.”

Although the field-meetings during the summer of 1794 appear from the minutes to have been well attended, yet the dinners, which were held once a-week, do not appear to have been so much patronised, as we find that on the 12th July, out of eight shooters for the bowl, only that stanch old member, Dr Spens, returned to the hall to dinner. He waited for some time, hoping somebody from town might turn up; but he was disappointed, and had to dine alone. A fortnight after he was in the same predicament; but he refused to wait, and so escaped a solitary meal.

The city of Edinburgh, anxious to prove its loyalty, raised about this time the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, the ranks of which were speedily filled with the most respectable inhabitants of the town. Their field-days being held on Saturdays, the Royal Company felt the effect of this, as many gentlemen were members of both bodies; so it was agreed in 1795 that the weekly shootings should take place on Mondays—Saturday night, however, being still reserved for the usual dinner.

The portrait of Dr Spens, by Henry Raeburn, was this year hung in the hall, and at this day it still keeps up its reputation as being one of the best, if not the best, of the many portraits with which the walls have since been adorned. That of Sir James Pringle, by Martin, also a remarkably fine portrait, was presented to the Company by the painter, and hung in the following year. It was then valued at £50; but had it been painted at the present day, it could not have been executed but at a very much higher price.

It forms an excellent companion picture to that of Dr Spens. In the latter, as we have mentioned, the archer is seen in the act of quitting his arrow, with the bow fully bent : the former represents Sir James immediately after having shot, shading his eyes with his hand, and following the flight of the arrow through the air. The portrait is characterised by great felicity of expression and correctness of drawing. The eyes seem almost to move in unison with the unseen arrow that is winging its way to the target.

Another china bowl, together with three Ghent arrows, was presented as a prize at butts by Colonel Spens ; and old Dr Spens, his father, proposed at this time to form a museum in connection with the Company, for the purpose of collecting all manner of implements relative to archery in general. The Company was already possessed of several foreign bows ; and if this suggestion of Dr Spens had been vigorously gone into and carried out, there is little doubt that a very interesting collection might have been formed illustrative of the weapons by which our country had been defended, and our freedom preserved, in days gone by. Although the proposition was unanimously approved of, and several articles presented, yet it never seems to have been pursued with much spirit, especially after the death of Dr Spens ; and the consequence is, that nothing of the nature of a museum is now in existence.

In 1797, the Volunteers again interfered with the attendance at the Hall, and it was resolved that the meetings were to be held fortnightly during the summer, instead of weekly, as had hitherto been the practice. Nothing worthy of note occurred this year, if we except a somewhat interesting special meeting called to welcome the veteran archer Dr Spens on his return from England, where he had been for the recovery of his health. He had now been a member for upwards of forty-seven years, and had by his energy and enthusiasm in the cause of archery contributed not a little to the advancement and prosperity of the Company. His sons were not behind him in attachment to the body. One of them, Dr Thomas Spens, held at this time the office of treasurer ;

and Colonel Spens, as we have seen, was most munificent in bestowing prizes. In 1799, he for the third time gave a china bowl to be shot for; and one of his pagoda medals was competed for in honour of St Andrew's Day, the other being, as it still is, given for the prize of the goose. His liberality still went on, chiefly taking the form of china punch-bowls. One of the first entries in the year 1800 records the gift of a fourth, which was followed in 1801 by another. No man in the Company ever presented so many private prizes. 1800, too, witnessed the commencement of the museum, which had been proposed by Dr Spens. He and his sons gave as their contribution five East Indian bows, and about seventy beautiful and curious Indian arrows, besides a jacket of the old uniform of the Company, which had been worn in the march in the year 1714.

Notwithstanding the Company was by no means well off as to funds, there appear to have been many instances of newly admitted members never having paid their fees of entry. It was therefore resolved upon, at a meeting held in June 1800, that all recommendations for admission be signed by the proposer, and that he was to be liable for the fees of admission payable by the candidate. The number of intrants had not been so great for some years previous to the time we are now considering, at least there are not so many names attached to the laws during these years; but as for some time about this period the names of those admitted are not entered in the minute-book, it is quite possible that a considerable number of gentlemen, especially those who did not reside in Edinburgh, neither signed the laws nor paid dues of admission. Now, however, this laxity of practice was to be remedied; and after 1800 there is a marked increase in the number of entries recorded.

The shooting members of the Company instituted this year the prize of the Silver Bugle-horn, to be worn for one year by the winner, and shot for at a hundred yards. Next year the Company was further enriched by the liberality of a member who had just

been elected—Sir George Mackenzie of Coul, Bart. He presented a St Andrew's Cross of gold and silver, to be shot for yearly on St Andrew's Day, the 30th of November. He made it a condition that the distance should be always two hundred yards, which is twenty yards more than the ordinary distance in long rover shooting. All shooters were to be in uniform, at least as to the bonnet and jacket. The Council thanked Sir George for his handsome gift, and published the conditions under which the cross was to be competed for, which are more fully alluded to in another part of this work.

It may be mentioned here that Buchanan the bow-maker was this year dismissed for neglect of duty; and Lindsay Rae, who had been his assistant and marker, and previously apprentice to Mackintosh, was appointed in his place. The Company seem to have been singularly unfortunate as to their bow-makers, the only thoroughly satisfactory appointments having been George Neilson, who served the Company over fifty years, and our present most excellent officer, who bids fair to rival his old predecessor in the length of his tenure of the post, and who has raised both the art of bow-making and the importance and respectability of his office to a point which it never reached at any former time.

In 1802 it seems to have been found that the attendance at the dinners was not what it ought to have been. In 1797 the dinners were reduced to being once a fortnight instead of once a-week, as they had been for a considerable period, although we have no precise means of ascertaining when weekly dinners were first instituted. The reason for the change in 1797 was the fact of many members of the Company belonging to the Volunteers, and their duties as such rather came in the way of their attendance at the Hall. The average number of diners appears to have been about ten, as we find that that number of covers were ordered to be laid each day, at the charge of one shilling and sixpence each. In 1802, however, the engagements of Volunteers could not be the reason for lessening the number of dinners, as the Edinburgh Volunteers were then

disbanded on the peace of Amiens being concluded, only to be re-embodied in the following year. The real reason, we are inclined to think, why the attendance at the dinners was falling off, was the change in social life which was gradually beginning to take place. The old hard drinking which had been so prevalent in the eighteenth century, was slowly giving way to a more moderate state of things. Not that there was in all conscience any lack of free indulgence in all bibulous propensities during the early part of the century, more especially in Edinburgh, as we learn from Lord Cockburn's entertaining Memorials, and other works of that class. Still, domestic life was beginning to exercise an influence which it had not previously done, and people probably thought that to dine out in a tavern every week during summer was perhaps rather often. Whether or not we are right in our conjecture, the fact is that the archery dinners were now held only once a-month, which is just what they now are, the "match" dinners being at present held as frequently, while there are also several "uniform" dinners in the course of the year; and the attendance at all speaks highly of the popularity of, and pleasure enjoyed in, the Company.

A distinguished visitor dined with the Company on the occasion of their shooting for the arrow at Peebles in the person of Mungo Park, the African traveller. He was at this time practising as a surgeon at Peebles, where he had settled in the previous year, not, however, long to remain; for, tiring of the dulness of a Scotch provincial town, he departed again for Africa in 1806, on that expedition from which he was destined never to return.

Sir George Mackenzie presented the Company this year with two "circular marks." These were straw-plaited targets the same as now in use. The marks at which the Company shot at this time, were squares of canvas stretched on a frame called the "Clout;" and an arrow striking the target is to this day termed "a clout."

A curious competition was held in 1803, which is worthy of note, as few prizes have ever been shot for at such a long range. Mr Millar, a member, gave a West Indian bow for a prize to be

shot for at the unusual distance of two hundred and twenty yards, no arrow in front of the mark to count unless within a bow's length and a half (nine feet). All arrows beyond the mark, or on either side (if within a bow and a half of the distance), to count if within four bows' lengths of the target. It was shot for on those conditions, and won by Lord Elibank by three successive ends.

At the beginning of 1805 there was inserted in the records a list of the members of the Royal Company, which is useful as enabling us to form a clear idea of the precise numbers of the body at that time. We find that, including officers, there were nearly three hundred and eighty members on the roll. The list of officers comprises the heads of a great number of the noblest families in Scotland; and that of the ordinary members contains names which are remembered not only in Edinburgh, but all over Scotland, as being those of men distinguished in many walks of life. The Peerage, the Army, Navy, Church, Law, Medicine, Art, Literature, all are represented by men who were eminent in their respective spheres.

It is, of course, difficult to form a very correct estimate of what numbers the Royal Company consisted at any one period previously, as no list similar to this had yet been published. The largest number of intrants in any single year had been in 1714, when they amounted to nearly eighty; but this was exceptional. Upon the whole, after looking over the lists of entries in the various years, we may come to the conclusion that the numbers of the Company were at this time fully up to what they had ever been, except, perhaps, for some short periods, when a larger influx than usual in one year augmented the strength of the body for some time. This proves that the popularity of the Company was unimpaired—nay, even increased—as there had not been within the memory of any of the members then living, any public parade or march on the scale of grandeur which had been so strong an incentive to joining in former years. Divested, too, as the Company now was, of all political significance or partisanship, it was no longer a

rallying ground for persons suspected of disaffection to the Government. It was loyal to its heart's core, and now occupied itself more than ever in its legitimate purpose of encouraging and keeping up the manly exercise of archery. And it was in a much better situation for doing this than it had ever been. Instead of competing for two prizes only in the year—the arrows given by the “good” town of Edinburgh and the “honest” town of Musselburgh—it was now able to put out in the roster no less than eight prizes annually, besides many which, as we have had occasion to see, were contributed by the private generosity of individuals. A hall, covered butts, and marker's house, had all been built within recent years; and although the expense connected with these enterprises had been very great, and had, as is mentioned in another part of this volume, laid on the Company a great burden of debt, yet, by the liberality and spirit of its members, it had been materially reduced, and was in the course of being entirely wiped off. All this points out the strong interest taken in the Company, and the secure and firm basis on which it now rested.

The dinners of the Society, curtailed as to frequency though they were, exercised claims upon some members which were more potent than those of shooting. The mess-table always saw around it more faces than the targets had seen at an earlier part of the day. But not only was the society of their brother archers an inducement for members to patronise the dinner-table at Archers' Hall; on prize-days, when the strangers were more than usually numerous, there were generally one or two guests whose presence was the occasion of a large turn-out. We have already mentioned several instances of this. The nonagerian bow-maker, Mr Grant, with his stories of archery prowess in bygone days, was one instance: Mungo Park, enlivening the table with tales of peril and adventure which the most noted story-teller at the table could not cap, was another. Many more might be mentioned if our limits allowed us. There was however, a guest at the dinner after the competition for the King's prize in 1805, whom we

cannot but name. This was the celebrated general, Earl Moira, afterwards Marquess of Hastings. He had been appointed Commander of the Forces in Scotland in 1803, and was now residing in Edinburgh, where during his stay he rendered himself very popular by the urbanity of his manners and munificence of his disposition. The evening after he dined with the Royal Company, there is mention made in the journals of the day of a grand entertainment which he gave at Duddingston House. It must have been an extremely fashionable affair in those days, as we are told that the number of guests exceeded three hundred—that the dancing did not commence till the then unusually late hour of ten, and was continued till after sunrise, supper being served at two. We are informed also, from a note in 'Kay's Portraits'¹ that "the Countess [of Moira] was the first, north of the Tweed, to introduce those laconic invitation cards, now common enough. Their concise style—'The Countess of Loudon and Moira at home'—astonished and puzzled several of the good folks of Edinburgh to whom they were forwarded."

We may pass over the next few years without much remark. Nothing calling for observation occurs until 1809. Sir James Pringle having died in April that year, the Company, "in consideration of the great services performed by Dr Nathaniel Spens for the good of the Company, and the unremitting zeal he has displayed for its interests during the long period in which he has been a member, unanimously elected him President of the Council, and directed that a letter should be written to him by the Secretaries intimating his appointment." Certainly no one deserved the honour now conferred more; and in the whole history of the Company no man has ever been a shooting member for a longer time than Dr Spens. Joining the Company before he was twenty years old, he continued appearing at almost all the competitions

¹ A fund of most useful and amusing information regarding Edinburgh characters about the end of last century and beginning of this. In several instances in this work, the author has been indebted to it.

from that time onwards. He had won the prize of the goose in 1807, in the eightieth year of his age, and repeated his victory the following year. After this, however, his name does not appear in the lists of those present at any of the meetings. He probably left Edinburgh and retired to the country,

“ To husband out life’s taper at the close,
And keep the flame from wasting by repose,”

as appears from the date of the following letter in reply to that announcing his elevation to the President’s chair :—

“ CRAIGSANQUHAR, *26th June* 1809.

“ SIR,—I have to return you my best thanks for your polite and obliging favour of the 10th inst., conveying to me the notification of my appointment of President of the Council of the Royal Company of Archers, in the room of my much-esteemed and beloved friend, the late Sir James Pringle, Bart.

“ Strongly attached to the Royal Company, a member of that respectable corps for upwards of half a century, and ever having had their interest sincerely at heart, I had wished that this appointment had been bestowed upon a person more able than I am at my advanced period of life to discharge the duties of the station with which they have honoured me ; yet I receive with gratitude this instance of their favour and kindness, and beg that you will have the goodness to return to the Council my warmest acknowledgments for this strong and gratifying mark of their partiality to me ; and I can only add, that as the honour and prosperity of the Royal Company have ever been objects of near concern with me, so I most cordially hope and wish that every good may always attend them.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ NATH^L. SPENS,

One of the Brigadiers-General, and President of the
Council of the R. C. of Archers.”

Dr Spens lived for some time to enjoy his elevation of rank, being re-elected Præses every succeeding year thereafter, until, in 1815, this gallant old archer, full of years and honours, passed to his rest.

After his being made Præses, Dr Spens, as we have said, does not seem to have attended any meetings of the Company; but in 1810 he gave a bow to be shot for, and in that year he was entertained at dinner on the sixtieth anniversary of his admission as a member. Upwards of fifty gentlemen met to do honour to him who had so often led them to the field; and the Council, "in order to testify their respect for their venerable President, and their sense of his constant and eminent services to the Royal Company, resolved to promote him to be one of the Adjutant-Generals of the Royal Company." This seems to have been Dr Spens' last appearance at that table, where he had so often presided, and at which, to this day, his memory is still held in veneration. "Dead!—he drew a good bow;—and dead!—he shot a fine shoot: . . . he would have clapped i' the clout at twelve score; and carried you a forehand shaft a fourteen and fourteen and a half, that it would have done a man's heart good to see."—2 *K. Hen.* IV. iii. 2.

An interesting gift was presented to the Company in 1812 by one of the secretaries. This was the original warrant, under the sign-manual of Queen Anne, upon which the charter in favour of the Royal Company proceeds. We do not know how Mr Russell had got it; and it is very much to be regretted that such an interesting relic should have been allowed, as it has been, to disappear. No copy of it has ever come down to us.

A circumstance occurred in 1812 which it is exceedingly strange not to find mentioned in the records, involving as it did a change in the leadership of the Company. Henry, fourth Duke of Buccleuch, had, as we have seen, been elected Captain-General in 1778: he died in January 1812, and thus left his office vacant. The minutes of the Company about this period are not kept very fully or exactly. Certain it is that not a word is said about the

election of his son Charles, who succeeded to his title. This must, however, have taken place, as we find that nobleman's death mentioned in 1819, when Lord Hopetoun was elected to fill his place. The only information bearing on the subject is contained in a poem (?) which is preserved among the papers of the Company, and which seems, from a letter accompanying it, to have been presented by the author, George Galloway. It is in the shape of an elegy upon the late Duke, and is published at Edinburgh, 1812. It contains an introduction and twelve stanzas; but Mr Galloway's muse, we regret to say, limps rather lamely along. The following two verses may serve as a specimen :—

“ Buccleuch ! not like some modern great,
 Debauch'd his life, spent an estate,
Dupe to a jilt, horse-race, or gaming table,—
 The slave of vice, to knaves the tool,
 The spendthrift—oh ! the bankrupt fool !
 And left his heirs *degraded*, miserable—
 The slave of vice insidious ! No !
 To virtue *prone*, to vice a foe :—
 Wed to fair prudence in his sportive years,
 And jocund with the joyous dame,
 On self-control chief rear'd his fame,
 Shone long 'bove sixty years an *honour* to our peers.”

After this specimen of the “divine afflatus,” let us proceed with our story.

In 1813 a diploma was granted to the Society of Centre Bowmen, which was a club for the practice of archery which had recently been formed in Dundee.

The most important event which took place in that year was a change in the uniform of the Company. It may be remembered that the last alteration was made in the year 1790, when considerable modification was made on the old dress. Now a still further change took place; but whether or not it could be called an improvement is doubtful. The beginning of the century was not a period famous for its æsthetic taste either in architecture or dress.

The grandeur and gaiety of the habits worn by eighteenth-century gentlemen were passing away, and the less adorned but more useful garb which has now been in vogue, with unimportant modifications, for so many years, had not quite come in. So that the cogitations of the committee appointed to revise the uniform led them to adopt a dress which, from the description of it which is laid down in the records, does not seem to have been characterised by any great elegance or beauty. The bonnet, formerly blue, was now "to be chequered green, white, and red, (!) and not made stiff; to be bound round the edge with green velvet or green ribbon, and to be tied behind with green ribbon. The figure of St Andrew, surrounded with the motto, *Nemo me impune lacessit*, with a thistle on each side, and surmounted by a crown, all of stamped gilt copper, to be fixed in front, and three flat black feathers to rise from behind it, the lowest to be along the edge of the bonnet on the left side, and the other two to be confined to the left side of the top of the bonnet." General officers were to wear their former distinguishing feathers in front. For the coat the 42d tartan was still employed. It was made single-breasted, buttoned up to the throat, but cut away towards the tails as formerly; the collar and cuffs were of green velvet, the former having a gold arrow embroidered on each side. The white cross belts, which are such a distinguishing feature in the portrait of Dr Spens, were done away with, and in their stead a plain black patent leather waist-belt was substituted. This, we are inclined to think, was a decided deterioration from the former style of belt, at least in appearance, though it may have been found more practically useful, as it enabled the tassel for wiping the arrows on to be hung from it. The white waistcoat and breeches or pantaloons with black gaiters were continued as formerly. A dinner-coat was also instituted this year, a description of which is not given; but we may suppose that it was very similar to that now in use—viz., green cloth, with velvet collar and gilt buttons, with the device of the Company upon them. The wearing of the dinner-coat was made optional, but it was probably

very popular, as it bears to be authorised "at the earnest solicitation of several of the members."

The new uniform was first worn at the competition for the King's prize in July 1813, when a field to the number of twenty turned out in honour of the occasion. Thirty-five gentlemen had also an opportunity of exhibiting the new mess uniform; so that altogether the Company had reason to congratulate itself on the attendance of members. On the same day, too, a subscription was authorised for the purchase of a gold medal, to be shot for at butts, which will be more particularly mentioned hereafter.

Several "subscription snuff-boxes" were shot for in 1815. It is not clear from the minutes what these were, or how they came to be subscribed for; but one of them at least has an interest attached to it, as having been painted by Mr Watson the celebrated artist, he also becoming the winner of the prize. In an entry on the 18th of October these prizes are termed "Laurencekirk snuff-boxes," so named from having been made at the town of that name, which used to be famed for their manufacture.

An instance of the mirth and jollity which went on among the shooting members may be had from the following document, which is preserved in the archives of the Company; and as it belongs to the history of the year which we are considering, it may not be out of place to insert it here. It is a charming piece of fun, and the mock-heroic style in which it is written is extremely well done.

"DEFIANCE

Unto all and sundry the Married Men of HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL
COMPANY OF SCOTS ARCHERS.

"*Whereas* certain *Bachelors* of the Royal Company some time ago challenged any equal number of the *Benedicts* to meet them in the field, and the said challenge never was accepted nor answered; *and albeit* certain of the said *bachelors challengers* have since that time deserted their brethren and strengthened the Benedictine

host; *nevertheless*, the remaining bachelors, nothing thereby intimidated, are still willing to stand their ground.

“*Know ye therefore* that we, the undersigned *warranted bachelors*, according to the laws and customs of this Realm, do hereby call upon and challenge *you* and *all of you* who formerly or of late have entered into the Holy State of Matrimony, being members of the said Royal Company, to *come forth* by your *champions* chosen from among you, and equal in number unto us, man for man, to meet us in the field on three several days,—viz., Wednesday the 17th day of May, Wednesday the 24th day of May, and Wednesday the 31st day of May, there and on each of the said days to shoot ——— parties against us at sight of the Judges of the Royal Company; and the side which shall gain the greater number of the said parties, whether *you* or *we*, shall be holden and considered the *better men-at-arms*. *Come forth*, then, or *yield ye*, for we *defy you*, and will hold you for beaten until you by your champions accept this our challenge by setting their names over against ours hereon, or otherwise by a separate deed. And if any of the challengers or acceptors shall fail to attend on the days appointed, he or they shall be bound to find a substitute, or shall be fined *five shillings sterling* to the use of the funds of the Royal Company. And we appoint ——— our procurators to procure registration hereof in the Books of Record of the Royal Company, and to crave the Honourable Council to appoint the Judges of the Field.

“Given under our hands this ——— day of ——— in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifteen, at Edinburgh.”

Benedicts Acceptors.

Sir G. Mackenzie.
John Russell,
J. A. Hope.
John Linning.
John Campbell.
John Kennedy, junr.

Bachelors Challengers.

James Lang.
John Watson.
John B. Brodie.
George C. Cunningham.
John Kay, Tresr. R.C.A. ;
In his absence, M. N. Macdonald.
J. G. Davidson, Sec. R.C.A.

No record of the matches is given in the minute-book, nor, in fact, is the above challenge inserted therein. We can only hope that both parties had three pleasant meetings, and that they received their meed of commendation from the lips of their respective spouses or sweethearts.

The prize-list this year was further augmented by the presentation of a superb Indian bow by Mr Deans, one of the Council. It was shot for along with the St Andrew Cross, and at the same range. Both were won by Mr Watson, the painter, who, although only a member of two years' standing, proved himself as skilful with his bow as with his brush.

At the anniversary meeting in May 1816, to elect the Council and office-bearers for the ensuing year, Lord Elibank was chosen to be at the head of the Council. He had been a member of the Company since 1787, in the Council since 1802, had been elected Vice-President in 1809, and had held that office ever since. He now got his step in rank through the death of the veteran Dr Spens, who had died a short time previously. Lord Elibank, seventh baron of that name, had, since joining the Company, taken great interest in it, and was a regular shooting member. He was nearly seventy years of age when he was elected Præses, and only survived his appointment about four years.

The Prince Regent having been shot at while returning from the opening of Parliament early in the year 1817, the Royal Company hastened, along with other public bodies, to present an address to his Royal Highness, as a testimony of their loyalty and attachment to the Crown. The following is the address:—

“ May it please your Royal Highness, we, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the President, Council, and members of the Royal Company of Archers in Scotland, constituted by royal charter, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with the expression of our indignation and abhorrence at the late desperate and atrocious attack made upon the person of your Royal Highness while returning from the discharge of one of the most

important functions of royalty, the opening of the Session of the Imperial Parliament.

“ Attached as we are by every tie of duty and of gratitude to the valuable constitution under which we live, we deeply lament the atrocious violence which has thus been offered to it in the person of your Royal Highness, the depository of the sovereign power ; and we unite with all our loyal fellow-subjects in an ardent hope that those measures may be successful which your Royal Highness has directed to be employed for bringing to conviction and punishment the perpetrators of so daring and flagitious an outrage.

“ That the same Providence which in this instance hath so visibly interposed to guard the life of your Royal Highness may long preserve you to exercise for the benefit of this empire the royal functions is our earnest prayer.

“ Signed in presence and by appointment of a general meeting of the Council and Members of the Royal Company of Scotch Archers, held within their Hall, at Edinburgh, this 22d day of February One thousand eight hundred and seventeen, by
ELIBANK.”

To this loyal address an answer in the usual polite style of courtly epistles was received in due time. This was the first address from the Royal Company which had ever been sent directly to Court, although in 1792 they published a sort of declaration of loyalty. Of late years surprise has been sometimes expressed why at times when most public bodies send addresses of congratulation or sympathy to the reigning sovereign, the Royal Company should never do so ; but it must be remembered that the body now stands upon a different footing from what it did in former years, and that, by having been created the sovereign's body-guard for Scotland, it has been put more on a military footing than formerly, and forms part of the royal household, and that, therefore, it is contrary to etiquette to send addresses of any sort to royalty. In fact the

loyalty and devotedness of the members are taken for granted. The days are now long gone by when anything but the firmest attachment to the constituted authorities is to be found among the Company; and we may safely assert that, among all her Majesty's faithful subjects, there are none more loyal and true than the members of her Scottish Archer Guard.

To return, however, to our chronicle of events. The next entry in the minutes which is noticeable is that of a payment to Mr Watson, the painter, of twenty guineas, for finishing the portrait of Sir James Pringle, and for bringing up to date the 'Book of Ornaments.'¹ From this it would seem as if Mr Martin had left the portrait, to a certain extent unfinished; although it must have been very near completion, as it had been hanging in the Hall for a considerable number of years by this time.

In 1818 took place the first shooting by the Royal Company for the Selkirk Arrow, in consequence of an invitation from the magistrates of that town. The members who intended competing left Edinburgh on the morning of the day appointed (28th August), in two coaches-and-four, at a quarter-past six, and reached Selkirk at one, having breakfasted at Stow. The following is the account of the day, as given in the minutes:—

Having arrived at Selkirk, "The magistrates and trades, with their respective colours displayed, accompanied the Royal Company to a field at the bridge over the Ettrick; the ground was very unfavourable, and at the first end there were nine arrows broken; it was also a very high wind.

"The shooting, notwithstanding, was very creditable to the Royal Company, and appeared highly gratifying to an immense concourse of people of all classes, assembled upon the occasion to witness this novel weaponshawing.

"Mr Charles Nairn gained the prize, which was carried by

¹ Copies of the various badges attached to the Musselburgh and Edinburgh arrows, and the silver bowl, were formerly entered in books kept for the purpose. They have, unfortunately, been allowed to fall very much in arrear.

the town's officer before him, as victor, to the Tontine,—the procession returning in the same order as at first. The arrow was borne upon a long staff decorated gaily with the finest flowers.

“The magistrates conferred the freedom of Selkirk upon all the members of the Royal Company who were present (at dinner), observing all the ceremonies of the *birse*,¹ and exhibiting the colours which were brought off by the Souters from the fatal field of Flodden, which were religiously touched by all of us.”

The party remained at Selkirk overnight, and went on to Peebles next day. The shooting for the arrow there being interrupted by rain, the Provost would not allow the arrow to be carried away unless properly won. In consequence of this, a small party went back to Peebles the next week and shot the remaining ends, had another dinner with the magistracy, and “after spending a social night, set off for town, which they reached at an early hour next morning.” Such was the first two days' excursion of the Company to Selkirk and Peebles—a journey which has often been repeated since, with much innocent recreation and pleasure.

A curious scene was enacted at the Archers' Hall on the 10th of October in this year. A party of North American Indian warriors were giving an entertainment in the theatre, and, with the consent of Mr Murray, they were invited to come and display their skill in archery in presence of the Royal Company, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen, to whom invitations had been issued for the occasion. What followed is perhaps best given in the words in which it is recorded in the minutes :—

“The shooting commenced by the Treasurer and Secretary (Messrs James Brown and Linning) shooting at butts before the

¹ A singular custom is observed at conferring the freedom of the burgh of Selkirk. Four or five bristles, such as are used by shoemakers, are attached to the seal of the burgess-ticket. These the new-made burgess must dip in his wine in token of respect for the “*Souters of Selkirk*.”—*Caled. Merc.*, Nov. 1824; *Jamieson's Scot. Dic.*, Supp., s. v. Soutar.

Indians. The Treasurer made an excellent 'paper'¹ at the second shot, much to the delight of the Indians, who attempted to shoot at that distance,² but could make nothing of it. Their bows were too weak for the weight of their arrows at that distance. It was then recommended to them to measure off their own distance by approaching the mark; and having taken up about twelve paces they began to shoot, and their practice was very admirable—not so much so, however, as to terrify the members of the Royal Company, many of whom stepped forward and joined the Indians in the practice, and hitting the paper as frequently as them.

“The Royal Company then repaired to the field and practised for four ends, during which time there were two 'clouts,' . . . a 'thumb,' several 'feet,' and half-bows, much to the astonishment of the Indians, who seemed to have no idea that such precision could be acquired at that distance.

“As it set in to rain, the Company were obliged to abandon the field-shooting, and repaired to butts, where the Indians were presented by Councillor Russell with four arrows, two bow-strings, and a pound of shag-tobacco each. The Indians instantly fitted on their new strings, and began to practise at butt distance, and showed considerable dexterity with their superior accoutrements.

“Six of the members of the Royal Company took up the like number of Indians at butt distance, and shot a few ends, during which the Indian opposed to the Secretary, 'papered' with his first arrow, and manifested tokens of great joy upon the event, but was beaten by the Secretary's second arrow, which was a better 'paper.'

“The Indians were then taken to the Hall at four o'clock and entertained with beef, bread, and strong ale, after which the chief Indian arose and addressed the Secretary in a speech of some length, and with considerable readiness and fluency, the substance

¹ *I. e.*, pierced the circular piece of cardboard, four inches in diameter, set against the butt.

² 100 feet.

of which Mr Fox, the interpreter who attended them, communicated in nearly the following words : He thanks you in his own name, and in the name of the warriors of his tribe, for the present of arrows and other articles which you have bestowed upon them. He communicated that the superior make of your bows and arrows had delighted them very much ; and he said that he would profit by what he had that day seen. He says he little expected to find warriors in a country so remote from his own, who could exhibit such power and dexterity with the bow and arrow. He says the forefathers of his tribe had a tradition that before the introduction of the rifle the warriors of their tribe were in the custom of shooting at a great distance ; but till this day he and his companions had no idea of the power of the bow, and of the precision which had been exhibited at so great a distance. He says he will communicate to the warriors of his tribe the kind manner in which he had been treated by brother archers, at such a distance from his own country.

“ Another of them belonging to a different tribe addressed the Secretary in a speech of about the same length, and, by the rendering of the interpreter, nearly in substance the same.

“ In parting, the Indians shook hands with all the gentlemen present.”

Such is the account preserved to us in the records of this interesting visit of American Indians. Appended to the above account is a note upon their mode of shooting, which we think is worthy of reproduction here, as it illustrates a way of quitting the arrow, which doubtless was the original manner in which it was done by all nations before archery attained to the perfection which it ultimately did.

“ It was worthy of notice,” we are told, “ that their mode of holding the bow was very different from that adopted by us, (but) rendered in some measure necessary by their having no centre ¹

¹ *I. e.*, the thick velvet-covered part of the bow, which is held in the left hand, directly above which the arrow is drawn while shooting.

marked upon their bows, nor fenders for the arrows. They grasp the bow firmly in the left hand, in such a manner as to permit the thumb to run along inside the bow, thus giving them a greater range of centre. They hold the arrow upon the string by a pressure betwixt the forefinger and the thumb of the right hand (as done by boys at school), the *tips* of the two adjoining fingers resting upon the string, which enables them to quit with great quickness; and it was thought their accuracy of line or direction was owing to the holding of the arrow betwixt the forefinger and thumb, as the loosing by that manner was so prompt, so much in the line, and not thrown aside by the jerk occasioned at the moment of loosing by the method of holding and quitting adopted by the Royal Company."

It does not follow that because the Indians could not shoot a long distance at this time, that all the tales of Indian prowess with the bow must be absolutely disbelieved; for, as the chief hinted, the gun had long taken the place of the bow, even among the half-savage tribes of the Western Continent. Still, it is probable that shooting at long distances was never much practised by them, their method both in hunting and war being to "stalk" the victim to be slain, and get as near him as possible before delivering the arrow.

From the Edinburgh newspapers of the day, it would appear that these Indian warriors appeared at the Theatre-Royal for the first time on Monday the 28th September, in a "Historical Ballet of Action," entitled "La Perouse, or the Desolate Island." On subsequent evenings they took part in two performances of the same nature, called "Captain Cook" and "Robinson Crusoe," and were cordially received by delighted audiences. In the advertisements we are informed that they were to introduce the North American Indian war song, march, and dance; an Indian combat with bows and arrows, clubs, and tomahawks; shooting at a mark with arrows; the dance of peace; and the funeral of Captain Cook (in the piece bearing that commander's name). Before leaving the subject, on which we have already enlarged too much, we will just

mention as curiosities the names in which they rejoiced. They were as follows :—

Lenung-gis (the chief)	. . .	(Long Horns).
Ne-gui-c-et-tüass-ane	. . .	(Little Bear).
Le-güos-ken-ace	. . .	(I like her).
Ne-gun-ne-au-goh	. . .	(Braver).
Uic-tau-goh	. . .	(Black Squirrel).
Sta-eute	. . .	(Steep Rock).
Te-ki-eue-doga	. . .	(Two Guns).

The Royal Company attended the theatre to witness their performances on the evening of the day on which they had been at the Hall.



CHAPTER VI.

NOTES OF SHOOTING—EARL OF HOPETOUN ELECTED CAPTAIN-GENERAL—EARL OF DALHOUSIE MADE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—DINNER TO DR DUNCAN—THE KING'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND, 1822—ROYAL COMPANY APPOINTED BODY-GUARD TO HIS MAJESTY—ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERFORMING THE DUTIES—ALTERATION OF UNIFORM—ENTRY OF GEORGE IV. INTO EDINBURGH—PERFORMING THE "REDDENDO" BY PRESENTATION OF BARBED ARROWS TO THE KING—LEVEE AT HOLYROOD—ADDRESS TO THE KING—PROCESSION FROM HOLYROOD TO THE CASTLE—LETTER TO THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—THE ARCHERS ATTEND THE EMBARKATION OF HIS MAJESTY AT HOPETOUN—PORTRAIT OF THE EARL OF HOPETOUN—THE HOPETOUN ROYAL COMMEMORATION VASE PRESENTED BY THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—EXCURSION TO SELKIRK AND PEBBLES—A "BOTTOMLESS RIDDLE"—DEATH OF LORD HOPETOUN—THE ROYAL COMPANY OFFER TO ATTEND HIS FUNERAL—DUKE OF MONTROSE APPOINTED CAPTAIN-GENERAL—DINNER IN HIS HONOUR NEARLY INTERFERED WITH BY GREAT FIRE IN EDINBURGH—BUST OF THE KING PRESENTED BY THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—COURT-DRESS OF THE COMPANY—PRESENTATION OF GOLD STICK BY THE KING—QUALIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP ALTERED.

THE year 1819 opened with some capital shooting at butts, as will be seen from the following minute :—

" 30th Jan. 1819.

" There was shot for at the same time [as the Butt Medal] a subscription prize to be gained by the best paper during the twenty-one ends. There were in all fourteen papers, many of them so close to each other as to require the greatest nicety in measurement by compasses. The papers by Treasurer Brown and [Mr] Boyd measured five-eighths of an inch [from the centre of the paper], so as to render them equal. During the competition it was never doubted that such good papers could be cut out,

when at the nineteenth end Mr Ewart had a paper four-eighths of an inch from the centre, which gave him the most flattering hopes, which at the twentieth end were blasted by Mr Charles Tawse hitting the pin in the centre, by which he obtained the victory."

The most important event which took place this year was the election of a new Captain-General, rendered necessary by the death of the Duke of Buccleuch, which took place in April. The Council made choice of John, fourth Earl of Hopetoun—a nobleman highly distinguished as a military officer, and of a family who had always taken much interest in the Royal Company, his ancestor Hope of Rankeillour having, as we have seen, given the Company in 1726 a lease of the ground which they have occupied ever since. Lord Hopetoun having signified his grateful acceptance of the office, arrangements were made for his installation, which was fixed to take place on the day of the competition for the King's prize. All the previous winners of that prize who could be got at were written to, and asked to send the piece of plate which they had provided with the £20 given as the premium, in order to grace the dinner-table on the occasion. Tickets of admission were issued to members at one guinea each, and a select number of distinguished visitors were invited by the Council. It is to be regretted that we have no account given us in the records of the ceremony of installation, which took place on the 10th of July. Neither is it mentioned how many former royal prizes were collected on the occasion. The meagre details given us only comprise the facts that the King's prize was shot for, and that eighty-five gentlemen sat down to dinner.

At the anniversary meeting of the Company in 1821, the Council of the preceding year was re-elected, with the addition of the Earl of Dalhousie in room of Lord Elibank, who had died shortly before. The Council then elected Lord Dalhousie, the ninth Earl of that name, and celebrated as a military officer, to the post of Præses, an office which he continued to hold down to the time of

his death in 1831. Sir Walter Scott was admitted a member of the Company during this year; and although it does not appear that he was in the habit of attending the shooting competitions, it is well known that he took great interest in the body, intensified as it must have been by his appreciation of everything that was connected with "the olden time."

An interesting meeting took place on the 29th of October, on the occasion of a dinner given to Dr Andrew Duncan, to celebrate his jubilee as a member of the Royal Company. Kay, in two of his etchings, has left us a representation of the venerable doctor's figure. He was well known as an Edinburgh physician in his day, and was Professor of the Theory of Medicine in the University, having succeeded Dr James Gregory in 1789. To him is ascribed the merit of establishing the Edinburgh Dispensary and the Morningside Asylum for Lunatics. In 1809 he also succeeded in founding the Caledonian Horticultural Society; and in 1821 he was appointed first Physician to his Majesty for Scotland. He was an active pleasant gentleman, and a member of many social and convivial clubs. For many years he climbed Arthur's Seat on the 1st of May—a custom which used to be observed with great enthusiasm by the inhabitants of Edinburgh—and he continued this practice until 1826, when he was eighty-two years of age.¹ He died in 1828, and was honoured by a public funeral.

On the day of the dinner given in Dr Duncan's honour at Archers' Hall, one of Dr Spens' medals was shot for at butts. Dr Duncan appeared in the uniform of the Company which was worn when he first joined half a century previous, and all the members declining to compete with the venerable archer, he carried off the prize.

We now arrive in the course of our history at the year 1822—an important epoch in the annals of the Royal Company, as they then emerged from the partial obscurity (so far as regards public appearances of any grandeur) in which they had for so many years

¹ See Kay's Portraits, ii. 35.

remained, and appeared in the most honourable and distinguished position which their most ardent supporter could have wished. It is our purpose in this chapter to give an account of the services of the Royal Company during the visit of his Majesty George IV. to Scotland in 1822—services which made the name “Royal Company” no longer a mere empty title, and which were the origin of still more honourable addition of the Royal “Body-guard for Scotland” which the Company now bears. It would be out of place in a work like the present to enter with any degree of detail into an account of the rejoicings and *fêtes* which were held during the royal visit; we must confine ourselves to a relation only of the part which the Archers took in the proceedings with so much credit to themselves and satisfaction to all concerned.

The king not having come to Scotland after his Irish visit in 1821, as was by some expected, it was generally thought probable that the wishes of his Majesty’s Scottish subjects would be fulfilled in the following year. In anticipation of this, Sir Patrick Walker, an energetic and useful member of the Royal Company, communicated with Lord Hopetoun, the Captain-General, as to the expediency of the Company tendering their services to the king on his approaching visit as body-guard to his royal person. The right to claim this privilege was at the least doubtful. Sir Patrick says that an impression prevailed among the members that they did possess such right; but he adds, “the only foundation for this idea seems to be the address which, it is said, St Clair of Roslin (Præses of the Council, 1768-1778) used to make to each member on his admission: ‘By signing the laws of the Royal Company of Scottish Archers you engage to be faithful to your king and your country; for we are not a private Company, as some people imagine, but constituted by royal charter his Majesty’s First Regiment of Guards in Scotland; and if the king should ever come to Edinburgh, it is our duty to take charge of his royal person from Inchbankland Brae on the east, to Cramond Bridge on the west. But besides being the body-guards of the king, the Company is the

only thing now remaining in Scotland which properly commemorates the many noble deeds performed by our ancestors by the aid of the bow. It ought therefore to be the pride and ambition of every true Scotsman to be a member of it.' It is presumed," continues Sir Patrick, "that Roslin's zeal for the honour of the Royal Company led him to claim higher honours for them than their charter warrants, for the charter in favour of the Company contains no such privilege."

Sir Patrick is quite correct in this statement, as will be seen by referring to the charter ; but still it was thought it would be highly conducive to the welfare of the Company to offer themselves in the capacity of a guard, as it would both materially increase the membership, and, in consequence, the funds, and give a higher status and dignity to the body than it had ever previously enjoyed. It was probable, too, that in the event of a royal visit, some body-guard would be formed from among the citizens of Edinburgh ; and the Royal Company having received, as it had, so many marks of the royal favour, and consisting, as it did, of gentlemen representing most of the Scottish families, seemed to possess a peculiar claim to act in that capacity. In consequence of Sir Patrick Walker's exertions, a memorial was prepared and forwarded to London by the Earl of Hopetoun ; but at that time the application was not pressed.

In July 1822, an official communication was received by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, intimating his Majesty's intention to visit his Scottish capital the following month. In consequence of this, a general meeting of the Royal Company was called for the 1st of August, at which the following resolutions were adopted :—

" 1. That it is peculiarly incumbent on the Royal Company of Archers on the approaching joyful occasion of his Majesty visiting his ancient kingdom of Scotland, to take every opportunity of testifying their loyalty to the Crown and Constitution, and their attachment to his Majesty's person.

“ 2. That with this view a loyal and dutiful address of congratulation shall be presented to his Majesty, in such manner as shall be arranged by the Captain-General, on communication with the proper official authorities.

“ 3. That an humble offer of the services of the Royal Company to attend on his Majesty either as his body-guard, or in any other capacity that shall be assigned to them, shall be made through the Captain-General.

“ 4. That as there is every probability that this offer will be accepted, those members of the Royal Company who are to attend, shall forthwith send in their names to the Secretary; and they shall provide themselves with a proper uniform according to the pattern settled by the Council of the Royal Company on 26th July last, which is to be seen at Hunter & Co., Princes St.

“ 5. That the address shall be prepared, and the whole arrangements for carrying the above resolutions into effect shall be made, by a committee consisting of the Captain-General, Council, and such other of the general officers as are in town.”

At a meeting of the Council held upon the same day, a drill of the members was appointed to take place every morning in the Assembly Rooms; and no gentleman was to be allowed to perform duty on days of ceremony who had not attended at least three drills, or was reported by the adjutants fit for duty. Mr Secretary Russell and Major N. Pringle were appointed adjutants.

It will be seen from the fourth of the above resolutions that the uniform had been again altered. No description of it is given in the records; but from a portrait of Lord Hopetoun which hangs in Archers' Hall, an engraving of which is given on the adjoining page, we see that the most striking features in it were the adoption of a large ruff round the neck, and gauntleted gloves. The whole dress has such a quaint medieval tinge about it, that we may be almost certain that Sir Walter Scott took part in designing it. It is not at all unlike in some details the representations which we have of Robin Hood; and it is by no

Plate IV.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
JOHN, FOURTH EARL OF HOPETOUN, G.C.B., ETC.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL 1819-1823,

AS HE APPEARED WHEN PRESENTING TWO BARBED ARROWS,
AT THE REDDENDO OF THE ROYAL COMPANY, TO H.M. GEORGE IV.,
AT HOLYROOD, 15TH AUGUST 1822.

From the Portrait by Sir John Watson Gordon, in Archers' Hall.





means unlikely that this prototype of English archers may have been kept in view when the alterations were under consideration. This uniform did not long continue to be worn—it being probably found more picturesque than convenient for shooting.

Although not yet formally appointed as Body-guard, it would appear that at this time it was fully understood that the Company would be accepted as such. A deputation accordingly waited upon the Duke of Montrose, as Lord Chamberlain, to inquire into the nature of the duties to be performed. These were generally to be the duties usually performed by the band of gentlemen-pensioners, and the Lord Chamberlain recommended that a formal offer of the Company's services should be made to the Secretary of State. Previous, however, to the Company's being permitted to act as Guard, it was stated that it would be necessary for the members to take the oath of allegiance. On the 10th of August, accordingly, this ceremony took place before the Duke of Montrose. The following is a copy of the oath :—

“ You shall each and every one of you swear by Almighty God, to be true servants to our Sovereign Lord, George the Fourth, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King :

“ You shall know nothing which may be in any wise hurtful or prejudicial to his Majesty's royal person, state, crown, or dignity, but you shall hinder it what in you lies, and reveal the same to his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council :

“ You shall serve the king truly and faithfully as the Royal Body-guard of his Majesty, and be obedient to his Majesty's command.

“ So help you God.”

A tender of the Company's services was now made by the Captain-General to the Secretary of State in the following letter :—

“ ARCHERS' HALL, 10th Aug. 1822.

“ SIR,—I beg leave to make an humble and respectful tender of the services of the Royal Company of Archers, established by

royal charter, and holding of his Majesty, as his Majesty's Body-guards, on the occasion of his Majesty's gracious visit to the capital of his ancient kingdom of Scotland, and during his residence here.

“ The Royal Company of Archers are fully equipped and prepared to perform such duties as shall be assigned to them as his Majesty's Guards.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ HOPETOUN, *Captain-General R.A.*

And to this letter the following answer was received :—

“ MELVILLE CASTLE, *Aug. 11, 1822.*

“ MY LORD,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of yesterday's date ; and from a communication which I had the honour of holding with his Majesty previously to my departure from London, I feel myself authorised to acquaint your Lordship that his Majesty will accept the offer of service of the Royal Company of Archers on the occasion of his Majesty's visit to Edinburgh.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ ROBERT PEEL.”

Matters having been thus satisfactorily arranged, preparations in the way of drill, &c., went steadily on, till the Company was properly organised and ready for duty.

The generation who witnessed the entry of George IV. into Edinburgh is now fast passing away ; but those who survive still hold fresh in their recollections, as perfectly indelible from memory, the splendid reception accorded to his Majesty on that occasion, and the burst of loyalty which kept all the city in high festival during the whole time of the king's stay. Many able pens have chronicled the doings of that holiday week : it is ours only to note the events in so far as they relate to our Company ; but as we march along by the side of our king, we may now and then, amid

the sheen of steel and waving of plumes, catch a passing glimpse of what is going on around us.

The king's ship, the Royal George, cast anchor in Leith Roads at two o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday the 14th of August, and immediately the whole population of Edinburgh, official and unofficial, rushed as one man to take up their appointed positions in the line of procession. The weather, however, was very unfavourable, though this did not damp the enthusiasm of the populace. As it was pouring in torrents, the king wisely resolved to postpone his entry until the following day; so the whole assembly—Archers, Celts, dragoons, yeomen, municipal dignitaries, and all—dissolved for that day. On the 15th, the sun shone out gloriously, and everything promised well for the show. His Majesty landed at twenty minutes past twelve, and was received with most tumultuous acclamations. It is vain, in a work like this, to attempt to do anything like justice to a description of the almost frantic excitement and feeling of loyalty which seem to have pervaded the breasts of every one at this time. Suffice it to say, that amid the thunders of cannon and cheering from thousands of his subjects, the king set foot on Scottish ground. A division of fifty archers, with Lord Elgin, one of the Ensigns-General, at their head, accompanied by Brigadiers-General the Hon. General Alex. Duff, Sir John Pringle, Sir Alex. Don, and Major Pringle, Adjutant, was drawn up on the platform where the king landed. Shaking hands with the Earl of Elgin, the king proceeded to his carriage, and the archers formed round it on each side. A magnificent procession then wended its way slowly up Leith Walk, amidst the cheers of the assembled multitudes. At the barrier, where the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh waited to deliver the keys of the city, Sir Patrick Walker, Usher of the White Rod, resplendent in crimson and gold, rode up and demanded an entry for the king. This being granted, and the ceremony of delivering the keys being over, the procession continued onwards; and as it passed into Princes Street, the Calton Hill,

covered with spectators, "thick as the leaves in Vallambrosa," burst upon the sight of the king, and produced upon him visible effects of delight and astonishment. Winding round the base of the hill, the crowd singing the National Anthem, the royal cortege descended to Holyrood.

Here was stationed a division of forty archers under the Captain-General, with the Earl of Morton Major-General, Brigadiers-General Sir John Hope, Sir David Hunter Blair, Henry Jardine, Esq., and the Hon. J. Leslie Cuming, and Mr Secretary Russell as Adjutant. There were five archers at the head of the staircase, and seven between the staircase and royal closet. The rest were distributed partly in the antechamber and partly in the *entrée* room, while they formed two lines on each side of the throne in the presence-chamber. When the king had taken his seat upon the throne, the regalia of Scotland were presented to him, after which the Lord Provost and Magistrates presented the city address. The king then—the regalia being borne before him by the respective peers to whom the duty belonged—proceeded to the royal closet, and, the bearers of the regalia having retired, commanded the attendance of the Captain-General and Council of the Royal Company to perform the service of delivering a pair of barbed arrows, which is the *reddendo* contained in Queen Anne's charter by which the Company holds of the king.

The Earl of Hopetoun then proceeded to the royal closet, followed by Sir George Mackenzie as Vice-President of the Council (Lord Dalhousie being abroad on service) carrying the barbed arrows on a green velvet cushion, and accompanied by the other members of Council, Sir David Milne, K.C.B., Mr Secretary Russell, Henry Jardine, Esq., Captain Robert Hay, R.N., and Major Norman Pringle. Sir George Mackenzie delivered the arrows to the Earl of Hopetoun, who presented them to his Majesty, stating that, by royal charter in favour of the Company, they held their privileges from the Crown for the service of a pair of barbed arrows, which, on the part of the Royal Company, he

now humbly offered to his Majesty, and craved a continuance of his royal favour and protection. To this address his Majesty was pleased to make a most gracious reply, and received the arrows, which he handed to one of his attendants. The Earl of Hope-toun then kissed his Majesty's hand, and having severally introduced the members of the Council to his Majesty, they all had the honour of kissing his hand.

The barbed arrows which were delivered on this occasion were made by George Lindsay Rae and John Brand, the bow-makers to the Royal Company, with the exception of the barbs, which, being of silver, were manufactured by Messrs Mackay & Cunningham, the medallists to the Company. The shafts were made of snake-wood, and the feathers were those of the Argus pheasant. Each arrow bore the inscription, "TO HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FOURTH. *Reddendo* of the Royal Company of Archers. Holy-rood, August 1822."

Thus was performed the first service of the Royal Company. Their duties for the day were now soon over, as the king left the palace at half-past three, and drove out to Dalkeith, where he stayed during his visit as the guest of the Duke of Buccleuch.

The same day a general order was published by the Captain-General, narrating, in much the same terms as we have done, the occurrences of the day, especially the presentation of the arrows; and the archers were dismissed from duty for the day, many of them probably fatigued enough from the excitement and labour which they had undergone. There were illuminations in the town at night; and it is stated in the published account of the proceedings, that not a single delinquency known to the police occurred during the day, nor was one drunk person seen along the whole line of the procession. This is an almost incredible fact, especially seeing the town was full of strangers and Highlanders, whose throats, one would think, would require a considerable amount of wetting in order to drink the health of their sovereign with sufficient earnestness and loyalty. Still there is no doubt, confirmed

as the statement is by many persons yet alive, that the crowd was most orderly all throughout the proceedings, and that one might have looked in vain for any sign of foul-mouthed and intoxicated roughs, of whose presence we are generally but too frequently reminded on the occasion of any similar spectacle in our days.

The day after his landing and reception the king did not go out in public, but remained at Dalkeith Palace. On Saturday the 17th, a levee was held at Holyrood, at which the Royal Company attended and performed the usual duties. About two thousand gentlemen were presented, and it was calculated that the presentations were made at the rate of about fifteen in a minute.

On the 19th, various addresses were presented to the king. That of the Royal Company was not read, but forwarded by the Captain-General through the Secretary of State. It ran as follows :—

“ We, your Majesty’s most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Royal Company of Archers, most humbly beg leave to offer our sincere and joyful congratulations to your Majesty on your safe arrival in this kingdom.

“ The Royal Company of Archers, established near a century and a half ago under the patronage of your royal ancestors, for the purpose of encouraging the practice of the ancient science of archery, have long cherished the hope that, on the arrival of the sovereign in this kingdom, we might be allowed to evince our loyalty by being permitted to guard his royal person. This hope has been amply fulfilled by your Majesty’s gracious command to the Royal Company to attend your royal person on this joyful occasion of the first visit paid by your Majesty to your ancient kingdom of Scotland. Proud of this distinction, and impressed with the warmest feelings of gratitude for the high honour thus conferred on us, we presume to approach your Majesty with the assurances of our unfeigned attachment to your Majesty’s

royal person, and our unbounded loyalty to the Crown and Constitution.

“Signed in our name, and by our appointment, by

“HOPETOUN, *Captain-General.*”

To this the following answer was received :—

“EDINBURGH, *August 19th, 1824.*

“MY LORD,—I have laid before the king the loyal and dutiful address of the Royal Company of Archers enclosed in your Lordship’s letter to me of the 16th inst., which I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship his Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

R. PEEL.”

The Royal Company were again on duty at the palace on Tuesday the 20th, when the king held a drawing-room, at which several hundred ladies were presented.

On the 22d of August a splendid procession took place from Holyrood to the Castle, the regalia being carried in great state. The archers took their accustomed position on each side of his Majesty’s carriage—the Earl of Hopetoun being on the king’s right side, and the Marquess of Lothian and the Earl of Elgin, Lieutenant and Ensign Generals, on the left. The following was the order of the procession :—

Trumpeters of Mid-Lothian Yeomanry.
 Squadron of Mid-Lothian Yeomanry, six abreast.
 Division of Marischal’s Guard (Breadalbanes and Macgregors),
 twelve abreast.
 Detachment of Scots Greys, six abreast.
 Two State Trumpeters.
 MARCHMONT HERALD.
 Marischal Trumpeters.
 Marischal Guard of Highlanders, twelve abreast.
 A Marischal Yeoman.
 Three Marischal Yeomen abreast.

Six Marischal Esquires, three abreast,
mounted and attended by four Marischal Yeomen.

Henchman, } KNIGHT MARISCHAL. { Henchman,
Yeoman. } Yeoman.

Division of Lord High Constables, Highland Guard.
Two Pursuivants in their Tabards.
Four State Trumpeters.

ISLAY HERALD.

Two Pursuivants in their Tabards.

USHER OF THE WHITE ROD.

Assistant. Assistant.

LORD LYON KING AT ARMS.

Groom. Groom.

Constable's Guard of Partisans.

Six Constables, Yeomen, three abreast.

Six Constables, Esquires, three abreast.

Three Macers, the Exchequer Mace in centre.

Six Grooms, three abreast, attending on
the Sword of State.

Two Esquires.

SWORD OF STATE,
carried by the Earl of Morton.

Two Macers.

Four Pages abreast, attendants on the Sceptre.

Four Esquires abreast.

THE SCEPTRE,
carried by the Hon. John M. Stuart.

Two Macers.

Six Grooms, three abreast, attendants on
the Crown.

Two Esquires.

THE CROWN,
carried by Duke of Hamilton, his horse led by
two Equerries.

A Royal Carriage drawn by six bays.
Scots Greys.

ARCHERS. { THE KING, } ARCHERS.
 { in carriage-and-six. }

Earl of Errol as Lord High Constable, in his robes and coronet, rode on the right of the Carriage.

Scots Greys.

Constable's Guard of Highlanders.

Scots Greys.

Mid-Lothian Yeomanry.

In such state did George IV. visit Edinburgh Castle—a day for grandeur of spectacle to be remembered by all who saw it. The appearance of the procession was unfortunately somewhat marred by the weather, which was not so propitious as could have been wished. Everything, notwithstanding, went off with great *éclat*, and its conclusion sent thousands of spectators delighted to their homes.

During the remainder of the king's stay in his Scottish capital, the archers did not again attend his Majesty in public, as, although the rejoicings and entertainments continued with unabated vigour, there was no other state procession or reception at the palace.

His Majesty's departure was fixed for Thursday the 29th of August, and he proposed on that day to honour the Captain-General of the Royal Company with a visit at Hopetoun House. In anticipation of this, the Company directed the following letter to be written to his Lordship, by Sir George Mackenzie, the Vice-Præses:—

“ EDINBURGH, 22d Aug. 1822.

“ MY LORD,—I am desired, by the unanimous voice of the Royal Company of Archers, to tender their services to your Lordship in any way in which you may consider them desirable, on the occasion of his Majesty's visit to Hopetoun House. Your Lordship's whole conduct as Captain-General has elicited the warmest

gratitude from every individual in the Company, and, if possible, raised to a higher degree that respect for your Lordship which directed them in their choice of a Captain-General.

“With every sentiment of respect and esteem, I have the honour to be, &c.,

“G. S. MACKENZIE, *V.-P.*”

The Earl was pleased to accept of the offer thus made. He states that if the king should adhere to his purpose of visiting Hopetoun, he is fully persuaded that it will be extremely acceptable to his Majesty that the Royal Archers, who were the first to receive him on his landing, should be among the last to witness his departure; and that he would let the Company know when matters were finally arranged.

On the morning of the day appointed, then, the Company embarked at Newhaven and sailed up the Firth in a steamer to their destination. They landed at Port Edgar, and walked up to Hopetoun House, a distance of about two miles. The weather was miserable, wind and rain combining to making a pelting storm. The eyes of the gallant Body-guard were, however, gladdened by the sight of extensive preparations which had been made under a tent for their creature comforts by their generous commander. The day in a short time improved, the rain ceased, and a little after one o'clock the signal was given of the king's approach. The bugles sounded the assembly, and the archers had just got their ranks formed on each side of the great staircase, at the top of which stood the Earl, when the advanced-guard of Scots Greys dashed up at a gallop, followed at a short distance by the royal carriage and its escort of cavalry. The king alighted amid loud cheers from a large attendant crowd, and the roar of artillery from the royal squadron anchored off the shore. Entering the house he remained to lunch with his noble host, while the troops in attendance did their duty by the casks of home-brewed October and the repast which had been prepared for them. During the king's

stay at Hopetoun he conferred the honour of knighthood on Raeburn the painter, using Lord Hopetoun's sword for the purpose. The archers employed the time in shooting, having brought their marks with them. About three o'clock they were called away to pay their last respects to his Majesty, who left Hopetoun House at that hour, and shortly after departed from the shores of Scotland amid great demonstrations of loyalty, and with the good wishes of all for a safe and prosperous voyage home. The archers adjourned to a tent and drank the king's health and that of their Captain-General; and Sir George Mackenzie stated to the latter, that with the view of commemorating the first occasion on which the Company had performed the duties of Body-guard to the king, the members had expressed a unanimous wish that his Lordship would gratify them by sitting for his portrait in his uniform of Captain-General, in order that the same might be hung in the Hall. To this request Lord Hopetoun assured the Company that he would accede with pleasure, and the picture was accordingly painted by Mr Watson (Sir J. Watson Gordon). It represents the noble Earl in the act of presenting the two barbed arrows as *reddendo* to the king. It was fortunate that the design was carried into execution at an early period, as in little more than twelve months after the events we have been describing the gallant Captain-General was no more.

We cannot better sum up this brief description of the royal visit than by quoting the conclusion of the account of the part which the archers took in the festivities, drawn up by the Secretary, and published in the form of a pamphlet, and engrossed officially in the minute-book.¹ "Thus ended the duties of the Royal Company of Archers, as the Body-guard of the king on the occasion of the first visit paid by a prince of the house of Brunswick to this country; and every member of the Company must reflect with pleasure and satisfaction on the auspicious event

¹ From this publication, and from the Historical Account of his Majesty's Visit to Scotland, published by Oliver & Boyd, 1822, the above account is chiefly taken.

which called them to the exercise of this valuable and important privilege.

“In consequence of this visit his Majesty has had an opportunity of seeing and becoming acquainted with the character of his Scottish subjects; and the highly favourable manner in which he has been graciously pleased to express himself in regard to the mode in which he has been received by all classes of his subjects, must be a source of pride and gratification to every true Scotsman.”

Looking back on these events from our own time, divested of all the excitement and glamour which were inseparable from such an occasion, we have no reason to be ashamed of the welcome which Scotland gave to her king, who, whatever his faults may have been, displayed in an especial manner on this occasion that urbanity of disposition and kindness of heart which have for long pre-eminently distinguished the Royal Family of Great Britain.

In commemoration of the royal visit, the Company met at dinner on the 15th February 1823. The dinner took place in the Royal Hotel, and there were about 120 gentlemen present.

As another reminiscence of this joyous time, Lord Hopetoun presented to the Company a very handsome silver vase and gold medal. The vase was to be engraved with the names of the winners, and the medal to be kept by each for a year. At a general meeting of the Company held in April it was unanimously resolved—“That the members of the Royal Company of Archers are eager to avail themselves of the opportunity of the first general meeting which has taken place since his Majesty’s visit to express their admiration of the distinguished manner in which Lord Hopetoun performed the duties of Captain-General during that period, and to return their warmest thanks for his uniform kindness to the members individually, and his attention to the best interests of the Royal Company at large.

“That the members of the Royal Company accept with unfeigned gratitude the vase and medal which his Lordship has been

pleased to present to the Royal Company as a prize to be shot for in commemoration of his Majesty's visit; and they regard this splendid gift as another instance of his Lordship's zeal and attention to promote the interests of the Royal Company by affording so honourable an excitement to skill in archery in a prize that tends to combine so many proud and gratifying recollections.

"That the prize shall be called the Hopetoun Royal Commemoration Prize, and shall be shot for annually on the conditions proposed by the Council and approved of by Lord Hopetoun."

The Company at this meeting unanimously voted their thanks to Sir George Mackenzie for his conduct as Præsides of the Council during the royal visit, he having filled that office in the absence of Lord Dalhousie to the entire satisfaction of every member.

There is rather a fuller account than usual of the shooting for the Selkirk and Peebles Arrows in 1823. The Company had not visited those towns for several years; but the competitions were now revived in all their glory, and the account is given in the records rather amusingly. We are told amongst other things, that at Selkirk "the road was lined by the people of the town and neighbouring countryside, all clean and neatly dressed;" and that "the dinner was pretty good, and the wines very fair, particularly a riddle and a half of claret given by the town. The members of the Royal Company who were not previously burgesses of Selkirk were admitted to that distinguished privilege, upon going through all the forms of 'licking the birse,' &c. Mr Paterson, the treasurer, left the chair at ten o'clock, but some of the party kept up the festivity for a considerable time longer." At Peebles, too, the Company seem to have been received with the greatest hospitality, the dinner and wines being pronounced "excellent," and the Provost kindly giving the party a "bottomless riddle" to induce them to come soon back again. The meeting broke up at half-past nine, and the archers returned to town the same evening.

The gladness and jollity which pervaded the whole Company at this time was, however, soon destined to receive a check, as on the

27th of August their honoured Captain-General was taken from them by death. At a meeting of the Council, on the 12th of September, the following minute was drawn up :—

“ The Council having met in consequence of the death of their much-respected and lamented Captain-General, the Earl of Hopetoun, take this opportunity to express their sincere and unfeigned regret for the loss which the Royal Company has sustained by that melancholy and unlooked-for event. The public services of the Earl of Hopetoun are recorded and acknowledged in the history of his country ; and the universal feelings of mourning and regret at his death which pervade all ranks of the community, bear an ample and sincere testimony to the excellence of his private character.

“ In this general feeling, however, the members of the Royal Company of Archers more particularly participate, from a recollection of the great and important services rendered to the Company by Lord Hopetoun while he held the situation of Captain-General, and particularly during the auspicious period of his Majesty’s visit to Scotland, when the dignified deportment of his Lordship, joined to the kindness and attention shown by him to the members, not only reflected honour upon the Royal Company, but endeared him to every individual who had the happiness of serving under his command, as one of the Body-guard of the king.

“ The Council having learned that H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief has signified his wish that the remains should belong to Britain,¹ feel themselves called on, in justice not only to their own feelings but to those of every member of the Royal Company, not to omit this opportunity of testifying their sincere respect and veneration for their late Captain-General by making an offer, on the part of the Royal Company, to attend as a body his funeral ; and they request the Earl of Elgin as Præses of the Council to make this offer to the family of the deceased in such manner as his Lordship may deem most proper.”

¹ His Lordship died at Paris.

This minute was accordingly transmitted to Sir Alexander Hope by Lord Elgin, and the following answer received :—

“ HOPETOUN HOUSE, 17th Sept. 1823.

“ MY DEAR LORD,—

I have now to convey to your Lordship and to the Council from which this minute proceeded, the warmest thanks of Lord Hopetoun's family for their offer to accompany his remains to the grave.

“ The public testimony to Lord Hopetoun's character proceeding from so distinguished a body, is felt by his Lordship's family as conferring the highest honour upon his memory, and is acknowledged by them with the deepest sense of gratitude. But,

“ When it is considered that the arrival of the ship of war conveying these lamented remains is uncertain, and that the preparation for a public funeral, if made, must be kept in suspense at the residence which is occupied by his widow and her children, it is submitted to the considerate and kind feelings of those who offer this distinguished mark of their regard, that a strictly private funeral is more consonant to the present state of affliction which pervades Lord Hopetoun's family.

“ It is under these circumstances, which, I trust, will be appreciated by your Lordship and the Royal Company of Archers, that I venture to decline, with every feeling of respect and regard, the offer which has been made.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ ALEX. HOPE.”

After this answer, it was of course felt that it would be ungracious to press the request of the Company; but the minute above quoted, and Sir Alexander's answer, together with a short statement explanatory of their feelings and the circumstances, was ordered to be inserted in the Edinburgh newspapers.

At a public meeting held in December, it was agreed that a subscription should be opened for the purpose of erecting a monument to the late Earl; and the Council of the Royal Company, although not feeling warranted from the state of their finances in giving such a subscription, as should be worthy either of the Company or of Lord Hopetoun's memory, recommended the members to subscribe individually, and to return their subscriptions on one list as coming from members of the King's Body-guard. This was probably acted upon; but we are not aware to what sum the subscriptions by the individual members of the Company amounted.

At a meeting of Council, held the 14th of January 1824, the election of a new Captain-General was proceeded with, and James, third Duke of Montrose, was unanimously chosen to fill that office. He it was, it may be remembered, who had sworn in the members of the Company who had done duty as guards to the king, and he himself was at present one of the Lieutenants-General of the Company. Before making out his commission, however, it was resolved that, out of a sense of gratitude to his Majesty for the honour he had done the Royal Company in appointing them his Body-guard, and as a mark of their unfeigned respect for him, the appointment of his Grace the Duke of Montrose should be laid before him for his approbation. A letter was then written to the Duke, mentioning his appointment and the subsequent resolution; and a reply was received from his Grace accepting the honour the Company had conferred upon him, and approving the determination of the Council to obtain his Majesty's approval.

Lord Elgin (who had been elected President of the Council in 1823, and again in 1824.) undertook to bring the subject under the king's notice; and on the 28th of September a letter was received, under his Majesty's hand, signifying his entire approval of the appointment of the Duke. His Grace was then communicated with, and asked to do the Company the honour of dining with them; which invitation being accepted, the 18th of November was fixed upon for the banquet, and great preparations made for it.

Lord Dalhousie and Lord Elgin were appointed Lieutenants-General to fill up two vacancies, and the latter nobleman was requested to take the chair upon the occasion of the ensuing dinner. Circulars of invitation were sent to all the members, and applications for tickets came rapidly in, so much so, indeed, that it was found that there was no chance of being able to accommodate the party in the Archers' Hall. It was resolved, therefore, to hold the meeting in the Assembly Rooms; elaborate arrangements were made, and the dinner promised to be the most successful ever held by the Royal Company.

On Thursday the 18th of November, the Council met at the Assembly Rooms, and having inspected the tables, expressed their satisfaction with them, and all the other arrangements. They then waited upon the Duke of Montrose at the Waterloo Hotel, and congratulated him upon his appointment. After this they adjourned till five o'clock; but upon meeting at that hour they were informed that Lord Elgin had written to his agent in Edinburgh that "as he had heard of the great fire which had taken place in the city last night, he imagined the dinner to the Captain-General would be postponed; and that, in consequence, he had given up thoughts of being in town to-day."

The "great fire" which is here alluded to broke out on the evening of Monday the 15th of November, on the south side of the High Street, about half-way between the Tron Church and St Giles'. It consumed a large block of densely-populated houses, but was thought to have burned itself out before morning. Next day, however, Tuesday the 16th, the Tron Church took fire, and Cockburn describes the advocates running out from the Parliament House "gowned and wigged" to see the conflagration. The steeple, "an old Dutch thing, composed of wood, iron, and lead, and edged all the way up with bits of ornament," had caught a spark and was soon in flames, which communicated themselves to the church, and seriously injured the building. "That evening about nine," says the author of the Memorials, "I went over to the Old

Town to see what was going on. There were a good many people on the street, but no appearance of any new danger. I had not been home again above half an hour, when it was supposed that the sky was unnaturally red. In spite of Hermand's remonstrances, whose first tumbler was nearly ready, I hurried back, and found the south-east angle of the Parliament Close burning violently. This was in the centre of the same thick-set population and buildings, but the property was far more valuable. It was almost touching Sir William Forbes's Bank, the libraries of the Advocates and of the Writers to the Signet, the Cathedral, and the Courts. Of course the alarm was very great, but this only seemed to increase the confusion. No fire ever got fairer play. Judges, magistrates, officers of State, dragoons, librarians, people described as *heads of bodies*, were all mixed with the mob, all giving peremptory and inconsistent directions, and all with angry and provoking folly claiming paramount authority. It was said to have been mooted and rather sternly discussed on the street, whether the Lord Provost could order the Lord Justice-Clerk to prison, or the Justice the Provost; and whether George Cranstoun, the Dean of the Faculty, was bound to work at an engine when commanded by John Hope the Solicitor-General, or *vice versa*. Then the firemen were few and awkward, and the engines out of order; so that while torrents of water were running down the street nobody could use it. Amidst this confusion, inefficiency, and squabble for dignity, the fire held on till next morning, by which time the whole private buildings in the Parliament Close, including the whole east side and about half the south side, were consumed."

The fire seems either to have burned itself out or been extinguished before next morning—Wednesday the 17th—although the Court adjourned on that day, and there was still some danger from unsupported walls. It would appear, then, that Lord Elgin's letter (to come back to the subject from which we started) was written on the Wednesday; and we cannot avoid saying that it might have been better if his Lordship had come into town instead of

taking it for granted that the dinner would be postponed. By the course which he followed he imperilled the success of what ultimately proved to be a very pleasant gathering.

The Council, upon receipt of the tidings of Lord Elgin's non-appearance, found themselves naturally in rather an embarrassed situation. It was clear that the dinner could not be put off, and they had lost the services of their chairman, who was, of course, to have made the speech of the evening. In this dilemma, General Duff, one of the Council, "handsomely agreed to take the chair, trusting to meet with the indulgence of the Company in consequence of the very short warning he had got." And after all, the dinner went off very well, upwards of a hundred gentlemen being present, notwithstanding that "a great many members who put down their names for tickets were so much fatigued by their exertions at the recent awful fires in the city that they could not be present."

The following is the account of the banquet as given in the records : "The Captain-General and the strangers invited by the Council were received in one of the smaller rooms by the Council and general officers of the Royal Company. The other members took their seats at the table as they arrived. Dinner was served up by Mr Steventon¹ soon after six o'clock in a most splendid and sumptuous style ; everything was excellent, and in particular the venison, which was sent from the Captain-General's deer-parks. The wines were most capital, and in great abundance : the dessert was composed of every delicacy, and in the utmost profusion. A great part of it being upon the plate belonging to the victors of the King's prizes, it made a fine display. The band of the Royal Dragoons played several martial airs during dinner, and after the cloth was removed, Gow succeeded them in his usual happy manner. The conviviality of the meeting was kept up with great spirit, and the duties of the chair were performed by the gallant General in his usual happy manner, and to the satisfaction and

¹ Of the Black Bull.

delight of every person present. In the course of the evening, on the occasion of the Lord Advocate's¹ health being drunk, his Lordship in returning thanks regretted that he had not the honour of ranking himself as a member of so distinguished a body as the Royal Company, but hoped ere long to be able to do so. Upon this, Mr Jardine, one of the Council, proposed that his Lordship should be immediately admitted by acclamation, which was rapturously agreed to, and shortly afterwards the Captain-General drank the health of the new recruit. At ten o'clock the Captain-General retired, after expressing himself highly pleased with his reception. Lord Dalhousie followed his Grace soon afterwards; and about half-past eleven General Duff proposed to drink good-night, as he was convinced many of the gentlemen present had much need of rest after the great fatigue they had undergone during the late disastrous calamity which had visited the city; and shortly afterwards the party broke up, highly pleased with their entertainment."

Then follows the bill of fare, which it is needless to give here. We may, however, mention that there were in all 278 dishes, including 15 tureens of soup, as many dishes of fish, 48 *entrées*, &c. &c.

Notwithstanding, then, the unfortunate circumstances under which the banquet took place, everything seems to have gone off very well. The Captain-General himself expressed this opinion in a letter which he wrote to the Council a few days afterwards. In this communication he also expressed his intention of presenting the Company with a bust of the king, leaving it to the Council to order it of whom they liked. Mr Joseph, who had already executed a similar work for his Majesty, was accordingly commissioned to supply a bust in white marble. Unaccountable delay took place; and in 1830, wearied of waiting any longer, the Council recalled Joseph's commission, and the Duke himself intrusted Mr Kirk of Dublin, R.H.A., with the work, which

¹ Sir William Rae.

was completed and lodged in Archers' Hall in August of that year.

The season of 1825 opened with a very large meeting to elect the Council for the ensuing twelve months. Upwards of a hundred and thirty members were present. The name of Sir Walter Scott appears this year for the first time in the Council list; but he does not appear to have been re-elected after the year following. At an early meeting of the new Council, they resolved to make a grant of £10 as a prize for shooting at rovers, to be competed for on three successive Saturdays, and to be expended on the purchase of a piece of plate by the victor. It was many years since the Council had been able, from the state of the finances of the Royal Company, to grant any sum of money for such a purpose, and it was matter for congratulation that they now found themselves in a position to do so. The prize was afterwards, on the representation of several of the shooting members, increased to £15, 15s. The Council also at this time issued new commissions to all the general officers of the Company as officers in the Royal Company of Archers and King's Body-guard for Scotland. This, of course, did not change the order of precedence in the commissions, but simply confirmed the rank in the Body-guard which the respective holders had held in the Royal Company before it was dignified with its new appellation.

We now come to a circumstance which has materially contributed to the successful maintenance and prosperity of the Company, and which greatly added to the honour and respect in which it was already held. At the time of the dinner to the Duke of Montrose, some talk had been held as to the advisability of applying to the king to authorise a dress which might be worn at Court by the members of the Royal Company. Some correspondence passed between the Council and the Captain-General on the subject, and although the Earl of Elgin wrote a long letter expressing his disapproval of the idea, it was finally arranged that the Duke should bring the subject under his Majesty's notice. This he

accordingly did, and not only was a Court-dress appointed, but the king was graciously pleased to present the Captain-General with a gold stick to pertain to his office. The stick was handed by the Duke to the Præses and Council to remain in their safe keeping. The Council then issued a circular to the different members containing a statement of what had been done. After announcing that the Captain-General had handsomely offered to present to the Company a bust of his Majesty, which had been commissioned from the artist, the circular proceeds as follows :—

“ The Council have likewise the pleasure to acquaint the Royal Company, that the Captain-General, some time ago, at the request of the Council, solicited his Majesty to signify his royal pleasure upon the dress uniform of the Body-guard, and to be pleased to fix on a uniform in which the members of the Royal Company might appear at his Majesty’s Court, when the individuals were not on duty, and also at foreign Courts ; that his Majesty has been most graciously pleased to comply with the request, and to order that there should be no distinction, except what might be necessary to mark the ranks of the individuals in the corps ; and his Majesty having at the same time signified his pleasure that the Captain-General should bear a gold stick, like the gold stick in England, his Majesty has been graciously pleased to deliver a gold stick to the Captain-General, by whom it has been deposited in the custody of the Council.

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“ The Council beg to congratulate the Royal Company upon these distinguished marks of the royal favour ; and as they have been so much indebted to the exertions of the Captain-General in obtaining them, the Council have presented him with their best thanks in their own name and in name of the Royal Company, of which his Grace has been pleased to accept.”

Then follows the description of the Court-dress, which it is more than probable received the personal attention of the king, who was certainly an authority on the “ cut of a coat,” and who was never happier than when designing new uniforms.

The coat was scarlet, with green velvet collar and cuffs richly embroidered with gold thistles and arrows ; uniform buttons ; gold-embroidered wings, and lined with white silk. White cassimere waistcoat and breeches, with uniform buttons ; white silk stockings, shoes and buckles, or pantaloons and Hessian boots. Cocked hat, full mounted with gold tassels. Loop and large green feather. Rich gilt-mounted sword with silver handle, and gold-embroidered sword-knot.

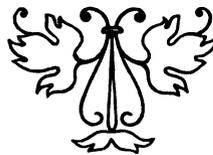
The officers had differences in their epaulets according to rank.

This uniform, although remarkably handsome, did not long remain in use, it being completely altered, as we shall see, in the succeeding reign. No picture of any member attired in it was, so far as we know, ever painted ; and it is doubtful if many members of the Company are now aware that such a dress ever existed.

The shooting uniform also underwent about this time a slight change. The tartan coat, however, was still retained, and the alterations were comparatively unimportant.

It was now thought proper, after having received such signal marks of the royal favour, that an address should be presented to the king by some of the body in the new Court-dress. The Captain-General being communicated with, expressed his opinion that, although doubting the propriety of addresses from military bodies to the king, yet, in the circumstances of the case, he thought that it might in this instance be done through their commanding officer. He also promised to learn the king's pleasure on the subject, which in a short time he accordingly did, and returned an answer to the Council, saying that his Majesty would be graciously pleased to receive an address from the Royal Company. It was then drawn up and signed by Sir David Milne as Vice-President of the Council, in absence of Lord Dalhousie, the Præses, who was then on service in Canada, and transmitted to the Duke of Montrose to be signed by him and presented at the first levee. This was probably done, but there is no special record of its having taken place.

Up to this time there had existed no restriction as to the nationality of any gentleman joining the Company. In fact, on the roll of members we meet with many names of Englishmen, and several of foreigners. So long as the body did not hold any official station, this was a matter of no great importance; indeed, the more members there were, the more flourishing the Company was. Now, however, when it had attained the dignity of Body-guard of the king, and had received the distinguished honour of a Court uniform, it was very possible, as the Captain-General remarked in a letter to the Council, that a number of applications would be made by Englishmen going abroad, in order that they might have the privilege of wearing the uniform at foreign Courts as well as at home. On this account it was resolved, on the suggestion of the Duke, that in time to come no person was to be admitted a member of the Royal Company unless he were born a Scotchman, or descended from Scotch parents. This was meant to have the effect of making the Company more of a national body, and of confining it within due limits. The qualifications of membership have since been altered, and the regulations as to these will be mentioned in a subsequent chapter.



CHAPTER VII.

DINNER ARRANGEMENTS—DISTURBANCE AMONG THE MEMBERS, 1829—MEMBER EXPELLED—QUESTION AS TO POWERS OF COUNCIL—MEMORIAL TO COUNSEL ON THE SUBJECT, AND ANSWERS THERETO—TWO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL CHALLENGED—END OF DISPUTE—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM—REMARKS ON THE REPORT—EARLY TARTAN DRESS—LETTER FROM OLIPHANT OF GASK—BORDER-GREEN CLOTH ADOPTED—DISPUTE WITH THE TACKSMAN OF THE MEADOWS—DEATH OF GEORGE IV., AND PROCLAMATION OF HIS SUCCESSOR—PRESENTATION OF OFFICIAL STAFFS BY WILLIAM IV.—RESIGNATION OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—EARL OF DALHOUSIE ELECTED TO THE VACANT OFFICE—ROYAL COMPANY PUT ON THE SAME FOOTING AS THE LIFE-GUARDS AS REGARDS GOLD AND SILVER STICKS—CLAIM OF KILWINNING ARCHERS TO GUARD THE KING IN THE WEST OF SCOTLAND—DISPOSAL OF THE CLAIMS—ALTERATION OF COURT-DRESS—DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—CORONATION OF THE KING—POSITION OF THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AT THE CEREMONY AS GOLD STICK OF SCOTLAND—FEES OF ENTRY RAISED.

THE Company having finally settled all the affairs connected with their new honours, were now at leisure to direct their attention towards matters of a more domestic nature. In the year 1826, it must be kept in mind, the only easy way of getting at the Archers' Hall from the New Town was by crossing the North Bridge; for although that specimen of modern Vandalism which chokes up one of the most picturesque valleys in the world, the heap of rubbish called "The Earthen Mound," did at this time afford a means of communication from Princes Street to the High Street, yet beyond this the access to the southern parts of the town was not good, as the bridge named after George IV. was not yet built. It was found that, probably owing to the difficulty of getting over to the Hall, the attendance at the dinners was not so full as might

be desired ; and therefore it was resolved that only four dinners in the year should take place at the Hall, and that these should be in summer. For the winter arrangements, it was agreed that there should be four dinners during that season, but that they should be held in the New Town, as most of the members now had their residence there. A circular to this effect was issued by the Council ; but the arrangement did not probably remain long in force, as communication to the Hall by the new bridge was shortly after opened. Another change in the usual routine of the Company was made this year in altering the date of the general anniversary meeting from April, in which month it had been hitherto held, to May, as it was found that many members were out of town during the former month.

Nothing worthy of special remark occurs in the records of the Royal Company for some time. Everything seems to have gone on smoothly and well. New members were being admitted in considerable numbers, and the funds continued to increase in proportion. A prize of £15, 15s. was again granted by the Council in 1828 ; the number of competitors for the various prizes were quite up to if not beyond the average ; and all things seemed to be going on as satisfactorily as the warmest well-wisher of the Company could have desired, when, in 1829, a circumstance occurred which threatened seriously to disturb the wonted good-fellowship and unanimity of the body. The details of this unpleasantness occupy a not inconsiderable portion of one of the minute-books ; but as there is a great deal of personal matter mixed up with the subject, which there is now no need to revive, it will merely be necessary for us to touch upon the subject very briefly, and then only to point out some questions as to the constitution of the Company which arose in the proceedings. Two gentlemen, both members of the Company, having mutually accused each other of dishonourable conduct, simultaneously wrote to the Council, requesting them to appoint a committee to investigate the charges, which was to act in concert with another committee named by the

Edinburgh Troop of Yeomanry, of which regiment one of the gentlemen was a member, and to which a similar application had been addressed. The Council of the Royal Company did accordingly appoint a committee, which, along with that of the Yeomanry, drew up a report, stating that in their opinion one of the gentlemen (whom we shall call Mr A.) should not continue a member of either body; and with regard to the other (whom we may term Mr B.), they simply issued a statement of his conduct, which was decidedly unfavourable to him, but refrained from expressing any opinion. This report was ordered to be sent to the parties, and the Council ordered Mr A.'s name to be struck off the list of members. With regard to Mr B., it was resolved that the Council should have a meeting with the general officers to discuss the subject. Meanwhile that gentleman published a long statement, a copy of which he sent to the members of the Company and the Yeomanry Troop, in consequence of which several members addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Royal Company, requesting him to call a general meeting of the body to allow them to consider the affair. This request was refused until the meeting of general officers and Council should be held. This meeting shortly took place; and the result was that they substantially adhered to the report of the committee. The latter body also published a statement of some length, in which they gave their reasons for the findings in their report. Some angry correspondence then took place between Mr B. and the committee; but the Council ordered the whole proceedings to be printed and circulated among the members "as the most satisfactory method of enabling the Royal Company to judge of the correctness of the report." They also expressed their opinion that it was unnecessary to call a general meeting of the body. This was communicated to the gentlemen, twenty-four in number, who had previously made a request to that effect; and they, through one of their number, returned an answer, saying that they had appointed a small committee to procure access to the records, and to report as to what powers the Council

actually possessed, and desiring liberty to inspect the records. In answer to this the following reply was sent by the Council :—

“ EDINBURGH, 20th March 1829.

“ SIR,—I received your letter of the 18th curt., which I yesterday laid before the Council of the Royal Co^y. of Archers, King’s Body-guard for Scotland; and I am directed to inform you that they consider the powers of the Council so well ascertained, so long ascertained, and so fully confirmed, that it would not be consistent with their duty to admit any question on them. The Council further consider that any member enrolling his name on the Royal Co^y. places also his signature to the records, rules, and regulations, as signifying obedience to them. Under these circumstances, the Council direct me to apprise you that the request you make on the part of the others cannot be complied with, and to express their wish that this matter may proceed no further.—I am, &c.,

“ JAMES HOPE, *Secy.*”

This, as might have been expected, added fuel to the flame. The twenty-four held a meeting in the Waterloo Hotel forthwith, and passed certain resolutions expressing dissatisfaction with some part of the committee’s decision, and resolving again to ask permission to inspect the records to ascertain the powers of the Council. The resolutions were communicated to the Council, with a request for a personal interview. This was refused; but, to remove all doubts on the subject of their powers, the Council directed that the laws and regulations subscribed by members on their admission should be printed, and a copy furnished to each member. What these regulations were we have already seen in an early part of this volume,¹ so that there is no need to go over them again. The rules, however, relating to the Council were sent to the dissentients, whom we may call the “Waterloo” body, together with an assurance that the Council fully adopted and confirmed the report of their committee. This did not at all tend to allay the irritation

¹ See Chapter II.

felt by the twenty-four, and another application for access to the records was sent, and, like the others, refused; besides which, they were told that their meetings were considered decidedly irregular. At the next Waterloo meeting the members present protested against this refusal, and expressed their opinion, that any member would be quite justified in adopting legal proceedings to enforce his right of access to the records; but, not to raise any more ill feeling, resolved to allow the matter to rest in the mean time, ordering the correspondence, however, to be printed and circulated among the members.

The Council then determined, before taking any further steps, to get the opinion of counsel on the subject of their powers and privileges; and a memorial was accordingly sent to Mr John Hope, who was Solicitor-General at the time. The memorial is rather a lengthy document, and we will not trouble our readers with a recital of it. It may suffice to say that, after giving an account of the formation, constitution, and subsequent history of the Company, the memorialists give instances of their exercise of power (as in the expulsion of Murray of Broughton), and state that many of the Waterloo party had for some years been stirring up a spirit of dissatisfaction against the Council; that most of them neither appeared on the field nor at dinners, and seemed to take no part on any occasion, except such as the present. The following queries concluded this somewhat curious memorial:—

“ 1. Whether, by the original constitution of the Royal Company of Archers, and by the rules and regulations then adopted for the ordering of the Company in future, which were at the time sanctioned by the Privy Council, and afterwards confirmed by royal charter, and which have been always signed by members on admission, the Council of the Royal Company have the complete power of dismissing members from the Company when they see cause?

“ 2. Whether such power, if it was thereby given, is not most

conclusively confirmed by the exercise of it already mentioned of the expulsion of Murray of Broughton ?

“ 3. Whether the members signing the laws are not bound to submit to them, and are thereby debarred from disputing and gainsaying the powers and acts of the Council ?

“ 4. Counsel are also requested to state whether, in their opinion, members have any right to hold meetings and appoint committees for calling in question the powers of the Council ; and whether such committees have any right to demand inspection of the minute-books for such purposes ?

“ 5. Whether any individual of the Royal Company has a right to see the minutes of the Council, which are often of a private nature (such as rejections of applications for admission), and which, if open to all members, might often involve the Council in serious embarrassment ? ”

The Solicitor-General having taken the memorial into consideration, gave an opinion to the effect that the Council possessed full power to recall the commissions of members, and to expel them from the Company ; and that the members possessed no power of holding general meetings for the purpose of reviewing the determinations of the Council : that the Royal Company was to be considered in some respects as a military body, and that therefore the Council was bound to exercise its powers in a much more strict and firm manner than it might have done had the Company been a mere private club ; if the Company were displeased with the Council, they had the power of dismissing them in their own hands at the annual anniversary meeting. If any member attempted to try the question of his right to get access to the minutes in a court of law, it was the Solicitor-General's opinion that the Council ought to decline the jurisdiction of any court of law in regard to the discipline of the Company, the only authority by which any such question should be decided being the king, from whom flowed the constitution of the Company, and of whose

household they formed part, It was counsel's opinion that members had no right to demand inspection of the minute-books ; but, on the other hand, if any question was raised as to the powers of the Council, it would hardly do merely to refer to the subscription of the rules by the party at his admission, because the very point in dispute would be whether the rules so subscribed imparted the authority claimed by the Council. It would appear, then, that inspection of the rules and regulations could not be refused to members, but that the minutes of Council were not open to any one. Still, if any of the minutes of Council had made an alteration on their power, it is difficult to see why access to them should not be allowed, upon the same grounds as members had a right to see the rules. The Solicitor's opinion is not very clear on this subject ; and it concludes by recommending the memorialists to use great discrimination in the rigid exercise or display of their power ; and stating that it would be in the highest degree inexpedient and injudicious to resort to the extreme measure of expelling any of the recalcitrant members on this occasion ; but recommending that a very strong order should be issued, " intimating the authority of the Council, and their determination to enforce it ; pointing out the utter irregularity of meetings among the archers, or of appeals to the body against the proceedings of the Council, as subversive of all discipline, and inconsistent with the character of the body ; that the members having the power to elect the Council, must the more see the importance of preserving these principles ; that the Council are determined not to allow the government of the Body-guard to be conducted in the same manner as that of a private club ; that on the present occasion they are willing that the proceedings in question, which they regard as most irregular, and as deserving of censure, may have proceeded from entire ignorance of the individuals in question as to the character of the Company and their duty as members ; that from this feeling, and also from the wish to avoid reporting any such irregularities to the Captain-General, and to his Majesty, which they otherwise would have done, they have,

but with hesitation, resolved not to recall the commissions of the members on the present occasion. But upon the first instance of any other attempt being made to hold meetings among the archers for the purpose of discussing the conduct of the Council, or of members circulating any appeal among the archers against the Council, they will instantly expel such members."

Such was the advice received, which, in the circumstances, was perhaps the most judicious that could have been given ; and acting upon it, a general order was immediately published embodying the statements which we have given above. This order is dated 22d April 1829 ; and on the 16th of May the usual anniversary meeting of the Company to elect the Council for the ensuing year was held. One hundred and forty-eight members were present, and the Earl of Dalhousie, the President of the outgoing Council, was in the chair. Some discussion was attempted to be raised upon the late proceedings, but was not allowed, and the election was proceeded with. Two lists of names were submitted to the meeting—one containing most of the old Council for re-election, and the other entirely new blood ; but out of this latter list four gentlemen out of the seven desired that their names might not be used. The election then proceeded in the usual manner, and it was found that the names of the gentlemen in the first list were elected by large majorities. A discussion was again attempted, but not allowed ; and after unanimous votes of thanks to Lord Dalhousie as chairman, and the late Council, the meeting separated.

At the first meeting of the new Council, Lord Dalhousie was again elected Præses, and another correspondence took place between the Council and a member regarding the access to documents. The new Council, fortified apparently by the late legal opinion which they had received, seem to have carried matters with a high hand, and refused any inspection of the books of the Company. They soon found an opportunity, too, of exercising their powers of expulsion in the case of two members who had recently absconded from Edinburgh under accusations of fraud

in their departments in the tax-office. Lord Dalhousie sent the Council a letter previous to his sailing for India, where he had been appointed commander-in-chief, in which he gives as his last advice "a firm exercise of authority, according to our charter and powers therein granted. If there are discontented members, let those who don't like the service leave it."

The matter, however, was not yet done. The Council published a general order on the 18th of November, announcing that, having taken into consideration the best mode to adopt for affording to the members access to the rules and regulations of the Company, they had resolved that a general order-book should be kept at the Hall, in which all the laws of the Company then existing should be entered, and every new general order as it came out. The order of the 22d April 1829, being the one we have mentioned as proceeding upon and embodying the opinion of counsel, was not to be inserted, all misunderstanding having been removed.

The next act in this unfortunate drama was the challenging of two members of the Council by Mr B., who it will be remembered was not expelled from the Company, but merely censured. Whether it was intended to have a duel with bows and arrows, like the one in 1791, or whether it was to be carried out by an exchange of pistol-shots in the Hunter's Bog, we are not aware; but the end of it was that Mr B. was speedily bound over by the Sheriff to keep the peace towards all and sundry. A meeting of Council was summoned to deliberate on this new phase of the case, and they came to the conclusion that Mr B. ought to be dismissed, but delayed further procedure until a fuller meeting. Before this took place, that gentleman, who in the whole painful affair seems to have acted indiscreetly more than dishonourably, placed his resignation in the hands of the Secretary, together with a letter giving his reasons for such a step. This resignation was accepted by the Council, and so this distressing affair was brought to a conclusion, after having disturbed the peace of the Company during almost the whole of the year. The

disaffection was never very widespread; and it is gratifying to think that this was the only time in the whole history of the Company in which there was exhibited any dissension among its members; and with this solitary exception, there has been nothing but the greatest cordiality and good-fellowship among the archers, whether met at the council-board, the mess-table, or the shooting-ground.

Let us now leave the subject—to which we would not have referred at such length, had it not been that an important question as to the constitution of the Company was involved in it—and direct our attention to other affairs which were transacted during this year. Notwithstanding the alteration which had been made a short time previously in the shooting-dress, it was evidently felt that it might still be improved. It had been proposed at that time that green cloth should be substituted for the tartan; but since the king had seen the Company in the latter dress, it was thought inexpedient then to change it, without bringing the subject under the notice of his Majesty. A committee was eventually appointed to consider the subject. They accordingly issued a report as follows:—

“ In submitting the result of their labours to the honourable Council, your committee beg to state that a very careful and minute investigation of the various dresses and equipments of which the annals of archery could afford any example has constituted a leading feature of their inquiries, and commanded a very considerable portion of their attention; and though they have endeavoured to accommodate the proposed new dress in some degree to modern taste, and with a view to its more convenient and perfect adaptation to the purposes intended, they have carefully avoided the introduction of any form or peculiarity of doubtful authority, and have adhered with scrupulous fidelity to the best examples that came under their examination, and more particularly those of the Scottish archers. It is with peculiar satisfaction your committee report that they have not only received the best examples from the latter source, but they have found in the records of the Royal Com-

pany itself that which alone ought to constitute the best and most ample authority for a new dress, and which has accordingly exclusively regulated the general form and appearance which has been given to it.

“ On the history of these records it appears unnecessary for your committee to enter, considering it more satisfactory to refer directly to the representation of an archer upon the common seal appended to the commissions granted to members of the Royal Company, and on the banner, the staff of which was said to have been carried at Bannockburn.

“ Your committee are therefore sanguine in their expectations that the style and character of the dress, supported as it is by such authority, will meet the approbation of the Council ; and have now only to allude to the change they propose to make from tartan to Border-green cloth, upon the propriety of which your committee are unanimously decided, not only because it appears from every record they have consulted to have been the regular and acknowledged material for the dress of a Scottish archer, but was in fact the original dress of the Royal Company. The tartan appears to have been merely introduced in the year 1745, to favour a political spirit and gratify the feelings of an unfortunate Prince.” The report then goes into some slight detail as to the officers' dresses, and the advisability of employing a fixed tailor, &c.

Let us look, however, at some of the statements here made by the committee. It is stated that a plain green dress was the original uniform of the body. Now the earliest uniform mentioned in the records is that of the officer to the Company, who certainly wore a green coat with a white sash, as mentioned in the minute of 16th August 1676. But on the 7th May 1677, it is stated that “ the garb approven ” for the members of the Company was “ a white vest, green breeches, and bonnet ”—not a word as to the colour of the coat. It may have been green, but we have no evidence of this. The seal at this date is described in the fourth

regulation¹ as bearing for the arms of the Company, Cupid and Mars, with this motto, "IN PEACE AND WARR;" but it is questionable whether a seal was ever actually engraved previous to 1703, when we find, in a letter to the Captain-General asking him to procure a new constitution for the Company, the Council recommending to his Lordship's generosity "the petition of a kind well-wisher of ours, James Clerk, her Majesty's graver in the Mint, *who hath presented us a seal for the use of the Royall Company, very well cut.*" This was probably the seal which was used down to recent times, on one side of which is Cupid and Mars, and on the other two archers below a yew-tree. So far as can be seen, they are not dressed in tartan, though it by no means follows that the dresses there engraved were meant as a correct representation of the uniform then worn. Then as to the banner which is mentioned in the report, it would appear that the original banner was got in 1714, to be carried in the first grand march which the Company made. The first mention of it occurs on the 31st May of that year; and on the 3d of June the Captain-General is said to have approved of getting a *pair of colours*, and proposed that they should be paid for by the officers. The treasurer was then authorised to provide them. Only one banner, however, was got, and it was carried by the Earl of Lauderdale on the 14th June in the parade. The device on this flag was evidently copied from the seal, being, as we have previously mentioned, a yew-tree supported by two archers. These archers are certainly dressed in green, and not tartan; but we know for certain that by this time the uniform of the Company was tartan, as on the 19th of October 1713 the Council approved of a piece of tartan which was laid before them "as proper to be used for their habit." The committee therefore appear to have been labouring under some misapprehension when they stated that the tartan coat was not introduced until 1745—or, what is more probable, 1745 is a clerical error for 1715. There is no mention again made of the uniform in the records of the

¹ See *ante*, page 22.

Company for many years after the '45—in fact, not till 1789. There is a uniform still in existence which dates back at least to 1746, and was in all probability made some years before that date. This interesting relic was presented to the Company in 1856, through T. G. Dickson, Esq., by Martine Lindsay, Esq., grandson of the late Martine Lindsay, Esq. of Dowhill, near Dundee, who had many years before received it from Laurence Oliphant, Esq. of Gask, along with the following letter :—

" GASK, 6th November 1777.

" DEAR MARTIN,—Few things could give me greater pleasure than to hear of the revival of the Royal Company of Archers.¹ Archery is a manly and agreeable amusement, and associates the best of the kingdom together. I lose no time in acquainting you that my archer-coat is still preserved, and shall be sent you Tuesday next by the carryer, directed to your lodgings in Edinburgh. It is pretty odd if my coat be the only one left, especially as it was taken away in the '46 by the Duke of Cumberland's plunderers ; and Miss Anne Græme, Inchbrackie, thinking it would be regretted by me, went boldly out among the soldiers and recovered it from one of them, insisting with him that it was a lady's riding-habit ; but putting her hand to the breeches to take them too, he with a thundering oath asked if the lady wore *breeches* ? They had no fringe, only green lace as the coat ; the knee-buttons were wore open, to show the white silk, puffed out as the coat-sleeves ; the gaiters green. The officers' coats had silver lace in place of the green silk, with the silver fringe considerably deeper ; white thread stockings, as fine as could be got.² All wore blue bonnets (the officers velvet) tucked up before, on which was placed a cockade of, I think, green and white ribbon by turns, the [edge ?] kept out with wire, and in the middle a white iron plate with the St Andrew's Cross painted on it ; an old embroidered one of a former

¹ This was when the Hall was being built.

² Nobody but officers were allowed to wear silk, see p. 22.

generation I have sent, in case it may be useful. It is much of the size and form of the iron ones, but they, I think, had neither the gold edging nor the saint's face or figure. The cockade was placed before in the middle of the bonnet, which was more *scrog'd*, or down to the eyebrows; the bonnet-rim wattened with a green ribbon tyed behind and hanging down some inches; the bonnet cut or slitt behind, to make it bigger or less, and sett well to the head, and wattened round the slitt; the bonnet of a small size, so as to hold the head easily; the hair or periwigs, I think, were dressed in ringlets on the shoulders.

“ The bow-covers were linen, with green lace the same as the coat, one on each side, ending in silk tufts or tassels; those were wore during the march as sashes round the waist, two arrows stuck in them, the bow carried slanting in the left hand; but I am probably mentioning circumstances that others will remember better than I. I shall therefore only add my hearty wishes for prosperity to Scotland and the ancient Company of Archers.—I am, &c.,

“ LAW. OLIPHANT.”

This interesting letter proves that the uniform in the '45 was the same as that worn in 1714, as the description coincides exactly with the dress worn by Lord Wemyss as shown in his portrait.¹ He being an officer in the Company, of course wore the silver lace and white silk fringe. The dress alluded to in the letter was that of an ordinary member, and is made of Stuart tartan, embroidered with a green fringe and puffed out with white silk, exactly as shown in the engraving. If we wish for any further proof to show that the tartan dress was worn between 1715 and 1745, we find it conclusively given in the 'Caledonian Mercury' of the 11th July 1732, where the uniform is described as “being the antique Roman dress of tartan trimmed with green silk fringe.”

But to go farther back than 1715, we find three archers dressed in tartan engraved on a medal attached to the Musselburgh Arrow in 1702, in which year it was gained by a member of the Royal

¹ See Plate II.

Company. If we look at a period, too, long before the institution of the Royal Company in 1676, we find that instead of Border-green cloth being, as the committee state, "the only regular and acknowledged material for the dress of a Scottish archer," the very first medal attached to the Musselburgh Arrow, dated 1603, many years before the Royal Company existed, contains the figure of an archer dressed in tartan; and in all the medals subsequent which contain representations of archers, the dress is invariably tartan. Taking all these facts into consideration, we cannot but conclude that the committee were mistaken in their assertions,—first, that green was the original dress of a Scottish archer; and second, that the tartan uniform was only introduced into the Royal Company in 1745. Notwithstanding this, we may frankly admit that the change proposed from tartan to green was a good one, as no coat made wholly of tartan was ever found to have a pleasing effect.

The recommendation as to the new uniform was adopted by the Council, and an order was issued directing all shooting members to provide themselves with the new dress, and that no one would in future be allowed to compete for any prize unless attired in it. This order was acted upon, on the occasion of shooting for the St Andrew's Cross in October, when the winner was found to have been disqualified from not having competed in uniform. The prize was ordered to be shot for over again.

The uniform now adopted forms the basis of the present shooting-dress of the Company. It was much simpler than it now is, there being no bow-case—nor was a sword introduced till some time afterwards. An illustration of the uniform as now worn is given on another page;¹ it is taken from the portrait of Viscount Melville by Macnee, which now hangs in the dining-room at Archers' Hall. The picture itself is one of the best specimens of that artist, and is universally considered to be an excellent portrait of the noble Viscount, to whom the Royal Company owes a deep debt of gratitude for his unwearied exertions on their behalf.

A circumstance occurred during 1829, which although not of

¹ See Plate VI.

much general interest, can hardly be left unnoticed in a work of this sort, as it involved a question of privilege belonging to the Royal Company. The tacksman of the Meadows, who rented the grazing of the park from the Magistrates, refused on the day of the competition for the king's prize to allow any person within the fences but the shooters, unless paid for it. This, of course, was a source of great disappointment to many ladies and gentlemen who had come to witness the shooting. The same thing had been tried a few years previously, but without success. The Secretary now communicated with the Provost, and stated that the Company did not rest their claim for the right of entrance to their friends and the public upon any other ground than that of constant and unchallenged practice, and that the tack between the Magistrates and their tenant bore the words, "The Royal Company of Archers shall have liberty to shoot *at all times* within the East Meadow field as *usual*;" which, it was submitted, was quite enough, in conjunction with the invariable usage, to sanction the entry of their friends. This would seem to have been admitted,—at least we hear of no more opposition given to the practice; and as the East Meadows have now been thrown open to the general public, it is a question not likely to occur again.

George IV. having died on the 26th of June 1830, the shooting for the royal prize, which was to have taken place on the 3d of July, was postponed. On the 30th of June, in consequence of a communication from the Lord Lyon's Office and the Lord Provost, the Royal Company attended, as his Majesty's Body-guard, the proclamation of William IV. as king.

The new sovereign was hardly proclaimed when the following most gratifying letter from Lord Errol was received by the Earl of Elgin, and by him forwarded to the Council:—

"BUSHY HOUSE, *July 10th.*

"MY DEAR LORD,—I have received his Majesty's commands to apply to you as General of the Royal Archers to know how many

gold sticks, silver do., and ivory do., are wanted when the Archers receive the king in state, as it is his Majesty's wish to present the proper quantity to the Royal Archers.

“ Pray let me hear from you soon ; and believe me, &c.,

“ ERROL.”

The Council, upon receipt of this letter, resolved to consult the Captain-General on the subject, since, as Lord Chamberlain, he was likely to be well acquainted with it. They expressed their high gratification at the mark of the royal favour thus bestowed on them, and came to the conclusion, that as it appeared to be his Majesty's wish to extend the distinctions conferred on the Body-guard beyond the presentation of the gold stick to the Captain-General, they should suggest to the Duke of Montrose that the Body-guard should be placed on the same footing in this respect as the Life Guards in London, whose colonel, they understood, had the gold stick, and the two lieutenant-colonels had silver sticks ; so that the Captain-General of the Royal Company would thus have the gold stick as at present, and the two general officers next in rank to him would have silver sticks ; and the Council also agreed to suggest that, if his Majesty pleased, the Councillors might also have similar distinctions, or might have them instead of the general officers. All this, together with a proposal to get new colours from the king, and also a question as to the propriety of presenting an address to his Majesty on his succession, was directed to be laid before the Captain-General, the benefit of whose good sense and sound advice had been experienced by the Council on more than one occasion previously.

A letter was also sent to Lord Elgin thanking him for his services to the Royal Company in the matter, and begging him to communicate with the Duke of Montrose. Lord Elgin was probably written to by Lord Errol, as he had been second in command during George IV.'s visit, and Lord Hopetoun having since died, the king naturally did not know with whom to communicate.

The Council, in their letter to Lord Elgin, confessed that they were in some confusion about the matter, not knowing very accurately what position or rights were conferred by the gold stick, which had been given by the late king. The stick had been presented in London, and the proceedings in connection with it are very scantily recorded in the books of the Company. It was the more necessary, therefore, that on this occasion all the privileges belonging to it should be accurately ascertained and carefully noted.

From the Captain-General an unexpected answer was received, containing his resignation of office, on account of failing health, and leaving to the new Captain-General the honour of settling the points which had been submitted to his consideration. His Grace was at this time considerably above seventy years of age, and had previously resigned his post of Chamberlain to his Majesty. The Council received this intimation with sincere regret, and returned his Grace, in name of the Royal Company, their best thanks for the many services he had rendered them. They then made choice of the Earl of Dalhousie as their new commander. He held the office of President of the Council, and had always displayed warm attachment to the Company, and great interest in their affairs. He was, however, not in the kingdom at this time, having been appointed Commander-in-Chief in India during the preceding year. The Council, though possessing by the Company's charter and original constitution sole power of electing the Captain-General, resolved to follow in this case the precedent which had been set on the occasion of the last similar election, and directed the Secretary to write to his Majesty's Private Secretary, and to request him to submit the nomination of Lord Dalhousie to the king for approval. On the 11th of August the king's approval of the choice was signified; and on the 29th of October a general order to the Company notifying the appointment was published.

We must, however, return to the negotiations about the official sticks which his Majesty had graciously expressed his intention to present. Lord Dalhousie, as we have said, being out of the

country, the Council resolved to commit the care of the whole matter to Lord Errol, and to request his Lordship to undertake the duty of ascertaining the king's wishes, and receiving his instructions. A letter was accordingly written to that nobleman, putting him in possession of the facts, and of the Council's views upon the subject of the sticks, and also bringing under his notice the suggestion for getting new colours from the king. On the 15th of September the following answer was received :—

“ HAMPTON COURT PALACE, *Sept.* 15, 1830.

“ SIR,—I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 15th August, and would have answered it sooner had I not waited to receive his Majesty's commands, which I did last week when I was at Brighton; and I have the greatest pleasure in informing you that his Majesty has been pleased to desire me to inform you, for the information of the corps of Royal Archers, that the king will give a *gold stick* to the Captain-General, and a silver stick to the next two general officers, which will put them on a footing with the Household Brigade in London. His Majesty also desired me to say, that whatever distinction the corps think ought to belong to the Council, the king will have great pleasure in complying with their wishes.

“ I should humbly submit that, as the king has so handsomely given that, if the Council, as a further mark of the royal favour, were to have ivory sticks, the corps would be very complete. In addition to this handsome present, the king wishes a proper drawing sent up of colours, which his Majesty will have great pleasure in having made and presenting to the corps.

“ I shall feel much obliged to you to send me up as soon as convenient an exact return of the Royal Archers, as the king expressed a wish to see of what number and of whom they consisted.

“ The Captain-General will, of course, receive the gold stick from the Duke of Montrose. The sticks will have the king's initials and crown on the top, with the words ‘Royal Archers’ round it,

or any other words you will mention, as on the receipt of your letter the two silver sticks will be ordered.—I have the honour to remain, &c.,
ERROL.”

The Council expressed themselves highly gratified with this communication, and directed the Secretary to request Lord Errol to convey their sincere and dutiful acknowledgments to his Majesty for his favours, and that he himself would accept their best thanks for the attention he had bestowed on the matters. They likewise expressed their entire approval of his Lordship's plan as to the sticks; and directed Mr Burn, architect, and Mr Watson Gordon, to prepare designs for the colours, and when ready, that they should be transmitted to Lord Errol, along with a list of the members of the Company. This was accordingly done; and two silver sticks and seven ebony sticks for the Council, together with the colours, were received in the course of the following year.

We must now direct our readers' attention to an event which made quite a stir among the members of the Royal Company, from the apprehension which it created of encroachment upon their recently-acquired and highly-prized title of King's Body-guard for Scotland. The first notice we have of it is on the 1st of October 1830, when a meeting of Council was called, in consequence of the Secretary having been informed that the Kilwinning Club of Archers had presented a petition to his Majesty to be allowed to attend him, if he should visit the west of Scotland during the succeeding summer. The Council were of opinion that this was an infringement upon their privileges, as they considered that the Royal Company having been constituted his Majesty's *Body-guard for Scotland*, had the exclusive privilege of attending him in any part of the country; and they requested Lord Robert Kerr, one of their number, to bring the subject under the notice of the Earl of Errol. Before any answer was received from the latter nobleman, it was reported that the king had accepted the offer of the services of the Kilwinning Archers, but that there was rather a vague

understanding as to what their duties were. In consequence of this report a meeting of the Council was held, at which the Secretary presented a memorandum which he had drawn up, containing a representation of the status of the Royal Company, and an account of the Kilwinning Club of Archers. It is unnecessary to go over the statements in it regarding the Royal Company, as they have all been already narrated in this work. After shortly detailing the origin and privileges of the Company, the memorandum goes on to state that the members were looking forward with pleasure to the time when they would again attend the king as Body-guard; but that if the Kilwinning Society was put upon an equality with them, it could not fail to be a source of disappointment and humiliation.

“The Kilwinning Club boast, and it is believed with justness, of great antiquity; but, without any disparagement to many gentlemen who are members, this is the most of which they can boast. They have never been formed into any regular organised state. They have no officers but a Captain, who is annually chosen according to his skill, or that of his proxy, in shooting. They have no uniform but a dinner-coat (which few possess). There is no regular form of admission of members, and no restriction as to the class of persons admitted, as any person who pays five shillings and writes his name in a book may be a member. The consequence is, that most of the country-people in the village and neighbourhood of Kilwinning are members. The county members are generally members, but they never take any part in the Society except at the annual meeting for shooting at the popinjay, on which occasion, when the Captainship comes to be shot for, they alone are the competitors, it being the duty of the Captain to give a ball at the next meeting. It is, in short, merely a local club for the amusement of the neighbourhood, and in no respect differing from many other clubs established throughout Scotland for various amusements, and having nothing whatever to entitle them to aspire to the honour of guarding his Majesty.”

From the above account of the Kilwinning Archers, it will be seen that they were not at all a body to be placed on an equal footing with the Royal Company, a body the members of which were elected by a strict ballot, and had to pay large fees of admission. The Council having heard the statement of the Secretary, were of opinion that the exact extent of the privileges which the acceptance of the services of the Kilwinning Archers was intended to confer on that body should be distinctly ascertained; and for this purpose they agreed to put the whole matter in the hands of Sir Henry Jardine, one of their number, who was then in London, and to direct him to consult the general officers who might be in that city, and if it should appear to them that the privileges of the Royal Company as the King's Body-guard were likely to be infringed, that they should make such a representation of the circumstances to his Majesty as should appear to them most fit.

In a short time letters were received both from Lord Errol and Sir Henry Jardine, stating that they did not conceive that the privileges of the Royal Company would be in any way infringed, and that the king would not allow any other body to interfere with them. This, however, would appear not to have been entirely satisfactory to the Council; and they directed their Secretary again to communicate with Lord Errol, and to state that while they were convinced that the king, in accepting the offer made by the Kilwinning Society, had not the slightest intention that anything should be done which could at all interfere with the privileges of the Royal Company, they were agreed that, in point of fact, such interference, or rather infringement, had unintentionally been allowed to take place; and unless the matter was at once put upon a distinct footing by his Majesty, their interests might be materially injured, and considerable awkwardness might arise in the event of the king visiting Scotland.

The Secretary also stated in his letter to Lord Errol that the Council understood that the offer by the Kilwinning Society was to serve his Majesty in the west of Scotland as his *Body-guard*.

The answer to this informed that Society that the king had been pleased to *accept of their offer*. "This being the state of the case," the letter proceeds, "the Kilwinning Society assert that they are appointed the King's Body-guard for the West of Scotland, and they are making preparations for acting in such capacity. The offer and acceptance of it have been published in the newspapers, and the public very naturally consider the Society in the same light as the Society do themselves."

Things being in this position, the Council suggested to Lord Errol two ways by which their rights might be secured and confirmed. First, that the king should be asked to recall the acceptance of the offer of service by the Kilwinning Archers; or, secondly, in the event of this being thought inexpedient, that a declaration should be got from the king to the effect that the said acceptance was not intended to interfere in any way with the privileges of the Royal Company as the Body-guard for Scotland; that there was no intention to constitute the Kilwinning Society into a Body-guard for the West of Scotland; and that, in accepting the offer of the services of that body, his Majesty merely intended to express his gracious permission that they might attend upon him in the same manner as a number of societies—such as the Celtic—did upon his late Majesty when in Scotland, without in any way interfering with the duties of the Royal Company as Body-guard.

This affair was finally settled to the satisfaction of the Council by their receiving from Lord Errol a declaration written by command of his Majesty as follows:—

"That the king, in accepting the services of the Kilwinning Society of Archers, merely did so as a *society*, that they might attend upon his Majesty when in Edinburgh in the same manner as a number of other societies did upon his late Majesty when he visited Scotland; that in making this appointment, the Society of Kilwinning Archers were strictly to understand that they were *in no way* to interfere with the privileges of the *Royal Company*, the *King's Body-guard for Scotland*; and that his Majesty had no

intention of constituting the Kilwinning Society into a *Body-guard* for the West of Scotland, as the king feels sure that the Royal Company would attend him as his *Body-guard to any part of Scotland.*"

This declaration was deemed sufficiently explicit, and was duly announced to the members of the Company in a general order, and the thanks of the Council were transmitted to Lord Errol for his attention to their wishes in the matter.

The only occurrences worthy of mention which took place in 1831 were the election of the Duke of Buccleuch as President of the Council in the place of Lord Dalhousie, who had, as we have seen, been made Captain-General, and a change in the Court-dress of the Company. This uniform, it will be remembered, was instituted by George IV., and consisted of a scarlet coat and green facings. It was now altered to a double-breasted green coat, lined with green silk; Prussian collar of velvet and cuffs of the same, with gold thistle embroidery; embroidered flaps and skirt ornaments; epaulets; crimson silk sash and white sword-belt worn under the coat. The trousers were green, with a gold-lace stripe; and the officers were distinguished by an *aiguillette* on the right shoulder, and a gold sash instead of a crimson one.¹

The coronation of King William was appointed to take place in 1831; and the Council received a letter from the Duke of Buccleuch in August, stating that he had, upon the advice of the Earl of Errol, applied for a place to be assigned to the Gold Stick of the Royal Company at the approaching ceremonial. The application was made to the Privy Council, who referred it to the king, as it was a question of favour not of right. There was some doubt as to whether the request would be granted, especially as the Captain-General was absent, seeing that this would give a good excuse for a negative answer by the Privy Council, thus enabling them to get rid of one of the innumerable claims which were pressed upon them on this occasion. However, the result of the application

¹ See Portrait of Lord Dalhousie, Plate V.

was favourable, and the Duke of Buccleuch was informed that he would be expected to act as Gold Stick in the absence of Lord Dalhousie. On September the 6th, the Duke wrote to the Secretary as follows :—

" LONDON, *Sept.* 6, 1831.

" MY DEAR SIR,—I had an audience of the king yesterday, when his Majesty told me that the Gold Stick of Scotland was to walk in the procession at the coronation next to the Gold Stick of England, and that orders had been given to the Earl Marshal to that effect, *and that this place would be assigned to him on all future coronations.* . . .—I am, &c.,
BUCCLEUCH."

On the 8th of September, King William IV. and his wife were crowned with all the display and ceremony usually attendant on such an occasion. The position of the Duke of Buccleuch in the procession is best seen from the official account of the coronation published in the 'Gazette.' Immediately before the king the regalia were carried, and after his Majesty and the noblemen who supported his train walked the Gold Stick of the Life Guards in waiting, General Lord Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., who was supported on the left by the Groom of the Stole and the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, and on the right by the Master of the Horse and the Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners. Then followed "the Captain of the Archer-Guard of Scotland, Duke of Buccleuch, K.T., his coronet borne by a page." He walked alone, and was succeeded by the Master of his Majesty's Buckhounds ; and a few more noblemen and gentlemen closed the procession.

The Royal Company had now received as great honours as it was possible for royalty to confer upon it. It had now risen entirely from the rank of a mere Archery Society, formed only for social intercourse and improvement in shooting. It had no longer any tincture of a political element, such as we have seen was so

strongly infused in it at an earlier period of its existence. It could now claim to be a body thoroughly representing the Scottish nation, being composed exclusively of Scotsmen; and it enjoyed distinctions and privileges which no other body of any kind belonging to Scotland possessed. But notwithstanding all the honours which were bestowed upon it, and which, we might imagine, would have had a tendency to make the Company neglect the real work for which it was originally constituted, we are glad to find from the records that the shooting for prizes and the archery practice in general went on not only with great regularity, but with increasing spirit,—a new prize termed the Popinjay, or Papingo Medal, being presented to the Company by one of the shooting members in 1831. In the same year the dues of entry were raised to sixteen guineas. Altogether the Royal Company was at this time in a most flourishing condition, and had attained to that height of honour and respect which it enjoys at the present time.



CHAPTER VIII.

RETURN OF CAPTAIN-GENERAL FROM INDIA—CEREMONY OF PRESENTING THE COLOURS GIVEN BY THE KING TO THE COMPANY—PICTURE OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL RECEIVING THE COLOURS—SPENS MEDAL—DALHOUSIE SWORD—APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS—MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE SELKIRK ARROW—SWORD ADDED TO UNIFORM—BAND RESOLVED ON—DEATH OF THE KING, AND PROCLAMATION OF QUEEN VICTORIA—DEATH OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL—OFFER TO ATTEND HIS FUNERAL DECLINED—APPOINTMENT OF THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AS HIS SUCCESSOR—FEES OF ADMISSION RAISED TO £25—CAPTAIN-GENERAL TAKES HIS PLACE AS GOLD STICK OF SCOTLAND AT THE CORONATION—PRIZE-BADGES INTRODUCED—VALUABLE BOWS—VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO SCOTLAND—ACCOUNT OF THE SERVICES PERFORMED BY THE BODY-GUARD ON THAT OCCASION—PRESENTATION OF THE “REDDENDO” OF BARBED ARROWS—CHINESE STANDARDS PRESENTED—CURIOUS MATCH BETWEEN AN ARROW AND A GOLF-BALL—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE’S PROPOSALS—WAPINSCHAW AGREED TO BE HELD—MEMORIAL FROM OLD OFFICERS, AND DECISION OF COUNCIL THEREON—ACCOUNT OF THE WAPINSCHAW—LORD DALHOUSIE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—MONTROSE ARROW INSTITUTED—ROYAL COMPANY REFUSE TO TAKE PART IN THE INAUGURATION CEREMONIAL OF THE WELLINGTON STATUE.

IN 1832 the Captain-General returned from India, and in a letter to the Council expressed his pleasure at finding himself once more at the head of the Body-guard; but regretting that, on account of the state of his health, he was unable either to meet them at the mess-table or the Council-board.

The most important event of the year, however, was the presentation of the colours which his Majesty had been graciously pleased to order when granting the official sticks the previous year. The following is the account of the ceremony, as given in the Company’s records:—

“Pursuant to orders, the Royal Company paraded at Archers’ Hall on Monday, 23d July 1832, at twelve o’clock, in full field uni-

form, to receive the splendid stand of colours, the gift of his Majesty King William IV. The Royal Company, under the command of General the Earl of Dalhousie, Captain-General of the Royal Company, was drawn up in the bowling-green in open order, and on his Grace's arrival on the ground saluted the Duke of Buccleuch, the President of the Council, who had been appointed by his Majesty to present the colours, the band playing 'God save the King.' The Royal Company was re-formed, and the old colours were then borne by James Hope, secretary, and Henry George Watson, treasurer, as acting for the Ensigns-General, along the line, and deposited in the Hall, the Company again saluting. The Royal Company was then formed into the order of a square, and a military altar having been made of the drums, the colours were placed upon it, and after a strain of solemn music, the Chaplain of the Royal Company (Dr Lee)¹ advanced and consecrated the colours in an appropriate prayer. The consecration having been completed, the Duke of Buccleuch stepped forward and addressed the Body-guard in an eloquent speech; and dwelt with much satisfaction on the confirmation of all the privileges of the Body-guard which that day's proceedings had seen completed by the delivery of the standards which he had the honour to present in name and by appointment of his Majesty. His Grace at the same time raised the colours, and placed them in the hands of the Captain-General. The Captain-General addressed his Grace and the Royal Company in an appropriate speech, and delivered the colours to Secretary Hope and Treasurer Watson, who received them kneeling, the Company again saluting, and the band playing 'God save the King.'

"The new colours having been deposited in Archers' Hall, the members entertained their friends at a splendid collation, at which the Duke of Buccleuch presided. Among the company present were the Duc de Bourdeaux, the Princesse Royale de France, and suite, the Lord Provost, the Duchess of Buccleuch, Earl Cathcart,

¹ Afterwards Principal of Edinburgh University.

Plate V.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
GEORGE, NINTH EARL OF DALHOUSIE, G.C.B., ETC.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL 1830-1838,

IN THE COURT DRESS OF THE KING'S BODY-GUARD,
AS HE APPEARED WHEN RECEIVING THE COLOURS PRESENTED BY H.M. WILLIAM IV.,
23^d JULY 1832; ATTENDED BY JAMES HOPE, ESQ., SECRETARY, AND HENRY
G. WATSON, ESQ., TREASURER TO THE ROYAL COMPANY.

From the Portrait by Sir John Watson Gordon, in Archers' Hall.





Lord Robert Kerr, the Lord President, Sir George Leech, Sir T. Dick Lauder, &c.

“ His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and the Earl of Dalhousie appeared in the Court uniform of the King’s Body-guard ; and the other officers in command, Sir John Hope and Sir David Milne, carried the splendid gold and silver sticks, the gifts of his Majesty. Major Norman Pringle acted as adjutant for the day.”

The number of archers present on this occasion is not stated ; but it was probably over a hundred, as at dinner in the evening upwards of a hundred and sixty gentlemen sat down.

The engraving on the accompanying page is taken from a picture in Archers’ Hall by Sir John Watson Gordon, representing Captain-General the Earl of Dalhousie handing the colours presented by the king, which had been given by the Duke of Buccleuch to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Company, Mr Watson and Mr Hope. The Earl is attired in the Court costume of 1831, which took the place of the scarlet dress worn in the days of George IV., and which is still the full dress of the Company.

Another prize was added in 1833 to the list of those belonging to the Company. This was the Spens Medal, which was instituted by the Council to commemorate the old Doctor of that name, who had been in years gone by such a stanch supporter of the Company. It would seem that it had been resolved to institute such a prize so far back as 1815, but had never been carried into effect—probably from want of funds. The proposal was now revived ; and Sir John Watson Gordon and another gentleman were ordered to prepare designs, which they did, and the medal was shot for the following year.

Another prize of much greater intrinsic value was also presented to the Company this year by the Captain-General. It consisted of a handsome Indian sword, the scabbard and hilt being thickly set with jewels. Lord Dalhousie had acquired possession of it when Commander-in-chief in India, and he now testified his attachment to the Royal Company by the presentation of this

magnificent specimen of oriental workmanship.¹ At the same time his Lordship gave, for arrangement in the Hall, a collection of Indian bows and arrows, some of them of curious and elegant construction. Another gift of the same sort was made by C. W. Smith, Esq., a judge in Bengal, in the following year.

As there were at this time several vacancies in the list of general officers, the Council in November 1833 filled them up as follows :—

Major-General Viscount Melville to be Lieutenant-General.

Ensign-General the Marquess of Lothian to be Major-General.

Brigadier-General the Right Hon. Charles Hope to be Ensign-General.

The Earls of Home and Morton, Lord Ramsay, and Sir John S. Forbes, to be Brigadiers-General.

Some misunderstanding seems to have arisen between the Magistrates of Selkirk and the Royal Company in 1835 about the silver arrow given by that town, in consequence, we believe, of the magistrates desiring to throw open the competition for the prize to persons who were not members of the Royal Company. The Selkirk authorities demanded that the arrow should be returned to them; and although the Council considered that the Royal Company had an undoubted right to retain it until the next period of shooting for it, they gave it up to avoid unpleasant discussion, and ordered that the prize should be omitted in future from the annual roster. The arrow, accordingly, was not shot for for some years, when it was again restored to the Company. In the mean time, however, Mr Pringle, of the Haining, Selkirkshire, wrote a letter to the Council, in which he expressed his regret that the Selkirk Arrow was not to be shot for by the Royal Company, and intimated his desire to present to them, on his own account, an arrow to be competed for. To this the Council replied, thanking Mr Pringle for his kindness and attention, but

¹ See Plate XII.

stating that they considered it "impossible" for the Royal Company to shoot at Selkirk for an arrow given by a private individual.

The uniform of the Company was decidedly improved by the introduction in 1836 of a sword to be worn with the shooting-dress. It is modelled somewhat after the fashion of a Roman *gladius*, and has an embossed gilt hilt. It has been questioned whether it is not rather small to have very much appearance, its comparative shortness making it resemble a dirk rather than a sword; and it has been suggested that if, in future years, the uniform undergoes any decided change, the sword adopted should be more of the rapier shape—long and light. This might add to the appearance of the uniform, but it is a mere matter of opinion, and the present sword, introduced in 1836 by the Duke of Buccleuch, is certainly designed with considerable taste, and is a great improvement to the field-dress.

Several other important propositions were this year made in the Council. It was suggested that it would tend to the advancement of the Royal Company were the members to give a ball in the following spring. The Council highly approved of the plan, and expressed their readiness to co-operate with the members in carrying it into effect.

Another suggestion was made to the effect that an instrumental band should be raised in connection with the Company. This had been under consideration some time previously by the Duke of Buccleuch, but nothing had then been done in the matter. It was now referred to a committee, who were to report as to its practicability. Upon the report being given in, the Council issued an order, in which they stated that "the Council, anxious to meet the wish very generally entertained by the members of the corps in favour of this object; aware, too, of the advantages which would probably result to the Company from anything which, as in this case, would tend to bring it more prominently into notice; impressed with the consideration that it is unfit that a body of so ancient and

so honourable a standing, which reckons among its members the greater part of the rank and wealth of Scotland, and has received from his Majesty such distinguished marks of his favour and interest, should year after year be mortified by the necessity of marching to their public parades in silence; remembering that in former times the archers always marched with their band at their head; and desirous that in these days the Royal Company, having its numbers so much increased, and the position which it holds so greatly superior to that which it formerly occupied, should not be destitute of advantages which in far less flourishing times it enjoyed,—unanimously and cheerfully approve of the proposal.”

In this sentence the Council are correct in stating that the Company, in its most prosperous early times had a band; but it is doubtful if they marched with it at their head. In the account of the march in 1732, it is said that the trumpets marched first, and that they were “alternately answered by nine drums posted in the several brigades, all in the Company’s livery,” and a similar arrangement was observed in 1726. This, however, is not a matter of much importance, as it is clear that there was a band then; and at a somewhat later period, we have seen that not only was there music on the occasions of large public parades, but that the Company had French horns in attendance, even at the ordinary shooting meetings during the summer. The Council now resolved to revive the band; and in order to provide the necessary funds, agreed that each of the general officers should be asked to pay an annual subscription for its maintenance. They also agreed that the band should be allowed to attend “yeomanry messes, promenades, and Highland Society’s meetings”—but no political meetings, private parties, or processions.

A very pleasing *réunion* was held at Blackwall in June 1836, of those members of the Company who were resident in London. The Duke of Buccleuch was in the chair. Fifteen gentlemen sat down to dinner; and apologies were received from more than that

number. It was agreed that the meeting should be held annually; but whether it ever took place again we are not aware.

June 1837 brought the melancholy tidings of the king's death, which took place on the 20th of that month; and on Saturday the 24th, her Majesty Queen Victoria was proclaimed sovereign. As on a similar occasion, seven years previously, the Royal Company attended the ceremony. The procession was marshalled in the Parliament House, the Body-guard taking up its position towards the front, between the High Constables and the Heralds. The Proclamation was first read from the balcony of the Exchange by the Provost and Sheriff, Islay Herald proclaiming her Majesty's styles and titles, a royal salute being thereafter fired from the Castle. The second proclamation took place at the Castle-gate, and the third at the Palace of Holyrood. The shooting for the king's prize was postponed, as the day on which it was to have been shot for was fixed for the king's funeral. On the 15th of July, the royal prize, under the designation of the Queen's prize, was competed for; and at the same time the oath of allegiance was administered to the members by the Lord Justice-General.

The ball which had been proposed to be given came off with great *éclat* on the 29th of January 1838, upwards of eight hundred ladies and gentlemen being present. One circumstance, however, tended to throw a damp over the evening's enjoyment. This was the alarming illness of the Captain-General, to whom the whole Company were much attached, and who had always shown great interest in, and attention to, the welfare of the body. It was seriously considered at a meeting of the Council whether the ball ought not to be postponed; but after deliberation, it was thought that they could hardly take it upon them to postpone the ball, given as it was by private subscriptions among the members, and not out of the funds of the Company. As it turned out, Lord Dalhousie lingered until the 21st March, on the morning of which day the gallant old soldier passed away.

On the 22d the Council met, and expressed their sincere and unfeigned regret at the sad event; and in order to testify the esteem and veneration in which the memory of their late Captain-General was held, they resolved to make an offer of the attendance of the Body-guard to accompany his remains to the grave. This was accordingly done; but an answer was received from Lord Ramsay respectfully declining the offer, as the funeral was to be a strictly private one. In his letter, his Lordship says, in regard to the offer by the Royal Company: "I know that it is not merely lip-service of those who would pay a compliment to an officer under whose command they served; but that it is the fruit of a deep respect and attachment to one whom they have ever regarded as a friend.

"I consider it the duty of one placed in the position in which I now stand, to regulate all things in the manner which would be most in accordance with the remembered wishes, and congenial to the feelings, of him who is gone. Throughout all his life my father ever sought to avoid anything which could bear even the semblance of unnecessary pomp or parade—to use his own recorded words, 'doing his duty on principles of honour and integrity, he endeavoured to run his career unobserved and unpretending.' In pursuance of this sentiment, I venture to believe that the Royal Company will concur with me in thinking that I shall best do my last duty towards him by providing that his progress to the tomb shall be marked by the same lofty simplicity which characterised every action of his life.

"Prompted by these feelings, I trust that the Council and the Royal Company will permit me most respectfully and gratefully to decline the offer which they have so kindly made.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

"RAMSAY."

A general meeting of the Company was called on the 24th March, and resolutions were passed expressing the respect in

which the Company held the memory of their late Captain-General, and their deep sense of the many obligations under which they were to him, for the zeal and alacrity with which he always promoted the interests and forwarded the prosperity of the Royal Company.

The last tributes of affection and attachment having been thus paid to the memory of their old commander, the Council met in April 1838 for the purpose of electing a new Captain-General. Their choice unanimously fell on his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, who was already a Major-General in the Company, and also held the office of President of the Council. It would be out of place here to eulogise the excellent choice which the Council now made of this esteemed nobleman, who still so honourably fills the office, and who, by the many services he has rendered the Company, and by the interest which he takes in all pertaining to it, has rendered himself so much respected and beloved by all under his command. We can only say that it is the most earnest wish of every member of the Body-guard that his Grace may be long spared to adorn that office which he has now for so many years occupied to the entire satisfaction of the Company.

On the election of the Duke, the Council, following the precedent set on the two previous elections of Captains-General, resolved to submit his name to the queen for her Majesty's approbation. The attention of his Grace was likewise drawn to the propriety of his claiming a place at the approaching coronation as Gold Stick for Scotland, and also as to her Majesty's name being substituted in the title and appointments of the Body-guard for that of the late king. He was also requested to consider whether new sticks should be applied for, to replace those granted to the officers by his late Majesty.

Before proceeding to relate the result of these recommendations, we may mention a circumstance which took place at the annual general meeting for the election of the Council for 1838-39,—a circumstance trifling in itself, but which raised a question of some

importance in regard to the constitution of the Company, and the respective powers of the Council and ordinary members. It would seem that some dissatisfaction, but of what precise nature we do not know, existed as to the dinners, and a member at the general meeting stated that he was desirous of submitting a motion relative to the appointment of a mess-committee. When further interrogated on the subject, he said that it was his intention to make a specific motion to the effect "that the present meeting do appoint a mess-committee for the Royal Company." Lord Dalhousie (the son of the late Captain-General) then spoke to order, objecting to the motion being entertained by the meeting at all, and reminding members that, by the fundamental laws of the Company, the power of making rules and regulations, either with reference to its exercise on the field, or its internal economy, was vested in the Council alone; and that the general body of members had no voice except in the election of the Council, or on particular occasions, when they might be specially invited by the Council to give their opinion. All that they could do was to "recommend" or "suggest" or "request" the Council to take measures into consideration. The motion for the mess committee was accordingly withdrawn, and a recommendation made to the Council to take the matter into consideration. This view of the powers of the Council has been considerably modified since then, and motions by members are not unfrequently made.

The fees of admission were this year raised to £25, at which sum they have since remained fixed. It shows how very popular the Royal Company had become, to be able to get recruits easily with such an entry-fee, especially when we remember that so late as 1830 the entry-money was only five guineas. Of this £25, it was determined that £7 were to go to the band fund. The latter also got augmented from the balance of the subscriptions to the ball in January, the subscribers agreeing to pay it over to the Treasurer, in order to provide instruments.

The Captain-General was entirely successful in all his applications regarding the rights of the Body-guard, as will be seen from the following letter to him from Lord John Russell :—

“ MY LORD DUKE,—I am commanded by the Queen to inform your Grace that her Majesty is graciously pleased to continue and confirm to the Royal Company of Archers (the Queen’s Body-guard, Scotland) the ancient privileges heretofore enjoyed by that body.

“ I am also to inform your Grace that I have received her Majesty’s commands to refer to the Lord Chamberlain your Grace’s request that a new gold stick, two new silver sticks, and seven ebony sticks, may be furnished, as granted by their late Majesties, King George the Fourth and King William the Fourth.

“ Her Majesty has been pleased to grant your Grace’s request that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to give the privilege of the *entrée* at St James’s Palace to the Gold Stick of Scotland, as granted by his late Majesty King George the Fourth, when at the Palace of Holyrood.

“ Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to command that your Grace’s request, that at the approaching coronation of her Majesty a place may be assigned for the Gold Stick of Scotland next to the Gold Stick of England, as was assigned by his late Majesty, King William the Fourth, should be referred to the Lord President of the Council.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ J. RUSSELL.”

All the powers referred to having given their consent, the Captain-General took his place in the procession at the coronation as previously, being the nearest place to her Majesty’s person after the Gold Stick of England, and the officers on guard for the day, who rode on each side of the carriage.

There were several propositions of some interest brought under

the notice of the Council in 1839. Amongst others, it was resolved that a set of silver-gilt medals should be procured, to be worn as badges by the members of Council when on duty. This was not the first time that such distinctions had been adopted, as our readers may remember that in 1784, Sir James Pringle, then President of the Council, presented silver badges to each Councillor, to be worn by them when on duty, under the penalty of a fine, which was incurred by one of their number at the very next meeting. Those badges had probably got lost from proper steps not having been taken to secure them on the termination of office by their holders. The badges got in 1839 still continue to be used.

Another description of badge was introduced at this period, which had been talked of some time previously, but not carried out. Lord Dalhousie now successfully revived the proposal, the nature of which will be best learned from the following general order published by the Council :—

“ The Council, desirous of promoting by every means in their power the active practice of archery among the members of the Royal Company, the Queen’s Body-guard; and satisfied by the facts which have been laid before them that the existence of some object of ambition, in the form of *permanent* marks of distinction, to be worn by those who have carried off certain fixed numbers of prizes, would strongly tend both to attract and encourage young archers, and to induce those of longer standing to persevere in their attendance at the field-shootings beyond the period to which they now usually remain ; have thought fit to sanction the institution of four different classes of decorations for the purpose of distinguishing any such archers as, being winners of the requisite numbers of prizes, may be desirous of wearing them. Of these four classes, the first, second, third, and fourth class are to be worn by the winners of five, ten, fifteen, and twenty prizes respectively. The first class, the Saint Andrew’s Cross, with a crown in the centre, hanging by a crimson ribbon, to be worn by winners of five prizes.

The second class, the Saint Andrew's Cross, with a star surmounted by the Lion of Scotland on a shield, and hanging by a green ribbon, to be worn by winners of ten prizes. The third class, the Saint Andrew's Cross, with a star which is backed by a pair of arrows, and surmounted by the Lion of Scotland on a shield, the whole dependent from a crown, and all hanging by a sky-blue ribbon, to be worn by winners of fifteen prizes. The fourth class, a star with two quivers full of arrows on it, salter-wise, surmounted by a royal crown, and hanging from an orange ribbon, to be worn by winners of twenty prizes. The Council further authorise any archer to wear on the ribbon by which the decorations hang, placed above the buckle, one small silver clasp for each prize of which he has been the winner beyond the number represented by the class of decoration which he is entitled to wear, each class to have engraved on it the name of the prize it stands for and the year in which it was won. Thus a winner of six prizes will wear the first-class decoration and one clasp, and so on.

“ The Council order that no archer shall wear more than one of these classes at the same time.

“ The Council further order that the decorations be worn *exclusively* with the shooting-uniform, and with the dinner-coat on such occasions as the members of the Royal Company dine together in the Archers' Hall, or in some place of meeting temporarily substituted for the Hall by the Council.”

The remainder of the order consists of unimportant details.

This regulation as to shooting-badges was received with much acceptance by the members, and contributed not a little to keeping alive the interest in the various competitions. There are several archers at the present time, however, who have far outstripped the number of prizes signified by the fourth class, and by constant practice and attention to shooting continue to add to their honours year after year.

The Royal Company received in 1840 a donation from Dr

Thomas Spens of two old yew-bows, one of which had belonged to Mr Wallace, a member of the Company, admitted in 1776. On the occasion of the visit of Lord Aylesford, his Lordship offered Mr Wallace fifty guineas for it, but did not succeed in tempting him to part with it. This is probably the largest price ever offered for a plain unadorned bow. Dr Spens' gift was accompanied with a condition that a string should never be put upon either bow, which has been scrupulously kept; in point of fact it could not be done now, as Mr Muir, the Company's bow-maker, got instructions to pare away the notches, so as to prevent the possibility of any one ever using it. The second bow, which is smaller, Dr Spens declared to be the most beautiful piece of yew he had ever seen. It had been presented to his father, Dr Nathaniel Spens, by an old family in Fife, in whose possession it was.

There was another slight collision with the Kilwinning Archers in 1841. They had asked, very earnestly, Prince Albert to become their patron, which he agreed to do. It was asserted that they had then assumed the title of "Royal Archers," and some correspondence passed with Lord Errol on the subject. This nobleman mentioned the matter in the proper quarter, and was assured that there was no intention to give the Kilwinning Archers any right to call themselves "Royal;" and the secretary of the club wrote to Lord Errol saying that the body had no intention of assuming such title. Whether or not they did ever use it does not seem clear. Lord Dalhousie stated that it had been publicly announced that they were to do so. The matter was, however, satisfactorily settled, and the rights of the Company fully vindicated.

Nothing else of much importance occurred during 1841. A dinner was given to celebrate the birth of the Princess-Royal in February, and the Company patronised the theatre on the 13th of March. There was a proposal made to remove the Hall and place of shooting to a piece of ground near Wardie; but on the report of

a committee appointed to inquire into the matter, the Council did not deem any change advisable. In this we believe most of our readers will think they were right. The only objection to the present meeting-place is that it is a little out of the way; but we do not conceive it would have induced members to attend more regularly to remove it to Wardie, a place much more difficult to get at.

In honour of the birth of the Prince of Wales, a ball was held in the Assembly Rooms on the 21st of January 1842; but it is somewhat curious that neither of this ball, nor of one which was given in 1840, on the occasion of the Queen's marriage, is there any account given in the records. However, we have little doubt that they were as successful as all the balls given by the Company have been.

An announcement that the Queen intended to pay a visit to Scotland in September 1842, and that the Royal Company would probably be expected to perform their duty as Body-guard, was received by the members with great pleasure; and as the news only came in August, preparations were commenced without delay. Drills were organised in the Riding School, and Sir Norman Pringle appointed Adjutant-General, a sergeant of the 53d Regiment being engaged to assist him in getting the Company into military shape. The propriety of presenting an address to her Majesty was also considered; but it was agreed that it would be inconsistent with the military nature of the Body-guard, and that therefore it should not be done. A general order was issued announcing that no gentleman could be presented to her Majesty at any levee, during her visit, in the uniform of the Body-guard, and that no prize, medal, or badge of merit could be worn with the uniform while on duty, except those conferred by the Sovereign. The Captain-General was unfortunately prevented taking command of the Company, as it was his indispensable duty to attend the Queen in his character of Lord Lieutenant of the county, so that the command devolved upon Lord Elcho as senior general officer. Several promotions in the list of general officers

were made. Lord Elcho was promoted to be Lieutenant-General; the Earls of Morton and Dalhousie to be Majors-General; Sir David Milne to be Ensign-General; the Marquis of Abercorn, the Earls of Home and Cawdor, Lord Elibank, and Mr C. Russell, Brigadiers-General. It was ordered that the silver sticks of the officers were only to be used when on duty at the palace, as also the ebony sticks allotted to the Councillors.

The uniform to be worn on the occasion was that prescribed by minute of 28th May 1836 as the field uniform of the Company, and was the dress (with some modifications) which was introduced for the first time in 1829. It consisted of a green tunic, green trousers, with black leather straps, boots, green cloth bonnet and black feathers, black silk stock, black leather belt with gilt clasp, sword, tassel, black brace, white leather gloves, six arrows worn in the belt on the right side, and the bow carried in the left hand.

The following account of the services of the Royal Company in connection with the Queen's visit is taken from their records, and was compiled at the request of the Council by Lord Dalhousie. After describing the various preliminary proceedings, the account goes on to say that—

“ Her Majesty being expected to land at Granton Pier the following morning, the 31st August, the Company were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to assemble in the Riding School, Lothian Road, on hearing the Company's bugles, or at the sound of two guns, which the civic authorities had announced by proclamation should be fired from the Castle as the signal of the royal squadron having arrived at the entrance to the Firth of Forth.

“ On Wednesday the 31st August, the Royal Company paraded both in the forenoon and the afternoon. Late, however, in the afternoon, official proclamation was made by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and the Sheriff, that the distance at which the royal squadron was known to be, made it quite certain that her Majesty could not reach Granton on that day; but that ample notice should

be given of the time at which her Majesty would land on the following day; and that, as before arranged, two guns should be fired from the Castle on the arrival of the royal squadron in the Firth.

“On Thursday the 1st of September, at 6 A.M., the Company’s bugles sounded the assembly, the Castle guns were fired at half-past seven, and at half-past eight the Royal Archers marched for Granton. They marched in close column of fours, preceded by their band, with the colours in the centre of the column; and in passing through the city-barrier, received the salute of the guard of honour of the 53d Regiment stationed there.”

The entry of her Majesty, however, as many still recollect, was destined to be shorn of much of that pomp and glory of which it was intended to partake. The Queen, fatigued and weary, glad to escape from her yacht, landed unexpectedly soon, and drove away as fast as possible to Dalkeith Palace. This was a source of considerable disappointment to the archers, as it was impossible that a set of foot-guards could do their duty efficiently round a rapidly-driven carriage, and amid a troop of prancing dragoons, and the presence of a hastily assembled, and therefore inefficiently restrained, mob. What happened the record proceeds to relate:—

“When the Company were approaching Warriston, a staff officer rode up hastily to the Lieutenant-General, and announced that the royal yacht had reached the pier, that her Majesty had already landed, and was close at hand. The Company were immediately halted and formed in line on each side of the road. The formation had hardly been completed when her Majesty’s carriage drove up, preceded and followed by an escort of dragoons. The Royal Company having saluted her Majesty as she passed, immediately endeavoured to fall into their places round the royal carriage as correctly as the rapid rate at which the procession continued to move, and the excessive pressure of the crowd, would permit. In this manner they escorted her Majesty up Pitt Street,

and round the Calton Hill as far as Parson's Green. The procession was here for a moment halted, and her Majesty then drove off rapidly to Dalkeith Palace, escorted by a squadron of dragoons. The Royal Company returned by the Abbey Hill to the quarters of the Lieutenant-General, and having there deposited their colours, were dismissed.

“On Friday, 2d September, orders were received for the Body-guard to be in attendance on the following morning, for the purpose of escorting her Majesty as she went in procession through the city of Edinburgh, and afterwards when passing through the town of Leith on her return from Dalmeny Park.”

A general order was issued on the same day by the Adjutant-General of the forces in Scotland, with reference to the position of the cavalry escort in the procession, directing, *inter alia*, the officer and serjeant of the guard to file in with her Majesty's carriage as it came up to them, and then to ride one on each side of the carriage by the window. This portion of the order was suspended on the next and on all subsequent occasions by her Majesty's personal commands, given on the spot, directing the officers in command of the several detachments of the Royal Archers to occupy the position immediately next the queen's person.

“On Saturday the 3d September, the Royal Company assembled in the Riding School at 7 A.M., and having marched by the High Street and Canongate to the King's Park, they formed in line on each side of the Duke's Walk, and there awaited her Majesty's arrival.

“At half-past ten o'clock her Majesty's carriage drove up, and having halted at the centre of the Company's lines, the Queen received their salute. By her Majesty's command, Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho then took his place immediately next to the royal carriage, at the right door: Major-General Sir John Hope, the second in command, took the corresponding place at the left door. The other general officers, Major-General the Earl of

Dalhousie, Ensign-General Sir George Mackenzie, Bart., Brigadiers-General Sir John S. Forbes, Bart., the Duke of Roxburghe, and Claud Russell, Esq., and Adjutant-General Norman Pringle, were placed round the carriage; the colours followed immediately after it, and advance and rear guards of archers were formed; a line of archers in files marched on each side of the carriage; and in this order the Royal Company enclosing the Queen's carriage, and having the escort of dragoons with its officers everywhere outside the Company's files, escorted her Majesty through the city of Edinburgh.

“The procession, moving across the front of Holyrood, passed up the Canongate and Netherbow to the High Street, where the keys of the city were delivered to her Majesty by the Lord Provost, and thence to the gates of the Castle, where her Majesty alighted.

“The Queen, having visited the Castle, and again entered the carriage, was escorted in the same manner as before down the High Street, across the Mound, and along Princes Street to the Queensferry Road, where her Majesty drove off, after a momentary halt, to Dalmeny Park. The Company having deposited their colours at Lord Elcho's quarters, were dismissed for an hour. At 2 P.M., having again fallen in, they marched to Leith and there awaited her Majesty's return.

“At half-past four the Queen returned, and was escorted by the Royal Archers in the same order as before through the town of Leith to Seafield Baths, whence her Majesty drove off rapidly to Dalkeith Palace.

“The Company then marched back to the Lieutenant-General's quarters, at Lord Wemyss's house in Queen Street, where they again deposited the colours, and were dismissed.”

The duty of guarding our beloved Sovereign during her visit was by no means a merely nominal one. Lord Elcho (the present Earl of Wemyss) had a narrow escape from being jostled over the traces of the horses. He was rescued, however, in time, but not

until his arrows had been broken to pieces. Of course, all this was owing to the natural enthusiasm of the crowd, which, confined as it was in narrow streets, there was considerable difficulty in restraining within due limits. Her Majesty herself, when referring to the incidents of this day in that Journal which, revealing, as it does, so many pleasing details of her home-life in Scotland, has given her a still higher place in the affections of her people, says that the pressure of the crowd was really quite alarming; "and both I and Albert were quite terrified for the Archers' Guard, who had very hard work of it, but were of the greatest use." Again her Majesty says: "The Archers' Guard met us at Leith," where "the people were most enthusiastic, and the crowd very great."

We once more take up the story as told in the records. "The services of the Royal Company having been required by the Queen at the reception to be held by her Majesty on Monday the 5th September, they paraded upon that day at Archers' Hall at 8 A.M., and proceeded, under the command of Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho, by railway to Dalkeith Palace.

"The household oath of allegiance, as taken upon the former visit of King George IV., was then administered to the members of the corps by the Earl of Liverpool, the Lord Steward of the household.

'. . . . "Previous to the commencement of the reception, it was signified to be her Majesty's pleasure that no addresses could be presented by gentlemen in the uniform and on duty as Royal Archers.

"A detachment of Royal Archers, under the immediate command of his Grace the Captain-General, with the other general officers, then lined the presence-chamber, the colours being placed to the right and left of the throne.

"At half-past one, her Majesty entered the room; and being seated upon the throne, the Captain-General, in the presence of the other members of the Council, advanced, and kneeling on one knee, presented to her Majesty a pair of barbed arrows, being the

reddendo in the charter granted to the Royal Company by Queen Anne. The arrows were made of various woods inlaid, were feathered with the feathers of the argus pheasant, and barbed with silver.

“ Her Majesty having received and replied to the various addresses presented by the City of Edinburgh, the Church of Scotland, and the Universities, came in front of the throne. The detachment of archers which had been in the presence-chamber was then moved off under command of the general officers, and rejoined the rest of the corps who were stationed along the grand staircase, and in lines through the ante-rooms. The reception then commenced; the Captain-General, with his gold stick of office, Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho, and Major-General Sir John Hope, with their silver sticks, being placed opposite her Majesty, and the colours remaining as before, on the right and left of the throne.

“ At half-past four, the ceremony being concluded, the Royal Company, under command of Lord Elcho, marched from the palace, and returned by the railway to Edinburgh at 6 P.M. They deposited their colours in Archers’ Hall, and were dismissed by the Lieutenant-General with injunctions to hold themselves in readiness for further orders.

“ Her Majesty having set out on the following day for the Highlands, the services of the Royal Archers were not again required till the day of her Majesty’s embarkation.

“ On Thursday the 15th of September, the Royal Company paraded at the Riding School at 6 A.M., under the command of Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho, and at 7 they marched for Granton Pier. In accordance with previous instructions received by the commanding officer, a detachment with the Company’s colours was left at King George IV.’s statue, under the command of Major-General Sir John Hope and Brigadier-General Claud Russell. The other detachment with the Queen’s colours, under the command of Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho, with Major-

General the Earl of Dalhousie, Ensign-General Sir George Mackenzie, Bart., Brigadier-General Sir John S. Forbes, Bart., and Adjutant-General Norman Pringle, proceeded to Granton Pier. Soon after 9 A.M. her Majesty reached George Street, and halted for a moment until the detachment of the Royal Archers which had been left there had formed round the carriage, as upon former occasions. Major-General Sir John Hope, Bart., and Brigadier-General Claud Russell, took their places at the doors of the carriage, and the dragoons were directed to move outside the archers' files. In this order the Body-guard escorted her Majesty so long as the carriage moved at a slow pace towards the shore. Having reached Canonmills, the procession halted. The Queen having received the salute of the archers, then drove on at a quick pace towards Granton. Shortly before 10 A.M. her Majesty reached the pier, and immediately embarked on board the Trident. The Royal Archers lined the platform by which her Majesty walked from her carriage to the ship, and the guard of honour of the 53d Regiment was drawn up outside their line.

“When her Majesty's ship had got under way, and had reached the roads, the Royal Company, including Sir John Hope's detachment, which had again joined, marched back to Edinburgh, and having finally deposited the colours at the Lieutenant-General's quarters, were dismissed by him from further duty.”

The following general order was issued the same day :—

“GENERAL ORDER.

“The Captain-General has the greatest satisfaction in communicating to the Royal Company of Archers the accompanying letter from the Earl of Aberdeen, one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, expressing by command her Majesty's warmest approbation of the services of the Royal Company when on duty in attendance on her Majesty. It is a source of the highest gratification and just pride to the Royal Company to have received so strong a mark of the approbation of their Sovereign ; and the

Captain-General has the satisfaction also to state that, upon more than one occasion, her Majesty was graciously pleased to commend their services. The Captain-General desires to place on record the readiness with which so large a number of the Royal Company assembled for duty at so short a notice, and the zeal shown by each member in the discharge of his duty. The Captain-General desires particularly to acknowledge the services of Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho, upon whom, as senior officer present, the command devolved, and to express his best thanks to him for the able manner in which he carried on the duty; nor can he omit to thank each of the officers present for their exertion and attention. His thanks are also particularly due to Adjutant-General Norman Pringle, for his unremitting exertions and assiduity, and to every member of the Royal Company on duty. He desires to express most strongly his acknowledgment of their steadiness, discipline, and efficiency. The only regret the Captain-General experiences is, that he has been prevented by circumstances from appearing at the head of the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's Body-guard, except in one instance; but this is alleviated by feeling that the command could not have devolved upon a more efficient officer than Lieutenant-General Lord Elcho; and the conduct of every officer and private has left nothing to desire.

“ By order of the Captain-General,

“ NORMAN PRINGLE,

Adjutant-General Queen's Body-Guard.

“ DALKEITH PALACE,
15th September 1842.”

“ DALKEITH, September 14, 1842.

“ MY LORD DUKE,—I have been commanded by the Queen to acknowledge the services of the Royal Company of Archers, and to state to your Grace that the activity and zeal displayed by the corps when recently in attendance on her Majesty's person have been duly appreciated, and have merited the warmest approbation of her Majesty. I have further to request that your Grace will

convey to the officers and privates of the Royal Company of Archers the knowledge of her Majesty's satisfaction.

“I have the honour to be, &c.,

“‘ ABERDEEN.’”

Such is the account of the proceedings of the Body-guard the first time they had the honour of performing their service to our gracious Queen. And many gentlemen who were then present can still look back with feelings of unmixed satisfaction on the occasion when they first attended their young and beautiful Sovereign through the streets of the Scottish metropolis.

Let us now return for a little to the consideration of the more domestic affairs, so to speak, of the Royal Company. There were this year (1842) presented to the Company by Captain T. Maitland, R.N., a bow and arrows and two banners, taken by him from the Emperor of China's Imperial Archers' Guard at the capture of Chintrae, October 1841. These trophies were taken by Captain Maitland in the citadel, in which place, says the gallant officer in a letter, “the Chinese made a most gallant and determined stand, and were only driven out of it by the heavy fire from our ships. H.M.S. Wellesley (under my command) alone fired upwards of 700 32-lb. shot and 40 8-inch shells into it.” One of the flags is green, and belonged to Tartar troops; the other is yellow, and was the standard of the Imperial Guard, who were mostly armed with bows and arrows.

Although we believe that it was shot some years earlier than the time we are now dealing with, we may here mention a curious match which came off on the links at Musselburgh between a member of the Royal Company, famous for his prowess in archery, and an equally good proficient in the fine old Scottish game of golf. The match was between a golf-ball and an arrow, the conditions being that the ball was to be driven and the arrow shot over the usual golf-course; but in order to equalise matters, it was arranged that the arrow was to be shot straight down to the bottom

of each hole, the mere fact of its sticking slanting-wise in the side of the hole not being sufficient. This, of course, gave the ball a better chance at the holes ; while, on the other hand, the arrow had an advantage over the course, as it could not be affected by getting into "bunkers." The match terminated in favour of the arrow ; but the contest was pretty close. It was probably the only competition of its kind which ever took place ; and we fancy that the old legislators of the realm would have stood aghast could they have seen the "unprofitable sport" of golf pitched against their favourite art of shooting with the bow.

To resume, however, the thread of our story. At the annual general meeting of the Company in 1843, Sir George Mackenzie, an old and zealous member, but whose zeal was not always tempered with discretion, made three proposals : 1st, that the Council should be recommended to establish an honorary retired list of officers ; 2d, that the Council should be requested to revive a yearly parade and march to the Queen's Park or Leith to shoot for the Edinburgh Arrow as in bygone times ; and 3d, that the Council should be requested to consider whether a new charter should be applied for, or a code of laws drawn up in conformity with the existing charter. This suggestion arose from some correspondence which had taken place between Sir George and the Council upon some points of constitutional procedure, but which it is not necessary to enter upon here.

The first proposal of Sir George was supported by the mover and seconder only, and so fell to the ground ; and the other two were referred to the consideration of the Council without the meeting coming to a vote.

At the next meeting of Council, accordingly, the last two suggestions were taken into consideration. With regard to the Wapinschawing, the Council entirely concurred in the proposal, and agreed that one should take place the next year on the occasion of shooting for the Queen's prize. As to getting a new charter, the Council were decidedly and unanimously of opinion

that it was not necessary, nor for the benefit of the Company, but directed all the existing laws and regulations to be collected from the records.

Sir George Mackenzie did not, however, relinquish his plan for a retired list of general officers, and on the 12th of July he presented the following memorial to the Council :—

“ We, the undersigned general officers of the Royal Company of Archers, having long enjoyed the privilege of being members and officers of that honourable corps; and considering that, since the Royal Company has had conferred upon it the high honour of being the Sovereign’s Body-guard in Scotland, it is important that the officers should be efficient; and feeling that, from the age we have attained and other circumstances, we can no longer take active service with the Company,—respectfully submit to the Council that it would tend to render the Body-guard more effective were younger men and practical archers promoted, and an honorary list of officers instituted, into which we and others who may choose might retire, reserving, however, to such of us as might think fit to use them, all our privileges, with the exception of taking command in the field.

“ MELVILLE, Lieut.-Gen.
 C. HOPE, Lieut.-Gen.
 G. S. MACKENZIE, Ensign-Gen.
 RT. KERR, Brigadier-Gen.
 THOS. C. HOPE, Do.
 JOHN RUSSELL, Do.
 MORAY, Ensign-Gen.
 G. CLERK, Brigadier-Gen.
 HENRY JARDINE, Do.”

At a subsequent meeting, the Council, having carefully considered the memorial, were of opinion that no sufficient necessity had been shown to justify the Council in creating an entirely new

grade of general officers, as would be the case if they adopted the plan suggested in the memorial.

“On every occasion,” the minute of Council runs, “on which the Royal Archers had been employed on duty, both recently and on former occasions, the list of general officers had always been able to furnish a sufficient number to provide for the full and efficient command of the Company on the duty in which they were employed. So long as this should continue to be the case, the Council would be most unwilling to place upon a retired list the name of any one of the many old, zealous, and useful members, the appearance of whose names on the list of general officers was a source of advantage and gratification to the Company.

“The Council are led to decline adopting the suggestion of the memorial with less hesitation by the consideration that, if on any future occasion there should appear to be a deficiency of active and efficient officers, the Council for the time being will always have it in their power to add by promotion to the then existing list of general officers such number of names as may be required by the circumstances of the occasion to render it fully effective.”

In March 1844 the Royal Company patronised the Waverley Ball; but, in answer to an invitation from the Thirsk Archers, declined taking any part as a body in a general meeting of Archers proposed to be held that year in Yorkshire. A similar invitation to take part in a gathering of the Scottish Archery Clubs was likewise declined. The most important event of the year was the carrying out of the plan of the Wapinschaw as agreed upon the previous year. Permission was granted to shoot in the Queen's Park, and a military guard was offered by the Commander-in-Chief; but the Council thought it unnecessary, and declined it. The Wapinschaw took place on the 16th of July, and proved a great success. The Queen's prize was that which was shot for; and seventy gentlemen turned out to take part in the march, of which number, however, only about half competed. The following notice of the Royal Archers' Wapinschaw is taken from one of

the newspapers of the day : “ It having been resolved on by this ancient body to revive the old custom of the Wapinschaw, the exhibition took place on Tuesday in the valley between Arthur’s Seat and Salisbury Crags. A more appropriate spot could hardly have been selected. The narrow valley, shut in with hills on three sides, is on ordinary occasions retired and lonely—the fit scene for the solitary enthusiast. But on this occasion, when animated by the presence of several thousands of spectators lining the bottom of the valley, while groups dotted the surrounding rocks and hills, and the whole enjoying the sunshine and breeze of a beautiful day, a more picturesque scene could scarcely be imagined. The archers mustered in their hall in Buccleuch Street about 12, and then proceeded, under the command of Sir John Hope and Major Pringle, along George IV. Bridge, and down the High Street and Canongate, to the scene of action, where the ground had been marked out.”

The rest of this somewhat “flowery” notice is not of much general interest ; but it is curious to reflect how the Hunter’s Bog—then “fit scene for solitary enthusiast”—should now be bereft of all its charms of solitude by a much more martial exercise than archery, and have its echoes disturbed not by the twang of the bow-string and whizz of the arrow, but by the sharp crack of the “Snider,” and the clang of metallic target.

Nothing worthy of remark occurred in the annals of the Company for several years after this. The Wapinschaw does not appear to have been again revived ; but the ordinary shooting meetings and dinners of the Company went on with their accustomed regularity. Sir John Hope, who had been re-elected President of the Council every year since 1838, when the Duke of Buccleuch went out of office on his appointment as Captain-General, resigned that post in 1848, on account of his Parliamentary duties, and Lord Dalhousie was elected in his place, and accepted the office with graceful thanks, saying, in a letter addressed to the Secretary on the subject, that such a proof of the

remembrance and the approbation of those whom he respected and esteemed touched a man's heart under such circumstances more keenly than the Council could well conceive. There was certainly no man more deserving of the honour now conferred upon him than Lord Dalhousie, since, for a long period of years, both as Lord Ramsay and after his succession to the earldom, he had always taken the most lively personal interest in the affairs of the Company; and many members still call to mind with pleasure the charms of his genial society, and the never-failing flow of spirits with which he enlivened both the mess-table and the shooting-ground.

Her Majesty having expressed her intention of visiting Glasgow in 1849, an offer of the Company's services as Body-guard was made, but the Captain-General was informed that they would not be required, as the visit would be of an entirely private character. Some doubt was afterwards felt by the Council as to whether the Company's privileges as Body-guard had not been infringed by the Celtic Society, who had attended her Majesty to the railway station, especially as it was announced in the newspapers that that Society had performed the duty of guards. This, however, was not the case, as a member of the Royal Company, who witnessed her Majesty's departure, informed the Council that the Celtic Society had walked in front of the Queen's carriage to the station, but not round it; and that on the platform they were drawn up only on part of one side of the passage to the royal carriage, as mere spectators, along with the railway directors and magistrates,—so that they could not be considered as having in any way performed the duties to which the Royal Archers have an exclusive right.

The Company shot at Montrose, for the first time, in 1850 for a silver arrow, presented by the magistrates of that town, and a piece of plate given by the inhabitants, which will be more fully referred to afterwards.

At a meeting of the Council held on the 12th of June 1852, the

Secretary stated that he had been waited upon by Mr Bell, Secretary to the Committee of the Wellington Testimonial, with a request that the Royal Company should join in the procession on the 18th of that month at the inauguration of the Wellington statue. Mr Bell had stated that all the public bodies connected with Edinburgh were to be present, and urged the Royal Company to join with the inhabitants in paying this mark of respect to the Duke of Wellington :

“ The Council, having considered the statement, was of opinion that the Royal Company being part of her Majesty’s household, and not in the habit of taking part in public processions, could not, without the commands of her Majesty, join with the inhabitants of Edinburgh in paying the contemplated mark of respect to his Grace ; and further, that, under present circumstances, the Council did not deem it expedient to make any application to her Majesty on the subject; and the Secretary was directed to intimate the same to Mr Bell.”



CHAPTER IX.

PROPOSAL TO FORM THE ROYAL COMPANY INTO A VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS—OPINION OF THE COUNCIL ADVERSE TO ANY CHANGE—REGULATION ANENT PAYMENT OF ENTRY-MONEY—REPORT BY COMMITTEE ON THE LAWS AND CHARTER OF THE ROYAL COMPANY—STATEMENT BY ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE—RESOLUTIONS MOVED AT GENERAL MEETING 1858—DEATH OF THE EARL OF MORTON, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL—RESIGNATION OF MR SECRETARY WATSON—APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAIN—DINNER TO OFFICERS OF 78TH HIGHLANDERS—RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL BY THE MARQUESS OF DALHOUSIE—VOLUNTEER REVIEW, 1860—GUARD OF HONOUR FURNISHED TO HER MAJESTY BY THE ROYAL COMPANY—PROPOSED ATTENDANCE ON PRINCE ALBERT IN 1861—DID NOT TAKE PLACE—PORTRAITS OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL AND THE MARQUESS OF DALHOUSIE—CHANGES ON SHOOTING-DRESS—NEW BONNET AND BOW-CASE—BALL IN HONOUR OF THE PRINCE OF WALES' MARRIAGE—CHAPLAIN AND SURGEON-GENERAL APPOINTED—BALLS IN 1869 AND 1874—CONCLUSION OF THIS PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL COMPANY.

In 1854 the following letter was laid before the Council. The volunteer movement had begun to engross public attention, and it was by some thought doubtful how the formation of volunteer rifle corps would affect the membership of the Royal Company :—

" 22d May 1854.

" GENTLEMEN,—At a meeting of the Royal Company of Archers, called by circular, and held on Saturday last, I proposed to move the following resolution :—

" " That it be an instruction to the Council to consider whether, in the present state of public affairs, and in the prospect of the militia of Scotland being called out and embodied for service, and of volunteer corps, especially of riflemen, being formed, an offer should

not be made to her Majesty of the services of this Royal Company as a volunteer corps, in such form as she may be pleased to appoint; and that the Council be requested to report thereon to the Company as speedily as possible, with such suggestions as they may think fit to be laid before her Majesty as to the mode of arming the Company more efficiently, and the manner in which their services could be made available for the defence of the country, consistently with their rank and position as the Queen's Body-guard of Scotland.'

"The chairman directed that it was incompetent for me to bring this resolution before the meeting; but he at the same time intimated that I might lay the suggestion in writing before the Council, which I now continue to do, in the hope that it may receive early consideration from them. It appears to me that the subject in question is of great and pressing importance. The time is evidently at hand when many of the members of the Company must place their services at her Majesty's disposal, either as officers in the militia, or in the ranks of the volunteer corps; and it strikes me very forcibly that if it could be found practicable to avail ourselves of the existing organisation and associations of the Company, we should have a considerable nucleus for a volunteer corps of the best description; that we should not only keep our own members together instead of dispersing them in the way I have pointed out, but that we should also find a direct means of very considerably increasing our numbers. We ought not to forget, I think, that just in proportion to the privileges and position which we occupy ought to be the zeal and readiness with which in these times of difficulty and danger we should show an example to the rest of the country in respect of devotion to the Queen, and of enthusiasm for the cause which she has espoused.

"Of course, if it should be found, on careful inquiry, that the success of this scheme would in the slightest degree endanger the position of the Company, or even interfere materially with our existing rules and regulations, I should be the last man to press it for-

ward ; but I am not persuaded that these difficulties which were referred to on Saturday are at all insuperable, either in a military or any other point of view ; and at all events, the decision of the Council, if the matter falls to be conclusively settled by them, would be a relief to my mind, and also to the minds of others, as satisfying me that I must look to some other body for the opportunity of serving the country, should the course of events unfortunately render that necessary. I should certainly rejoice very much to find that to our other merits we could consistently add that which I confess appears to me to be the highest of all—viz., the merit of being a really useful and efficient force.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.,

“ ARCH^D. T. BOYLE.”

Some question might be raised how far the ruling of the chairman at the general meeting that Mr Boyle could not then bring forward his proposal was correct, and if we were to take the word “ instruction ” in Mr Boyle’s intended motion to mean “ recommendation,” it is no more than what was expressly declared to be competent in 1843, when Sir George Mackenzie was allowed to move three “ recommendations ” to the Council ; and again, at a similar meeting in 1838, a specific motion for the appointment of a mess-committee was declared to be incompetent ; but a “ request ” to the Council that they should consider the matter was permitted. But unquestionably the word “ instruction ” has greater force than “ recommendation ; ” to *instruct* the Council is, in fact, to desire them to act. The matter was, however, quite sufficiently brought under the notice of the Council by the foregoing letter, and they gave it very earnest consideration for a long time. Indeed it was not until nearly a year after its receipt that they gave their final decision upon it. The subject was one which demanded the most cautious deliberation, involving as it did changes on the whole constitution of the Company. On the 2d of April 1855, we find the following minute recorded :—

“The Council having resumed consideration of Mr Boyle’s letter, . . . and of the proposal therein contained, that an offer should be made to the Queen of the services of the Royal Company as a volunteer rifle corps, and having since given this matter their serious and careful consideration, have now to minute their resolution that it is not expedient that the suggestion should be acted upon. In doing so, they think it advisable for the satisfaction of the gentleman by whom the proposal has been made, and of the members of the body generally, that they should state shortly the grounds upon which the resolution they have adopted proceeds.

“It cannot be denied that at first sight it appears a most reasonable thing that a body such as the Royal Company, commanded as it is by a Captain - General, Brigadiers - General, and other officers, and thus having to a certain extent a military character, should, if occasion require, place its services at the disposal of her Majesty for the protection of the country, with whatever arms her Majesty might see proper to put into the hands of its members; but on reflection it will be found that a variety of difficulties and impediments present themselves, which seem to render it not only inexpedient but impracticable to carry out such an object.

“It is important to keep in view that the object for which the Royal Company was established was simply for reviving and keeping up the ancient custom of shooting with bows and arrows as an amusement. The charter it obtained from Queen Anne in 1704 was granted on this footing. It expressly bears that the object of its being granted was to keep up an agreeable amusement or pastime : no idea was ever entertained of the Company, as a Company, being an effective force, either for protection against invasion, or for meeting an enemy in the field. More recently, the Company has formed part of the royal household ; as such, it received a gold stick from his Majesty King George IV. when on his visit to Scotland in 1822 ; again, from his late Majesty King William IV. ; and last, from her present Majesty Queen Victoria. It is thus part of the duty of the Royal Company to attend upon the

sovereign as a company of archers on all public occasions in Scotland. It may be noticed that the Captain-General at the coronation of her Majesty did the duty of Gold Stick for Scotland, riding immediately behind her Majesty's carriage.

“ It was on the understanding and footing of the Company being constituted solely for the purpose of promoting archery that the members of which it is composed have joined it; and accordingly, on examination of the list, it will be found that it ranks among its members, noblemen, military men, landed proprietors, and professional men, the great majority of whom, some from age, some from infirmity, and others from the nature of their avocations, are unable to offer their services to her Majesty, and turn out as members of a rifle corps in the manner proposed.

“ To many of the noblemen and gentlemen in the circumstances referred to, it would be a matter of much regret were any change to be made by which the amusement of archery would be set aside, and the interest in the Company as a society for the promotion of archery impaired.

“ It would be unfair, and indeed impossible, to commit these gentlemen to join in the offer proposed to be made to her Majesty; and it would thus arise (supposing that the thing were practicable) that there would be two bodies, one forming the Company of Archers, and the other forming a volunteer rifle corps. The officers commanding the rifle corps would of course require to be different from those commanding the archers. The practising would require to be in a different place; and it is apparent that the whole constitution, rules, and regulations of the Company would have to be changed so as to suit the altered circumstances.

“ But it is further important to consider what the position of matters would be in the event of an invasion actually occurring. In order properly to do this, it is necessary first to settle whether the corps is to be one for the protection of Edinburgh, or one which is to be completely at the disposal of her Majesty, and which may be called upon to act in any part of her Majesty's

dominions. It is hardly necessary to discuss the latter of these propositions, as there can be very little doubt that if the corps were to be one whose services were to be entirely at the disposal of her Majesty, it would scarcely be in the power of the present active members to enrol themselves in it. The other alternative alone has to be dealt with—viz., that of the corps being formed solely for the protection of Edinburgh. In considering this view of the matter independently of what has already been said as to the various circumstances which operate as impediments in the way of many of the present members volunteering, it may be noticed that a large number who could with advantage offer themselves for active service are landed proprietors, who, either as military men, would be already engaged in defending their country, or who, as members of militia, yeomanry, or other corps raised in the district in which their properties lie, would be precluded from joining the proposed rifle corps; while others, as sheriffs, and as holding civil appointments connected more or less with the preservation of order and the defence of the country, would be equally precluded from doing so. On a close examination of the list, it appears that there are hardly 40 men who can be looked upon (irrespective altogether of what their inclinations might be) as in such circumstances, of such age, or in such a state of health, as to allow of their being admitted to such a corps. If, out of these 40 men, it be supposed that 10 are inadmissible, the numerical strength is reduced to 30, which is a number quite inadequate to constitute anything like an efficient force. By way of meeting this objection, it is suggested in the letter referred to, that were the corps formed, there would at once be a large increase in the number of members. That some increase would take place it is probable; but it is much feared that the fees of entrance, added to the necessary expense of uniform and accoutrements, would operate as a bar to that increase being at all considerable. The only means, it occurs to the Council, of materially adding to the number of members, with the view to raising a sufficient corps, would be to

considerably reduce the fees of entrance, and by doing so, to throw the Company open to a class of society of a grade somewhat different from that of which it has hitherto been composed.

“On the whole, it appears to the Council that, while there can be no question as to its being a duty incumbent on every member of the Company as an individual to defend his country in the hour of danger, yet, for the reasons above detailed, the Royal Company, as a company, is by no means in a position to volunteer its services to her Majesty in the manner proposed in the letter which has been addressed to the Council.”

Such was the decision of the Council, which we may be excused quoting at such length, as the question was an important one. We cannot but think that the conclusion to which the Council came was a right one. Looking at the question dispassionately, as we now can after the lapse of several years, and when the volunteers have become a recognised portion of the reserve forces of the country, it is impossible, we conceive, to come to any other conclusion than that it would have been a great mistake to have changed the entire character of the body. Many other reasons might be stated against the proposal than those given by the Council. If the Company had become a rifle corps, a new charter and constitution would have required to have been got, and the classes of officers entirely altered. Besides, being part of her Majesty's household, they occupied much the same position in Scotland as the Band of Gentlemen-at-Arms or Yeomen of the Guard occupied in England, and it was never for a moment proposed to utilise them as volunteers. In addition to all this, there was a very clear precedent for their not taking part as a body in the volunteer movement, and that was, that in the beginning of the century, when the cry of invasion was raised much more loudly than it was a few years ago, the Company, then a much freer agent than afterwards, as it had not been appointed guard of the King's person, pursued closely the original design of its institution—the practice and encouragement of archery. It did

not interfere with the volunteers at that time, nor was it affected by them. On the contrary, many of its members were zealous volunteers, and the Royal Company changed its days of meeting, as we have seen, to suit the convenience of those of its members who were engaged in drilling with the "Royal Edinburgh Volunteers." We see now that the volunteer movement, more and more popular though it has become, has not in the least affected the prosperity of the Body-guard—which was never more flourishing than it now is. And should the people of this country ever be required to turn out in defence of their country and their homes, the members of the Royal Company, though perhaps not as a body, will certainly as individuals not be the last to answer such a call; and if by any chance—which Heaven forbid—they should be summoned as a body to guard the person of our beloved Queen, armed in whatever manner might then be thought necessary, their lives, like those of their predecessors, the old Archer Guard of King James IV., who fell in heaps round their Sovereign on "Flodden's fatal field," would be cheerfully laid down if requisite in defence of the lady who so worthily occupies the British throne.

Some difficulty having been several times experienced in getting gentlemen to pay their entrance-fees, probably from the feeling among the intrants that the matter was one which could be done at any time, the Council resolved in 1857 that the Secretary should intimate to each member whose entry-money is two months or more in arrear, that unless the same was paid to the Treasurer within twenty-one days, such member would be struck off the strength of the Royal Company, and notification be made to the Lord Chamberlain and others that he was no longer a member of the Royal Company, and consequently not entitled to wear the uniform or to exercise any of the other privileges of membership. The Council did not come to this resolution without regret, but unfortunately found it necessary. It had been ordered formerly, that when any member failed to pay his entrance-fee, his proposer and seconder were to be held responsible for the same; but this

had given rise to considerable dissatisfaction in some instances, and it was not thought advisable to enforce it.

At a meeting of Council held in July 1857, it was agreed that no gentleman suffering from any bodily defect, such as would prevent him holding a commission in the army, would in future be eligible as a member of the Royal Company. This resolution, although seemingly a little hard, was now rendered necessary from the nature of the Company's duties as Royal Body-guard; and although in a few instances it may have had the effect of excluding from the corps gentlemen who were excellent archers and unexceptionable in other respects, yet, upon the whole, it has been productive of good, especially in the improvement of the *physique* of the Company.

The Royal Company, always ready to display their loyalty when occasion offered, celebrated the day of the Princess Royal's marriage in January 1858 by a largely attended dinner in the Hall, to which above a hundred gentlemen sat down.

For a number of years there had been a complaint among many members of the Royal Company that they were in total ignorance of the fundamental laws and constitution of the body. Several attempts had been made to enable members to acquire this knowledge, but none met with much success. A committee was now appointed to consider what documents relating to the subject should be printed and put into the hands of members on their entrance. They came to the conclusion to print the original "articles of regulation" drawn up in 1676, the Report of the Privy Council Committee, and Queen Anne's Charter, with a translation of the last. All these we have already considered, so that there is no necessity for now doing more than merely alluding to them. With those documents the report of the committee appointed to consider the subject was printed, and the Council, by order of 3d May 1858, directed it to be circulated among the members, and each inrant now receives a copy along with his commission. The following is the report:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL COMPANY
OF ARCHERS, AS BROUGHT UP AT A MEETING OF COUNCIL OF
27TH APRIL 1858.

The foregoing documents¹ form the constitution of the Royal Company. During the long period which has elapsed since the Company was so constituted, considerable changes have from time to time been made in the practice of both Company and Council. In all points in regard to which distinct regulations were laid down by the Crown charter, it seems both expedient and necessary that these regulations be strictly followed.

On the other hand, it seems to be within the province of the Council to make from time to time such regulations (or by-laws) as may be requisite in regard to shooting and field arrangements, and generally to regulate the requisite internal details. They have accordingly made such regulations from time to time, and these are fully set forth in, and can easily be extracted from, the minute-books.

From the tenor of the documents above printed, which form the original constitution of the Royal Company as ratified by the Crown, together with the regulations subsequently enacted from time to time, it seems to follow :—

Of Members.

That all persons possessed of Scotch domicile, or of landed estate in Scotland, or younger sons (though not domiciled in Scotland) of a Scotch landed proprietor qualified to act as a Commissioner of Supply, are eligible for admission to the Royal Company.²

Of General Meetings.

That the Company hold a general meeting at least once in every year.

That the laws be read at all such meetings before proceeding to business.

¹ The laws, charter, &c., previously referred to.

² By a more recent order of Council, the qualification now runs as follows :—

“ That all persons possessed of Scotch domicile, or of landed estate in Scotland, or who are (though not domiciled in Scotland) the sons of noblemen and gentlemen holding or having held the office of Lord Lieutenant or Deputy Lieutenant of a Scotch county, are eligible for admission to the Royal Company.”

That recommendations to the Council, and general business, Treasurer's accounts, &c., be then taken up.

That by signed lists given in by the members present, a Council of seven, of whom one shall be præses, be named for the ensuing year.

That the Company and Council have power to choose their Captain-General and other general officers.

Note.—It seems to have been the practice for about 150 years for the Company to leave these elections in the hands of the Council.

While reporting this point of practice, your Committee, looking to the constitution of the Company under royal grants, where the power is *specially* vested in the Company (first named) *and* the Council, beg to express their opinion, that it is *incompetent* to vest, by any length of practice, so valuable a privilege as that of electing a Captain-General and other officers in so limited a number of the Body-guard as the Council; and that in future all such elections shall be conducted in strict conformity with the constitution of the Body-guard.

That there be one public wapinschawing of the hail Company once every year.

Of the Council.

That originally four members of Council, being the major part, formed a quorum; but that from the 22d of June 1751, the quorum was reduced to three; and from the 11th of June 1798, either as above, or to one with the præses or vice-præses.

There is no provision in the original laws and regulations for nominating a vice-president. The quorum of the Council is four; but as there is no law against such nomination as a vice-president, and in practice it has been found to work sufficiently well that a quorum of Council be constituted by the president or vice-president and one ordinary member of Council, the practice as at present in use may be continued; but to prevent any after-question, the practice might be recognised and strengthened by a resolution of the Body-guard at their first general meeting.

That the Company and the Council elect members.

Note.—The power of electing members has been for a long period left in the hands of the Council.

As in the case of the Captain-General and other officers, the power of electing members is specially vested in the Company and the Council. Your Committee

are therefore of opinion, as in the former case, that it is incompetent for the Council, without special authority from the body at large, to exercise this exclusive right.

Your Committee are of opinion that the right, if vested in the Council alone, might be attended with many advantages, one of which is, that members could be admitted without the necessity of summoning the whole body to attend the election of each individual member, while the Council have ample opportunity of making inquiry as to the status and qualification of each candidate.

Your Committee would suggest that the power might be given to the Council to conduct these elections by a resolution passed at the general meeting requesting the Council to exercise this power, thus preserving to the body at large their right to join in the elections at any time they might wish to resume their right.

That all members shall pay the entry-money and sign the laws before admission.

That the Council originally appointed three members of the Company to be judges, but that the number has been gradually increased to ten.

Looking to the number of prizes now to be competed for, and the difficulty of getting a quorum of judges to attend, your Committee would beg to recommend that the number of ten judges, as at present, should be continued, and that this should be sanctioned by a resolution at the first general meeting.

That the Council appoint a clerk, fiscal, treasurer, and officers.

That the Council specially make laws and regulations for shooting, graith, &c., and generally attend to the business of the Company during their year of office.

That the Council have power to fine and otherwise punish, and even, in case of great enormity and misdemeanours, to exclude from the Company any member who shall contravene, disobey, or gainsay the laws of the Company and Council.

Of the Judges.

That the judges take trial of all candidates for admission.

That the judges cognosce, decide, and determine in all debates and controversies at butts and rovers.

ALEX. THOMSON.

DOUGLAS MACLAGAN.

JOHN GILLESPIE, *Treasr.*

It will be observed from this report that the Committee were not inclined to consider that the Council was a body possessed of such

absolute power in the affairs of the Company as in time past it had claimed. This opinion, however, was not shared by all the members of Committee; and one of them—a gentleman who had previously filled the post of Secretary to the Company, and who still most worthily fills a high office in one of the learned professions in Edinburgh—gave in a paper, in which he detailed his views with regard to the laws and the powers of the Council. He upheld the idea that the Council was possessed of full power to elect officers and admit members without the consent of, or even consulting with, the general body. There is a good deal to say on both sides; and in order to allow our readers to judge for themselves as to this constitutional point, we may be pardoned if we give the entire reasons for his opinion which the dissentient member submitted to the Council. He says:—

“ 1st, As to the Laws.

“ The laws of 1676 (which, it will be observed, were made by a voluntary and unanimous act of the founders of the Company themselves) provide for the annual election of a Council, to whom is committed the power of making laws, electing officers, and the general management of the Company.

“ The report of the Committee of the Privy Council, to whom the rules and regulations were remitted by the Privy Council, recommended the ratification of the rules or laws without alteration.

“ The phrase ‘with power to choose their captain and other officers,’ cannot be interpreted different from, or inconsistent with, the rules which were submitted to the Privy Council for approval, and which the ratification expressly bears should be approved of; and therefore the said power has reference to the rules submitted to them, and the mode of election therein contained.

“ The narrative or account of this ratification cannot in any way alter them. The clause authorising them to meet, &c., with power to choose their captain and other officers, and to make such acts

and laws, &c., cannot be held to infer that the Company exercised their power in any other way than by their Council; and that this is the correct view, is proved by the statement that the subscribers, in compliance with the said ordinance above written, do hereby submit themselves to all the said laws and articles, and all acts, rules, or statutes made or to be made by the said Council of Archers, &c.”

By far the strongest argument, we think, for holding that in the Council was vested the sole power of choosing the general officers, is to be found in the ninth rule, which says that there should be “one public wapenschawing of the hail Company; . . . and that they be modelled and drawn up in a formal company, with drums and colours, whereof the *officers are to be chosen by the said Council.*” The majority of the Committee, nevertheless, seem to have looked more to the charter under Queen Anne than to the original laws; and in that, as they correctly state, the power of electing general officers and members is specially vested in the Company *and* Council. Let us, however, hear what our dissentient member of Committee has to say

As to the Charter.

“The charter is of a subsequent date, and appears to me to be *solely* what it bears to be, a *charter of ratification.*”

“It revives and ratifies, and confirms for ever to the Royal Company, as now constituted, under a President and Council, and such officers as *they* shall name, according to their former use and wont, all laws and acts, sanctioned in their favour in the time of our illustrious predecessors, and *the rules and constitutions framed by them for their own better government, &c.*; for example, confirming and ratifying the rules then in force for the election of members and officers by the Council.

“The charter then proceeds to ‘give and concede to our fore-said Royal Company of Archers and their Council the full power

of assuming such other members as they may judge fit, and of nominating, &c., such other officers who to them shall seem proper.'

"In giving this power there is nothing to indicate that a new mode of election of members or office-bearers, other than that which had been ratified in the immediately preceding part of the charter, was intended. Indeed it appears to me to be absurd that it was intended to confer a power of election on the Company *and* the Council as separate and distinct bodies.

"The whole charter is one of general ratification and confirmation, and not at all one containing a new grant; and therefore any general expressions used in it must be construed consistently with the more special rules and regulations which it ratifies.

"Such being my view of the documents above referred to, I object to the report of the Committee of the Council, in so far as it proceeds on a different construction of these documents. And, in particular, I object to the statement that the Company and Council have power to choose their Captain-General and other general officers, because there is no mention whatever in the documents of a Captain-General or officers other than those to be elected by the Council; and also, to the statement that the Company and the Council elect members. It is stated in a note that the power of electing members has been for a long period in the Council. In this case I believe the practice has been in entire conformity with the laws.

"I do not think that the report of the Committee should be issued by the Council, and I do not think that the Council should give forth any opinion as to the true meaning of these papers without taking the opinion of counsel."

Whether the opinion of the majority of the Committee may have been the correct one or not, it is unnecessary to decide here. Suffice it to say, that the Council, after due deliberation, unanimously resolved to print the report, which was accordingly done; and it is now put into the hands of each member on his entering the Company. Looking back at the events which occurred thirty years

previously, it is certainly more than doubtful if the Council of that day would have adopted such a report, curtailing as it did the powers which they considered as peculiarly their own. Most of our readers, however, we are sure, will agree with us in thinking that whether strictly constitutional or not, the fact of associating the ordinary members to some extent with the Council in the election of officers and members, had the effect of giving the Company in general a greater interest in the management of their affairs, than when that was delegated to the rule of a small and somewhat despotic body. One immediate effect of the publication of the Committee's report was, that at the next annual general meeting held in May 1858, there were no less than five resolutions moved, and unanimously adopted by the Company. Such a proceeding as an ordinary member rising to propose anything unconnected with the election of the Council for the ensuing year would have been not long previously looked upon as highly out of order, and would have drawn down upon the offender a severe reprimand from the chair. The resolutions now adopted were the following, the first three being in conformity with the recommendations in the Committee's report :—

“ 1. That three members of Council, or one member with the President or Vice-President, shall constitute a quorum of the Council.

“ 2. That the number of judges shall be ten.

“ 3. That the Council be requested to consider all applications that may be made on behalf of candidates for admission during the ensuing year, and to elect such candidates as may be found duly qualified.”

This resolution is annually moved at the general meeting, thus preserving to the body at large, as the Committee suggested, their right to join in the elections at any time they might wish to resume their right.

The next motion was a more special one. It was resolved “ That the Royal Company take this the first opportunity of their

annual meeting of unanimously recording their sense of the loss which the Queen's Body-guard for Scotland has sustained by the death of the late Earl of Morton, who so long held the position of Vice-President of their Council; and they direct an extract of this minute, subscribed by the chairman, to be communicated to the family, with an expression of their sincere sympathy on this painful bereavement."

Lord Morton, nineteenth Earl of that name, and a Lieutenant-General in the Royal Company, had held the office of Vice-President of the Council for nine years, and died while still a comparatively young man, universally regretted. The Council had previously expressed their deep sense of his loss, and now the Company at large gave evidence of a similar feeling.

The last resolution which was moved at this meeting was as follows :—

"Resolved that the Royal Company of Archers, Queen's Body-guard, having heard with much regret that Mr Watson has, owing to ill health, resigned the office of Secretary, which he has now held for nineteen successive years, record in their minutes the deep sense they entertain of the value of his services to the Company during that long period, as well as during the previous eleven years, in which he filled the office of Treasurer, and request the Council to communicate this minute to Mr Watson, and to express the earnest hope of the Royal Company that he may be speedily restored to his wonted health and usefulness."

Mr Watson, though not now an efficient member of the Company, is, we rejoice to say, still spared to witness the ever-increasing prosperity of the Royal Company, of which he was so long a distinguished member. He was one of the best bowmen the Company ever turned out, and carried off a great number of prizes. He still retains a keen interest in everything relating to the Company, and has many pleasant reminiscences of the happy hours spent both on the shooting-ground and at the mess-table.

The Royal Company having been informed that the Body of

High Constables had attended her Majesty as a sort of guard when arriving at and departing from Holyrood, the Captain-General was communicated with to ascertain if anything should be done in the matter in the way of offering the Company's services on these occasions. The Duke of Buccleuch took an early opportunity of bringing the subject, informally, under the Queen's notice; and in due time he was able to inform the Company that her Majesty would gladly avail herself of the Company's services on all occasions of ceremony or state; but that she wished her annual visits to Holyrood to be considered as private, and that therefore she would not require a guard of honour to be furnished by the Company on every occasion of her coming to her Scottish palace.

Nothing of importance occurs in the annals of the Royal Company for some time; but we may mention that in 1859, the chaplain, the Very Rev. Principal Lee, died, and was succeeded by the Rev. Dr George Smith, minister of the Tolbooth Parish.

In 1860, the 78th Highlanders, fresh from their Indian campaign, were stationed in Edinburgh, and it was resolved to invite the officers of that gallant and popular regiment to dine with the Company at Archers' Hall. The banquet took place on the 28th March, and proved entirely successful. About one hundred gentlemen were present, and the "board of green cloth" kept up to the full its reputation for social mirth and hospitality. Some time afterwards, on the occasion of the Highlanders giving a ball, an invitation was received for "The Royal Company of Archers;" but the gallant entertainers were made aware that the invitation could hardly be accepted, as the invited party consisted of upwards of five hundred individuals.

The next incident of any note which occurs in the course of our history, is the resignation by the Marquess of Dalhousie, a Lieutenant-General in the Company, of his office of President of the Council. The son of a former Captain-General, he had thus a hereditary pride in belonging to the corps, and while a young

man had contributed greatly towards the social enjoyment and happiness of the various meetings. And although afterwards his official duties, distinguished as they were, prevented him from taking part in the conduct of the Company's affairs, yet he ever retained a warm interest in everything relating to the body. After returning home from abroad, the state of his health did not permit him to attend any meetings of the Royal Company; and after waiting some time to see if he could yet again revisit the place where he had formerly spent so many pleasant hours, he found that though the spirit was willing, yet the flesh was weak, and so he reluctantly wrote the following letter :—

“ DALHOUSIE CASTLE, *April 17, 1860.*

“ SIR,—I am compelled to ask your attention for a short time to a matter of personal concern.

“ Many years have passed since the Royal Archers first chose me to be a member of their Council. From that time they have continued to elect me in each successive year without interruption. Even when I was absent on service abroad they retained me in the Council, and my colleagues greatly enhanced that honour by farther naming me to be its President.

“ Deeply gratified by the remembrance which so distinguished me, I did not hesitate to accept and retain the appointments, because I knew that my comrades when they chose me to them were conscious that it ~~was~~ physically impossible that I should discharge the duties.

“ But the case has become altogether different since my return to Europe. The Royal Company now must naturally expect that when they elect me to ~~the~~ Council I should again perform its active duties.

“ In the lingering hope that my health might be restored so far as to enable me to do this, I have kept the office longer than I intended, and perhaps longer than I ought. My hopes, however, have been disappointed. I am still unable to meet you in Council

—unable even to bear my share in the social duties of the Hall. It is time for me to be gone.

“ I beg, therefore, to resign into your hands the office of President of the Council ; and it is my request that, in the notification which will shortly be issued, my name may not appear among those which are to be proposed for re-election.

“ Renewing the expression of my gratitude to the Council for the honour they did me in naming me their President, I desire to add my very earnest thanks for the kindness and forbearance with which they have treated my long absence from among them.

“ And as the disappearance of my name from the annual list in total silence might perhaps appear to some among the archers to betoken indifference, if not ingratitude, to the Company on my part, I ask the Council to permit this letter to be read by the chairman at the next general meeting to the members who may be present.

“ There is no exaggeration in the words when I say that many of the pleasantest days of my life were spent among the archers. I have prized the honours they conferred upon me, and the acts of kindness they have done me. And if, from a strong sense of what is due to the interests of the Royal Company, I now retire from their active service, I do it with a heavy heart.

“ I beg to subscribe myself, now and always, your faithful servant and friend,

“ DALHOUSIE,
President of the Council, R.C.A.”

The Council, as might have been expected, received this letter with much regret, and entered on the records a minute to that effect, saying among other things that they looked upon his Lordship's retirement as no ordinary matter in the history of the Company. “ His long connection with the Company,”—so reads the minute,—“ the genial friendship with which he had honoured many of its members, and the lustre that he had shed on each office as he filled it, has formed a tie between him and the Royal

Company of Archers of a closer character than that of a mere office-bearer among them. In losing from among them the Marquess of Dalhousie, the Company lose not only their honoured President, but also a valued friend, and the Council feel that it will be no easy matter to fill his place."

When the announcement of his Lordship's resignation was made to the general meeting in May, a resolution was unanimously adopted by the members assembled expressing their deep sense of the many services Lord Dalhousie had rendered the Company, and the interest he had taken in all its affairs, even amidst the pressure of bodily infirmity and the engrossing cares of important public duties. In his place as President, the Council elected Viscount Melville, a nobleman who is no unworthy successor of his predecessors in the chair, and whose zeal for the welfare of the Company has been shown on many occasions and in many ways. Few men have given more of their time and trouble for the advancement of the body than his Lordship has done, and he deservedly commands the affectionate esteem of every member of the Royal Company.

Our story is now coming near an end as we reach more and more recent days. The last public appearance of the Royal Company as the Queen's Body-guard was on the occasion of her Majesty holding a grand review of the volunteers of Scotland in the Queen's Park, at Edinburgh, in August 1860. The following is the report of the proceedings as taken from the records of the Company :—

"Tuesday the 7th day of August having been fixed by her Majesty for the review of the volunteers of Scotland, his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, Captain-General of the Royal Company, having ascertained that the services of the Royal Company would on this occasion be accepted by her Majesty, ordered that the Royal Company should parade accordingly; but as it was his Grace's wish that on this occasion no member of the Royal Company serving as a volunteer should be induced to quit the ranks of the volunteers for those of the Royal Company, he

directed that on this occasion the Royal Company should merely furnish a guard of honour.

“ His Grace the Captain-General having put himself in communication with Major-General Cameron, commanding her Majesty’s forces in Scotland, an official notice from the Horse Guards that the Royal Company would form the guard of honour accordingly appeared in the ‘London Gazette’ of Saturday, 4th August, and the following general order was issued to members of the Royal Company :—

“ ‘GENERAL ORDER.

“ ‘ The Royal Company of Archers, the Queen’s Body-guard for Scotland, will be in attendance on her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of the volunteer review on 7th curt.

“ ‘ The Royal Company will parade for drill, in full field uniform, within the Assembly Rooms, George Street, on Monday, 6th curt., at three o’clock afternoon.

“ ‘ By order of the Captain-General.

“ ‘ JOHN GILLESPIE, *Secretary.*

“ ‘ ARCHERS’ HALL, *4th August 1860.*

“ The members of the Royal Company paraded within the Music Hall, George Street, on Monday the 6th, in full uniform, Colonel John Kinloch having been appointed by his Grace the Captain-General to act on the occasion as Adjutant-General.

“ The Royal Company having paraded at Archers’ Hall on Tuesday the 7th of August, the command was taken by Major-General the Viscount Melville, the senior officer present, his Grace the Captain-General having stated that his duties as Lord Lieutenant of the County of Mid-Lothian would require that he should be in permanent attendance on her Majesty. The subordinate commands were taken by Brigadier-Generals Sir John S. Richardson, Bart., Alexander Thomson, Sir William Gibson-Craig, Bart., and W. E. Hope Vere, and Adjutant-

General John Kinloch. [Then follows a list of the gentlemen who composed the guard of honour, fifty-one in number.]

“Many of the members of the band of the Royal Company being engaged in volunteer bands, and his Grace the Captain-General having directed that they should not be called upon to leave those bands, the Royal Company were marched down to the Queen’s Park by the bands of the 13th Light Dragoons, presently stationed at Piershill, and of the Edinburgh or Queen’s Regiment of Light Infantry Militia. The colours were carried by the Secretary and Treasurer as usual, and the Royal Company proceeded by George IV. Bridge, High Street, and Canongate, through the quadrangle at Holyrood, to the Queen’s Park, the colours being saluted in passing Holyrood by the guard of the 78th Highlanders. The Royal Company then took up their position right and left of the royal standard.

“On the approach of her Majesty the Queen, the Royal Company saluted, and, the volunteers having thereafter saluted, remained drawn up immediately to the north of the royal *cortège*; and at the close of the review, after again saluting, the Royal Company marched off the ground immediately after the royal carriage, and returned to Archers’ Hall by the same route, preceded by the band of the Edinburgh or Queen’s Regiment of Light Infantry Militia.”

Such is the account of the appearance of the Body-guard at the great volunteer review of 1860, which many of our readers will easily remember. Although, from the nature of the circumstances, the Company did not perhaps make such an imposing and brilliant display, especially as regards numbers, as on some previous occasions, yet this is fully and satisfactorily accounted for when we consider that it was the Captain-General’s express desire that no gentleman should absent himself from the ranks of any volunteer corps to which he might belong for the purpose of doing duty with the Body-guard, as the principal object on such a day was to keep up the numbers and appearance of the volunteers as much as possible.

In October 1861, the foundation-stones of the Post-Office and Industrial Museum in Edinburgh were laid by the lamented Prince Consort. In anticipation of this ceremonial, the Captain-General of the Royal Company was communicated with as to whether it was her Majesty's wish that the Company should be in attendance on the Prince on the occasion. His Grace, with that zeal for the privileges of the Body-guard which has always so eminently characterised him, lost no time in making inquiries at the proper quarter, and received the following letter from Lieutenant-General the Hon. Charles Grey :—

" BALMORAL, *Sept.* 19, 1861.

" MY DEAR DUKE,—The Prince desires me to say that, as the Queen does not lay the first stone, the presence of the Body-guard cannot be *ordered*. On the other hand, H.R.H. would be very far from expressing a wish that they should *not* be present. You will be the best judge yourself how far it would be according to etiquette that they should take part in a ceremony where the Sovereign is not present ; and H.R.H. would wish you to decide the point for yourself on consideration both of what is right as regards the privileges of the Body-guard, and of what may be the wishes of the Edinburgh authorities. . . .

" Yours very truly,

" C. GREY."

In sending this letter to the Secretary of the Company, his Grace the Captain-General remarked : " The two points for decision are—what is right as regards the privileges of the Body-guard, and what may be the wishes of the Edinburgh authorities. The first is all that concerns the Body-guard. Should the Royal Company desire to attend upon H.R.H., it appears to me the proper form is to apply for permission to furnish a guard of honour ; but before doing so, it should be ascertained what may be the wishes of the Edinburgh authorities as to the

arrangements ; for, of course, the Body-guard cannot interfere with their arrangements, nor can it ask permission of any authority except that of the Sovereign to attend at the ceremony. If the Edinburgh authorities do not wish that any guard of honour should attend, it would not be right that the Body-guard should seek to be present."

The "Edinburgh authorities," in the shape of the acting Chief Magistrate (the Lord Provost being out of town), were duly communicated with, and the Company was informed that the arrangements were not at that time matured, but that the attendance of the Company would in all probability be deemed highly desirable. The Council agreed that, if the Lord Provost desired that the Royal Company should be present, the Captain-General should be asked to apply for permission to provide a guard of honour to his Royal Highness as his Grace had suggested. The hopes, however, that the Company would take part in the ceremonial were destined to be frustrated by the failure of the municipal authorities to give timely notice of the arrangements. In consequence of this mismanagement (a thing not uncommon in municipal circles), the Council were compelled to put on their records that, "in the absence of any communication from the local authorities in reply to the inquiries made by the Secretary of the Royal Company as to their arrangements for the 23d curt., the Council consider that there is not now time sufficient to admit of the necessary application being made through the Captain-General to the Sovereign for permission to furnish a guard of honour to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and of the requisite arrangements for calling out the Body-guard consequent upon that permission being granted ; and accordingly resolve that no further steps be taken in the matter."

On the 17th of January 1862, a large company dined in Archers' Hall for the purpose of entertaining the noble and popular Captain-General, and of placing in the hall his portrait, which had been subscribed for by many of the members, and

painted by Sir Francis Grant, now President of the Royal Academy. The picture, which is an excellent full-length likeness of the noble Duke, represents him standing attired in the dining uniform of the Company, with the ribbon of the Garter, and holding the gold stick of the Captain-General in his hand. It was a welcome and worthy addition to the portrait-gallery at Archers' Hall.

Another picture was added to the walls in 1862. This was a portrait of the Marquess of Dalhousie, who had died not long after he had written the letter quoted on a preceding page, taking farewell of his colleagues in the Council. The picture was painted by Sir John Watson Gordon, R.A. and P.R.S.A., and represents the Marquess in the field uniform of the Company, fitting an arrow on the bow-string previous to shooting. It can hardly be considered a very favourable specimen of that eminent artist; but it has been engraved, and in that form makes a very pleasing picture.

In 1863, the last change in the shooting uniform was made. It had not been touched for a good number of years, but great dissatisfaction had always been expressed about the bonnet. In fact, from the very beginning the bonnet seems always to have been rather a difficult matter to adjust. A committee to consider the whole uniform was appointed in December 1862, and in March of the following year they issued the subjoined report:—

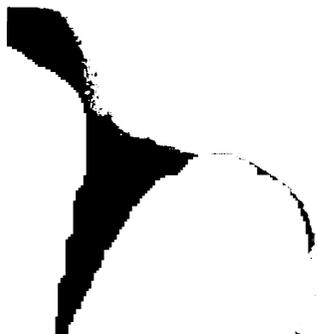
"In making the following report, your committee have to express their regret that so much delay has occurred in laying their views before the Council; but the matter has been attended with considerable difficulty.

"It seemed to them to be essential that they should endeavour to give the uniform a national character, of which it is entirely devoid at present, and also to make it more effective and characteristic; while, at the same time, they felt that they must keep in view that if much alteration were made upon the existing uniform, it would be doubtful to what extent the present members of the

Plate VI.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
HENRY, THIRD VISCOUNT MELVILLE, G.C.B., ETC.
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE ROYAL COMPANY, AND PRESIDENT
OF THE COUNCIL,
IN THE FIELD UNIFORM OF THE COMPANY.

From the Portrait by Macnee in Archers' Hall.







Company would be inclined to incur the expense and trouble it would occasion.

“It was evident to your committee that the cap presently in use must be entirely discarded, as it has long been universally condemned. Your committee have therefore to recommend that instead of the present cap, a Highland bonnet be adopted, similar to the pattern produced, to be made of green cloth, with a black button on top, and bearing a Scotch thistle on a rosette over the left side—the bonnet of a private to have one eagle’s feather, an officer’s two, and the Captain-General’s three.

“Your committee further recommend that a bow-case be worn, passing over the left shoulder, to be of the same green cloth as the tunic, lined with black patent leather and bound with black braid—the braid edged on each side with crimson velvet, the ends meeting below the sword-belt to be attached by the star presently worn on the bonnet, and finished with a crimson and black fringe. The bow-case also to bear at the point where it passes the fastening of the tunic in front, a pair of arrows in a garter-tie, surmounted by a Scottish crown. The shoulder-straps to be of crimson cord, and the distinctive badges of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Judges to be transferred to the upright collar of the tunic.

“Your committee also recommend that the edging on the inner side of the black braid on the bow-case worn by the officers shall be of gold; the ornaments denoting their respective ranks being also transferred from the shoulder to the upright collar of the tunic. . . .

“W. GIBSON-CRAIG.

“H. G. WATSON.”

The changes recommended in this report were eventually, with very slight modification, adopted, and the uniform thus fixed remains in force at the present time. The portrait of Viscount Melville on the adjoining page will give our readers a good idea of its appearance. Upon the whole, the Council and their various

committees may be congratulated on having eventually produced a handsome and rich yet quiet uniform. It may not be by any means perfect, but it will probably remain unchanged now for a considerable time. A great step in advance was the introduction of the present "Balmoral" bonnet. The former head-dress was a hideous structure, in shape of something like a kettle-drum, and bedizened with ostrich-plumes. It was with difficulty the bow-string could be drawn clear of it, and altogether it would appear to have been the most unsuitable gear possible for the purpose. Yet it had been the result of solemn and weighty deliberation by Sir Walter Scott and other members of the Company, who also called in Mr Murray of the Theatre Royal, to lend them the aid of his skill in costumes. The only thing, it humbly appears to us, which might have been an improvement on the present cap, would have been the substitution of a St Andrew instead of a thistle on the rosette. This was the original cap-ornament of the Company, as may be seen in the portrait of Dr Spens; and certainly it is quite as national an emblem, and a more elegant one than that which the Committee adopted.

On the 9th of April 1863, a ball was given by the Royal Company in honour of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. It was largely attended, and came off with all the success which generally characterises such entertainments of the Company.

In October 1866, a vacancy occurred in the chaplaincy to the Company through the death of the Rev. Dr George Smith. The Council appointed the Rev. James Hill Tait of Aberlady to the office, which is still held by that reverend gentleman. The office of Surgeon-General first appears upon the roster in 1867, when Dr J. G. M. Burt was so nominated. He was to rank with the Brigadiers-General, according to seniority. Dr Burt unfortunately did not live to enjoy his newly-conferred honour for long. In the following year he was succeeded by the present popular holder of the office, Professor Douglas Maclagan, M.D.

There remains little else to chronicle in the history of the Royal

Company. The Selkirk Arrow was again restored to its place in the roster in 1868, at the request of the magistrates, and the Company again shot for that prize after a lapse of many years.

On the 2d of April 1869, a ball was given by the Company, which proved as satisfactory to every one present as such assemblies under the auspices of the Body-guard have usually done. The latest meeting of this kind was held on the 27th of January 1874, in honour of the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with his fair Russian bride. A banquet was also given on the occasion of the wedding of the Princess Louise.

Having thus brought our account of the Royal Company down to the present time, the history of the body concludes. We have thought it better, however, in order not to interrupt the continuity of the narrative, to reserve for separate chapters some things which may be treated of by themselves; and the first to which we would direct the reader's attention is a sketch of the resorts of the Company previous to their location at Archers' Hall, and a short account of the Hall itself.



CHAPTER X.

THE MEETING-PLACES OF THE ROYAL COMPANY.

SHOOTING AT BUTTS AND ROVERS—TAVERNS IN THE OLDEN TIME—JOHN MONRO'S—LAURISTON YARDS—ROBERT FINLAYSON'S—ERECTION OF BUTTS ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE—THE PROTESTANTS—THE ROYAL COMPANY GET A GRANT OF GROUND IN HOPE PARK, 1726—ERECTION OF BUTTS THERE—PROPOSAL TO BUILD A HALL, 1776—FOUNDATION—STONE LAID BY ST CLAIR OF ROSLIN, 16TH AUGUST—ACCOUNT OF THE HALL—THE PORTRAITS—SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM INHABITANTS OF GEORGE SQUARE SOLICITED—THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE COMPANY BEGIN—MATCH DINNERS INSTITUTED—REDUCTION OF RENT GRANTED TO THE TENANT OF THE HALL—BOWLING-GREEN ESTABLISHED, 1791—UNSUCCESSFUL ENDEAVOURS TO PAY OFF THE DEBT—LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE HALL—HISTORY OF THE HALL AS A TAVERN, AND ACCOUNT OF ITS VARIOUS OCCUPIERS—DINNERS AT THE HALL—A GUEST NIGHT—"THE MARK"—CHANGES IN THE LOCALITY OF THE SHOOTING-GROUND—ERECTION OF COVERED BUTTS, 1790.

WHEN "his Majesty's Company of Archers" was first embodied in the form in which it still exists, in 1676, they had no regular or fixed place of meeting either for shooting or dining. Edinburgh, like most other towns at that period, probably possessed butts at which archery was or had been practised; in fact, the remains of such butts are said still to exist. But it is doubtful whether the practice of the Royal Company at that time was to shoot at butts or rovers. Possibly both claimed their attention, as one of the earliest minutes contains an order that the "Company of Archers shall, upon the first Monday of every month, from March to October, meet either at Leith or Edinburgh, as the Præses shall order." The shooting at Leith took place on the Links, and was probably at rovers; while the Edinburgh meetings were not

unlikely confined to butts, as it does not seem to have been the practice for some years after this to hold any meetings on the burgh muir or Bruntsfield Links. The particular place of assembly, however, at either place, is not now known, the minutes being generally only dated "Edinburgh" or "Leith." Some tavern was usually patronised, as the custom seems to have been to dine after the shooting, the absentees being fined half-a-crown, which went to the dinner-fund. We occasionally get glimpses of the place where the Council met for deliberation, the earliest notice of this sort being in April 1677, when we find that the sederunt was held at Stanfield's house; but that is the only information afforded us for a long period of years.

In 1703, a general meeting of the Company was held at "John Monro's house, at the sign of the Half-moon," where they entertained their new Captain-General, Viscount Tarbat. This tavern seems to have been the usual meeting-place for the Company, and to have been in close proximity to the butts. In fact, it is not improbable that several taverns in Edinburgh had butts erected in their yards, with a view to attract customers. John Monro's, however, would appear to have been the house patronised by the Company, as we find frequent mention of it in the records. The butts in those days, and indeed for long afterwards, were built of turf or straw, and the exposure to the weather was continually making them fall into disrepair. So, in 1708, the Company agreed with John Monro "to putt up a pair of new butts, and in the mean time, desired him to cause provide the fail for that end, and to proportion the expenses upon the members of the Society." In 1710, we find Mrs Balfour spoken of as the landlady of the house and yard where the butts were. It is possible that she was Monro's successor, as his name does not occur again in the records. At any rate she kept a tavern at "Louriston Yeards," and "most freely and heartily agreed to allow the Royal Company of Archers to put up the butts in the yeard now possess by her, upon their own charges, and is very willing to furnish the Company with

liquors, or other necessarys, any or all of them and their followers need." In 1713, Robert Finlayson's, "at the back of the town wall," is mentioned as the shooting-place. This may have been the same house as Mrs Balfour possessed, as part of the town-wall ran close to Lauriston, where her house is said to have been situated. In the same year the Company shot at rovers in Bruntsfield Links, the competitors first meeting at Finlayson's, "in order to draw their figures." About this time, too, the Town Council gave the Company leave to erect a pair of butts on a piece of ground lying on the west side of the Parliament House. This was a much more central position than any other, and was a favourite shooting-ground for a good number of years. Considerable pains were taken in their formation, as we are told that it was "recommended to George Drummond to wait upon *Dirletoun*, and desire as a favour for the Company to have liberty to cast as many turfs for building of the saids butts; and if he will give any assistance for carrying the said faill, (it) will be ane additional favour." Nisbet of Dirleton was himself a member of the Royal Company, and therefore the more likely he gave a favourable answer to the request. The first shooting at the new butts took place in September 1713, the estimate for their erection being £7 sterling; but we are not informed what they actually cost.

Little business, and almost no amusement, could be conducted in the days of which we are considering without a considerable amount of liquid refreshment. In order that such expenses might be kept as low as possible, the Council "recommended to the whole archers at all publick shootings to pay for their servants, so that there may be no article in the bill for them, only two shillings sterling, which is to be given to the officers' pipers and drummers." It was perhaps owing to a certain difficulty of obtaining convenient refreshment at the new butts that Finlayson's butts were not by any means deserted, many prizes being still shot for there. On the 27th of September 1714, for instance, a prize of fifteen shillings and sixpence and the goose was shot for at the

latter place, and the Treasurer was recommended to speak to Finlayson to have the butts ready, "and to provide a dinner for a dozen of people." The Council held their business meetings for many years, not at Finlayson's, but at the house of "William Pratt, vintner;" but all recollections of such taverns, as well as of others which were afterwards patronised, have long ago died away, their very locality being matter of conjecture.

Even the situation of the butts is in some cases uncertain. Thus, on the 25th May 1719, there occurs the following entry: "The Councill . . . orders the Thes^r to pay twelve shillings to the officer for bigging the butts at the Protestant's, and three shillings to the Protestant's servant for assysting the officer." And again, in the following year, the Treasurer is ordered to pay £4, 14s. Scots "for building and repairing the butts at the Protestant's." Where this place was is not known, unless it be another name for the butts in the town: the term is not used elsewhere in the records.

The anniversary meetings of the Company to elect the office-bearers for the year were for several years held at Leith, at the house of George Fenwick, and after the meetings the Edinburgh Arrow was shot for on the Links there; but till 1726 the Company had no fixed place of meeting. It is uninteresting to go over a mere catalogue of names, and we know little or nothing more of the various *rendezvous*. In the year mentioned, however, we are told that "the President reported that Mr Thomas Hope of Rankeelour had made a generous offer of a piece of ground in Hope Park during the continuance of his tack, sufficient for a pair of butts, to be built and repaired upon the charge of the Royal Company." This offer was gladly accepted; and a piece of ground, measuring 180 feet by 96 was marked out on which the butts were built. The Royal Company now located themselves at Hope Park, a locality they have never left since, their present Hall and shooting-ground being, as we shall see, almost on the very ground to which they at this time removed.

The new butts at Hope Park would appear to have been built

at a much greater expense than those in the town, to which we previously referred. The whole cost amounted to £50; several of the officers contributing sums amounting in all to upwards of £20, and other gentlemen assisting in the way of granting cartage for materials, holly and yew plants for hedges, and lime-trees, still further to add to the amenity of the place. We may therefore conclude that, when it was completed, this shooting-ground was by no means an unpleasant place at which to spend a summer afternoon, being as it was in those days totally in the country, and quite removed from the crowded and not over-clean streets of the quaint and homely Old Town.

The ground let by Rankeellour to the Royal Company was held by him on lease from the Town Council for fifty-seven years from 1722, so that the right of the Royal Company to it as derived from him would cease in 1779. Till that time, however, they were secure in their possession of it, and, as we have remarked, they were not destined to leave it even then. Notwithstanding the Company had secured such an eligible field for practice as Hope Park would appear to have been, they did not altogether desert the butts in town. In 1732, the Council recommends the judges "to meet among themselves, and appoint two of their number to attend at the butts in town two days of the week, on such days as they shall condescend on themselves, and two of them at least on each Saturday at the rovers, with their measures amongst with them, with certification," &c. The Treasurer's accounts, too, occasionally bear entries of sums paid for the repairing of these butts. Possibly they were found by the members more convenient to get at than those at Hope Park. The "advocats" and "doers" could easily slip out from the Parliament House and clear their brains from the intricacies of a "process of multiplepointing" debated before "the auld fifteen" by an hour's exercise at archery on the contiguous butts; and the douce respectable merchant could emerge from his hut in the "Krames," and after discussing a bottle of ale, and picking up a friend in *Biggar's*, *James Cumming's*, *Mrs Dow's*,

or *Lytol's*—all houses in which the Council of the Royal Company were in the habit of holding their meetings for the transaction of their business—could join the assembled shooters and take part in the competition, while courteous word and merry jest passed lightly round.

There is not much to notice for some time after the erection of Hope Park butts as regards the meeting-places of the Company. The butts in 1749 were found to be in a state of great disrepair, chiefly owing to their being insufficiently fenced. A stone-and-lime dyke was therefore ordered to be built upon one side, and wooden fences erected on the other. This was accordingly done, at a cost of upwards of £20. In the same year there was a proposal to shoot at rovers at St Ann's Yards, near Holyrood, in consequence of the Company being ill served and extravagantly charged at Cassie's, the tavern at Hope Park. It was also proposed to ask the Duke of Hamilton for the use of the guard-room at the Abbey to dine in; but neither of these suggestions seems to have been carried into effect, as Hope Park continued to be frequented for rovers as well as for butt-shooting. The butts at the Parliament House were, as we find from an entry in 1750, still kept in repair, but it is doubtful whether much shooting went on at them; certainly all the meetings recorded at this time are dated from Hope Park. The butts at the latter place were again repaired by a voluntary subscription in 1754, it being found they were in much disrepair, "and unfit at present to promote and encourage the laudable exercise and diversion of archery, and the nurseing up and training proper recruits for the Company's increase." Notwithstanding that £12 were spent upon putting them in order, we find more complaints as to their state in 1756—the straw butts, it is said, being wretchedly ill-wrought and insufficient. Further repairs were made, and at the same time the Parliament House butts were again ordered to be made suitable for practice.

The mere mention, however, of the various repairs on the butts, are not of any general interest; so we hasten over a good many

years until we arrive at 1776. For some years previous to this the minutes of Council are dated from Summerhall, the probability being that the tavern at Hope Park was not satisfactory. The shooting, of course, went on there as usual, Summerhall being quite close to that place. The Company seem to have felt the inconvenience of frequently changing their place of assembly; and it is not unlikely, too, that the dinners were attended by larger numbers than could sometimes be comfortably accommodated in the rooms of a last-century suburban tavern. All this pointed to the advisability of procuring a place of their own, which they could have under their own control, where they could meet for the despatch of the business of the body, as well as for dinner; and at which they might assemble previous to going out to shoot. None of these considerations are mentioned in the records; but we may fairly conclude that they had their weight. The first notice of the proposition for building a hall is contained in an entry of two lines, bearing date 22d June 1776: "The Council having resolved upon building a proper hall for the meetings of the Company to be held in, a voluntary subscription was begun this day for that purpose." Of course, the Company itself would supplement the private subscriptions of the members. The funds were in a flourishing condition, between £500 and £600 of capital being lent out on bond. The expense of the building was destined, however, as we shall see, to swallow up all this and a great deal more, ere the liabilities of the Company were fully discharged. Meanwhile the proposal was received with much favour by the members. Plans were ordered, and a feu of the ground got from the town, Sir Archibald Hope agreeing to give up his interest in the land during the remainder of his lease (which had still a few years to run) for £10 *per annum*, which offer was accepted, "with this reservation, that the Council will leave to Sir Archibald Hope himself to be as much more favourable to the Company as he shall see their circumstances call for." No unnecessary time was lost in completing the arrangements; and in little more than a month from

the time when the scheme was first proposed, orders were given to begin operations. The winners of the several prizes this season gave up the premiums in money to which they were entitled, to go towards the building fund. The contract with the builder was completed in August; and on the 16th of that month the foundation-stone of the new Hall was laid by Brigadier-General St Clair, Praeses of the Council. We have no very detailed account of the ceremony, the records giving little else than the inscription of the plate on the foundation-stone. Neither do the journals of the day notice the incident at any length, so that we may conclude that it was merely done in a semi-private manner. The following was the inscription on a silver plate placed in the stone :—

“Has Aedes, Cohorti Regie Sagittariorum proprias, condidit GULLIELMUS ST CLAIR de Roslin, Concilij Phœtrati Præses, 17 Kal. Septemb., A.P.C.N., 1776.”

On the reverse was the following motto :—

*“Nulla Caledoniam gens unquam impune lacesset,
Usque Sagittiferis robur et ardor inest.”¹*

Which may be rendered into the following doggrel :—

While strength and zeal inspire our Archer band,
No country dare insult fair Scotia's land.

A glass bottle containing a paper with the names of the Council was also placed in the stone, and a guinea of drink-money was given to the workmen to celebrate the occasion.

The building of the house proceeded with great rapidity; and on the 24th May 1777, the members dined in one of the parlours. The building, as completed, consisted of a large hall about forty feet long by twenty-three broad, and fourteen feet in height, with a gallery for music in the middle of one of the side walls. The other accommodation of the house consisted of two bar-rooms (now

¹ See page 285.

used for other purposes), two parlours, two or three bedrooms kitchen, &c. This was rather too small a house (excluding the hall) to do very much business as a tavern, which it was intended to be; and owing very much to this it never paid well as such. Since the Hall was built, it has, of course, undergone many improvements; but no very material change has taken place. In 1823, a service of silver-plate was got; and in the same year the Hall was lighted with gas for the first time. Bare at first, the walls have gradually been covered with pictures, till now there is no vacant space. The most celebrated portrait-painters of their day are almost all represented by their works there. Sir Henry Raeburn's grand portrait of Dr Spens begins the list, together with Martin's picture of Sir James Pringle, afterwards touched up and finished by Sir John Watson Gordon. Lord Hopetoun sat to the latter artist in 1823, and a fine picture was then hung up, which, however, was unfortunately spoiled by the heat from a stove-pipe. It was therefore carefully copied in 1868, and the copy now hangs in the hall.¹ The Earl of Dalhousie, in the full court-dress of the Company, receiving King William IV.'s colours in 1832, is the subject of another portrait by Sir John Watson Gordon.² In the background are the Secretary and Treasurer—James Hope, Esq., now Deputy Keeper of her Majesty's Signet, and Henry G. Watson, Esq., the artist's brother—both of whom, we are glad to say, still keep up their interest in the Company. The Marquess of Dalhousie and Sir John Hope, Bart., of Craighall, form the subjects of two portraits, both in shooting-uniform. Then comes an uncommonly pleasing likeness, by the present President of the Royal Academy, of Captain-General the Duke of Buccleuch, in the dinner-costume;³ and the series concludes with a capital portrait by Macnee, of Viscount Melville, in a field-dress, with his lieutenant-general's silver stick of office.⁴ There is also an old picture of St Clair of Roslin, in a golfing coat, preparing for a

¹ See Plate IV.

² See Plate I., Frontispiece.

³ See Plate V.

⁴ See Plate VI.

“drive.” A hideous copy of a picture in Hamilton House, attributed we believe to Rubens, of “Daniel in the Lions’ Den,” still hangs on the walls. It was presented to the Company in 1788; but it is hoped that ere long it will make way for another addition to the portrait-gallery.

It will be seen, then, from the brief sketch we have endeavoured to give of the appearance of the Hall, that even originally it was not unworthy of the Company; and it argues great *esprit de corps* on the part of the members at that time to have successfully carried through the undertaking, notwithstanding the amount of debt with which it burdened the Company for some time. Now, however, it is doubly interesting, as few companies of whatever sort possess an array of the portraits of former members, who were so famous and noble as many of those were whose limned features now look down from their canvas in Archers’ Hall. To return to our more immediate subject: the Company having subscribed largely amongst themselves for the erection of their new house, bethought themselves that others might be asked for money, to whom the Hall might be a convenience, as affording a suitable place in which to hold entertainments and assemblies. It must be kept in view that at this time the New Town of Edinburgh was in its infancy; the migration of the inhabitants from the south side had not yet commenced to any great extent, and George Square, not long built, was the fashionable place of abode for the aristocracy in Edinburgh. It was proposed, then, to apply to the inhabitants there for subscriptions in aid of the Hall; and it is not unlikely that this idea was carried into effect, as we are told that the Lord Advocate, Henry Dundas, was waited on for a subscription, and his interest and influence with the other heritors in the neighbourhood solicited.

Meanwhile money was urgently wanted, and subscriptions among the members were earnestly pressed. The Treasurer was also authorised to issue promissory-notes of £10 each to such members as might be willing to lend that sum, “to be paid out of

the first of the monies that should be collected ;” and a good many gentlemen agreed to come forward on such conditions. About £600 was still wanted to clear off the debt ; but, notwithstanding very pressing circulars sent to the members, it was found that money came in but slowly. In other ways, however, members, and especially shooting members, proved their interest in the undertaking. As had been done the previous season, many winners of prizes gave up the money-premiums to which they were entitled, for the purpose of procuring some article of furniture for the Hall. A carpet, sideboard, dining-table, and other useful articles were procured in this manner. The fees of admission were also raised, but did not yet amount to any very large sum, being fixed at two guineas and a half.

The Archers’ Hall at this time was by no means the quiet private house it now is. It was too valuable and expensive a property to be allowed to lie without any return being got for it. It was therefore let to a tenant who paid rent for it, and conducted it in every respect like an ordinary tavern, except that the Company had a prior right to accommodation. When it was first let is not recorded, but probably it was shortly after the completion of the building. In 1779, “a proposal was made for the encouragement of the house, and better accommodating the Company at their weekly meetings, to have a genteel dinner for such a number certain as may be expected to attend, and for this purpose that the members shall subscribe a certain sum to answer their dinners weekly at one shilling each. And many of the members having signified their assent to the proposal, it was agreed to subscribe one pound six shillings each to pay dinner for the subscribers for so many Saturdays at the rate of one shilling each. And the house for the remainder of the shooting season to have dinner prepared on Saturday weekly for ten members certain at the rate of fifteen shillings, which the Treasurer is to pay out of the money put in his hands by the subscribers ; and whatever number more may happen to come, are to be paid for at the rate of eighteen-

pence each." Thus was the foundation of the match-dinners laid, reunions which have kept up all their popularity and pleasantness to the present time.

A bond being granted to the builder for his money on the security of the Company, further endeavours were made to obtain subscriptions towards clearing off the debt due by them, and a paper was issued asking members to subscribe one guinea each for three years. It was further agreed that the rent payable by the tenant of the Hall should not be less than £40. The tenant, however, seems to have found this too much, and applied for an abatement of rent, which the Company refused to grant, and resolved not to let the house at less than £50 per annum. This sum they soon found was excessive; and in May 1784, they were glad to accept an offer by Francis Bonnard of £30. The house even at this moderate rent does not seem to have paid, as the next tidings we have are that Bonnard has failed. It was then proposed to build stables, so that a posting business might be carried on; but this was never carried out. The next tenant only paid £20 of rent; but business appears to have got worse and worse, as very shortly after his entry he complained of his inability to pay both the rent and the public burdens, which were heavy; and the Council being sensible that his complaint was not without foundation, agreed that for the next year he should pay the public burdens only and no rent. Afterwards, however, he paid £25 a-year.

Matters went on quietly for some time after this. The Company was still deep in debt; but, notwithstanding, various little improvements were made on the Hall. In 1791, the bowling-green at Heriot's Hospital being abolished, the one in the grounds attached to the Hall was ordered to be put in repair "for the accommodation of gentlemen only." It was to be open to the public, archers having no special preference. It had probably not been much patronised by them since its construction in 1779. The dinner-hour was fixed at four o'clock, though it is not certain

whether this was a change or merely a definite confirmation of the existing arrangement.

The next effort to pay off the debt was made in 1797, when a circular was sent to the members earnestly requesting subscriptions not only for that purpose, but in order if possible to build additions to the house, and make it into a regular inn, and not a mere tavern, in which capacity it did not pay. The first thing to be done, however, was to clear off the existing liabilities. Many gentlemen came forward most liberally; but there seems to have been a want of a general response to the appeal of the Council for money. This was probably in a measure owing to a large number of the members not being resident in Edinburgh, or not being in the habit of either dining or shooting with the Company. Among those who did subscribe we find Martin the painter giving £52, 10s., being the amount he had received for painting Sir James Pringle's portrait. Several members gave up their bills for £10, which had been granted by the Company about a year previously.

In 1800, a request was again made for a yearly subscription of one guinea for three years from each member. This, however, the Council found difficult to get, as in 1802 they say that they are sorry to be obliged to state that they have been disappointed in their expectations, out of four hundred members only seventy having subscribed three guineas, sixteen two guineas, and twenty-one one guinea each. The debt was still upwards of £600, owing to the erection of new butts and some other things, to which we shall afterwards refer. In these circumstances the Council felt themselves compelled to make the three-guinea subscription not a matter of choice, but of necessity; and that therefore any gentleman declining to pay would be struck off the roll of members. This measure seems to have had some effect; as in 1805 the debt was reduced to £370. In 1807 another application for an annual guinea was made, which was fairly responded to, and continued in operation for several years. To finish this somewhat uninteresting

subject, it may suffice to mention, that in 1822 the yearly subscription was discontinued for those who had paid for five years previously; new members were to pay £5 of entry, and £5 more in yearly subscriptions. At last the Royal Company, after a hard struggle with debt for many years, found itself in smooth water.

Having now got rid of our financial difficulties, let us take a hasty glance at the history of the Hall itself. It was originally, as we have seen, a tavern, but a very badly paying one. It was always more or less in an out-of-the-way locality; and although some of the citizens may have stepped in for refreshment on an afternoon's walk ere getting out of the range of taverns altogether, yet, after the South Bridge was opened in 1788, and a new thoroughfare was thus made from the city to the south, the traffic must have become more and more diverted from it. We have mentioned that Young paid a rent of £25 at the end of last century. In 1798 an abatement of £10, 10s. was allowed him; but in 1800 he was warned to leave, in all probability because of the non-payment of any rent. Oman, who subsequently kept a fashionable hotel in the New Town, was tenant of the Hall till 1802. He was succeeded by John Jardine, who paid nothing except the public burdens; but he only lasted for one year. Then came a Mrs Gordon, and a person of the name of Rintoul, who stayed longer than usual—his widow, at least, does not appear to have left the Hall till 1823, when John Brand, one of the officers of the Company, became tenant at a yearly rent of £30. In 1826, the Hall was discontinued as a licensed tavern; but Brand was allowed to stay in it rent-free till his death in 1829. After that it was intrusted to the management of George Raith; and from 1843 to 1853, Jonathan Froom was the purveyor to the Company. Mr Muir, the present respected officer of the Company, succeeded him and occupied the house till 1873, when William Fergie, who has also been long connected with the Company, began to take charge of it. The dinners now held in the Hall, if not quite so frequent in number as they once were, have lost none of their

pleasantness and popularity. The Archers' board is as hospitable as ever, though not now characterised by those excesses which were unfortunately too common in days gone by. Parties have been known to continue at Archers' Hall for several successive days uninterruptedly; and there is still a tradition of how a gentleman, who afterwards held a high judicial position, kept up "high-jinks" with a party of friends for three days and three nights, the bowling-green and the butts claiming their attention during the former period, and the table and the bottle during the latter. All this, however, is now changed, and the match-dinners at the present day are, in the opinion of most, no less enjoyable, and certainly much more decorous, than their predecessors. These match-dinners are held once a-month, from October to July, after shooting a match either at butts or rovers according to the season, the losing side paying a larger proportion of the dinner-bill than the winners, and the Council giving a grant of wine from the funds of the Company. No guests are admitted to these dinners, and the members dine as they shoot, without uniform. The guest-nights are grander affairs, and are now held about four times a-year—on the occasions of shooting for the Butt Medal, Dalhousie Sword, Edinburgh Arrow, and Queen's Prize. The mess-uniform is imperative at these times, and the assembly is generally a large and brilliant one. The plate of the Company, including all its ancient and valuable prizes, is displayed, and from the balcony music is discoursed by the band. Altogether the dinners are most enjoyable, and few pleasanter evenings can be spent than a guest-night at Archers' Hall.

A curious custom prevails at all the dinners which strikes a stranger with some astonishment. When the more substantial part of the repast is over, and the cloth removed, displaying the "archers' green," with which all the tables are covered, the usual signal is given by the chairman, and the glasses charged for the first toast, which any one unaccustomed to the proceedings would naturally expect to be "The Queen." It is not, we may be sure,

from any want of loyalty in her Majesty's Body-guard that this is not the case; but an old custom, of which the origin is unknown, prescribes "THE MARK" as the first toast to be drunk at the Royal Archers' mess. This, of course, is a mere formal toast, serving as a sort of prelude to the others, and drunk sitting. It is followed by the health of the sovereign, with all the usual loyal honours.

Before leaving the subject of the meeting-places of the Royal Company, it may not be out of place to notice as briefly as possible the changes which have taken place in their shooting-ground. We have seen that, in 1726, Hope of Rankeillor had granted them a piece of ground at Hope Park in which to shoot. They erected butts there, as we have said, and it became their regular shooting-ground. It lay a little to the south-west of the present Hall and butts, near where the present walk skirts the north side of the East Meadow Park. The lease of Sir Archibald Hope expired at Martinmas 1778, and a new "sett" was then advertised. This being the case, the Council, we are told, "thought it of moment for the accommodation of the Royal Company to make application to the Magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh for having the servitude and liberty of their shooting in the parks reserved to them in the new sett, according as the same has been hitherto used and exercised by the Royal Company for upwards of fifty years past. Such application was accordingly made, and the Magistrates and Council readily agreed to the request, and have set the tack of the Meadow with the same privileges to the Royal Company which they have all along enjoyed in times past, as will appear by the city records."

It is doubtful whether this request was really necessary, as there is an Act of the Town Council dated 15th September 1756, proceeding upon a petition from the then Royal Company, and granting a tack of the ground used for the butts for the space of *one hundred years after the expiry of the then existing tack*, unless the Magistrates should require the ground for some public purpose, in which case the tack was to be null and void. It is curious that no

mention is made of any such petition, or Act following thereon, in the records of the Company; and it would seem that the Council in 1779 was not aware of any such tack, else they would hardly have deemed it necessary to apply for a new confirmation of their privileges. Be the case as it may, however, the fact is, that the Royal Archers have enjoyed an uninterrupted right of shooting in the Meadows down to the present time. Objections were taken to it from time to time, but without success. In 1792, the tacksman objected to the Company shooting more than once a-week; and the Council recommended that the Magistrates be asked to make the right of shooting general in future. No practical inconvenience seems to have resulted, if there was any such limitation as was alleged; and in 1813 the Magistrates agreed that in all future tacks of the Meadows liberty to shoot at any time should be reserved to the Company. In 1829, the tacksman endeavoured to prevent any one but the Company from entering the field to see the shooting, unless on payment of a shilling each; but this was probably not persisted in, as we hear no more of it. From the year 1790, it was only at rovers that the Company shot in the Park, as in that year they erected the present covered butts within their own grounds at Archers' Hall. From that time the old butts in Hope Park, which were not covered throughout, were allowed to get into disrepair, and eventually became a nuisance. In 1813, the inhabitants of Buccleuch Place petitioned to have them removed. The Magistrates consulted the feelings of the Royal Company before answering the petition, and the Council agreed that the old butts should be given up to the town. They were then removed, and the ground thrown into the Park. In 1832, a ridiculous proposal was afloat to make the Meadows into a cemetery; and this called forth indignant remonstrances from the Company. The scheme, however, was not prosecuted, and they continued in the peaceful enjoyment of their privileges. In 1862, the shooting-ground at rovers was changed from the south side of the Park to the west side, parallel to the centre walk of

the Meadows. It was fenced in, and reserved at certain times exclusively for the use of the Royal Company.

Having seen the bodily wants and creature comforts of the Royal Company sufficiently provided for, we will now glance at the intellectual amusements which were certain to arise in such a body, comprising, as it did, among its members many of the most eminent scholars and literary men of their times. The frequent meetings round a hospitable and convivial board could not fail, with such a Company, to draw out many a brilliant display of wit and talent—displays, most of them, as sparkling, but as evanescent, as the bubble in the wine-cup which inspired them. Some poems, songs, and suchlike literary trifles have, however, come down to us, and a few of these we now propose to present to our readers.



CHAPTER XI.

LYRICS OF THE ROYAL COMPANY.

EARLY POEMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ROYAL COMPANY—‘ARCHERIE REVIV’D,’
 1676—THE PREFACE—ACCOUNT OF THE AUTHOR—EXTRACTS FROM THE POEM
 —POEM BY ROBERTSON OF STRUAN—ANONYMOUS POEM—CADET COMPANY
 OF ARCHERS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL—ALLAN RAMSAY AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES
 —DR PITCAIRN AND THE JACOBITE LATIN VERSE-WRITERS—FRENCH DRAMATIC
 POEM BY JAMES FREEBAIRN—VERSES ON ST CLAIR OF ROSLIN—ARCHERS’ SONGS
 AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY—‘THE BODY-GUARD’—‘THE
 BULLS’—PROFESSOR MACLAGAN’S SONG—POEM ON ARCHERY BY MR MUIR.

“CLUBS” (using the word in its more ancient sense, and without reference to its modern and comparatively artificial meaning) which promote, directly or indirectly, social intercourse among their members, possess in general a literature of their own. This usually consists of poems either in honour of the society or of individual members thereof, and of songs which may have contributed to the festivity of their social gatherings. The Royal Company of Archers is no exception to this rule, though it was formed, it is true, for the promotion of archery, and its convivial meetings were, at least at first, merely secondary objects of consideration.

The first specimen of any poetical composition in honour of the Royal Company bears a very ancient date, being, in fact, published the very year after the first embodiment of the Company in 1676. Copies of this production are extremely rare; not more than two copies, we believe, are known to be in existence. The one is in possession of the Royal Company; and that eminent Scottish

antiquary, Mr David Laing, holds the other. Its interest, it must be confessed, arises more from its age and subject than from any intrinsic excellence which the poem possesses. Its title is 'Archerie Reviv'd; a Poëtical Essay penn'd upon occasion of the intended Muster of the Company of Archers in Scotland, June 11, 1677.' It is dedicated to "The most Noble and Potent John, Marquess of Athol, Earle of Athol and Tullibardin, Lord Murray and Gask, &c., Lord Keeper of his Majestie's Privy Seal in the Kingdom of Scotland, . . . and Captain of the noble and generous Company of Archers in that kingdom." The dedication, which consists of more than four closely printed pages, goes on to discuss in general the subjects of peace and war. The writer, after indulging in many Latin quotations and quaint comparisons, such as likening Hannibal's army after its stay in Capua to a company of drunken boors at a Low-Dutch fair, comes to the conclusion, that although peace is the preferable condition for a state to be in, yet that the exercise of war is the only bulwark of peace. He then gives it as his opinion that archery, being the most noble and useful method of war known in history, it is therefore the most necessary to be cultivated, in order that, though presently at peace, the nation might be prepared for war. The writer admits that firearms have almost completely superseded the bow for purposes of warfare; but thinks the latter "of equal force in battel, though not of so much noise as the musquet, now only in use among those whose predecessors excelled in archery and the use of the bow." He concludes by saying, that since the Marquess had thought right to revive the practice of archery in Scotland, the whole nation owed their obligation to him, "hoping that from your Lordship's original many thousand copies may be quickly dispersed and transmitted to posterity; so I, having the honour to be of that worthy Society of which your Lordship is pleased to receive the title of Captain, and not in good capacity to attend your Lordship in the complement of parade (being yet but a bad proficient in the art), am ambitious by another art (in which I pretend to some smattering

knowledge) to demonstrate, in the ensuing poetical essay, how much in the general concurrence of the nation a particular person may express himself.

“ My Lord,

“ Your Lordship’s most humble
and most devoted

W. C.”

The only person to whom these initials apply, whose name is on the roll of members at a very early period, is one William Clerk. He was an advocate practising at the Scotch Bar, and was, with others, debarred from the exercise of his profession by having asserted the right of appeal from sentences of the Court of Session. He was banished from Edinburgh in 1674; but the sentence was recalled two years later. He is supposed to have belonged to the family of the Clerks of Penicuik, and was the author of two other works besides ‘Archerie Reviv’d.’ One is a play called ‘Marciano, or the Discovery,’ published in 1663;¹ the other was printed in 1685, and bears the following title: “The grand tryal, or poetical exercitations upon the Book of Job, wherein, suitable to each text of that sacred book, a modest explanation and continuation of the several discourses contained in it is attempted.” The literary merits of both these productions are about the same as his poem on archery—not very high. But they are curious, as illustrating in some degree the literary attainments of the Scotch Bar in that age. Mr Clerk died about 1699.

As to the poem itself there is very little in it about the Royal Company, it being chiefly occupied with the praise of archery in general. The author thus lauds his subject:—

“ Archery may be team’d the noblest art,
Which human genius ever did impart.

¹ This tragi-comedy has been recently reprinted with an introduction, to which we are indebted for most of the above information regarding the author.

It so approaches nature, 'tis the same,
 And differs from't in nothing but the name.
 The bull with horn, the lyon with his paw
 Defends himself and fights by nature's law,
 And man by the same rule his bow doth draw." }

The poet then points out how, in ancient times, the bow was used only to procure food ; but afterwards, in a more artificial state of society, it became a weapon of war. Columbus and the North American Indians are introduced, and the question touched upon as to who taught the latter the use of the bow. Another panegyric on archery follows :—

"The bow doth courage, health, and strength improve,
 Refresheth nature, gently doth remove
 Noysome distempers, purifies the blood,
 Encreaseth nature's heat, digests the good
 And wholesome nutriment ; expells the bad,
 Cherisheth jovial minds, revives the sad
 Dejected spirits, who, at any price,
 Should much frequent this generous exercise.

Who'er loves health and strength will love this art,
 Practise it often, hugg it in his heart ;
 And who loves neither, but desires to dye,
 Is both this art's and nature's enemy."

Our author then proceeds to describe the practice of archery in Scotland in former times, alluding to the compulsory training in archery ordered by James I. He eulogises the bravery of his forefathers, saying that—

"With bow in hand they'd march up to the fight,
 As if they were in butts to shoot at white."

Meaning that in the time of battle they displayed as much coolness as if they had been shooting at a white paper mark in the butts. The Amazons are next brought into view ; and though their prowess in archery is commended, they are not spoken of in a very gallant way :—

"Tis known
 How terrible the name of *Amazon*
 Was to the Eastern nations ; and how far
 These lasses did extend their fame by war
 Against the greatest monarchs then in power,
 Whose guards one would ha' thought, might soon devour
 Such troops of naked sluts."

The Parthian, Scythian, and English archers are next treated of, followed by a notice of the English and Scotch wars. The Highlanders are then complimented on their archery at the battle of Glenlivet (1594). The Marquess of Athol is now mentioned—

" A most noble hero, much inclined
 Yet to revive this art, has now designed
 T'erect again the arms of archery,
 And counterballance bold antiquity
 In a most flourishing society."

The poem concludes with an attack upon the use of firearms :—

" Pity, then, such an art should be outdone
 By th' airy Fanfara's of *Monsieur Gun*,
 That roaring gallant who the world doth choak
 By his continual storms of Fire and Smoak ;
 That flaming *Hector*, whose assiduous use
 Has made the world a meere *Vesuvius*.

Our Gallants now in Gun do so delight,
 As they their worthy ancestors do slight,
 Upraiding them for their so mean a choise
 As that o' th' bow, an exercise for Boyes
 Compar'd with their *Monk's Brat*,¹ that *spurious rogue*.
 By heaven's anger only now in vogue,
 Who doth derive his genealogie
 From an officious Piece of Chymistry
 Conceiv'd without nature or art's consent,
 And thrust into the world by *accident*.
 Yet has this monster gained so great applause,
 As both to war and peace he now gives laws ;
 Yea, at this time our gunners possibly

¹ Alluding to the alleged discovery of gunpowder by Schwartz, a German monk.

Do look upon this show of archery
 As a mere formal piece of pageantry.
 Well, gentlemen, who knows but in the nation
 Th' old-fashioned bow may yet become the fashion ;
 This is but its first trial, and we hope
 Our archers shortly may the gunning fop
 Out-balance,—nay, perhaps, ere all be done,
 He'l quash the roaring language of the gun."

We must now, however, take leave of 'Archerie Reviv'd,' with the irresistible remark—Could our author have only seen nineteenth century warfare!

The next of the poetical compositions, or compositions claiming to be poetical, relating to the Royal Company, was probably written about the beginning of the eighteenth century, but does not bear any date. It is from a collection of miscellaneous papers in the Advocates' Library. It does not bear many traces of the inspiration of the poetic muse, but in its way is curious.

" Can any be with envy so possest
 Not to rejoice when now we see at last
 The SCOTTISH ARCHERS once again appear,
 Whose Martial Deeds our Hist'rys all declare
 'Gainst *England*? SUCH of old were the Barrier
 Of *Roman* Conquests, such stop'd the Career.

Such with their Lives, the Sov'raignty maintain'd
 Of SCOTLAND, and its honour kept unstain'd
 Thro' many ages ; to their Progenie
 Deliv'ring down their Laws and Country free.

Behold, of Gen'rous Friends a Noble Train,
 Join'd not for vain Applause or hope of Gain ;
 But whom tried Truth, approv'd Honesty,
 With a fix'd Purpose of Integrity,
 Firmly unite in the best Amity.

They'll ne'er their PRINCE or Friends in straits forsake,
 Nor by deceiving Fame, their Judgements make ;
 Always pursuing what is Just and Great,
 Nor Fears nor Hopes can move them to retreat ;

For IN DEFENCE of ALBION'S Liberty
 The Rampant Lyon ¹ shall be raised on high,
 Guarded with armies of such Gallant Youth,
 Whose Breasts are arm'd with Courage and with Truth.
 Our Foes shall fly, or soon resign their Breath,
 Such ARCHERS' Arrows will give certain Death."

This, though very plain-spoken in its political leanings, is certainly not high-class art; but is characteristic enough of the low state of literary taste which prevailed throughout Scotland at the close of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries. The following, however, though sufficiently stilted in style, is a more favourable specimen of that period. It is an address to the Royal Company by the Hon. A. Robertson of Struan, who died in 1749, aged 81. He was, as all students of Scottish history are aware, a zealous Jacobite. He was also a poet of some celebrity in his own day, though his works are now never heard of. The Jacobitism is not quite so loudly proclaimed as in the former verses, but is pretty unmistakably marked.

"See how the bright extended line
 Of Royal Archers shape their way,
 Dispensing from their arms divine
 The glories of the god of day;
 Their pristine worth o'er half the globe does roll,
 As Phœbus darts his beams from pole to pole.

Their great forefathers fought the field,
 Confiding in their arms' address;
 They made insulting nations yield,
 Who, labouring to be great, grew less.
 The Roman Eagle towering in her Pride,
 Foiled by their arrows, disappeared or died.

Let their examples fire your blood
 To deeds becoming Scotia's race,
 Be studious to be great and good
 By means untainted with disgrace;
 Nobly assert your king and country's cause,
 Confess her God and vindicate her laws.

¹ Royal standard.

Thus may old Caledon regain
 That vigour which would seem to sink,
 Her Rampant Lion gnaw his chain,
 Undoing every shameful link :
 No more we'll hear the noble savage moan,
 But see him scour the fields hitherto his own."

The next set of verses which we present to our readers do not strictly belong to the Royal Company, but are curious as informing us of the existence of a sort of cadet company of archers ; and would thus seem to imply that the formation of the Royal Company had given an impulse to the practice of archery, which had led to the embodiment of a society, consisting of the boys attending the High School, many of whose fathers were members of the older body. The lines were written about the same time as those we have been considering—that is to say, at the commencement of last century. They are signed with the initials "G. H.," but we have not been able to discover whom those letters represent.

"A POEM UPON THE NOBLE COMPANY OF YOUNG ARCHERS BELONGING
 TO THE HIGH SCHOOL, EDINBURGH.

To the Honourable Mr *John Maitland*, Brother-german to the Right Honourable the Earl of LAUDERDALE, one of the Brigadiers of the Royal Company of Young ARCHERS.

O may the NAME of MAITLAND ever be kept in Record to all Posteritie.

The Heav'n doth now put forth her smiling Flag,
 And SOL his bright beams with the Arrows wag !
 NEPTUNE makes his Mountainous Billows rore,
 And doth our younger Squade of ARCHERS adore ;
 LUNA, with her bright Count'nance, in them placed !
 MARS, with his Sword of Honour, hath them graced !
 Where are the men that shall our Squade oppose ?
 They'll bend their Bows and dart against their foes !
 This young Squade now begins to mount the stage
 With bended Bows, the Wonder of their Age !
 They're like our SCOTS, which in the days of yore
 All nations round durst ne'er come before !

Altho' our NATION be brought to such a pass,
 Yet this young Squade begins to aim at Grace !
 I hope our Kingdom they'll consult to free,
 When they are come to their Majoritie.
 Behold their Chief Commanders in their Rank,
 ROBERTUS HAY commanding in the Front ;
 Likewise FORRESTER, that noble HERO, he
 Was chief Brig'dier of that brave Companie.
 Next Mr PRINGLE, the Colours he did bear,
 Like Champion Wallace marching to shake his spear !
 Then Mr HUME commands as Adjutant ;
 None could withstand his furious attempt !
 Mr JAMES DOUGLAS, who, like a Lion bold,
 He gained the Arrow, and it with grace did hold.
 No kingdom now can this young Squade excel,
 But only that in which they all do dwell.¹
 O that my Genius could reach their Praises right,
 I might be crown'd for a Poetick Knight !
 But since my Genius cannot reach so far,
 I must resolve their Praises to defer.

G. H."

The next compositions in connection with the Royal Company to which we shall allude are those contained in a little book published in 1726, and entitled 'Poems in English and Latin, on the Archers and Royal Company of Archers, by several Hands.' The "hands" are those of Allan Ramsay, who is too well known to require more than mention ; Dr Pitcairn, the eminent medical man and scholar, better known, perhaps, in his day as "Pitcairn the Atheist," and whose character is so delightfully depicted in Chambers's 'Traditions ;' Thomas Kincaid, who is styled in the preface to 'Pitcairn's Poems,' to which we shall afterwards allude, "*vir supra sortem doctus, et literis humanioribus bene instructus ;*" Joseph Kerr, Professor of Greek in Aberdeen University ; and Scott of Thirlestane. Of course our limits preclude us from giving any very long extracts from these poems ; but one or two we venture to quote. Take the following, more, however, from its oddity than from any great literary excellence ; it is unsigned :—

¹ Scotland.

“ON HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF HAMILTON’S SHOOTING AN ARROW
THROUGH THE NECK OF AN EEL, 4TH JULY 1724.

As from his bow a fatal Flane,¹
Trained by Apollo from the Plain,
In water pierced an eel.
Sae may the PATRIOT’S Power and Art
Sic Fate to souple Rogues impart
That drumble the common weal.
Tho’ they as ony eels are slid,
And throw what’s vile can scud,
A bolt may reach them, tho’ deep hid
They skulk beneath their mud.”

The first poem in the book is a Latin one by Kincaid, elegantly
enough written in Alcaics :—

“IN REGIAM SAGITTARIORUM SCOTORUM COHORTEM.

Scotos pharetris quis, sine gaudio
Tam suscitatos, cerneret invidus
Claros per orbem, Brittonique
Limitibus positisque Romæ ?

Qui sæpe dulcem sanguine patriam
Per tot tuentes secula fortiter
Intaminatos usque honores
Progenie patriæque servant.

Nunc quot sodales jungit amabiles
Non ulla lucri spes, neque gloriæ
Spectata sed virtus, fidesque, et
Integritas studiumque recti ?

Non illi amicos per mala deserunt
Spretisque vulgi vocibus invidis
Non de via justî recedunt
Nec prece, nec pretio, minisve.

Tali juveni si LEO FERVIDUS
Caro repellens vim suo ab Albio
Stipetur, hostiles catervas
Lethiferis subiget sagittis.”

¹ *Anglice*—arrow.

On looking into the above lines, it will be seen that they are in effect a translation of those given on page 277. Following the Latin poem in the volume from which we are quoting is another version in English, more elegant in construction than that which we have given. As the latter, however, was probably the original from which both the other versions were taken, we have preferred to let it stand.

We have by this time too long neglected the Company's own bard, Allan Ramsay. The lines written under his signature in the roll of members of the Company have been already given. His "Archer's March" is well known, but is such a vigorous and inspiring piece, that we may be excused for inserting a few verses here :—

“ Sound, sound the music, sound it,
 Let hills and dales rebound it,
 Let hills and dales rebound it
 In praise of Archery.
 Used as a Game it pleases,
 The mind to joy it raises,
 And throws off all diseases
 Of lazy luxury.

Now, now our care beguiling,
 When all the year looks smiling,
 When all the year looks smiling
 With healthful harmony.
 The sun in glory glowing,
 With morning dew bestowing
 Sweet fragrance, life, and growing
 To flowers and every tree.

'Tis now the archers royal,
 An hearty band and loyal,
 An hearty band and loyal,
 That in just thought agree,
 Appear in ancient bravery,
 Despising all base knavery,
 Which tends to bring in slavery,
 Souls worthy to live free.

Sound, sound the music, sound it,
 Fill up the glass and round wi't,
 Fill up the glass and round wi't,
 Health and Prosperity
 To our great CHIEF and officers,
 To our president and counsellors,
 To all who like their brave forbears
 Delight in Archery."

As a testimony to the joviality and good-fellowship which reigned at the dinner-table of the archers, we may take the following extract. After mentioning all the beauties whose names were given as "toasts" after dinner, as the custom of the time was, the poet says—

"Dear Nymphs unnam'd, lay not the blame
 On us, or on your want of fame,
 That in this list you do not stand,
 For heads give way; but there's my hand
 The neist time we have sic a night
 We'll not neglect to do ye right.

Thus beauties rare and virgins fine,
 With blooming belles, enliven'd our wine,
 Till a' our noses 'gan to shine."

We have mentioned in another part of this work the verses which the bard inscribed under his name on the roll of the Company, and the poem in which he returns thanks for his admission, so we need not mention more of his compositions here. There is another little book of poems in Latin published the year after the volume from which we have taken the foregoing extracts, but which is commonly met with bound up with the latter. It is entitled 'Selecta Poemata, Archibaldi Pitcarnii, Med: Doctoris, Gulielmi Scot a Thirlestane, Equitis, Thomæ Kincadii, Civis Edinburgensis, et aliorum.' It contains a number of poetical compositions in Latin, chiefly odes addressed to the writers' friends and companions. Many of them, as might be expected, display strong Jacobite predilections; one, in fact, being addressed, "ad Jacobum ——."

“Greppa,” too, is not forgotten ; this, as Chambers tells us, was the Latinised nickname of the tavern to which Dr Pitcairn used to resort. The vernacular version of the name was the “Greping Office,” because, as it was situated underground, one could only get through the labyrinth of its passages by groping the way along. There are not many of the odes which have reference to the Royal Company ; but we may give the following two short ones. The first is to Robert Freebairn, king’s printer and bookseller in Edinburgh, who himself prefixes a long Latin preface to the volume. It must have been written shortly before Pitcairn’s death, if it refers to Freebairn winning a prize, as the only time he was a successful competitor was in the very year in which the Doctor died. The lines may, however, only refer to his superiority in some private shooting-match ; and, from the title, this is not unlikely :—

“ROBERTO FRIBARNIO, TYPOGRAPHO REGIO, IN CERTAMINE
SAGITTARIORUM REGIORUM VICTORI, A.P., S.D.

Prisca pharetratis et propria gloria Scotis,
Per te ter faustum nunc rediviva micat.
Illa diu decoret Drummondum, Kincadiumque
Et te, tres animas deliciasque meas.”

The next is to that veteran archer who, we have seen, filled the post of President of the Council for so many years, and is engraved on the medal attached to the Edinburgh Arrow in 1709 :—

“IN DAVIDEM DRUMMONDUM IN CERTAMINE SAGITTARIORUM
EDINBURGENSI VICTOREM, ANNO —.

Phœbe, genus die atque virum, cui nuper honores
Felici peperit missa sagitta manu.
Ille suam credit, cui cesset palma, sagittam,
Nos illam scimus, Phœbe, fuisse tuam.”

David Drummond appears to have been a man much beloved by his contemporaries, as we find, both in this collection of pieces

and in the one to which we formerly referred, many poems and stanzas addressed to him, all in terms of the most affectionate regard. Scot of Thirlestane thus alludes in a long birthday ode to his prowess in golf and archery :—

“Sive victorem baculo globisque
Sive certantem celeri sagitta
Te canam flexo speciosum in arcu
Tollere palmam.”

The last extract we shall give is by the same author in celebration of the competition for the Musselburgh Arrow, 1724. The poem possesses a certain amount of interest on the following account : When the foundation of the Archers' Hall was laid in 1776, two lines of Latin were inscribed on a plate which was deposited in the stone. These lines, beginning “Nulla Caledoniam,” were taken from the following composition :—

“Ecce pharetratos mavortia pectora Scotos,
Hostibus ut fortes tela tremenda ferunt.
Nulla Caledoniam gens unquam impune lacesset,
Usque sagittiferis robur et ardor inest.
Si quis Hamiltonum, curvo dum fortis in arcu,
Dum victrix valida missa sagitta manu
Viderat, insignem, fida comitante caterva,
Nobilis et turmæ et fortia tela ducis ;
Proclamet, dextra quantum pro civibus audet,
Gentis Hamiltonæ spesque decusque domus.
Juppiter ipse jubet, nunc cedas, Phoebe, sagittas
Huic, jubet ipsa Venus, cede, Cupido, tuas :
Invictas acies, invictaque pectora cerno,
Invictumque suum, qua libet ire, ducem.
Fata ferunt, nec sunt avibus prædicta sinistris,
Dum Scotis arcus, dumque sagitta manet,
Ille Caledoniis arcebit finibus hostem
Et reddet patriæ pristina jura suæ.”

We must now take leave of this little company of Jacobite scholars, who, though their works are now forgotten and unread, did good service in their time by keeping up a taste for literature

and classical studies in Scotland at a period when it was much needed.

We now meet with a composition in honour of the Royal Company of a somewhat different character from any we have seen before. In 1734, the Company had held a most successful parade on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh Arrow, to which upwards of one hundred and twenty members turned out. Under date 5th August in the same year, we find recorded in the minutes of Council that "this night James Freebairn, one of the members of the Company, and at present one of the Judges thereof, made a present to the Council of a French drammatick poem, composed by him on the late parade of the Company, which the Council accepted and received very kindly, and returned their thanks to him for it." In 1825, another copy of the poem was presented as a curiosity to the Company by one of the members. The author was a son of that Robert Freebairn, the king's printer, whom we have previously noticed, and followed the profession of a teacher of French in Edinburgh—hence the language in which the poem is written. It is not a very high specimen of literary art, being in a great part composed of the names of the different officers and members of the Company, which have an incongruous and somewhat ludicrous effect occurring in the middle of French sentences. We give a few quotations from it, so that our readers may judge of its merits for themselves. The title is "La Parade des Archers Eccosois, Poeme Dramatique, adressé au très-haut et puissant Prince Jacques, Duc d'Hamilton et Brandon, &c., &c., Capitaine-General, et a tous les officiers de la Compagnie Royale des Archers Eccosois." The "Argument" then proceeds as follows: "L'on suppose; que la bonne Dame *Caledonie*, s'enveillant d'un grand Assoupissement, au bruit des trompettes et des tambours, de la Compagnie Royale des *Archers Eccosois*, demande au Poète, qui se trouve proche d'elle, Ce que c'est. Il lui apprend, que la Compagnie va faire une Parade Solemnelle, lui fait connoitre les noms de presque toute la noblesse dont elle est composée, et lui

montre tous les *officiers* dans l'ordre où ils sont rangés. Ce qui fait le sujet du Poeme, qui s'acheve par une Prière de Caledonie pour leur Felicité, et par des Chœurs des Hommes et des Dames qui se sont accourus pour voir ce beau spectacle."

The poem then opens by Caledonia asking the poet what all the noise of trumpets which she heard was about. He answers :—

"Ouvrez les yeux, madame, le spectacle est aimable.
Voilà de vos enfans, un corps tres formidable
Qui vont montrer à l'arc, leur adresse leur vigueur
Et pour leur chere Patrie, signaleroient leur valeur."

Caledonia says that she recognises their dress and arms as those in which her children in former days repelled the Saxons and Romans, and then the poet further explains :—

"Reconnoissez donc ce corps, pour vos meilleurs amis
Ils portent de cœurs Ecossois, au dessous de l'habit.
Hautement ils ont juré, de soutenir les Loix,
La liberté du Pays, et vos anciens droits."

On Caledonia asking the names of the principal archers, the poet begins—

"L'on y voit l'Elite, de nos Familles Ecossoises
Comme de nos Douglas, de nos Grahames, Keiths, et Hayes ;"

and so on through a list of about seventy names of Scotch families, with which we shall not tire our readers' patience by repeating. The officers are then described a little more in detail, and in the notice of the first of them the political leanings of the Company are allowed to be seen. Caledonia inquires who the leader is, and is informed :—

"C'est d'Hamilton le Duc, à nul second in Rang
Et Premier en merite, comme Premier par sur sang."

On which she observes :—

“J’applaudis à leur choix. Il est digne de paroître
A la tête de ses gardes, lorsqu’ absent est leur MAITRE.”

The other officers are then pointed out by the poet, with a few remarks on each. The procession sweeps past, the rear brought up by the Earl of Wigtown :—

“L’arrière garde est faite, par Fleming le vaillant
Qui ressemble par sa mine au Dieu de Combatans.”

This closes the show :—

“La parade est finie, en Beauté un miracle
Benissez vos enfans, et couronnez le spectacle.”

And Caledonia accordingly “blesses her children” in the following lines :—

“Que la Victoire par tout, suive l’effort de leur bras ;
Que le Ciel les protege, au milieu des combats.
Ciel ! écoutez ma prière, regardez mes larmes,
Et secondez par tout, et leur vœux, et leurs armes ;
Qu’ils ressemblent enfin, a leurs illustres ayeux,
Qui toujours, pour mes Droits, ont bravement combatu.
Ayeux, qu’avec respect, tout l’univers admire ;
Ayeux qui, tant de fois, ont sauve mon Empire ;
Tant de fois affermi, le Trône de mes Rois
Embrassé mes intérêts, et soutenu mes lois.”

The poem then ends with a chorus chanting the praises of the archers :—

“*Chœur des Hommes.*

Celebrez, jeunes Beautés les Louanges de ces Vainqueurs
Qui vont mettre a vos piez, et leurs arcs et leurs Cœurs.
Faites repeter aux Echos les illustres exploits
Des Archers Eccossois le garde du Corps du Roi.¹

¹ This is curious, as showing that even at this time there was a belief that the Royal Company was the King’s Body-guard. Of course a Stuart king is meant ; some of the

Chœur des Femmes.

Joignons tous nos accords et ploions des Lauriers
Pour couronner les Fronts de ces fameux guerriers.

Chœur des tous les deux.

Unissons-nous ensemble, accordons tous nos voix
Pour chanter à l'Honneur, des gardiens de nos loix
Chantons ces nobles Archers, leur Patrie et la gloire
Ont toujours dans leur cœurs, emporté la victoire."

We may now take leave of our French muse, and with her of all poetry connected with the Royal Company for many years.

We have, indeed, to pass over a considerable space of time ere we again come across any poems in honour of the Company. No doubt many such lines were written, and many songs sung, during the last century, but none have come down to us. The devotion to "the cause," which characterised so many members of the body, is pretty certain to have found vent in song or verse, but no traces of them have survived. In fact, we have only one poem connected with the Archers belonging to the latter part of the eighteenth century. It consists of a set of verses by Walter Johnston "On Mr St Clair of Roslin, and his band of Royal Scots Archers." It bears date 8th July 1776, and there is both a Latin and English version of the poem. We give the latter entire :—

"Once on a day, with bonnets blue,
Our grandsires twang'd the trusty yew,
To Scotland's cause and honour true,
Whene'er they took the field.

Like St Clair's band they stood array'd
Where Rome's proud eagle was display'd ;
Though trembling nations all obey'd,
True Scotsmen scorn'd to yield.

members of the Company might have seen the " Scottish Archer Guard " at the French Court, and associated them with their own " Royal Company " at home.

No Saxon, Dane, no pirate crew,
 No English king could us subdue,
 So quick and thick our arrows flew
 Against usurping might.

Brave St Clair now revives the game,
 And, mindful of our ancient name,
 Stands still prepared to do the same
 For Scotland and our right.

Ag'd as he is, like Fingal bold,
 He is a Scotsman true—though old—
 Who cannot see his country sold
 For pensions and for pelf :

While our chief bowmen leave the plain,
 Some by oppression, some for gain,
 Our ancient honour to maintain,
 He draws the bow himself.

Though we have lost our ancient fame,
 Though Scotland is an empty name,
 Long on the Links may he proclaim
 Our ancient deeds of yore !

Long may the loyal band and he
 An annual emblem show, which we
 With grief and joy mixt must see,
 ‘Since we can do no more.’”

The Latin version of these spirited lines begins thus :—

“Tam pharetrata cohors referens, de more solenni
 Prisca Caledoniæ tempora gentis adest.
 Arcus et arma sonant humeris velut ante sonabant
 Cum fera Romanas Scotia fugit opes,” &c.

The lines were published in the ‘Scots Magazine’ for 1776, page 385 ; but few of our readers will, we think, regret their reproduction here.

We have no more Archers’ songs till the present century, and by that time all political feeling as to the succession had passed away, and cordial good-fellowship is the only spirit embodied in

the compositions of the period.¹ The following verses were probably written about 1815, but their authorship is unknown :—

“AN ARCHER’S SONG.

To the Tune of—‘ A Cobbler there was, and he lived in a Stall.’

Brave Archers attend to the counsel I give,
And learn while you’re able to shoot and to live,
From exercise, air, and shooting you’ll find
At once strength of body and vigour of mind.

Derry down, down, &c.

Then haste to the field in your archer’s attire,
And from shooting obtain your progenitor’s fire.
Aim well at the mark to your arrow held out,
And often enliven the game with a ‘clout.’

Derry down, down, &c.

When braced by the field to the table repair,
Drink first to the king and then to the fair,
Then good-humoured mirth will come forth from the bowl,
And a full-flowing goblet enliven the soul.

Derry down, down, &c.”

The next song we come across was written about the same time, bearing date 25th April 1815. It describes the shooting of a match between several of the most distinguished archers of the Company, and is full of allusions to the technical terms used in archery :—

“Ae simmer’s day, the wind blew laigh,
Thin clouds were o’er the sun, man,
Ilk Archer stout his gear got out,
And wished the game begun, man.

¹ Through the kindness of friends we have received a good many Archers’ songs to select from. Some of these are too personal, and turn on private jokes too much to be generally popular. Others, though innocent enough in themselves, bear the stamp of the somewhat freer and less artificial manners of a former generation to such a degree as to render them not quite suitable for reproduction in a modern publication. Those that are given, however, it is hoped will meet with the approbation of our readers.

Our tabs and brace were in their place,
 Our bows and shafts weel proven,
 We sent the marks intill Hope Parks,
 And forth we went a-rovin'.

Chorus—For we're rovin' boys, we're rovin' boys,
 We dearly like our rovin';
 Gie ither folk their wale o' joys,
 Gie us but routh o' rovin'.

The *Painter*¹ first the party *drew*,
 And syne *began* the '*end*,' man;
 The *Patriot*² he furious grew,
 And swore he ne'er could *bend*, man.
 The *langest* in the field were *short*
 Whene'er a breeze did blow, man;
 The greatest *buck* that joined the sport
 Turned out but *half a bow (beau)*, man.

Chorus—But we're rovin' boys, &c.

The *Bruiser*³ said he couldna *knock*,
 And didna' ken his distance;
 Syne wi' a stroke his bow he broke,
 Because his mark he miss'd ance.
 Poor *Linning*⁴ couldna be a '*clout*,'
 Which made the callant war, 'maist';
 Howe'er, to keep the stragglers out,
 He put a gude '*foot*' foremost.

Chorus—And we're rovin' lads, &c.

To *borrow* much a laird erect,
 Tho' rich, had great occasion;
 And syne there cam an architect,⁵
 Wha tuik nae *elevation*.

¹ Mr Watson, afterwards Sir John Watson Gordon.

² Mr Lang.

³ Robert Duff, Esq., advocate.

⁴ John Linning, Esq., Accountant of Excise, Secretary to the Royal Company.

⁵ William Burn, Esq., architect.

The party done, then aff we run
 To dinner at the Ha', man ;
 To sup and munch our beef and punch
 Till tipsy ane and a', man.
 In *peace and war* the lads we are,
 Whate'er may be the wark, man ;
 In canny peace, or bloody war,
 We'll aye be in the mark, man.

Chorus—For we're rovin' boys, &c."

Following the order of years, the next composition we shall present to the notice of our readers is one which must have been written about 1831, judging from the incidents to which it refers. It is called

"THE BODY-GUARD,

A CHOICE NEW GARLAND.

Tune—'The Groves of Blarney.'

Oh, Mr Chairman, 'tis not a sermon
 Nor an oration that I intend,
 Unused as I am to public speaking ;
 That were mistaking my aim and end.
 No ! my intention is just to mention
 That bold battalion the Body-guard,
 Whose rights and privileges, while we live, we lieges,
 To fight and die for, do stand prepared.

Have you reviewed that gallant body
 Over their toddy, or in the field ?
 For loyal duty and manly beauty,
 For fun and fancy they stand revealed.
 No ancient statue could, for graceful attitude,
 A moment be with them compared.
 Apollo Belvidere would soon be shelvèd here—
 He couldn't show with the Body-guard.

And then they're deep 'uns to use their weapons—
 Their bow and arrows, their knife and fork ;
 They've pens for schedules, for punch they've ladles,
 And cruel cork-screws for a cork !

They've tongues for speeches, for nags they've switches,
 And legs for breeches, or 'twill go hard ;
 Brushes for painters, cut glass decanters,
 And bagpipe chanters have this Body-guard.

When Georgius Quartus first looked athwart us,
 I saw him start with much surprise ;
 We seemed so stout that when he looked about,
 I have no doubt that he blessed his eyes.
 Upon his station, with observation
 And admiration he stood and stared.
 'Fore George, my Lord,' said he, ' I ne'er before did see
 So well-proportioned a Body-guard.'

William the Fourth, too, he's coming north too,
 Then all our grandeur we will unfold ;
 We'll have our band heard, and with stick and standard ¹
 We'll shine before him in green and gold.
 But I'll not prophesy what not far off I see
 Of future favours and rich reward ;
 But keep that story of coming glory
 For another song on the Body-guard."

After this spirited song we have only room for a few verses of a production written in celebration of an excursion to Selkirk and Peebles in 1833 :—

“THE ARCHERS' CRUSADE,

ANE BORDER CAROL.

Air—'Gee ho, Dobbin.'

If a song must be sung, or a speech must be made,
 I'll recount the exploits of our Archers' crusade ;
 Of their doings at Selkirk, at Peebles their fun ;
 Tho', if all is recounted, I ne'er should be done
 With Selkirk stories,
 Peebles glories—
 Sure such a Body-guard never was seen.

¹ Alluding to the gold stick and stand of colours with which his Majesty had presented the Company.

I'll not rehearse what took place on the road,
 At Torsonce the breakfast, nor the bugles *as blowed* ;
 Of the fowls, the cold mutton, the chops, and fried fish,
 And who ate of this one, and who t'other dish.
 With trumpets blowing,
 Coaches going,
 Sure such a Body-guard never was seen.

The shooting concluded, you all may surmise
 Who was back'd as the favourite to carry the prize ;
 For 'spite of Lord Ramsay and all he could do,
 That Watson¹ would gain it was fifty to two.
 For Watson Harry,
 Watson Harry,
 Beat the whole Archers, the King's Body-guard."

After describing the convivialities of the mess in the evening,
 the avenging "next morning" dawns :—

"Next morning the headaches, the small beer, the jokes,
 The hot hand, the hot head, the pigs in the poke ;
 The gay breakfast at Yair—and there's one that felt queer
 Till he got a good swig of Glenormiston beer—
 Where we had luncheon,
 And drank a puncheon
 In quenching the thirst of the King's Body-guard."

Peebles is then reached ; and after the competition, in which the
 prize is once more won by Mr Watson, mirth and jollity again reign
 supreme. The song ends with a toast to Lord Ramsay, afterwards
 Marquess of Dalhousie and Governor-General of India, one of the
 most esteemed of members, and Sir John Forbes of Pitsligo, Bart.,
 who commanded the expedition :—

"Here's a health to Lord Ramsay, the good and the gay,
 To our gallant Sir John, who so well led the way.

¹ Henry G. Watson, Esq., then the popular treasurer of the Company, and the best
 shot in it.

Attended at all times by peace, happiness, wealth,
 May God always prosper and preserve in good health
 These noble fellows,
 Worthy fellows,
 Two as good archers as e'er drew a bow."

A ludicrous interruption to the shooting-parties of the Royal Company took place about the year 1845. A firm of graziers named Boyd & Latta had leased the Meadows for pasturage, and put up sundry fences which interfered with the pitching of the targets. This was, of course, a source of great annoyance to the archers, and it was frequently found necessary to intrude on the railed-off ground. To prevent this, Messrs Boyd & Latta hit upon the original expedient of putting several bulls in the park, thinking, no doubt, that such animals would effectually vindicate the rights of their domain. Whether the bovine monarchs ever did assert their sovereignty by actually charging her Majesty's Body-guard, we do not know ; but the circumstance of their being placed there gave occasion to one of the wits of the Company to pen the following verses :—

"THE BULLS,

A NEW SONG TO A WELL-KNOWN TUNE.

Come all ye jolly archers,
 So skilled in butts and bows,
 I'll tell you of the secret
 Of ——— woes ;
 What is the greatest terror
 That his heart can ever fear ?
 'Tis to shoot with bow and arrow
 When the bulls draw near.

Chorus—When the bulls draw near, when the bulls draw near ;
 'Twixt the bowmen and the mark, when the bulls draw near.

'Tis not on gala days
 That an archer's pluck is seen,
 When life he drinks from beauty's smile
 And light from ladye's e'en,

And his band are playing near him ;
 Ah ! then he has no fear—
 'Tis quite another thing, sir,
 When the bulls draw near.

Chorus—When the bulls, &c.

Oh, woe betide thee, Latta !
 And woe betide thee, Boyd !
 Ye sent your bulls of Bashan
 To humble ——'s pride ;
 For while he eyes the *bull's-eye*,
 Four glaring eyes appear
 And glower like devils at him,
 When the bulls draw near.

Chorus—When the bulls, &c.

He flew to Bailie ——
 To enter a protest,
 And swore this *charge of horning* ¹
 Deprived him of his rest :
 When Bailie —— decerned
 That each brute he made a steer,
 And that archers must not tremble
 When a bull draws near.

Chorus—When a bull draws near, &c.”

We are indebted to Mr H. G. Watson for the next song we shall give.

“THE GLORY OF ARCHERY.

I sing in praise of ancient days now gone and passed away,
 When Chivalry and Archery in fight had all the sway,
 And set the front and bore the brunt in many a bloody fray,
 Ere bows and shafts and archer crafts began to be forgot.

Oh then our valiant ancestors, they estimated more
 A marksman good like Robin Hood, who shot full twenty score,
 Than all your deep philosophers who pored o'er ancient lore,
 Ere bows and shafts and archer crafts began to be forgot.

Our yeomen then were stalwart men—were jovial, bold, and brave,
 Who liked to strike a buck of ten, or play the merry knave,
 And bend a bow we'd look upon as fit for a spear-stave,
 Ere bows and shafts and archer's crafts began to be forgot.

¹ A play upon a Scotch law term.

Forgot ! not so, the Scottish bow shall never want a string
 While Scottish arms have strength to draw, and Scottish hearts can sing,
 Or Scottish hands and hearts there are to guard our Lady Queen ;
 Nor bows nor shafts nor archer's crafts shall ever be forgot."

To an eminent judge on the Scottish bench is due the credit of rescuing the following capital song from oblivion. It is from the pen of a man well known at one time in Edinburgh literary circles—William Hay—who was appointed bard to the Royal Company in 1837. The song, however, bears date August 1835, and is entitled—

“SAGITTARIORUM.

Tune—‘Tullochgorum.’

Inspire me now, John Barleycorn,
 For every meaner aid I scorn,
 To blaw aright the Muses' horn
 Wi' a' its variorum,
 That Harry Watson ¹ pleased may be,
 Harry Watson, Harry Watson,
 That Harry Watson pleased may be,
 That man of strict decorum ;
 That Harry Watson pleased may be,
 And all this goodly companie,
 So famed for fun and archerie,
 Of Sagittariorum.

Auld Scotia's records truly show
 How oft our sires opposed the foe,
 And quelled, by quiver and by bow,
 The strength of Romanorum ;
 Both Dane and Norse before them fell,
 Dane and Norseman, Dane and Norseman,
 Both Dane and Norse before them fell,
 Or fled like stour before them ;
 Both Dane and Norse before them fell,
 Largs, Roslin, Luncartie, Dunkel',
 And Bannockburn, the might can tell
 Of Sagittariorum.

¹ Mr Secretary Watson.

What though no more the battle lowers
 Wi' thickening gloom of arrowy showers?
 The martial spirit still is ours—

 And cowards, we do abhor 'em ;
 And good Dalhousie¹ we can show,
 Great Dalhousie, brave Dalhousie,
 And noble Hopetoun we can show,
 And heroes twenty score o' 'em ;
 And good Dalhousie we can show,
 Who oft has taught the trembling foe
 What ardours in the bosom glow
 Of Sagittariorum.

And see his son² sae frank and free,
 Meet blossom of an ancient tree ;
 May Ramsay a Dalhousie be
 In sæcula sæculorum !
 A canty callant, faith, is he,
 A canty callant, noble callant,
 A canty callant, faith, is he,
 Like all his house before him ;
 A canty callant, faith, is he,
 The friend of *us*, and archerie ;
 Of *us*—the Royal Companie
 Of Sagittariorum.

And though no more in good greenwood
 Our arrows pierce the sylvan brood,
 If England had her Robin Hood,
 Auld Scotland has a score o' em.
 And a' our arrows something hit,
 Seldom missing, seldom missing,
 And a' our arrows something hit,
 Wi' little variorum ;
 And a' our arrows something hit,
 Altho' some gowks o' little wit
 Have deemed the safer place—the butt
 Of Sagittariorum.

And see his band o' trusty friends
 When each the bow of care unbends,
 And wit his pointed arrow sends
 To every *butt* before him ;

¹ Captain-General, the Earl of Dalhousie.

² Lord Ramsay, afterwards Marquess of Dalhousie.

Then every archer wins a *clout*,
 Laughing, quaffing—laughing, quaffing ;
 Then every archer wins a clout,
 And grief, she does abhor him :
 Then every archer wins a clout,—
 And Care, she wheels to right about,
 She canna bear the joyous shout
 Of Sagittariorum.

Oh, lese me on the Archer Band !
 Wi' loyal heart and ready hand,
 Where honour ever can command
 A patriotic quorum ;
 To guard the kingly head and throne,
 Archers Royal, archers loyal,
 To guard the kingly head and throne,
 And ever to watch o'er 'em ;
 To guard the kingly head and throne,
 And every traitor loon disown,
 Be this the Charter's corner-stone
 Of Sagittariorum."

The next song we shall give is one of more modern days, and is from the pen of our accomplished Surgeon-General, Professor Douglas Maclagan, the productions of whose muse have often afforded the greatest pleasure and enjoyment to many social gatherings besides those round the "board of green cloth" at Archers' Hall, and who, we were rejoiced to see, lately gave the public a rich treat in the publication of a little volume of poems and songs.

"ARCHERS' HALL,

Air—'Fill the Bumper fair.'

Fill your glasses high,
 And don't stop the claret ;
 Your singer's always dry,
 And I shall want to share it.
 There's a precious lot
 Of speeches more to hear now,
 And if dry at throat,
 We won't be fit to cheer now.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

Folks there are who think
 'Tis for nothing better
 Than to eat and drink
 That we Archers met are.
 Little they suspect
 That our convocation
 Is solely to protect
 The interests of the nation.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

'Tis on us alone
 You can place reliance,
 To make the world get on
 In letters, arts, and science ;
 And when people call
 For guidance, as they do, sir,
 'Tis but at Archers' Hall
 They learn what's right and true, sir.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

For instance, there's Lord John,
 He makes a botheration,
 That something must be done
 For general education.
 He may hold his tongue,
 And end the whole dispute, now,
 For we can teach 'the young
 Idea how to shoot,' now.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

There's your engineer
 Needs his theodolite, sir,
 And spirit-level queer
 To lay his railways right, sir.
 His surveys he'll resign,
 For here, with our assistance,
 He'll learn to keep his *line*,
 And also know his *distance*.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

What work your whipper-in
 In Parliament has got, sir !
 He toils through thick and thin
 To bring his men to vote, sir.

Although he makes a fuss,
 And thinks himself so smart, he
 Here may learn from us
 The way to *draw a party*.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

Euclid, who's a fool,
 With all his mathematics,
 Has 'half is less than whole'
 Among his axiomatics.
 His axiom's wrong, we know,
 And therefore is a droll one ;
 For the fact is 'half a bow'
 Is greater than a whole one.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

When we drink 'The Mark'
 With a voice of thunder,
 Folks think there's something dark
 And cabalistic under.
 In this they might divine,
 If they were not asses,
 Our algebraic sign
 For 'Archers, fill your glasses.'

Fill your glasses high, &c.

Your soldier when he comes
 From battles and from wars, sir,
 And talks of guns and drums,
 And bloody fields of Mars, sir.
 His torn and tattered flags
 He talks a deal about, sir ;
 But though they're blown to rags,
 They're nothing to our *clouts*, sir.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

Your surgeon when the foe
 With deadly aim has shot, sir,
 With knives will cut you through,
 And spill of blood a lot, sir ;
 But when to us he comes,
 He sees the shot *cut out*, sir ;
 Sometimes with our *thumbs*,
 And sometimes with a *foot*, sir.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

Hosts of folks, we're told,
 Round half the globe will wander,
 To dig for bits of gold
 About Mount Alexander.
 We don't need to go
 So far for such rewards, sir ;
 We get our *golds*, you know,
 At just the hundred yards, sir.

Fill your glasses high, &c.

So now I've told my tale
 Of what I wished to show, sir,
 That Archers never fail
 In drawing the long bow, sir.
 Here, then, ends my song ;
 I thank you for your hearing ;
 So pass the wine along,
 My throat's in want of clearing."

"ARCHERS' HALL, 1850."

We will close our lyrical budget with an extract from a capital poem by the veteran bow-maker to the Royal Company, the flight of whose muse, if not so high as that of one of his own excellently shot arrows, is as smooth and easy, and, going straight to the mark, is certain to be signalled back from the heart of every gallant archer, "true as gold :"—

"When round our mark in forest green,
 Each archer's fondest story
 Is honour to our virtuous Queen,
 Th' advance of Britain's glory.
 No thought within our souls can light
 But's mingled still with love ;
 Our thoughts are like our arrows' flight—
 They soar the earth above.

Chorus—Then join with me, ye merry men,
 We'll toast the bow and quiver ;
 And may our lives, like our bright mark,
 Be brilliant rounds for ever.

To please our aim no victim bleeds,
No eye ere drops in sadness ;
Humane are all an archer's deeds,
And all he feels is gladness.
It lengthens life, it strengthens limb,
It adds to beauty's glow ;
Disease flies off on rapid wing
From him who twangs the bow.

Chorus—Then join with me, ye merry men, &c."



CHAPTER XII.

DESCRIPTION OF PRIZES.

MUSSELBURGH ARROW—ANTIQUITY OF THIS PRIZE—ANCIENT REGULATIONS AS TO SHOOTING FOR IT—REMARKABLE MEDALS ATTACHED TO THE ARROW—LATIN INSCRIPTION BY THOMAS KINCAID—MURRAY OF BROUGHTON—HIS BADGE AND INSCRIPTION THEREON—LIST OF WINNERS—THE PRIZE OF THE GOOSE—OLD MANNER OF SHOOTING FOR THE GOOSE—PRESENT MODE OF COMPETITION—INSTITUTION OF THE “GOOSE MEDAL”—WINNERS’ NAMES—EDINBURGH ARROW—REGULATIONS—PROCLAMATION OF THE COMPETITION “BY TUCK OF DRUM”—PARADES OF THE COMPANY TO SHOOT FOR THE ARROW—CURIOUS INSCRIPTIONS ON THE MEDALS—LIST OF WINNERS—THE SILVER BOWL—INSTITUTION OF THE PRIZE—REGULATIONS FOR SHOOTING—LADLE ADDED TO THE BOWL—ADDITION MADE TO ITS SIZE—CHANGE IN THE REGULATIONS FOR SHOOTING—WINNERS’ NAMES—THE QUEEN’S PRIZE—FIRST NOTICE OF ROYAL PRIZE—INSTITUTION OF PRESENT PRIZE IN 1787—SHOT FOR AT WAPINSCHAW IN 1844—INSTITUTION OF BADGE BY LORD DALHOUSIE.

The Musselburgh Arrow.

(See PLATE IX.)

THIS prize is the most ancient of all those shot for by the Royal Company. To speak correctly the prize should be termed the Musselburgh Arrows, as there are two of them—a small one and a large one, the latter of which was presented to the town of Musselburgh by Adam Coult, advocate, in place of his badge, when he gained the prize in 1713. On one of the feathers are engraved the arms of the burgh, and on the other Mr Coult’s coat of arms with the motto “Transfigam.” Of the origin of the Arrow itself, little can be ascertained; the earliest date on the medals

attached to it is 1603; and as the records of the burgh do not extend further back than 1635, we have no account of the institution of the prize. It is quite possible that it may have been shot for in the sixteenth century. After 1676, it does not seem to have been shot for by any except members of the Royal Company (with perhaps one exception). Before that it is difficult to say whether the competition was limited to burgesses of Musselburgh or was open to all comers. The latter view is not an improbable one, as we find the prize was won in 1667 by Alexander Hay, his Majesty's Bower, whose name we also find on a medal appended to the Peebles Arrow in 1663. Whoever won the Arrow three times in succession was originally entitled to keep it as his own property. This occurred for the first time in 1643, 1644, and 1649, when R. Dobie of Stonyhill was the successful competitor. He, however, we are informed by a memorandum in the burgh records, "for y^e love and affection borne be him to y^e weell and standing of this burch, giftet and gave bak agane y^e said silver arrow to Johne Calderwood, present baillie, in name and behalf of y^e baillies, counsell, and communitie of y^e same burch, to be keepit and used be thame at thair pleasour in time coming." The author of the 'History of the Regality of Musselburgh' states that the enactment declaring a winner of the prize three years in succession to have a right to the property in it was rescinded in 1709. If this be correct, it is curious to find a formal deed entered into in 1711 between George Drummond, who had won the Arrow thrice in succession, and the magistrates of Musselburgh. The agreement is given at full length in the records of the Royal Company, but is too long to be quoted entire; the following, however, are its most important points: "The said George Drummond having gained the Silver Arrow of Musselburgh three times successively, *and thereby, conform to former custom, become proprietor thereof*, doth of his own free will and pleasure, by the advice of the Royal Company of Archers, gift the same to the town of Musselburgh, with fourty badges of silver and three pieces of gold appended, to

remain with them as a perpetual testimony of his respect to the said Royal Company and town of Musselburgh in all time coming." From this grant or redelivery of the Arrow to the town it appears that George Drummond was satisfied that he had a clear right to it; and from the circumstances of the magistrates being the second parties to the deed, we may assume that they did not dispute his right, notwithstanding any former enactments of the Town Council to the contrary. In consideration of Mr Drummond giving up the Arrow, the magistrates undertook that it should be shot for under certain specified rules, the first of which was that it should never after be liable to become the property of a thrice successful competitor, but that it should only remain in the custody of the winner for one year after each competition, no matter how often he gained it. The other regulations have no special interest attached to them, being very much the same as those under which the Edinburgh Arrow is shot for. We are informed in the burgh records that, upon this occasion, Mr Drummond was complimented by the Town Council with "fifty-six pounds Scots for his civility in returning" the Arrow. With the exception of Dr Lewis—who won the Arrow in 1720, 1721, and 1722—the only other gentleman who has held this prize three times in succession was the late Sir Patrick Walker, who gained it in 1816, 1817, and 1818.

The Musselburgh Arrow has been shot for with great regularity since the formation of the Royal Company. There are nearly two hundred medals appended to the two arrows, the great majority, of course, being on the large one. The arrows used to be carried in a net before the town-drum previous to the shooting, but of late years this practice has been discontinued in consequence of the weight of the prizes and the danger of losing some of the badges. There are several very interesting and curious designs on some of the earlier of the medals; all of these it would be impossible to notice in our limits, but a few of the more remarkable we may mention. Down to the year 1783, a favourite device is the figure of an archer drawing a bow; the archer is invariably represented

as dressed in tartan, but none in the kilt. Sometimes a scroll with a motto proceeds from the mouth of the figure—one bearing the legend, “To the poynt.” A few medals are undated, and these some would refer to a period anterior to the seventeenth century, thus making them the oldest of all the badges: in most of the prize-lists which have been compiled from time to time they are assigned to the years 1668-1672. One of them is especially quaint; on one side is a man’s head, a most uncouth ill-favoured monster, with the words “Pro secundo” underneath, and on the reverse the following lines:—

“When *Ardrose* was a man
 He could not be peal’d;
 At the old sport he wan,
 When *Ardrose* was a man.
 But now he neither may nor can;
 Alas! he is fail’d.
 When *Ardrose* was a man
 He could not be peal’d.”

Peal, or *peel*, is an old Scotch word signifying to match or equal.¹

Amongst the other undated badges we may mention one in the shape of an axe, with a tree engraved on one side, and XX on the other; there is also one in the shape of a bell, such as is hung round the neck of a lap-dog at the present time. This badge may be distinctly seen in the photograph of the smaller of the two Musselburgh arrows, near the right-hand extremity, on the upper side. Passing from the earlier medals, and coming to those belonging to last century, we find some very large ones, on which are inscribed Latin verses, chiefly from the pen of Thomas Kincaid, whom we have had occasion to mention before as an elegant classical scholar. We cannot give them all, but as an example we may take the first one of the series; it is the medal of John Bayne, younger of Tulloch, who won the Arrow in 1705. On one side is the crest and arms of the holder, and on the other, the following lines:—

¹ *Vide* Jameson’s Scot. Dict., Supp. s. v. *Peel*.

“De

JOHANNE BANO, sagittandi PALMAM referente.

BANUS vetusto stemmate nobilis,
Et MARTE et ARTE est, ut genere inclutus,
Virtutibus vere decorus
Viribus ingenioque pollens,

Nullus sagittas figere doctior,
Seu meta longe, seu sita sit prope :
Sic dextera felice certans,
MARTIS et ARTIS alumnus audit.

Scotos pharetris qui celebres negat,
Quos *Buchananus* laudibus evehit,
Huc adsit, Heroumque priscum
Clara dabit documenta BANUS.

Posuit sodalis pharetratus,
M.D.C.C.V.

T. K.”

The other medals adorned with inscriptions from Kincaid's pen are those of 1707 and 1708, both George Drummond's ; and 1717, David Drummond's. The last medal we shall notice is that of John Murray of Broughton, the Pretender's Secretary : on the one side is, as usual, the coat of arms and crest ; on the reverse, the figure of a Roman soldier, with his breast pierced by a sword held by a hand issuing from a cloud, the whole surrounded by the motto, “*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*” Now comes the curious part ; underneath the figure has been engraved by a later hand, in sarcastic allusion to the legend, “*Quantum mutatus ab illo*—March 11th, 1747,” referring to the subsequent ignominious career of the proprietor of the badge. He was, as we have elsewhere stated, expelled from the Company in 1748.

The other medals attached to the Musselburgh Arrow do not call for any special mention. After 1753 they become much smaller in size, and the inscriptions do not present any particular features of interest. It is somewhat curious that more noblemen

have held this prize than any other shot for by the Royal Company. The coronets of the Earls of Haddington and Kellie appear on two gold medals without date. At a grand march, in which sixty-eight members took part, in 1724, Captain-General the Duke of Hamilton carried off the prize; and another Captain-General, the Earl of Wemyss, won it in 1748, on which occasion there was a full-dress parade of the Company, accompanied by the magistrates of Musselburgh, the town's pipers, &c.; and the Earl of Dalhousie won the Arrow two years in succession, in 1839 and 1840.

The Musselburgh meeting is justly considered one of the pleasantest *réunions* of the Royal Company; and a large muster of the shooting members on the Links of the "honest town" yearly attests the popularity of the meeting.

The following is a list of the winners of this prize so far as they can now be ascertained:—

- | | |
|--|--|
| — Earl of Haddington. | 1674 John Brown, Leith. |
| — Earl of Kelly. | 1675 John Johnston of Polton. |
| — An axe. | 1676 Henry Bourn, merchant, Edinburgh. |
| — A bell. | 1677 William Baillie, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1603 J. Johnston of Elphinston. | 1678 William Baillie, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1608 Sir J. Richardson of Smeaton. | 1680 William Dundas, advocate. |
| 1609 J. B. | 1681 William Baylie, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1610 Sir J. Richardson of Smeaton. | 1683 Captain Robert Dobie. |
| 1611 A. R. | 1687 David Drummond, advocate. |
| 1618 J. S. | 1688 Henry Leggat, writer, Edinburgh. |
| 1619 A. Douglas. | 1702 Robert Dundas, Esq., advocate. |
| 1622 A. Douglas. | 1704 Captain Colin Mackenzie. |
| 1626 A. Valifurd. | 1705 Jo. Bayne, Esq. of Tulloch. |
| 1627 H. Nisbet of Dean. | 1706 Jo. Lesslie, advocate. |
| 1628 P. M. Nisbet. | 1707 George Drummond, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1632 R. V. | 1708 George Drummond, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1633 J. Nisbet of Dean. | 1710 George Drummond, merchant, Edinr. |
| 1634 W. Murray of Blackbarony. | 1711 John Nairn of Greenyards. |
| 1637 T. S. Thomson of Dudiston. | 1712 Robert Freebairn, printer to his Majesty. |
| 1641 A. M. Douglas. | 1713 Adam Coult, advocate. |
| 1642 R. Dobie of Stonyhill. | 1714 William Mercer, writer. |
| 1643 R. Dobie of Stonyhill. | 1717 David Drummond, advocate. |
| 1649 R. Dobie of Stonyhill. | 1718 George Cuming, vintner, Edinburgh. |
| 1661 G. C. | 1719 Robert Murray, brother to Aber-
cairney. |
| 1666 G. Drummond. | |
| 1667 Alexander Hay, his Majesty's Bower. | |

- 1720 Robert Lowis, M.D., physician, Edinr.
 1721 Robert Lowis, M.D., *pro secundo*.
 1722 Robert Lowis, M.D., *pro tertio*.
 1723 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1724 James, Duke of Hamilton and Brandon.
 1725 James Freebairn, merchant, Edinr.
 1726 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1727 James Robertson, writer.
 1728 Robert Biggar, vintner.
 1729 James Cumming, junior, merchant.
 1730 John Douglas, surgeon.
 1731 John Drummond, merchant.
 1732 Alexander Cumming, merchant.
 1733 Sir Alexander Macdonald.
 1734 George Loch, merchant.
 1735 John Murray of Broughton.
 1736 Hugh Clerk, merchant, Edinburgh.
 1737 James Robertson, writer.
 1738 Robert Fisher of Sandefort.
 1739 Alexander Robertson, writer.
 1741 Robert Biggar, vintner.
 1745 Robert Biggar, vintner.
 1748 The Earl of Wemyss.
 1749 Lieutenant-Colonel Cunningham.
 1750 Archibald Smart, clothier, Musselburgh.
 1751 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1752 Jo. Mackintosh, merchant, Edinr.
 1753 Jo. Sinclair, writer.
 1754 George Lockhart of Carnwath.
 1755 John Sinclair, writer.
 1756 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1757 James Guild, writer.
 1758 James Murray, druggist.
 1759 Thomas Boswell, writer.
 1760 George Lockhart of Carnwath.
 1761 Hugh Fraser, senior.
 1762 Charles Lockhart, advocate.
 1763 Archibald Todd, farmer.
 1764 George Lockhart of Carnwath.
 1765 Robert Verner, brewer, Fisherrow.
 1766 Thomas Todd, town-clerk, Musselburgh.
 1767 William Graham of Gartmore.
 1768 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1769 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1770 Archibald Smart, clothier, Musselburgh.
 1771 James Hardie, writer, Edinburgh.
 1772 Andrew Wood, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 1773 Alexander Innes, C.S.
 1774 Thomas Hay, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 1775 John Dundas, C.S.
 1776 Alexander Wallace, banker, Edinr.
 1777 Nathaniel Spens, M.D., physician, Edinburgh.
 1778 Andrew Duncan, M.D., physician, Edinburgh.
 1779 Alexander Brown, Bib. Fac. Jurid.
 1780 William Trotter, merchant, Edinr.
 1781 Alexander Wight, advocate.
 1782 James Brown, architect.
 1783 Jo. Henderson, architect.
 1784 James Gray, C.S.
 1785 Thomas Elder of Forneth, merchant, Edinburgh.
 1786 Alexander Wallace, banker, Edinr.
 1787 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1788 Alexander Wallace, banker, Edinr.
 1789 Charles Hope, advocate.
 1790 James Gray, C.S.
 1791 Captain David Milne.
 1792 Alexander Wallace, banker, Edinburgh.
 1793 James Mansfield, junior, banker, Edinburgh.
 1794 George Young, brewer.
 1796 Thomas MacMillan of Shockhope.
 1802 John Campbell, *tertius*, W.S.
 1803 Sir George Steuart Mackenzie of Coul, Bart.
 1804 Captain David Milne, R.N.
 1805 James Hope, W.S.
 1806 John Russell, C.S., Secretary R.C.A.
 1807 John Campbell of Carbrook, W.S.
 1808 John Campbell, *tertius*, W.S.
 1810 John Leven, W.S.
 1811 Dr Mackenzie Grieve.
 1812 John Buchan Brodie, W.S.
 1813 John Leven, W.S.
 1814 John Linning, Accountant of Excise.
 1815 George Corsane Cunninghame, Custom-House.
 1816 Sir Patrick Walker, Knight.
 1817 Sir Patrick Walker, *pro secundo*.
 1818 Sir Patrick Walker, *pro tertio*.
 1820 William Bonar, banker.
 1821 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.
 1822 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.
 1823 Alexander Robertson, W.S.
 1824 Thomas Ewart, W.S.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1825 William Napier, W.S. | 1848 Alexander Duff, advocate. |
| 1826 John Grieve, accountant. | 1849 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S. |
| 1827 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1850 John Kennedy, yr. of Underwood. |
| 1828 John Maxton, merchant. | 1851 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1829 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar. | 1852 George Steuart, accountant. |
| 1830 Albert Cay, merchant. | 1853 James Jobson Dickson, accountant. |
| 1831 James Weir, surgeon. | 1854 Dr Douglas Maclagan. |
| 1832 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1855 William Finlay, accountant. |
| 1833 John N. Forman, W.S. | 1856 John Phin, S.S.C. |
| 1834 John Maxton, merchant. | 1859 Henry George Watson, C.A. |
| 1835 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1860 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1836 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1861 George Steuart. |
| 1837 J. N. Forman, W.S. | 1862 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1838 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1865 George Robertson, C.E. |
| 1839 Earl of Dalhousie. | 1866 James Dunsmore, M.D. |
| 1840 Earl of Dalhousie. | 1867 Charles Steuart, W.S. |
| 1841 John Stewart, W.S. | 1868 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1842 John Maxton, merchant. | 1870 Charles Steuart, W.S. |
| 1843 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1871 James T. Hutchison. |
| 1844 George Brown Robertson, W.S. | 1872 John W. Tawse, W.S. |
| 1845 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1873 David Scott Moncrieff, W.S. |
| 1846 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1874 J. Wolfe Murray of Cringletie. |

The Goose Prize.

(For Badge, see PLATE X.)

We have already described the manner in which this ancient prize was at one time shot for. A living goose was "failed and bigged" on a turf butt—that is to say, her body was buried in the turf, her head only being exposed to view. The competitors then shot at this; and he who pierced it secured the bird for his dinner, besides gaining the distinction of having made a *capital* shot. The first account of the competition we have is in 1703, when the Captain-General, Viscount Tarbat, carried off the prize, having pierced the unfortunate animal's head, "the arrow entering the left eye and going out a little behind the right eye, above four inches quite through, so as she never moved after she received the shot." The prize has been shot for annually in October with great regularity, few years not bearing the record, and in those it is probably an oversight on the part of the Secretary to fill up the minutes. The sport in all its barbarity

seems to have kept up a considerable time, as it is only about 1764 that we find the item of "half a crown for a goose" omitted from the Treasurer's accounts. The custom bears a curious resemblance to one said to be practised by some tribes of North American Indians. By them the goose is buried in the ground, the head and neck only appearing. The latter is then well greased; and the warriors of the tribe, mounted on swift horses, gallop past the helpless victim, each rider as he passes stooping down and endeavouring to pull the head off, or pluck the bird bodily from her grave.

The method now adopted for shooting for the prize of the Goose is by inserting a small glass globe of about an inch in diameter in the centre of the butt-mark, which is a circular piece of cardboard, four inches in diameter. The competitor whose arrow first breaks this globe is declared "Captain of the Goose" for the year. The prize now consists of a medal—one of two which were presented to the Company in 1793 by Major Spens, a son of the old doctor of that name. They were made from fifty "pagodas," being part of the money actually paid by Tippoo Sultan to the allies at the treaty of Seringapatam in 1792.

The following are the winners' names :—

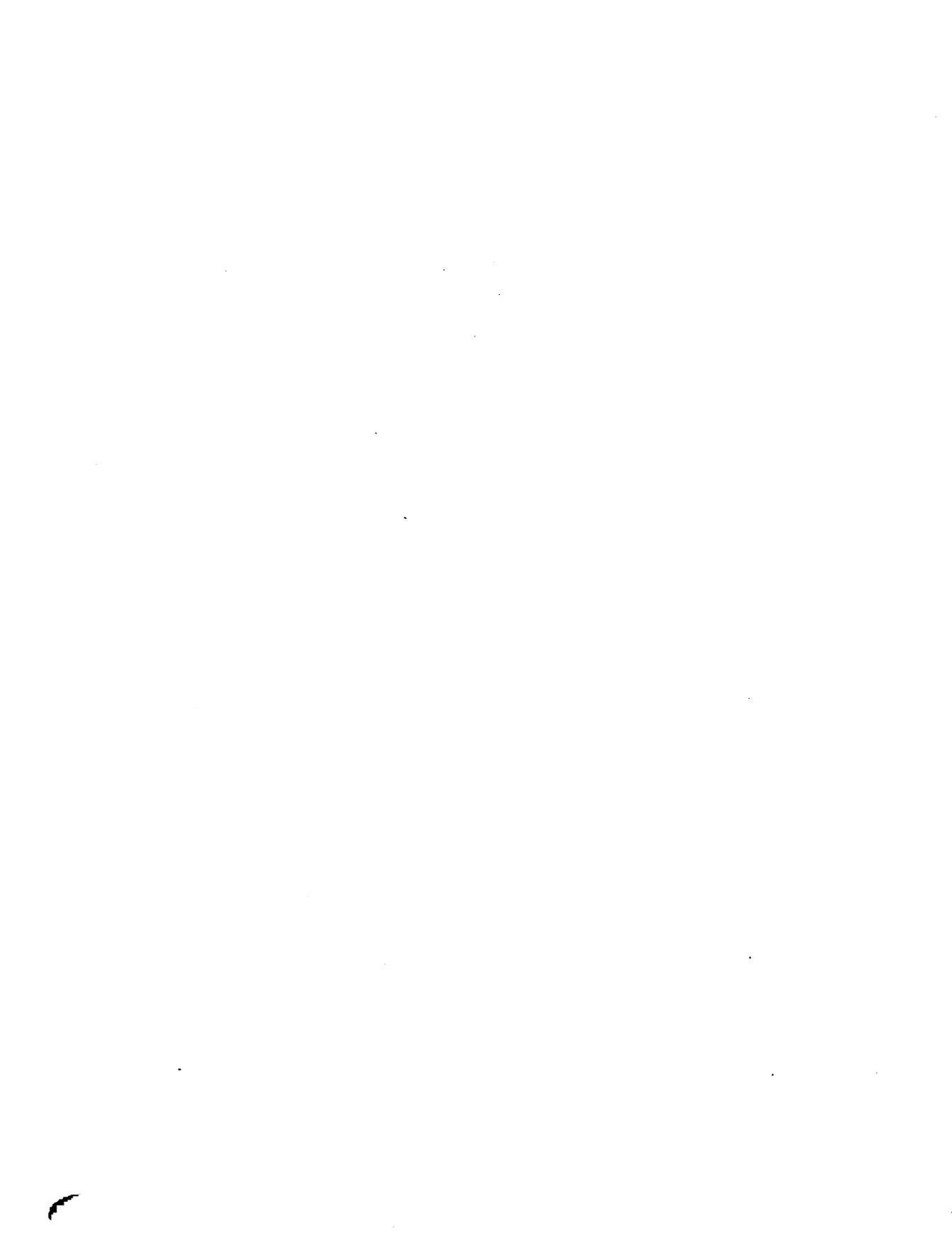
1703 The Viscount Tarbat, Captain-General.	1737 George Home, younger of Kello.
1710 James Leslie, advocate.	1738 James Cumming.
1713 Thomas Kincaid.	1739 John Rattray.
1714 Hugh Hamilton.	1740 James Cumming.
1721 George Murray.	1741 John Douglas.
1722 William Brown.	1742 James Cumming.
1723 James Robertson.	1746 John Mackintosh.
1724 Andrew Marjoribanks.	1747 Charles Johnston, druggist.
1725 Dr Robert Lewis.	1748 Robert Biggar.
1726 Andrew Marjoribanks.	1749 Thomas Drummond, LL.D.
1727 Andrew Marjoribanks.	1750 John Mackintosh.
1728 James Robertson, surgeon.	1752 John Mackintosh.
1729 James Robertson, writer.	1753 John Murray.
1730 James Robertson.	1754 John Sinclair, writer, Edinburgh.
1731 Andrew Marjoribanks.	1755 James Guild, writer in Edinburgh.
1732 ——— Marjoribanks.	1756 William St Clair of Roslin.
1733 Not killed.	1757 William St Clair of Roslin.
1734 John Douglas, architect.	1758 Brigadier Fraser.
1735 James Cumming, jun.	1759 John Sinclair, writer, Edinburgh.
1736 George Home, younger of Kello.	1760 William St Clair of Roslin.

- 1767 Graham of Gartmore.
 1770 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1771 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1774 Simon Fraser, Writer to the Signet.
 1775 Dr Spens.
 1776 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1778 Dr N. Spens.
 1779 James Hardie, writer.
 1780 Alexander Wallace, banker, Edinr.
 1781 Dr N. Spens.
 1782 Dr N. Spens.
 1783 William Trotter, merchant.
 1784 William Trotter, merchant.
 1785 James Gray, writer.
 1786 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1787 James Hay, H.E.I.C.S.
 1788 Robert Kerr.
 1789 Dr N. Spens.
 1790 James Gray, writer.
 1791 Dr N. Spens.
 1792 Dr N. Spens.
 1793 Dr N. Spens.
 1794 Mr Sandilands.
 1795 Dr Thomas Spens.
 1796 Dr. N. Spens.
 1797 Mr Scott Moncrieff.
 1798 Mr Scott Moncrieff.
 1799 William Trotter, merchant.
 1800 Dr Duncan, junior.
 1801 John Campbell, W.S.
 1802 Dr Thomas Spens.
 1803 John Campbell, W.S.
 1805 James Hope, W.S.
 1806 Dr Hope.
 1807 Dr N. Spens.
 1808 Dr Thomas Spens.
 1809 James Hope, W.S.
 1810 Dr Hope.
 1811 John Russell, C.S.
 1812 John Buchan Brodie, W.S.
 1813 James Gillespie Davidson, W.S.
 1815 James Lang, W.S.
 1817 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate.
 1818 William Robertson, Deputy-Keeper
 of the Records.
 1819 James Brown, accountant.
 1820 John Watson, historical painter.
 1821 William Robertson, Deputy-Keeper
 of the Records.
 1822 John Colin Wilson, W.S.
 1823 Alexander Robertson, W.S.
 1824 William Napier, W.S.
 1825 John Grieve, accountant.
 1826 John Colin Wilson, W.S.
 1827 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper
 of the Records.
 1828 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar.
 1829 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1830 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1831 John Baird, W.S.
 1832 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar.
 1833 David Whigham, W.S.
 1834 James Linning Woodman, W.S.
 1835 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1836 George M'Callum, W.S.
 1837 J. Linning Woodman, W
 1838 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1839 David Whigham, W.S.
 1840 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg.
 1841 John A. Macrae, W.S.
 1842 Alexander Duff, W.S.
 1843 John A. Macrae, W.S.
 1844 David Rhind, architect.
 1845 John A. Macrae, W.S.
 1846 J. Linning Woodman, W.S.
 1848 John Stewart, W.S.
 1850 (Jan.) J. B. Murdoch, yr. of Gartincaber.
 1850 (Nov.) A. O. Spens, banker.
 1851 George Steuart, accountant.
 1852 James Wilkie, accountant.
 1853 Arthur Campbell, junior, W.S.
 1854 J. Dick Peddie, architect.
 1855 George Steuart, accountant.
 1856 Henry George Watson, C.A.
 1857 James Wilkie, accountant.
 1858 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
 1859 Henry G. Watson, C.A.
 1861 (Feb.) Alexander Howe, W.S.
 1861 (Nov.) P. D. Handyside, M.D.
 1862 George Steuart.
 1863 James Wilkie, C.A.
 1864 George Robertson, C.E.
 1865 W. Spittal.
 1866 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
 1867 P. D. Handyside, M.D.
 1868 George Steuart.
 1869 George Robertson, C.E.
 1870 James T. Hutchison.
 1871 Hugh C. Bell, C.E.
 1872 George Steuart.
 1873 James Scales.
 1874 P. D. Handyside, M.D.



MUSEUM OF THE BARRACKS

THE EDINBURGH SILVER ARROW 1909



The Edinburgh Arrow.

(See PLATE VII.)

This, though not the oldest, is one of the handsomest of the various silver arrows shot for by the Royal Company. Following the example of several other burghs in Scotland which had given the prize of a silver arrow to be shot for, some of them for many years, the "good town" of Edinburgh instituted a similar reward in 1709. The following are the regulations under which the competition was to take place :—

" 1. That the said Silver Arrow be shot for at the rovers in Leith Links, upon the second Monday of June yearly, at ten of the clock in the forenoon if the day be favourable; and if not, that the shooting be adjourned to the next fair Monday.

" 2. That advertisement be made thereof in this city by tuck of drum upon the last Monday of May and first Monday of June yearly.

" 3. That none be admitted to shoot for the said Arrow but those that are entered to the Royal Company of Archers, who are willing and ready to admitt all qualified persons upon their application to them.

" 4. That there be secured a competent space of at least thirty ells squair round every mark, that the spectators may not sustain prejudice nor the archers' arrows [be] broken.

" 5. He that gains three successive shots shall keep the Arrow untill the first Monday of Aprile the next year, he enacting himself in a book (to be kepted for that purpose) to return the same to the Dean of Gild of Edinburgh for the time, with his badge affixt thereto. And in case none of the archers gain three successive shots after they have shot as many ends as shall be agreed upon before they begin to shoot, It is hereby declared, that he who shall have gained most shots shall keep the Arrow as said is; and in case two or more archers shall have gained equal shots, they shall shoot one end by themselves, and he that hath the best

shot shall keep the Arrow in manner and upon the terms above written.

“6. That upon returning of the Arrow, the Dean of Gild shall give to the person who gains the same a compliment at the Council’s discretion.

“7. That a book of record shall be kept of the days when the Arrow is gained, and by whom, and of the number of archers that shot for it, and of the badges affixt to the same.”

Besides proclaiming the competition “by tuck of drum” through the town, it seems to have been the practice down to the end of last century for the town’s officer to carry the Arrow with him during the proclamation. The parades which the Company held, and the grand marches which they made to Leith on various occasions of shooting for this prize, have been already fully described, so it is not necessary again to mention them. In 1715, probably wishing to show what a strong Jacobite body the Royal Company was, no less than a hundred and eleven members took part in the march, upwards of eighty gentlemen, however, being fined for absence. This seems to have frightened the magistrates, as they refused to expose the Arrow to competition the next year. It is possible that there arose other misunderstandings between the Town Council and the Company, as it is not until the year 1726 that the prize is again mentioned. On the 6th May of that year, we are told that “the Præses represented to the members of the Council that Baillie Lindsay had told him that the Dean of Guild and others of the Council of Edinburgh were desirous to commune with the Council of Archers anent delivering back to the Company the Silver Arrow to be shot for annually as formerly. It is the opinion of the members present, that unless the Arrow should be delivered to the Council of Archers to be shot for when they pleased, and that they should continue the usual premium, the Arrow should lye where it is.” A committee was then appointed to meet with the Town Council and report on the subject. The matter was soon satisfactorily arranged, and the Arrow delivered

over to the Company to be shot for under the same regulations as formerly, with the exception that the "compliment" which the winner of the prize was to receive was fixed at five pounds sterling. A match of great splendour took place to shoot for the restored prize, nearly a hundred and fifty gentlemen taking part in it. The winner was Lieutenant-General the Earl of Wigton; and from that year down to the present time the annual competition for the Edinburgh Silver Arrow has not been once missed. In 1734, at the request of the officers of the Company and the Town Council of Edinburgh, the place of shooting was changed from Leith Links to Bruntsfield Links, the Company assembling at Holyrood and marching through the town as narrated in a former chapter. After 1742 the competitions for the Edinburgh Arrow were shorn of much of their glory, as no grand march in connection with it seems to have been held since that time. The shooters, however, always marched with a company of soldiers in attendance, or at least escorted by a detachment of the Town Guard. The shooting for many years took place in Bruntsfield Links, but about the close of last century it was changed to the Meadows, probably as being much more convenient; and in this place the competition has ever since been held, the only difference in the ceremonial of modern days being that, instead of the Company being escorted by the "Toon Rottens," a body of police now discharge that onerous duty.

In connection with this prize we may here mention the interesting fact that it was at the dinner on the evening of the day on which the Arrow was shot for in 1815—the 24th of June—that the archers first heard of the victory at Waterloo. The circumstance is carefully recorded in the minutes as having been communicated by the magistrates present, who had received an express from the Lord Provost with the news. In 1871, the Arrow with all its medals attached having become somewhat cumbersome and unwieldy, it was resolved to mount it on a stand, so as to exhibit the medals with greater distinctness. Several of the early

medals were very large, and not easy to arrange properly with the smaller ones. This difficulty was surmounted by inserting them in the ebony stand on which the Arrow rests, as seen in the photograph. The other badges are hung round the prize in a spiral column, of which the arrow itself forms the centre. On the large medals are engraved Latin verses, the production in general of Thomas Kincaid and others, to whose talent for Latin verse-making we have already alluded. As a specimen we give the lines inscribed on the first badge attached to the Arrow. Its date is 1709, and the winner is David Drummond, whose skill as an archer and popularity as a man we have previously had occasion to mention. The first verses are from the pen of Thomas Kincaid, the last from that of Dr Archibald Pitcairn :—

“In

Davidem Drummondum

In Certamine Sagittariorum Edinburgensi Victorem Primum.

Dulcis Edina, nova quem tu dignabere palma
 Marte pari certat gens pharetrata diu.
 Sed neque tu Danaës fato decepta videris,
 Quæ gremio falsas inscia cepit opes.
 Nec tu Drummondum Fortunæ cæca favore
 Eligis ; hic meritis vicit et ingenio.
 Huic nam docta Themis sua præbuit ubera nutrix,
 Huic Charites, Musæ, Pallas, Apollo favent.
 Sic virtutis amans fidusque repertus, ut illi
 Publica commissa est arca repleta Jove.
 P. Sodalis Pharetratus.

T. K.”

“In Eundem.

Phœbe, genus dic atque virum, cui nuper honores
 Felici peperit missa sagitta manu.
 Illa suam credit, cui cessit palma, sagittam ;
 Nos illam scimus, Phœbe, fuisse tuam.

A. P.”

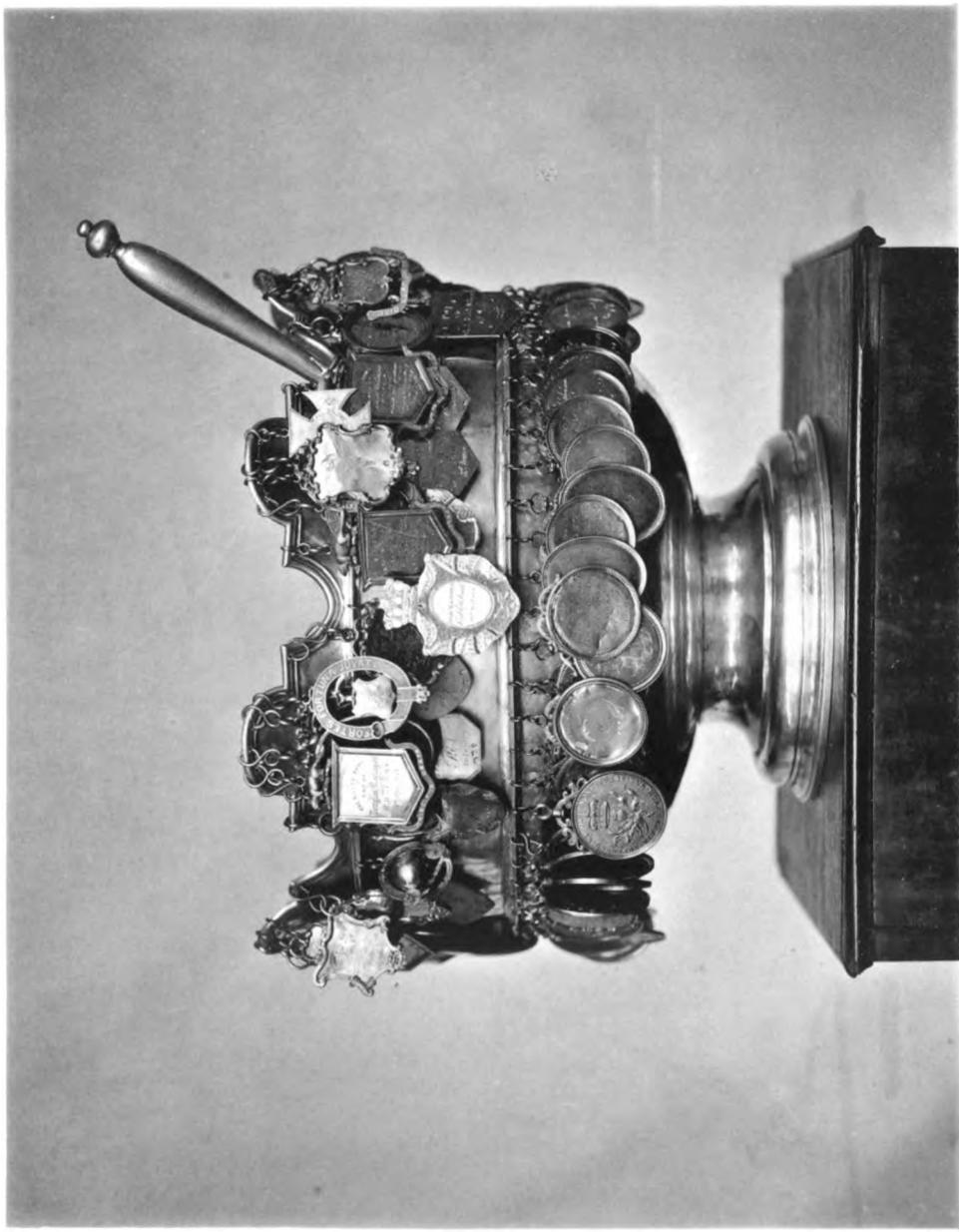
On the other side of the medal is Mr Drummond's arms, crest, and motto, and the inscription, "Mr David Drummond, advocate, did win this Arrow at Leith, the 27th of June 1709." Interesting though the medals are, our limits will not allow us to describe them fully; indeed, after 1726 their characteristic inscriptions cease, the badges being made much smaller than the former ones, and containing only the name of the winner and his arms. We must, however, notice a large one of the Earl of Wemyss, who gained the prize in 1714. On one side is his coronet, coat of arms, &c. ; but on the other is a curious design representing a peaceful landscape, and a tree in one corner with a laurel wreath hung to one of its branches. Under the tree lies a stag with enormous antlers, and birds are seen flying in the air. At the other corner a hand armed with a bow is issuing from a cloud, and an arrow wings its way towards the laurel wreath. The whole is surmounted by the motto, *ME. GLORIA. NON. PRÆDA. TRAHIT.*—a quaint way of intimating the peaceful ambition of the winner.

The Edinburgh Arrow is shot for at the distance of 180 yards, and gained, according to the original regulations, by three successive ends or the greatest number of shots. The Magistrates and Council of the city are entertained at dinner on the evening of the competition, they in their turn presenting a riddle of claret to the Company in accordance with ancient usage. The Arrow is delivered up to the Provost, and by him presented to the winner, who retains it for a year and affixes to it his name, crest, and motto on a silver badge, to defray the cost of which he receives five pounds from the Town Council.

The following is a list of the names of the winners of this prize since 1709 :—

1709 David Drummond, advocate.	1714 David, Earl of Wemyss.
1710 William Neilson, merchant in Edinr.	1715 Alexander Congalton, merchant in Edinburgh.
1711 Thomas Kincaid.	1726 The Earl of Wigtoun.
1712 William Mercer, writer in Edinburgh.	1727 James Cuming, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
1713 James Cockburn, Secretary to the General and Commander-in-Chief.	

- 1728 James Freebairn.
 1729 John Douglas, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1730 Andrew Marjoribanks, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1731 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1732 James Balfour of Forret.
 1733 Robert Freebairn, king's printer.
 1734 George Loch, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1735 John Rattray, surgeon.
 1736 Robert Biggar, vintner in Edinburgh.
 1737 George Loch, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1738 Alexander Cuming, merchant in Gottenburgh.
 1739 Hugh Clerk, senior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1740 John Douglas, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1741 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1742 Sir Alexander Macdonald, Bart.
 1743 John Brown, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1744 John Rattray, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1745 John Mackintosh, merchant in Edinburgh.
 1746 John Douglas, surgeon.
 1747 Robert Biggar, merchant.
 1748 Hugh Clerk, senior.
 1749 James Hardie, writer, Edinburgh.
 1750 Robert Douglas, Secretary to the Royal Company.
 1751 George Lockhart of Carnwath, President of the Council; and Major-General of the Royal Scots Archers.
 1752 Angus Maclachlan of Maclachlan.
 1753 George Lockhart of Carnwath.
 1754 Archibald Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 1755 John Sinclair, writer in Edinburgh.
 1756 Nathaniel Spens, surgeon in Edinr.
 1757 John Murray, druggist-apothecary.
 1758 Hugh Fraser of Lovat.
 1759 John Murray, druggist-apothecary.
 1760 Archibald Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 1761 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1762 George Lockhart of Carnwath.
 1763 Charles Lockhart, advocate.
 1764 Andrew Home, wine merchant.
 1765 Archibald Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 1766 William Graham of Gartmore.
 1767 Archibald Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 1768 The Honourable James Steuart Murray.
 1769 John Mackintosh, merchant, Edinr.
 1770 John Cuming Ramsay, advocate.
 1771 Nathaniel Spens, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1772 John Macpherson, teacher of music.
 1773 Charles Macdonald of Largie, advocate.
 1774 Simon Fraser, W.S.
 1775 Robert Wellwood, younger of Garvoch.
 1776 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1777 Thomas Elder, merchant.
 1778 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1779 William Trotter, merchant.
 1780 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1781 William Trotter, merchant.
 1782 Thomas Elder, merchant.
 1783 Alexander Brown, keeper of the Advocates' Library.
 1784 Sir James Pringle of Stitchell, Bart.
 1785 James Gray, writer.
 1786 Nathaniel Spens, M.D., physician, Edinburgh.
 1787 Alexander, Lord Elibank.
 1788 William Trotter, merchant.
 1789 Charles Hope, advocate.
 1790 Henry Jardine, W.S.
 1791 Alexander, Lord Elibank.
 1792 James Mansfield, junior.
 1793 Dr Thomas Spens, physician in Edinburgh.
 1794 Captain Cosby Swindell.
 1795 John Thomson, junior.
 1796 William Robertson, jeweller.
 1797 Dr Thomas Spens, Treasurer R.C.A.
 1798 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1799 Thomas Hay, surgeon.
 1800 Thomas Charles Hope, M.D., and Professor of Chemistry.
 1801 James Hope, W.S.
 1802 Charles Cunningham.
 1803 James Hope, W.S.
 1804 James Hope, W.S.
 1805 James Hope, W.S.
 1806 Charles Cunningham.
 1807 Dr Thomas Charles Hope.
 1808 James Hope, Writer to the Signet, Lieutenant-Colonel 2d Battalion 2d Regiment R.E.V.



AUTOTYPE. S.S.B.&C.

SILVER PUNCH BOWL AND LADLE 1720.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1809 John Russell, Clerk to the Signet,
Secretary R.C.A. | 1840 John A. Macrae, W.S. |
| 1810 Dr Mackenzie Grieve. | 1841 John Brown Innes, W.S. |
| 1811 Charles Cunningham, W.S. | 1842 James Andrew Brown, accountant. |
| 1812 James Hope, W.S. | 1843 John Maxton, merchant. |
| 1813 John Cay, advocate. | 1844 John Stewart, W.S. |
| 1814 John Watson, historical and portrait
painter. | 1845 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S. |
| 1815 George Corsane Cunningham, H.M.
Customs. | 1846 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg. |
| 1816 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate. | 1847 George Brown Robertson, W.S. |
| 1817 Sir George S. Mackenzie, Bart. | 1848 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1818 William Bonar, banker, Edinburgh. | 1849 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1819 John Maxton, banker, Edinburgh. | 1850 John Kennedy, younger of Under-
wood. |
| 1820 William Bonar, banker. | 1851 John Kirk, W.S. |
| 1821 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A. | 1852 James Wilkie, accountant. |
| 1822 Albert Cay, merchant. | 1853 Dr Douglas Maclagan. |
| 1823 Charles Crossland Hay, merchant. | 1854 Henry George Watson, C.A. |
| 1824 Thomas Ewart, W.S. | 1855 John Phin, S.S.C. |
| 1825 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1856 James Adam, advocate. |
| 1826 John Linning, Secretary to the Royal
Company. | 1857 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1827 James Tod, W.S. | 1858 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1828 John Maxton, merchant. | 1859 George Steuart, accountant. |
| 1829 John Maxton, merchant. | 1860 James Dunsmure, M.D. |
| 1830 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar. | 1861 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1831 John N. Forman, W.S. | 1862 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1832 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar. | 1863 Alexander Howe, W.S. |
| 1833 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of
Records. | 1864 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D. |
| 1834 James Linning Woodman, W.S. | 1865 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D. |
| 1835 James Linning Woodman, W.S. | 1866 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1836 J. N. Forman, W.S. | 1867 George Steuart. |
| 1837 Alexander Duff, W.S. | 1868 George Steuart. |
| 1838 Dr James Weir. | 1869 George Robertson, C.E. |
| 1839 John Brown Innes, W.S. | 1870 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| | 1871 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D. |
| | 1872 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| | 1873 James Dunsmure, M.D. |
| | 1874 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |

The Silver Bowl.

(See PLATE VIII.)

The following entry appears in the records of the Royal Company under date 4th April 1720: "The Councill, taking into their consideration that there should be ane annuall pryze set out by the Royall Company, recommends to the severall members of the Councill to consider betwixt and the first of May what the pryze shall be, the methode and time of shooting thereof." The

result of their deliberations appears from a minute of the 30th May: "The Councill ordains the Thesaurer to order a Punch-Bowll to be made to the value of twenty pounds sterling or thereby, as ane annuall pryze to be shot for by the Royall Company at rovers only, upon such a day and manner as the Councill shall determine; which pryze is to be returned by the gainer to the Thesaurer within ten moneths, with his badge affixed thereto, not exceeding the value of two guineas, either of gold or silver, in the option of the gainer. And the Thesaurer for the time is to pay him in premium ffyve pounds sterling upon the return of the Bowl. N.B.—The gainer upon receipt of the Bowll is to find caution to return within the time ordained." The Bowl was accordingly made, and the bill for its construction and the engraving on it came to £22, 13s. 9d. sterling. It had inscribed on one side the common seal of the Company, and on the opposite side the reverse of the seal; and between those, on one side a Saint Andrew, and on the other the following inscription: "Edinburgh, 20th June 1720.—The Councill of the Royall Company of Archers, viz., Mr David Drummond, Praeses, Thomas Kincaid, John Nairn, James Ross, Robert Lowis, John Lowis, John Carnegy, George Drummond, Tresr., William Murray and James Lowis, clerks, ordered this piece of plate to be furnished out of the stock of the Company, and to be shot for as ane annual pryze. at rovers by the said Company, as the Councill for the time shall appoint."

The regulations for the first competitions were laid down as follows: "The Council has ordered that when the Bowll is shott for it must be gained by three successive shots, and that the quorum of shooters must be eleven." The shooting was "to continue for three hours, unless sooner won; and if it be not gained the first day, he that wins the last shot is to have it allowed at next shooting." It was not won the first year by three successive shots; and as the season drew to a close, the Council put out the prize to be won by most points in eleven ends, when it fell to the

lot of the Earl of Wemyss, the son of the Captain-General of that title, who had died but shortly before. He granted a bond for its redelivery, with Mr David Drummond as cautioner. By it they bound themselves, their heirs, executors, &c., in full legal form, to restore the prize under a penalty of twenty-five pounds sterling. The form of granting a bond along with a cautioner to restore this and other prizes, is still kept up in the Company, though it is not of any practical use, seeing that few members care to undertake the responsibility of the custody of such valuable and irreplaceable articles, preferring to leave them in a secure safe at Archers' Hall.

In November 1720, the Bowl received an interesting addition. In that month we are informed that Sir John Areskine of Alva received his diploma, "and made offer to the Company of as much silver taken out of his mines of Alva as would make a spoon for the Punch-Bowl, which the Treasurer was ordered to receive and cause make the spoon, and to charge himself therewith." The spoon or ladle was accordingly made, and bears the following inscription: "Regiæ Sagittariorum Cohorti ex fodinis suis argenteis donavit Joannes Erskinius ab Alva, Eq. auratus: die Decem. 20, 1720." The cost of its construction we find from the Treasurer's accounts to have been 8s. 2d. sterling.

In 1721, instead of three hours' shooting for the prize, eleven ends were appointed, which was probably a more satisfactory arrangement. Leith Links was the place where the competitions usually took place, for the first few years; but Bruntsfield Links proved more convenient, and the competitions were held there till they were changed to the Meadows.

In 1751 the circumference of the Bowl proving too small to admit of any more badges being affixed, it was accordingly enlarged to its present size at a cost of £9, 7s. 2d. It is now so thickly hung with medals that little of the original Bowl can be seen, and the aggregate value of all these pieces of plate amounts to a very considerable sum.

In 1757 a change was made in the regulations for shooting this

prize. The reason why three successive shots had been fixed as requisite to gain it, was that it might not be very easily won, and thus members would come out to shoot for it every week until it was gained. Whether in the course of years the skill of the Royal Company had increased we cannot say, but in the year mentioned the Council issued an order ordaining that the Bowl should only be gained by three successive *ends*, not shots, during the months of June and July, but after that time three successive shots were to carry it as usual. In winning by three successive ends, of course only one arrow of the shooter could count in each end; in winning by three successive shots, all the arrows of the shooter counted every end, if nearest the target. At a subsequent period it was decided that, on the first day's shooting for the Bowl, four successive ends were to be requisite in order to win the prize, on all other days three successive ends—and if not won by the close of the season, the Bowl was then to be won by the greatest number of points; and it is under these rules that the prize is now shot for. The member who gains the last end which is shot on any day of the competition is entitled to count it on the occasion of the next shooting, so that he has only two successive ends to make on that day. In 1815, this gave rise to a dispute which led to the laying down of more distinct rules. On the 13th of April in that year the Bowl was shot for, but not won; a member, of course, lay upon record as the winner of the last end. On the 20th of that month the shooting was recommenced, eleven ends being agreed to be shot. At the third end the shooters were driven in by rain, another member having gained the second and third ends. Next day the prize was shot for this member gained the first end, and claimed the prize, which was disputed. The Council then laid down the following rules:—

“ 1. That on all days when the Bowl shall be shot for, the number of ends shall be ten.

“ 2. Five archers must shoot to form a quorum in competing for the Bowl and all other prizes.

“3. That in shooting for the Bowl the shooting shall not be discontinued so long as a quorum are willing to proceed. But in the event of the weather becoming so very unfavourable that it is impossible for a quorum to continue, the shooting for that day shall go for nothing—with this explanation, however, that as the archer whose name stood on record at the conclusion of the preceding day's shooting must have been supposed to have been deprived of that advantage by the end first shot for the succeeding day, so his right to remain on record shall be considered at end ; and the shooting on the subsequent day shall commence without the record of any former day's shooting, the same as if the Bowl were shot for for the first time.

“4. As on all other public prize days—such as the Edinburgh, Musselburgh, and Peebles Arrows and King's Prizes—the contest must be decided on one day, the rule shall be that if a quorum are willing to continue the shooting the whole number of ends which were fixed before the shooting commenced, such quorum shall be entitled to continue to shoot and so decide the victory. But if the weather be so very unfavourable that a quorum shall not be able to continue to shoot the number of ends previously agreed upon, then the general officers of the Royal Company present, and failing them the majority of shooters, shall decide to what number of ends the contest shall be restricted. In shooting for all the private prizes of the Royal Company, when the shooting shall have once begun, but shall not have been continued, by a quorum for the number of ends previously agreed upon, the whole shall go for nothing, and the prize to be shot for anew on the next ordinary shooting day, or other day appointed for that purpose.”

In 1847, Mr Secretary Watson gained the Bowl, but resigned it to be competed for by members who had not won fifteen prizes.

In 1854, in consequence of a dispute in connection with winning the prize, the Council gave it as their judgment that although the shooting on the day first appointed for the competition must be in uniform, yet if no shooting took place on that day (on account of

bad weather, want of a quorum, or other cause), the shooting on the next day appointed (though the first actual shooting for the prize) need not be carried on in uniform.

The shooting for the Company's Silver Bowl has been carried on with great regularity since its commencement, in accordance with the rules we have specified above. It is a most useful prize—as, not being liable to be carried off early in the season, it brings out members in great force to the weekly competitions which are carried on all summer. About 1795, there are a few years in which it was not gained; but this is accounted for by the fact of the Volunteers of that time claiming a considerable portion of the time of all patriotically-disposed citizens. It is one of the handsomest prizes that can be gained, adorned as it is by a host of valuable badges; and although a brew of punch now rarely laps its glistening sides, it has not unfrequently stood in good stead as a “christening bowl” for the infant offspring of the Royal Archers. Its value is now estimated at about £2000.

The Silver Bowl is invariably shot for at a distance of 180 yards. We append a list of the successful competitors:—

1720 James, Earl of Wemyss.	1740 John Rattray, surgeon.
1721 John Lewis of Merchiston.	1741 John Douglas, surgeon.
1722 James Robertson, surgeon in Edinr.	1742 John Rattray, surgeon.
1723 John Lewis of Merchiston.	1743 John Douglas, surgeon.
1724 David Drummond, advocate.	1744 John Mackintosh, merchant.
1725 Andrew Marjoribanks, merchant.	1745 John Blair of Balthyock.
1726 Robert Lewis, M.D.	1746 John Brown, merchant.
1727 Robert Lewis, M.D.	1747 Robert Biggar, merchant.
1728 John Drummond, son to Mr D. Drummond, advocate.	1748 Hugh Clerk, senior.
1729 James Robertson, writer in Edinr.	1749 John Mackintosh, merchant.
1730 John Douglas, surgeon.	1750 George Lockhart of Carnwath, Pre- sident of the Council, and Major- General of the Royal Scots Archers.
1731 Robert Biggar, vintner.	1751 William St Clair of Roslin.
1732 John Rattray, surgeon.	1752 John Macpherson, music-master in Edinburgh.
1733 Hugh Clerk, senior, merchant.	1753 Robert Douglas, writer in Edinburgh.
1734 John Main, jeweller.	1754 John Murray, druggist-apothecary in Edinburgh.
1735 John Rattray, surgeon.	1755 John Sinclair, writer in Edinburgh.
1736 Robert Biggar, vintner.	1756 William St Clair of Roslin.
1737 John Rattray, surgeon.	
1738 James Cuming, merchant.	
1739 George Loch, merchant.	

- 1757 James Guild, writer in Edinburgh.
 1758 Andrew Hamilton.
 1759 James Hardie, writer in Edinburgh.
 1760 John Sinclair, writer in Edinburgh.
 1761 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1762 John Macpherson, Treasurer R.C.A.
 1763 Archibald Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 1764 James Hardie, writer.
 1765 Archibald Smart, clothier.
 1766 *Not won.*
 1767 William Graham of Gartmore.
 1768 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1769 Archibald Smart, clothier.
 1770 William Urquhart, W.S.
 1771 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1772 James Hardie, writer.
 1773 William St Clair of Roslin.
 1774 Alex. Brown, librarian to the Faculty of Advocates.
 1775 Dr Nathaniel Spens, F.R.C.P.E.
 1776 Thomas Hay, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1777 Thomas Hay, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 1778 Andrew Wood, surgeon in Edinr.
 1779 Alexander Wallace, banker in Edinburgh.
 1780 Alexander Wallace, banker.
 1781 Dr Nathaniel Spens.
 1782 David Martin, limner.
 1783 Thomas Elder, merchant in Edinr.
 1784 Dr Nathaniel Spens.
 1785 John Henderson, architect.
 1786 Sir James Pringle, Bart.
 1787 Alexander, Lord Elibank.
 1788 Dr Nathaniel Spens.
 1789 Charles Hope, Advocate.
 1790 Alexander Wallace.
 1791 Alexander, Lord Elibank.
 1792 Thomas Spens, physician, Edinr.
 1793 Dr Thomas Spens.
 1794 Captain Cosby Swindell.
 1799 Andrew Duncan, senior, M.D. and Professor.
 1800 Henry Jardine, W.S.
 1801 Henry Jardine, W.S.
 1802 James Hope, W.S.
 1803 John Campbell of Carbrook, W.S.
 1804 Robert Moir, W.S., Captain 2d Battalion 2d Regiment R.E.V.
 1805 Dr Mackenzie Grieve.
 1806 Alexander, Lord Elibank.
 1807 James Hope, W.S.
 1808 James Hope, W.S.
 1809 Charles Knowles Robison.
 1810 Dr Mackenzie Grieve.
 1812 John Kennedy, W.S.
 1814 John Watson, historical painter.
 1815 George Corsane Cunningham, Custom-House.
 1816 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate.
 1817 Charles Tawse, W.S.
 1818 William Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.
 1819 John Watson, historical painter.
 1820 Albert Cay, merchant.
 1821 Captain Robert Hay, R.N.
 1822 Albert Cay, merchant.
 1823 William Clerk, W.S.
 1824 William Napier, W.S.
 1825 John Maxton, merchant.
 1826 James Tod, W.S.
 1827 John Colin Wilson, W.S.
 1828 John Maxton, merchant.
 1829 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar.
 1830 James Tod, W.S.
 1831 John Maxton, merchant.
 1832 Alexander Duff, W.S.
 1833 Alexander Duff, W.S.
 1834 David Whigham, W.S.
 1835 James Hope, Deputy-Keeper of the Signet.
 1836 George M'Callum, W.S.
 1837 J. N. Forman, W.S.
 1838 J. N. Forman, W.S.
 1839 John Stewart, W.S.
 1840 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg.
 1841 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1842 John Maxton, merchant.
 1843 John Maxton, merchant.
 1844 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1845 John Stewart, W.S.
 1846 John Maxton, merchant.
 1847 George Brown Robertson, W.S.
 1848 John N. Forman, W.S.
 1850 John Kennedy, younger of Underwood.
 1851 John Maxton, merchant.
 1852 Arthur Campbell, junior, W.S.
 1853 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
 1854 Arthur Campbell, junior, W.S.
 1855 James Adam, W.S.
 1856 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.

1857 John Phin, S.S.C.	1867 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1858 Dr Douglas Maclagan.	1868 Charles Stewart, W.S.
1859 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1869 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1860 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1870 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1861 James Dunsmure, M.D.	1871 James Dunsmure, M.D.
1862 Alexander Howe, W.S.	1872 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1864 Charles Stewart, W.S.	1873 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1865 John M. Baillie, C.A.	1874 James T. Hutchison.

The Royal (Queen's) Prize.

(For Badge, see PLATE X.)

This prize, which is the most valuable of those shot for by the Royal Company, may be said to be one of the most ancient. Immediately after the formation of the Company, a report concerning the body was given in to the Privy Council of Scotland by a committee appointed for the purpose, as we have previously mentioned. Following this report there is, as we have also formerly observed, a minute dated 6th March 1677, to the following effect :—

“ The Lords of his Maj^{ties}. Privy Council having considered this report, they approve the same, and recommends to the Commissioners of his Majesties Treasury to allow twenty pounds ster^s for the expense of a prize to the effect within specified for this year, and declares that no further allowance shall be granted upon that account hereafter.

Sic subscrib^r.

ROTHES, *Cancell.* j.p.d.”

The committee in their report had recommended the grant of such a prize, *to be shot for every year*, and to be called the King's Prize. The minute of the Council on the subject, however, seems to limit the grant to the year in which it was passed only, and we are not informed whether even that allowance was competed for or not. Certain it is that we meet with no other record of a

King's Prize having been granted for many years. In fact, it was not until 1787 that the Royal or King's Prize was again revived. In that year it was recommended to the Council by several of the members to consider the propriety of applying to the king for a piece of plate, or other prize, to be shot for annually. This suggestion was received with favour by the Council, and they agreed to consult the Captain-General on the subject. The Duke of Buccleuch, who then held that office, seems to have promised to communicate with the king, but was prevented doing so on account of illness; and to Mr Dundas of Melville (afterwards Viscount Melville) was intrusted the duty of endeavouring to secure the revival of the King's Prize. In this he was successful; and a prize of £20 sterling was ordered to be granted in the name of the King, to be shot for annually by the Royal Company. The Council ordered that the rules for shooting for the King's Prize should be the same as those observed in the competition for the Edinburgh Arrow. As we have already quoted these, there is no need again to specify them. There was, however, this proviso attached to the regulations for the King's Prize competition—that before the victor should be entitled to an order on the Exchequer for the money, he should produce to the Council a piece of plate of the value of at least £20 sterling, with the royal arms engraved thereon, together with his own motto and device. The first competition for the prize took place on the 26th of July 1788, when a large party went to the field, attended by sixty men and the band of the 7th Royal Fusiliers. The Captain-General was present, together with Lord Aylesford, the Warden of the Woodmen of the ancient Forest of Arden, a company of archers who had sent a diploma of freedom to the Royal Company and received one in return. From that time down to the present, the Royal Prize has been shot for without the omission of any one year—though now, perhaps, the display is not quite so pretentious as in the early days of its competition. Then, a guard of soldiers from the garrison in the Castle used regularly to accompany the shooters to the field. About

1825, this practice was discontinued; and the Royal Company now possessing a band of its own, the attendance of the military is not required. A body of police now performs their functions in keeping the ground, and no doubt in a quite as effectual if not in such an imposing manner.

In 1837, on the accession of Queen Victoria, the King's Prize, of course, became the Queen's; but though changed in name, it lost none of its value as the most desirable prize which could be gained among the many shot for by the Company.

In 1844, the Queen's Prize was shot for at the wapinschaw which was held that year in the Queen's Park, and which has been described in a former part of this volume. No less than thirty-four members competed for it on that occasion, probably the largest number of shooters that ever turned out for this prize. It was not again shot for beyond the usual shooting-ground until 1866, when a muster of the shooting-members of the Company took place in Dalkeith Park on the invitation of the Captain-General, and in that beautiful locality the competition was held. In the same year the Marquess of Dalhousie presented a gold badge to be worn during the year by the winner of this prize, and to be restored by him when it was again gained. Previously, there had been nothing to distinguish the successful competitor for this *the* prize of the year, and Lord Dalhousie's generous gift was received with gratitude and pleasure by the shooting-members of the Company.

It is of course impossible to specify the various forms which the Royal Prize has taken, every winner being at liberty to invest the £20 granted in whatever piece of plate of that value he may think suitable. On the occasion of several banquets, balls, &c., a call of as many of these Royal Prizes as could easily be got at, has been made, and the display has invariably been a brilliant one. The shape they usually take is that of epergnes, claret-jugs, and other ornaments of plate for the table. Of course the winner has the freedom of adding as much money as he likes to the sum

granted for the prize, and in that way to procure a still more handsome memorial of his skill in archery.

The Royal Prize is shot for at a distance of 180 yards, the number of ends being fixed upon by the competitors before beginning to shoot, and of course varying with the number of shooters. Three successive ends made at any period of the competitions were formerly sufficient to carry the prize; if those were not made, then the greatest number of points were counted. Recently, however, it has been arranged that the greatest number of points only will be counted, unless any competitor should gain the last three ends, in which case he is to be accounted the winner. This rule prevents the prize being won at too early a stage of the competition, and keeps up the interest of the shooting to the last.

WINNERS OF THE ROYAL PRIZE.

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|--|--|
| 1788 James Gray, writer in Edinburgh. | 1811 James Hope, W.S. |
| 1789 Robert Kerr, surgeon in Edinburgh. | 1812 Donald Horne, W.S. |
| 1790 William Robertson, jeweller in Edinr. | 1813 John Kennedy, W.S. |
| 1791 Dr Thomas Spens, physician in Edinr. | 1814 George Corsane Cunninghame, Custom-House. |
| 1792 Alexander, Lord Elibank. | 1815 John Kennedy, W.S. |
| 1793 Dr Nathaniel Spens. | 1816 John Linning, accountant of excise. |
| 1794 Alexander Wallace, banker in Edinr. | 1817 Sir Patrick Walker, Knight. |
| 1795 James Gibson, W.S. | 1818 Charles Crossland Hay. |
| 1796 Dr Thomas Spens. | 1819 Captain Robert Deans, Royal Navy. |
| 1797 William Stewart, advocate. | 1820 John Watson, historical painter. |
| 1798 Henry Jardine, W.S. | 1821 Captain Robert Hay, R.N. |
| 1799 Andrew Duncan, senior, M.D. and Professor. | 1822 Sir Patrick Walker, Knight, Usher of the White Rod, Scotland. |
| 1800 Thomas Charles Hope, M.D. and Professor of Chemistry. | 1823 James Stormonth Darling, W.S. |
| 1801 James Hope, W.S. | 1824 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1802 Dr Thomas Spens. | 1825 James Tod, W.S. |
| 1803 James Miller, advocate. | 1826 John Colin Wilson, W.S. |
| 1804 Lieutenant - Colonel James Spens, Brigadier - General of the Royal Company. | 1827 John Maxton, merchant. |
| 1805 Charles Cuninghame, W.S. | 1828 James Tod, W.S. |
| 1806 John Russell, Clerk to the Signet. | 1829 Captain Robert Deans, R.N. |
| 1807 Dr Thomas Charles Hope, Professor of Chemistry. | 1830 John Maxton, merchant. |
| 1808 James Hope, W.S. | 1831 Albert Cay, merchant. |
| 1809 Dr Thomas Charles Hope. | 1832 George M'Callum, W.S. |
| 1810 Claud Russell, accountant in Edinr. | 1833 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| | 1834 John Jopp, W.S. |
| | 1835 Dr James Weir. |
| | 1836 Dr James Weir. |

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1837 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg.—
<i>Queen's Prize.</i> | 1855 James Jobson Dickson, accountant. |
| 1838 John Jopp, W.S. | 1856 George Kellie M'Callum of Braco. |
| 1839 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1857 Dr Douglas Maclagan. |
| 1840 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1858 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1841 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar. | 1859 George Steuart. |
| 1842 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg. | 1860 John N. Forman, W.S. |
| 1843 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S. | 1861 J. Dick Peddie, architect. |
| 1844 John Scott, W.S. | 1862 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1845 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1863 George Robertson, C.E. |
| 1846 John Gillespie, W.S. | 1864 Alexander Howe, W.S. |
| 1847 Dr Douglas Maclagan. | 1865 George Robertson, C.E. |
| 1848 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S. | 1866 Charles Steuart, W.S. |
| 1849 John Gillespie, W.S. | 1867 John Forman, W.S. |
| 1850 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1868 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1851 James Hope, Deputy-Keeper of the
Signet. | 1869 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D. |
| 1852 James Jobson Dickson, accountant. | 1870 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1853 James Jobson Dickson, accountant. | 1871 James Dunsmure, M.D. |
| 1854 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1872 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| | 1873 James Dunsmure, M.D. |
| | 1874 James Dunsmure, M.D. |





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1 PAPINGO MEDAL

2. QUEENS PRIZE BADGE.

3 DALHOUSIE SWORD BADGE

5 BUGLE HORN.

4. SPENS ANNIVERSARY MEDAL.

6. PAGODA MEDAL & GOOSE MEDAL.



CHAPTER XIII.

DESCRIPTION OF PRIZES—*continued.*

THE PAGODA MEDAL—ACCOUNT OF ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY—WINNERS' NAMES—THE BUTT MEDAL—INSTITUTION OF AND MODE OF SHOOTING FOR THE PRIZE—WINNERS' NAMES—THE BUGLE-HORN—FIRST INSTITUTED IN 1800—NEW PRIZE PRESENTED BY SIR HENRY JARDINE IN 1830—LIST OF WINNERS—THE ST ANDREW CROSS—REGULATIONS FOR SHOOTING—WINNERS' NAMES—HOPE-TOUN ROYAL COMMEMORATION PRIZE—ITS ORIGIN—WINNERS' NAMES—PAPINGO MEDAL—ORIGIN OF THE NAME—FORMER MODE OF SHOOTING FOR THIS PRIZE—WINNERS' NAMES—SPENS ANNIVERSARY MEDAL—LIST OF WINNERS—DALHOUSIE SWORD—DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIZE—WINNERS' NAMES—PEEBLES ARROW—ITS EARLY HISTORY—REVIVED 1784—WINNERS' NAMES—SELKIRK ARROW—LIST OF WINNERS—STIRLING ARROW—MONTROSE ARROW—BIGGAR JUG.

The Pagoda Medal.

(See PLATE X.)

IN 1793, Colonel Spens, a son of Dr Nathaniel Spens, presented to the Company two medals, made of "pagodas," being part of the actual money paid to the allies by Tippoo Sultan at the treaty of Seringapatam. The one bearing the arms of the Company was ordered to be shot for every Saturday during the season at 180 yards, to be won by the three consecutive ends only. The other was to be shot for at 100 yards, on the same conditions—it being necessary, however, at the shorter range, that the arrow should actually hit the target in order to constitute an "end." In 1794 it was agreed that one of the Pagoda Medals should be given for the prize of the Goose; and it has continued so to be shot for, as

we have previously mentioned, from that time. The other medal does not seem to have been competed for during several years, the attendance of members being considerably interfered with towards the close of last century by the meetings of the various Volunteer corps which were then embodied. In 1799, we find the medal shot for on the same plan as the prize of the Goose. In 1801, it was shot for at butts; and the following year it was competed for at rovers, but whether at 100 yards or at 180 is not mentioned—it is probable that it was at the latter range, as in 1813 the medal was shot for on the same day as the Silver Bowl. This prize is at present shot for at 100 yards, such having been the practice for a good number of years. It is one of the few prizes shot for by the Royal Company at this range. It is a curious circumstance in the history of these two Pagoda Medals that one of them was stolen several years ago; but the Company succeeded in procuring some other pagodas and had a *fac-simile* of the prize made, no trace having been discovered of the original medal.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1793 Dr Thomas Spens.	1826 John Maxton, merchant.
1799 Dr James Gregory.	1827 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.
1801 Wm. Field.	1828 James Tod, W.S.
1802 Claud Russell, accountant.	1829 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1803 Dr Spens.	1831 George M'Callum, W.S.
1804 James Hope, W.S.	1832 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.
1806 F. H. Blair.	1833 Lord Ramsay.
1808 F. H. Blair.	1835 George M'Callum, W.S.
1813 John B. Brodie, W.S.	1836 Alexander Duff, W.S.
1815 James Lang, W.S.	1836 Lord Ramsay.
1817 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate.	1837 John Stewart, W.S.
1818 William Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1838 James Weir, surgeon.
1819 William Bonar, banker.	1839 Alexander Duff, W.S.
1820 William Clark, W.S.	1840 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1821 Dr Andrew Duncan, senior.	1841 The Earl of Dalhousie.
1822 John Linning, Secretary to the Royal Company.	1842 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1823 John Linning, Secretary to the Royal Company.	1843 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1824 William Clark, W.S.	1844 John Gillespie, W.S.
1825 James Tod, W.S.	1845 Alexander Duff, W.S.
	1847 Henry George Watson, accountant.
	1848 Henry George Watson, accountant.
	1850 Archibald D. Cockburn, merchant.

1851 Archibald D. Cockburn, merchant.	1865 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1852 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.	1866 George Robertson, C.E.
1853 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.	1867 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1854 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.	1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1855 John W. Tawse, W.S.	1870 James Sceales.
1856 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1871 James T. Hutchison.
1857 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1872 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1860 Alexander Howe, W.S.	1873 James Sceales.
1862 David Scott Moncrieff, W.S.	1874 James T. Hutchison.
1864 David Scott Moncrieff, W.S.	

The Butt Medal.

Of the several modes of shooting practised by the Royal Company, the competitions at butts are among the pleasantest. In winter afternoons, when light fails at an early hour, and most outdoor amusements are at a discount, there are few things more enjoyable to fill up a vacant hour or two before dinner than to meet a pleasant party at Archers' Hall and shoot a match at butts, knowing that a plain but well-cooked repast is being made ready in the building close by. The shortness of the range and the small size of the mark alike contribute to much more accurate shooting than is possible at the longer ranges in the field. For many years the Royal Company possessed no regular prize for butt-shooting, if we except that of the Goose. This is partly accounted for by the fact of the butts being quite uncovered for many years, as it was not until 1790 that the present butts were built and roofed in from end to end. Within late years, too, the lighting of them has been much improved, as instead of oil-lamps being used to illuminate the marks, a brilliant array of gas-jets has been introduced, which renders the shooting easy even in the darkest winter afternoon.

In 1813 we find the following entry in the records: "A request having been made to the Council of the Royal Company that they would authorise a subscription among the members for the purchase of a gold medal, to be shot for at butts on the last Saturday of January, February, and March, the Council, desirous to promote

the elegant exercise of shooting with the bow and arrow, and to encourage attendance at the winter meetings of the Royal Company, unanimously agreed to authorise a subscription amongst the members of five shillings each for the above purpose, the medal to be shot for on such conditions as they shall hereafter think proper to impose; and they appointed the Secretaries to send round a subscription-paper accordingly."

This prize is shot for at butts on three Saturdays in the beginning of the year, now generally two Saturdays in January and one in February. The competitor who makes the greatest aggregate number of points on these three days wins the prize. All "papers"—*i. e.*, arrows striking the four-inch pasteboard mark—count two; if there are no papers, then the nearest arrow counts one, and if the second arrow belongs to the same shooter, it also counts. The medal has been shot for with great regularity since its institution, the only year missed being 1819, when we are told in the records that the second and third days' shooting were not considered regular, though it does not appear why such a decision was come to.

WINNERS' NAMES.

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1814 John Watson, portrait-painter. | 1836 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1815 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A. | 1837 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1816 John Linning. | 1838 George M'Callum, W.S. |
| 1817 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate. | 1839 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1818 Thomas Durham Weir, advocate. | 1840 John Stewart, W.S. |
| 1820 Charles Crossland Hay, merchant. | 1841 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1821 Captain Robert Hay, R.N. | 1842 John A. Macrae, W.S. |
| 1822 Adam Gib Ellis, W.S. | 1843 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1823 Adam Gib Ellis, W.S. | 1844 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1824 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A. | 1845 Dr William Robertson. |
| 1825 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A. | 1846 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1826 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1847 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1827 John Grieve, accountant. | 1848 James Linning Woodman, W.S. |
| 1828 John Maxton, merchant. | 1849 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1829 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1850 John Kennedy, younger of Under-
wood. |
| 1830 Nathaniel Spens, Craigsanquhar. | 1851 Dr William Robertson. |
| 1831 John Robison. | 1852 James Jobson Dickson, accountant. |
| 1832 Alexander Duff, W.S. | 1853 Arthur Campbell, junior, W.S. |
| 1833 James Linning Woodman, W.S. | 1854 James Wilkie, accountant. |
| 1834 James Linning Woodman, W.S. | 1855 George Steuart, accountant. |
| 1835 Alexander Duff, W.S. | |

1856 James Wilkie, accountant.	1866 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1857 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1867 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1858 James Adam, advocate.	1868 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1859 Alexander Robertson, advocate.	1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1860 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1870 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1861 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1871 James Sceales.
1862 James Wilkie, C.A.	1872 James T. Hutchison.
1863 James Wilkie, C.A.	1873 James T. Hutchison.
1864 James Wilkie, C.A.	1874 James T. Hutchison.
1865 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.	

The Bugle-Horn.

(See PLATE X.)

On the 16th of August 1800, we find it mentioned in the records of the Company that “the shooting-members proposed to the Council that they would give to the Royal Company a Silver Bugle-Horn, to be shot for annually and worn as usual by the victor; which the Council accepted of, and ordained to be shot for a certain number of Saturdays, at the 100 yards distance, and to be determined annually on the last Saturday of October in place of the Goose, which is in future to be shot for on the 30th November annually, in honour of St Andrew’s Day.” These arrangements by the Council as to the shooting for this prize do not seem to have been carried into effect after the year of their promulgation. In that year, the prize was shot for on three successive Saturdays in October; but this does not seem to have been done afterwards, and the Goose prize was very shortly restored to its old date in October. In 1819, the date of the competition for the Bugle-Horn was altered from September to April, and since then it has continued to be shot for in spring, that being the time of year in which the only other 100 yards prize—the Pagoda Medal—is shot for; one day only is devoted to the competition. The records of the shooting for this prize are not very regular for several years after its institution.

The original form of the prize was a small silver badge upon leather in the shape of a bugle, meant to be worn on the breast.

In 1830, Sir Henry Jardine, seeing that it was neither handsome nor becoming, presented to the Company a very elegant and beautifully-chased silver bugle of a much larger size, made to be slung across the shoulder by a green cord and tassels—and this is the prize which is now shot for.

WINNERS' NAMES.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1800 James Hope, W.S. | 1842 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1801 Sir George Mackenzie, Bart. | 1843 George Brown Robertson, W.S. |
| 1802 Dr Mackenzie Grieve. | 1844 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1807 Thomas Erskine of Marr. | 1845 Alexander Duff, W.S. |
| 1808 Dr Duncan. | 1846 Dr William Robertson. |
| 1810 Dr Mackenzie Grieve. | 1847 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1813 John Campbell, W.S. | 1848 John A. Macrae, W.S. |
| 1814 John Watson, portrait-painter. | 1849 Dr Douglas Maclagan. |
| 1815 Sir George Mackenzie, Bart. | 1850 Henry George Watson, accountant. |
| 1816 John Linning, accountant of excise. | 1851 John A. Macrae, W.S. |
| 1817 Captain Robert Deans, R.N. | 1852 William Finlay, accountant. |
| 1819 James Brown, accountant. | 1853 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1823 Nasmyth Morrison, W.S. | 1854 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1824 John Colin Wilson, W.S. | 1855 William Finlay, C.A. |
| 1825 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1856 George Steuart, accountant. |
| 1826 Captain Robert Deans, R.N. | 1857 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1827 John Colin Wilson, W.S. | 1858 Alexander Robertson, advocate. |
| 1828 Robert Dundas Cay, W.S. | 1859 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1829 John Maxton, merchant. | 1861 Alexander Howe, W.S. |
| 1830 James Tod, W.S. | 1863 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1831 John Nairne Forman, W.S. | 1864 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1832 Alexander Duff, W.S. | 1865 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1833 Henry George Watson, accountant. | 1866 John Gillespie, W.S. |
| 1834 George M'Callum, W.S. | 1867 Charles Steuart, W.S. |
| 1835 James Linning Woodman, W.S. | 1868 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D. |
| 1836 Alexander Duff, W.S. | 1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1837 Lord Ramsay. | 1870 James Dunsmure, M.D. |
| 1838 John Stewart, W.S. | 1871 James T. Hutchison. |
| 1839 John Stewart, W.S. | 1872 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |
| 1840 John Stewart, W.S. | 1873 James T. Hutchison. |
| 1841 Alexander Duff, W.S. | 1874 James Jobson Dickson, C.A. |

The St Andrew Cross.

(See TAIL-PIECE, p. 352.)

In October 1801, there was presented to the Company, by Sir George Mackenzie of Coul, Baronet, an elegant St Andrew's cross of gold, which he requested might be shot for annually on St Andrew's Day, the 30th of November, at a distance of 200 yards. This is the only prize shot for by the Royal Company at that range, and we question very much if there is any other prize shot for by any archery club in the United Kingdom at that distance. The Council laid down certain rules for the more exact guidance of shooters, of which the following are the more important :—

“ 1. No archer is to compete who is not in uniform, so far as concerns the bonnet and jacket.” (Full uniform, as for other prizes, is now required.)

“ 2. The marks are to be at the distance of 200 yards, and no archer is to take the indulgence of a greater (!) or less distance.

“ 3. Two successive clouts or three successive ends to gain the prize. Failing either of these events, the archer who shall have the greatest number of points to be the victor.”

Although originally intended to be shot for on St Andrew's Day, this was found rather late in the season to shoot for a field prize, and the Cross is now competed for in October at the close of the rover-shooting for the season.

The following is the list of winners :—

1801 Wm. Fraser Tytler, advocate.
 1802 Dr Spens.
 1803 James Hope, W.S.
 1804 Claud Russell, accountant.
 1805 Charles K. Robison, W.S.
 1807 Henry Jardine, W.S.
 1808 John Russell, W.S.
 1811 Charles K. Robison, W.S.
 1812 John B. Brodie, W.S.
 1813 John B. Brodie, W.S.
 1814 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.

1815 John Watson, portrait-painter.
 1816 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.
 1817 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.
 1818 John Watson, portrait-painter.
 1819 Captain Robert Deans, R.N.
 1820 Charles Crossland Hay, merchant.
 1821 Albert Cay, merchant.
 1822 John Maxton, merchant.
 1823 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.
 1824 Henry George Watson, accountant.
 1825 Albert Cay, merchant.

1826 James Tod, W.S.	1848 George Brown Robertson, W.S.
1827 James Tod, W.S.	1850 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1828 Charles Crossland Hay, merchant.	1851 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.
1829 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1852 John M. Baillie, accountant.
1830 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1853 John Phin, S.S.C.
1831 Albert Cay, merchant.	1854 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1832 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1856 John Gillespie, W.S.
1833 John N. Forman, W.S.	1857 Alexander Robertson, advocate.
1834 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1858 John Gillespie, W.S.
1835 George M'Callum, W.S.	1859 John Gillespie, W.S.
1836 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1860 John Gillespie, W.S.
1837 Lord Ramsay.	1861 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1838 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1862 George Steuart.
1839 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1863 Alexander Howe, W.S.
1840 Earl of Dalhousie.	1864 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1841 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1865 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1842 George Brown Robertson, W.S.	1866 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1843 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1867 Professor D. Maclagan, M.D.
1844 John Gillespie, W.S.	1868 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1845 George Brown Robertson, W.S.	1870 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1846 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1871 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1847 John Gillespie, W.S.	1872 James Sceales.
	1873 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
	1874 James Sceales.

The Hopetoun Royal Commemoration Prize.

(See PLATE XI.)

This prize, one of the most valuable of those shot for by the Royal Company, was presented by the Earl of Hopetoun in 1823 to commemorate George IV.'s visit to Scotland in the previous year, when the Company had for the first time the honour of acting as Body-guard to the king. It consists, as will be seen from our illustration, of a large silver vase, on which is annually inscribed the name of the winner for the year, and a gold medal, which is worn by the victor during the period that he holds the prize. It was originally appointed to be shot for on the 23d of April, St George's Day, and the day on which the birthday of George IV. was usually observed. In the reign of his successor, the 28th of May was the day generally adopted, and it continued to be shot for in May for a good many years. Of late years the



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THE HOPETOUN ROYAL COMMEMORATION PRIZE. 1822.



date of shooting has varied a little, a not uncommon plan now being, in the event of the Silver Bowl being won early in the season, to put out the Hopetoun Vase on the same conditions as the Bowl is shot for—that is to say, to be won only by three successive ends. This keeps up the interest in the field-shooting during the summer, as the prize is not generally gained until after several days' shooting.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1823 Nasmyth Morrison, W.S.	1851 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
1824 James Tod, W.S.	1852 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
1825 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1853 James Hope, Deputy-Keeper of the Signet.
1826 William Napier, W.S.	1854 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1827 John Colin Wilson, W.S.	1855 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1828 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.	1856 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1829 David Smith, W.S.	1857 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
1830 John Maxton, merchant.	1858 George Steuart, accountant.
1831 Robert Dundas Cay, W.S.	1859 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1833 Albert Cay, merchant.	1860 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1834 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.	1861 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1835 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1862 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1836 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1863 George Robertson, C.E.
1837 John N. Forman, W.S.	1864 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1838 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S.	1865 Alexander Howe, W.S.
1839 John Maxton, merchant.	1867 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1840 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1868 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1841 The Earl of Dalhousie.	1869 George Robertson, C.E.
1842 John N. Forman, W.S.	1870 James Dunsmore, M.D.
1843 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1871 James T. Hutchison.
1844 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1873 John Gillespie, W.S.
1845 John Maxton, merchant.	1874 James Scales.
1846 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.	
1850 John Phin, S.S.C.	

The Papingo Medal.

(See PLATE X.)

The sport of shooting at a bird placed on the top of a pole is of very ancient date. We have seen that it is alluded to by Homer; and there are accounts of its having been practised in many countries of Europe at a comparatively early period. A live bird

was invariably employed till more recent times, when a wooden or stuffed representation came to be used. It was called a papingo or popinjay, and in France it appears under the name of *papegai*, and seems to have been practised so early as the thirteenth century.¹ The sport is referred to by Sir Walter Scott in 'Old Mortality' when giving an account of the wapinschaw held in Clydesdale in 1679. At that time, however, the pastime had ceased to be one in which archery was employed, the mark being shot at by firearms. The author says: "It was the figure of a bird decked with party-coloured feathers, so as to resemble a popinjay or parrot. It was suspended to a pole, and served for a mark, at which the competitors discharged their fuses and carabines in rotation at the distance of sixty or seventy paces. He whose ball brought down the mark held the proud title of Captain of the Popinjay for the remainder of the day, and was usually escorted in triumph to the most reputable change-house in the neighbourhood, where the evening was closed with conviviality, conducted under his auspices, and, if he was able to sustain it, at his expense."

In 1832, a medal, which was to be competed for by shooting at this species of target, was presented to the Company by Sir John Robison, one of the most energetic of the shooting-members of that day. It is a small gold medal suspended from the figure of a parrot or popinjay, as will be seen from the illustration. It bears on the reverse side to that shown in the plate a sheaf of arrows and the motto, "*In me convertite telum*"—Æn., lib. ix.

The popinjay was erected on a pole, or rather on two poles, raised one above the other to the height of 75 feet. The shooters stood immediately below and shot perpendicularly upwards at the mark (which was latterly a piece of cardboard, and not a bird), the arrows used for the purpose having square heads, in order to prevent them injuring any one on whom they might happen to fall.

¹ Residence in France, by Miss Plumtre, quoted in Hone's Every Day Book, vol. i. p. 290.

So long as the field in which this prize was shot for was not open to the public, this orthodox way of shooting for it did very well; but when the Meadows were thrown open, and the green was covered with people and children of all sorts and sizes, it was found inconvenient and somewhat hazardous to shoot for it in this manner, not to speak of the great labour it took to get the requisite poles hoisted into position; so the Papingo medal is now shot for annually in the butts like an ordinary butt-prize.

Till within very recent years there was a papingo shot at by the Kilwinning Society of Archers in their ground at that village, the successful marksman being styled the captain of the society for the ensuing year. In point of fact, however, we believe this grew to be a mere form, the captain for the year being usually nominated before the competition, and the bird hauled down to his shot. This Kilwinning competition was a very gay scene, different lengths of coloured ribbon being dealt out to the marksmen, according to the accuracy of their aim, the ribbons being worn by the competitors during the rest of the day.

The following are the names of the winners of the Papingo prize :—

1832 J. N. Forman, W.S.	1853 James Wilkie, accountant.
1833 Lord Ramsay.	1857 (Jan.) George Steuart, accountant.
1834 Henry George Watson, Treasurer R.C.A.	1857 (Dec.) Henry George Watson, ac- countant.
1835 George Kellie M'Callum, W.S.	1858 James Wilkie, accountant.
1836 Lord Ramsay.	1859 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1837 Lord Ramsay.	1861 (Feb.) J. Dick Peddie, architect.
1838 Earl of Dalhousie.	1861 (Dec.) D. Scott Moncrieff, W.S.
1839 John Stewart, W.S.	1862 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1840 John A. Macrae, W.S.	1863 George Robertson, C.E.
1841 Alexander Thomson of Whitrigg.	1864 George Steuart.
1842 Albert Cay, merchant.	1865 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1843 John A. Macrae, W.S.	1866 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1844 John Elder, W.S.	1867 George Robertson, C.E.
1845 Dr William Robertson.	1868 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1846 John Scott, W.S.	1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1847 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1870 Henry Cook, W.S.
1848 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1871 James Sceales.
1850 John A. Macrae, W.S.	1872 Hugh C. Bell, C.E.
1851 James Wilkie, accountant.	1873 Hugh C. Bell, C.E.
1852 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.	1874 J. T. Hutchison.

The Spens Anniversary Medal.

(See PLATE X.)

This prize was instituted by the Council in 1834 in memory of Dr Nathaniel Spens, who was, as we have had occasion to see, such a staunch supporter of the Company, and an enthusiastic shooting-member. On the reverse side from that seen in the illustration it bears the following inscription: "SPENS PRIZE, instituted by the Council of the Royal Company of Archers, the King's Body-guard for Scotland, to commemorate the valuable services of the late Dr Nathaniel Spens, who was many years President of the Council. 1834."

This prize is shot for at the usual field distance of 180 yards, and is won by the greatest number of points. For a few years it was ordered to be shot for on two days, twenty-five ends of three arrows each being shot on the first day at 100 yards; and on the second day, sixteen ends at 80 yards and twelve ends at 60 yards were shot. The practice did not last very long, more especially as the prize was generally put out in the roster for September, at which time of year it was often difficult to get a quorum.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1834 John N. Forman, W.S.	1851 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
1835 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1852 John Gillespie, W.S.
1836 Albert Cay, merchant.	1853 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.
1837 John N. Forman, W.S.	1856 John W. Tawse, W.S.
1838 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.	1857 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1839 John Maxton, merchant.	1862 Alexander Howe, W.S.
1840 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1863 George Steuart.
1841 John N. Forman, W.S.	1864 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1842 The Earl of Dalhousie.	1865 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1843 John Gillespie, W.S.	1866 George Robertson, C.E.
1844 Alexander Thomson of Whittrigg.	1867 George Robertson, C.E.
1845 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1868 George Robertson, C.E.
1846 Alexander Duff, W.S.	1869 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1847 Dr Douglas Maclagan.	1870 James Scales.
1848 George Brown Robertson, W.S.	1871 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1850 John Kennedy, younger of Under- wood.	1872 Henry Cook, W.S.
	1873 George Steuart.
	1874 Henry Cook, W.S.

The Dalhousie Sword.

(For Badge, see PLATE X.)

In 1834, the Earl of Dalhousie, Captain-General of the Royal Company, presented this splendid prize to be shot for annually. A representation of the Sword will be found on Plate XII., where it forms part of an archery trophy. It is an oriental curved sabre, the blade of which is quite plain, but the hilt and scabbard are lavishly studded with turquoises. The sword-belt is of gold cord, pendant from which flashes a blazing jewel. Of the history of the weapon we have no account; but it probably graced the person of some Indian potentate before it reached Archers' Hall. As it is not a very convenient appendage to wear with the shooting-dress of the Company, Lord Dalhousie in 1836 presented a Medal to be worn during the year by the winner of the prize. It bears the figure of an archer drawing a bow, in green enamel on a white ground, and on the reverse is a crown surrounded with a green border, on which are the words, "The Flowers of the Forest." The Dalhousie Sword was first shot for on the 26th July 1834, being the day on which the donor's portrait was hung in the Hall. It is shot for every year with full honours, the band of the Company attending on the occasion, and lunch being served to the competitors and their friends in a tent on the field.

The following is a list of the names of members who have held this prize :—

1834 John Robison.	1843 John Elder, W.S.
1835 George Robertson, Deputy-Keeper of the Records.	1845 Dr William Robertson.
1836 J. Linning Woodman, W.S.	1846 Dr Douglas Maclagan.
1837 John Jopp, W.S.	1847 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1838 John Stewart, W.S.	1848 Archibald D. Cockburn, merchant.
1839 John Brown Innes, W.S.	1849 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.
1840 Nathaniel Spens of Craigsanquhar.	1850 James Hope, Deputy-Keeper of the Signet.
1841 John Stewart, W.S.	1851 John Kirk, W.S.
1842 Henry George Watson, accountant.	1852 James Adam, advocate.

1853 George Kellie M'Callum of Braco.	1864 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1854 Dr Douglas Maclagan.	1865 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1855 James Adam, advocate.	1866 Alexander Howe, W.S.
1856 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.	1867 James Dunsmure, M.D.
1857 Dr Douglas Maclagan.	1868 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1858 George Steuart, accountant.	1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1859 Alexander Robertson, advocate.	1870 James Dunsmure, M.D.
1860 Alexander Howe, W.S.	1871 John Forman, W.S.
1861 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.	1872 George Steuart.
1862 Alexander Howe, W.S.	1873 R. Craig Maclagan.
1863 Alexander Howe, W.S.	1874 J. T. Hutchison.

The Peebles Arrow.

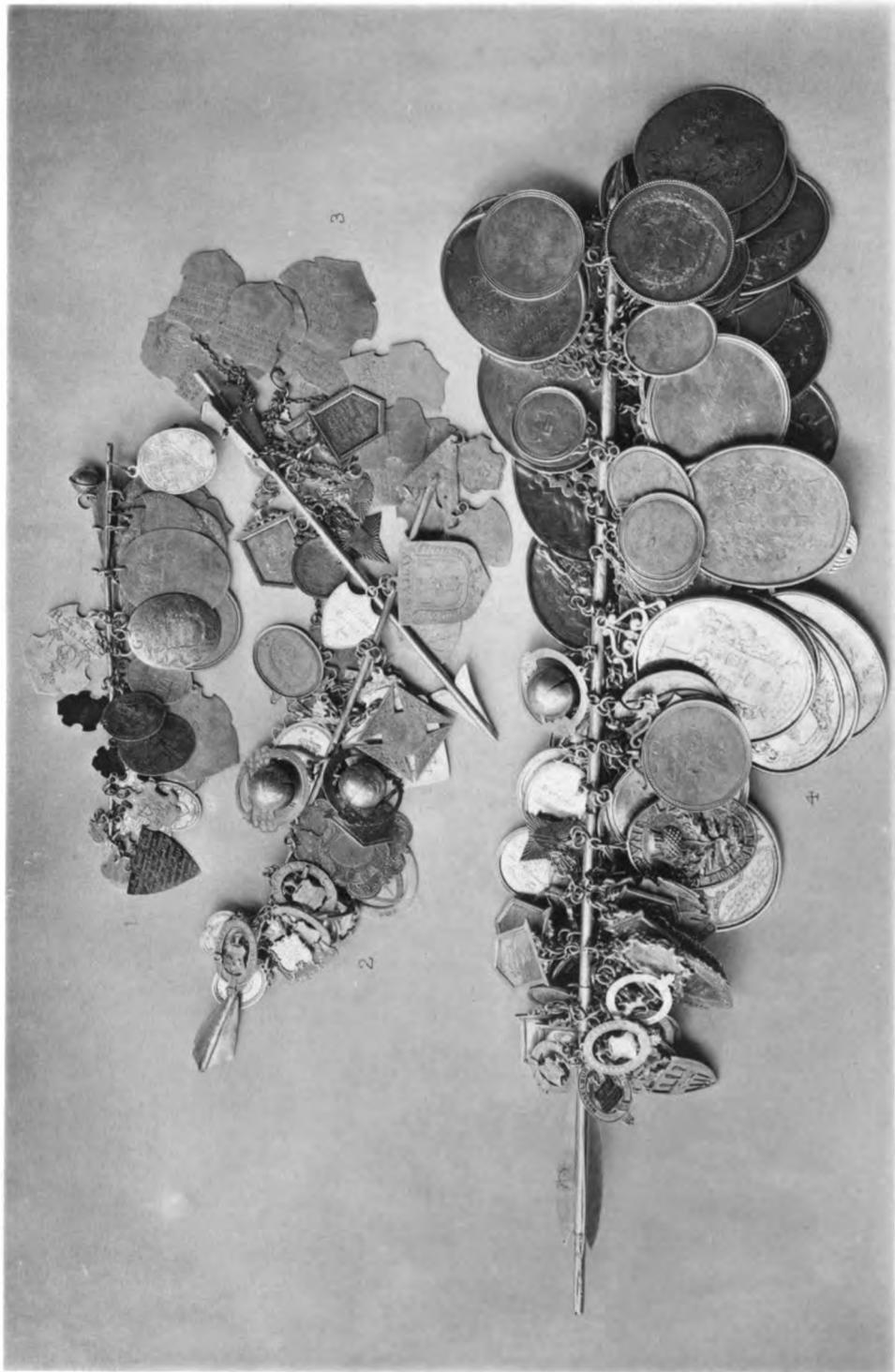
(See PLATE IX.)

This is one of the old Silver Arrows which used to be given as prizes for archery by several of the Scottish burghs. The best account of it is to be found in Dr William Chambers's interesting book on Peeblesshire, from which most of the following facts are taken. An inscription on the Arrow tells us that it was "presented by James Williamson, Provost of Piblis," the same who signed the National Covenant and Confession of Faith in 1638. It must, however, have been presented some time previous to that year, as the first medal bears the date 1628. There are only four seventeenth-century medals now attached to the Arrow. The latest in date of these is that of "Robert Childers, trumpetter and sadler to the King and the gude toune of Edinburgh," and bears, after the above designation, the following lines:—

"Content I am, with all my heart,
That he have this for his desert
That gains the same, whatever he be,
By his skill in archerie.

Robert Childers, trumpetter to his Maj^{ty}, wan the silver arrow at Peebles,
on ye 3d May 1664."

From 1664 to 1786 the Arrow was not shot for; and Dr Chambers gives the following probable explanation of the reason why



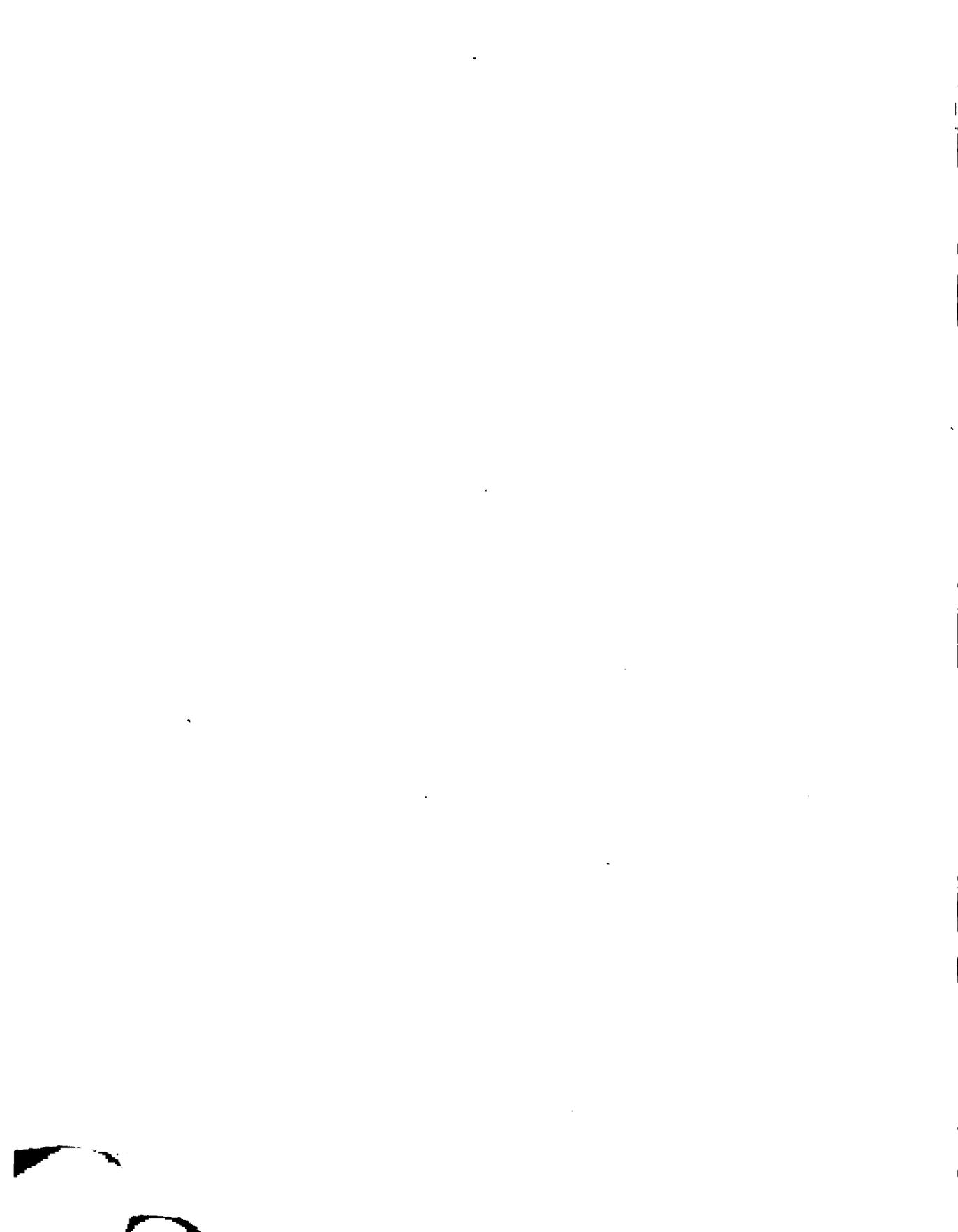
AUTOTYPE, S S R & C

1 OLD MUSSELBURGH ARROW 1602-1712.

2 PEEBLES SILVER ARROW.

3 SELKIRK SILVER ARROW.

4 MUSSELBURGH ARROW 1713.



the prize was not exposed to competition. He says : " According to the account of an aged person in Peebles, the Silver Arrow was found concealed in the wall of the building latterly occupied by the Town Council, when some remains of that edifice (formerly the Chapel of the Virgin) were removed, about 1780. The conclusion to be formed is, that the town treasurer had concealed the Arrow in the wall of the council-chamber at the commencement of the religious troubles in Scotland, 1675, and that its hiding-place being forgotten, it only came accidentally to light when the building was finally removed, more than a hundred years afterwards."

We light upon the first mention of this Arrow in the records of the Royal Company, under the date 12th July 1784, on which day Provost T. Alexander of Peebles dined with the Company, and brought the newly-recovered Arrow with him. It was left with the Royal Company, and that body shot for it at Peebles for the first time on the 3d of June 1786. It was then shot for pretty regularly until 1794, when the Volunteer movement, so often previously referred to, seems to have prevented a party being got up. In 1802 it was once more competed for, and since then has been shot for as often as it was convenient for the Company to get a party together. In the days previous to the introduction of the railway, the outing to Peebles must have been peculiarly enjoyable. An early start was made in post-chaises, or sometimes the "Blucher" stage-coach was engaged for the party. They breakfasted on the road, but brought with them to Peebles excellent appetites; and, after the competition, did full justice to a capital dinner, not forgetting the usual "riddle" of claret, presented by the magistrates. They frequently devoted the next day to shooting at Selkirk; and were oftentimes entertained on their way thither in one or other of the hospitable mansion-houses of the district. In the present day, the railway, of course, affords a more convenient if less enjoyable way of accomplishing the excursion; and the competition for the Selkirk Arrow or Biggar Jug is generally held the day preceding or succeeding that on which the Peebles prize is shot for. But

the trip to those ancient towns never fails to produce a good muster both of shooting and dining members.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1628 M. J. D.	1818 James Brown, accountant.
1661 J. S.	1823 Sir Patrick Walker, Knight, Usher of the White Rod for Scotland.
1663 Alexander Hay, Bower to His Majesty.	1828 John Maxton, merchant.
1664 Robert Childers, trumpetter and saddler to the King and the gude toune of Edinburgh.	1833 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1786 Thomas Elder, merchant.	1835 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1787 A. Wallace, banker, Edinburgh.	1836 Henry George Watson, accountant.
1790 Lord Elibank.	1839 James Weir, surgeon.
1791 Charles Hope, advocate.	1841 Earl of Dalhousie.
1792 Lord Elibank.	1851 James Hope, D.K.S.
1793 Provost Reid.	1856 Henry George Watson, C.A.
1802 James Hope, W.S.	1860 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1803 John Russell, W.S.	1861 George Steuart.
1804 Dr Hope.	1863 John M. Baillie.
1806 Lord Elibank.	1864 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1810 Captain David Milne, R.N.	1865 George Robertson, C.E.
1812 Dr Mackenzie Grieve.	1868 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1813 Thomas Richardson, W.S.	1869 James Sceales.
1816 John Linning, Secretary R.C.A.	1872 John Forman, W.S.
	1874 James T. Hutchison.

The Selkirk Arrow.

(See PLATE IX.)

This prize, like the similar one belonging to Peebles, can boast of considerable antiquity, though there is less known of its history than of that of the Peebles Arrow. The oldest medal attached to it bears date 26th August 1660; and from that time until 1674 there are nine badges affixed. At the latter date, however, Scotland was in sore trouble, and men had more important things to think of and practise than archery competitions; so the Arrow enjoyed a long slumber, as it was not till 1818 that we hear of it being shot for by the Royal Company. It was recovered principally through the exertions of Sir Walter Scott and Sir Patrick Walker, who found it had been delivered to a bailie of the

Council early in the eighteenth century to keep for the town's use, and that its existence had been quite forgotten. On the 28th August of the year above mentioned, a party from Archers' Hall, on the invitation of the magistrates of Selkirk, went to that town and competed for the prize. We have already¹ given an account of the day's proceedings, as well as of the ceremony of "licking the birse," which the party went through in the evening. We have also already referred to the next competition which took place in 1823,² and from that time the meetings at Selkirk call for no particular description.

In 1835, a misunderstanding arose between the magistrates of Selkirk and the Royal Company, which occasioned the return of the Arrow to the magistrates; and it was not again shot for by the Royal Company till 1868, from which period frequent competitions have been held; and no warmer welcome is given to the Royal Company than by that ancient town on the occasion of their visits there.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1660 Walter Scott of Goldelands.	1818 Charles Nairn.
1661 John Scott of Woll.	1823 J. C. Wilson, W.S.
1662 John Nicholl in Bellenten.	1828 John Maxton.
1663 James Nicholl in Andleshope.	1830 Albert Cay.
1664 James Nicholl in Andleshope.	1833 W. S. Watson, accountant.
1671 James Browne of Kelso.	1868 R. Craig Maclagan, M.D.
1672 James Maxwell of Kelso.	1871 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1673 Thomes Scott of Whiteslaid.	1874 Charles Steuart, W.S.
1674 James Browne of Kelso.	

Stirling Arrow.

From the records of the burgh of Stirling, this Arrow would appear to have been first shot for in 1678, at the Friars' Yards, Stirling. We have little information regarding it, and it was not shot for regularly after 1715. Sir Archibald Primrose of Duni-

¹ Page 133.

² Page 157.

pace, however, won it in 1745 ; but he unfortunately lost his head the following year, and the Arrow has not since been heard of. From some entries in the Burgh Records there would appear not only to have been an Arrow but also a Silver Bow ; but seeing the cost of them both is only said to be "twentie-four poundis Scottis," they can hardly have been of much value.

In 1819, Mr Campbell of Carbrook interested himself in getting the prize revived, and Lord Rosebery offered to present a Silver Bow ; but this offer seems subsequently to have been withdrawn. The Town Council of Stirling, however, appear to have determined to provide a prize ; and the Royal Company, on being communicated with, expressed their willingness to shoot at that ancient burgh. On the 4th of August 1820, accordingly, a competition took place, and the Company dined with the magistrates in the evening. The latter body had some time previously passed a resolution that Cowan's and Allan's Hospital should each defray half of the expense in connection with the entertainment, and on the 26th September 1820, there occurs the following minute : " Which day the patrons of Allan's Hospital being convened, they authorise the Master of the Mortification to pay the Mortification's proportion of Mr Gibb's account of £17 for claret, &c., to the Archers, formerly voted." This proves, at least, that the Royal Company were most hospitably entertained, and that the good people of Stirling were not put to any expense on their account.

This meeting was, however, destined to be the only one at Stirling ; difficulties in all probability arose about providing the prize, as nothing more ever seems to have been done in the matter.



AUTO TYPE & S. B. CO.

TROPHY

DALHOUSIE SWORD.

STANDARDS OF THE ROYAL COMPANY OF ARCHERS.

GOLD STICKS GIVEN BY GEORGE IV AND WILLIAM IV.

THE BIGGAR JUG.



The Montrose Arrow.

In 1850, the Magistrates and Town Council of Montrose offered to present to the Royal Company a Silver Arrow, to be shot for annually on the Links of that town; and also a Gold Medal to the winner, whenever the prize was shot for and gained. This handsome offer was gratefully accepted by the Company, and arrangements were made for the first competition. In addition to the Arrow, the inhabitants of Montrose generously gave a piece of plate to be shot for on the day following the competition for the burgh prize, at 100 yards' distance. This was to become the property of the winner. The first competition for this Arrow called out twenty shooters, who enjoyed a very pleasant excursion in going to shoot at the ancient burgh. This prize has only been twice shot for as yet, the second time being in 1855. There is considerable difficulty in getting up a sufficiently large party willing to undertake so long a journey; but we have little doubt that before long another competition for this prize will take place on the Links of Montrose.

WINNERS' NAMES.

1850 Henry G. Watson, accountant. | 1855 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.

The Biggar Jug.

(See *Trophy*, PLATE XII.)

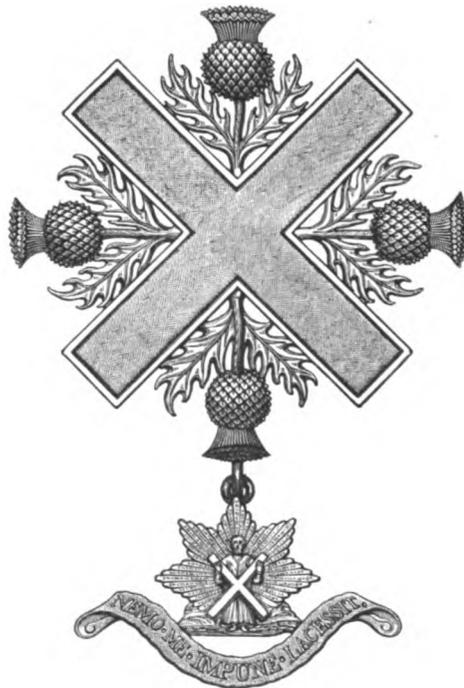
This is a handsome claret-jug in silver, which was subscribed for and presented to the Royal Company by a number of gentlemen resident in or near the town of Biggar in 1852. It can be conveniently competed for when the Company shoot for the Peebles or Selkirk Arrows; but as all three cannot be got over in one excursion, it has not been shot for with any degree of

regularity. Its value as a prize, however, is by no means inconsiderable, not only on account of its own intrinsic worth, but as showing the interest which is taken in the Royal Company as an old national institution by the people of Scotland, the Queen's Body-guard being always sure of a hearty reception in the town of Biggar.

The following are the names of those gentlemen who have won this prize :—

1852 James Jobson Dickson, accountant.
1864 Professor Douglas Maclagan, M.D.
1865 Charles Steuart, W.S.

1869 James Jobson Dickson, C.A.
1872 John Gillespie, W.S.



APPENDICES.

I.

QUEEN ANNE'S CHARTER TO THE ROYAL COMPANY, 1704.

(*Page 40.*)

ANNA Dei Gratia Magnæ Britanniaë Franciaë et Hiberniaë Regina Fideique Defensor omnibus probis hominibus Ad quos præsentem Literæ Nostræ prævenerint Salutem. Quandoquidem nos regio nostro animo perpendentes per diversa antiqua Statuta Leges et Acta Parlamenti dum regnarent illustrissimi nostri Antecessores in Antiquo Regno nostro Scotiaë facta, usum Arcuum et Sagittarum ac constantem eorundem Exercitationem, magnopere tanquam utilem modum, ob regni Defensionem animatum fuisse. Tamen ejusdem Legum non obstante et Actorum Secreti Concilii in favorem Sagittariorum Arcitenentium, Antiquum morem eorum Armorum Arcuum et Sagittarum utendi, nuper maxime obsoletam esse. Atque cõsiderantes quantopere publico Interest commodo, eorum antiquorum armorum usum reviviscere et congruum Incitamentum regiaë societati Sagittariorum Concedere.

Noveritis igitur nos cum Avisamento et consensu fidelissimorum et predilectorum nostrorum consanguineorum, Jacobi Comitum de Seafield, Summi Cancellarii Dicti Regni, Gulielmi Marchionis de Annandale, Secreti nostri Concilii præsidis, Jacobi Ducis de Queensberrie, principalis statu nostri Secretarii, Alexandro Comitum de Eglintoun, Hugonis Comitum de Loudoun, Davidis Comitum de Glasgow, nostri Thesaurarii Deputati et Magistri, Fransisci Montgomery de Giffan, Nostri Thesaurarii computorum rotulatorii et Thesaurarii novarum nostrarum Augmentationum Commissionariorum, nec non cum Avisamento et consensu reliquorum dominorum

aliorumque Commissionariorum nostri Scacarii infra dictum regnum, Revivisse et Ratificasse proque nobis nostrisque Successoribus in perpetuum Confirmasse Regiæ Societati Sagittariorum prout nunc constituuntur sub preside et Consilio, et talibus officiariis quos secundum eorum priorem usum et consuetudinem nominabunt eorumque Successoribus in officio Omnes hujusmodi leges et Acta in eorum favorem tempore nostrorum illustrissimorum predicesorum sancitas, Et formulas et constitutiones per illos Initas pro meliore sua Administratione in quantum eadem Legibus et Actis Parlamenti in dicto antiquo regno minime contrariæ sunt. ET VOLUMUS ET CONCEDIMUS proque nobis nostrisque Antedictis ulterius damus et concedimus prædictæ nostræ Regiæ Sagittariorum Societati eorumque Concilii plenam potestatem talia alia membra Assumendi quæ Idonea indicabunt, atque talium officialiorum pro Constitutione et Administratione Dictæ Regiæ Societatis quos ipsis aptos visum fuerit, Nominandi elegendi et constituendi. Talesque regulas et ordines pro Sagittationis majore incitamento et profectu quas expediens videbunt conficiendi Legibus nostris omni modo congruas nec non sub suorum officialium Conductu (per se tempore in tempus nominand) in militari forma sub modo Armilustrii conveniendi et exeundi quoties ipsis aptum visum fuerit Saltem semel unoquoque anno circa ætatem mediam Sive apud Aggerem seu eminus Sagittas arcu emittere vel utrosque eorum Secundum antiquas Leges et Acta Parlamenti et sub pœnis inibi contentis. ET VOLUMUS ET CONCEDIMUS proque nobis nostrisque Successoribus cum consensu prædicto decernimus et ordinamus antedictam generalem Ratificationem et Confirmationem tam validam et sufficientem fore et tanti vis roboris et effectus quam si unum quodque Actum Lex et Regula in præsentibus verbatim insererentur quamvis sic minime factum sit Quocirca cumque omnibus quæ contra Eandem objici poterint nos cum consensu prædicto Dispensamus proque nobis nostrisque Successoribus in perpetuum Dispensamus Tenend de nobis nostrisque Successoribus tanquam immediatis legitimis dictæ Regiæ Societatis Superioribus in libra alba firma in perpetuum cum libero introitu et exitu ad omnes publicos Aggeres Campos et Compascuos aptos et pro temere Sagittas arcu emittendi vel ad metas legaliter Allocatos idque libere quiete bene et in pace. Prohibendo per præsentis omnes Magistratus vicecomites pacis Justiciarios Aggerum Magistros aliosque quoscunque dictæ Regiæ Societati quodvis obstaculum seu Impedimentum adhibere in legitima exercitatione antiquorum armorum Arcuum et Sagittarum utrum apud

metas seu temere Reddendo inde Annuatim dicta Regia Societas nobis nostrisque successoribus unum par Sagittarum barbatorum (vulgo barbed arrowes) ad Terminum Pentecostes si petatur Tantum. In cuius rei Testimonium præsentibus magnum sigillum nostrum Appendi mandavimus Apud Aulam nostram de St James's Trigesimo primo die mensis Decembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo Tertio et anno Regni Nostri Secundo.

Per Signaturam manu S.E.U. Reginæ suprascriptam manibusque Quorundam Dominorum aliorumque nostri Thesaurarii et Scacarii Commissionariorum subscript.

Written to the Great Seal and Registrate the Sixth day of March MDCCIV.

Sic Subscr.

CHARLES KERR.

Sealed at Edinburgh the sixth day of March One Thousand Seven hundred and four years, By special Order till the seal be renewed, In absence of Sir Alex^r. Ogilvie of Forglen,

Sic Subscr.

JO. STEWART, *Deft.*

Gratis.

II.

LIST OF MEMBERS ADMITTED INTO THE ROYAL COMPANY
OF ARCHERS FROM 1676.

THE following list, down to 1819, is a reprint of a similar catalogue published by the Royal Company in that year. Previous to the date of Queen Anne's Charter (1704), the lists of members were probably but loosely kept. Since that time, however, the names are more accurately recorded in their regular chronological order, as each member had to sign the laws on a parchment roll previous to admission. For the list of members subsequent to 1819 the minute-books of the Company have been carefully gone over, checked by two printed lists of the then existing members published by the Company, one in 1834 and another in 1858. Notwithstanding the care taken to make the following list as complete as possible, a few names of gentlemen who were admitted members may not appear, through not having been entered in the minute-books by some casual oversight at the time. It is believed, however, that (at least in late times) these omissions, if any, are extremely few.

Marquis of Athole.	Colonel Menzies.	John Lindsay.
Earl of Mar.	Sir George Lockhart.	John Brown.
Earl of Linlithgow.	Sir George Mackenzie, Tarbat.	Craigtinni.
Earl of Kinghorn.	John Ellis.	Walter Scott, Minto.
Earl of Panmure.	Wm. Clerk.	Captain Jas. Murray.
Earl of Balcarras.	George Dickson.	Bishop John Paterson.
Earl of Wigton.	Alexander Gibson.	Alexr. Mackenzie.
Earl of Seaforth.	Wm. Dundas.	John Muir.
Earl of Aboyne.	Thomas Hay.	Adam Cheyne.
Lord Strathnaver.	Sir Wm. Sharp, senior.	Hector Mackenzie.
Lord Ross.	Sir Wm. Sharp, junior.	Rory Mackenzie.
Lord Elphinston.	Thomas Moncreiffe.	Hawthornden.
Lord Duffus.	Baillie Drummond.	Francis Irsom.
Earl of Kintore.	Baillie Hamilton.	Lieut.-Col. Monro.
Earl of Breadalbane.	Robt. Stewart.	Henry Burn.
Earl of Aberdeen.	Jas. Mason.	Murie.
Lord Lyon.	Alex. Graham.	Andrew Dick.

- James Murray.
George Cheyne.
Baillie Johnston.
William Gordon, writer.
Major Grant.
Captain Patrick Graham.
Macharg Murray.
Alexr. Robertson.
Cornet Murray.
Hugh Sinclair.
Alexr. Baillie.
Hugh Wallace.
Hugh Stevenson.
J. Fletcher, Saltoun.
Glenkindy.
John Graham.
Alexr. Macdonald.
Ludquhame.
Jas. Elphinston, junio.
Provost Robt. Young.
Halbert Gladstones.
Pilton Cockburn.
Jas. Brown, Kelso.
David Edgar.
Jas. Campbell, Leith.
Wm. Baillie.
Peter Lochen.
John Penston.
Thos. Wilson.
Adam Rae.
James Moncreiffe.
John Robertson.
Jas. Galbraith.
John Stewart.
James Nicholson.
John Campbell.
Andrew Forrester.
Wm. Gordon, writer.
Alexr. Hay.
Jas. Low.
James Dalgarrow.
Henry Sinclair.
James Campbell.
David Caskie.
Mackenzie.
Bishop Jo. Hamilton.
Robert Lindsay.
Sir John Falconer.
Hamilton of Orbiston.
John Cunningham, Entrikin.
Prestonfield.
Thos. Forbes.
James Cleghorn.
Samuel Wallace.
David Drummond.
- Patrick Cunningham.
John Hunter.
Archibald Campbell.
Hary Maltes.
Robert Innes.
Wm. Hog.
Robt. Grahame of Cairnie.
Wm. Bennet of Grubbet.
Laird of Dirleton.
Gavin Plummer.
David Drummond.
Thos. Kinkaid.
John Nairn.
Robt. Freebairn.
Colin Mackenzie.
Henry Hepburn.
Jas. Ross.
Robt. Hepburn of Keith.
John Baillie, surgeon.
John Bayne of Tulloch.
Sir Wm. Bennet of Grubbet.
Sir George Brown of Colston.
Thomas Earl of Kincairdine.
Alexander Earl of Callendar.
D. Campbell.
Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck.
Sir Robert Chiesly.
David Cleland, merchant in Edinburgh.
George Clerk, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
Sir John Clerk of Pennycuik.
Archd. Cockburn, junior, of Langton.
Patrick Cockburn, of Clarkenton.
Wm. Cockburn of that Ilk.
John Cross, writer in Edinburgh.
Patrick Crichton, surgeon.
Sir David Dalrymple of Hails, advocate.
Alexr. Deans, Esq.
David Drummond, advocate.
George Drummond, merchant.
Alexander Earl of Eglinton.
Adam Edgar, town-clerk of Musselburgh.
Gideon Elliot, surgeon in Edinburgh.
Thomas Ellis of Southside.
Jas. Ferguson, writer.
Wm. Forrest, vintner.
Robert Freebairn, bookseller.
- Robert Fyfe, Esq.
John Lord Glamyss.
James Graham, merchant in Edinburgh.
John Graham, junior, of Balgowan.
John Graham of Douglaston.
Mungo Graham of Bowhapple.
Mungo Graham of Gorthie.
Charles Gray, advocate.
John Hamilton, wright in Edinburgh.
Mathew Hamilton, adjutant to the Guards.
Adam Hepburn of Humbie.
Henry Hepburn, surgeon.
Robert Hepburn of Keith.
Sir Scipio Hill.
Sir Wm. Hope of Balcomie.
George Lord Keith.
Michael Kinkaid, Esq.
Thomas Kinkaid of Auchinreoch.
John Lord Lovat.
Daniel Lassagate, merchant in Edinburgh.
Henry Legat, writer.
James Lesly, advocate.
David Lindsay, merchant.
Wm. Lindsay, merchant.
Patrick Lyon of Auchterhouse.
Colin Mackenzie, goldsmith.
Sir John Mackenzie of Coul.
Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Cromartie.
Patrick Mackenzie, secretary to the African Co.
Sir John Maclean of that Ilk.
Æneas Macleod, town-clerk of Edinburgh.
Norman Macleod of that Ilk.
Wm. Maitland, son to the Earl of Lauderdale.
David Monro, merchant.
Robert Monro, advocate.
Jas. Mossman, Major.
Patrick Murray of Deurhar.
Patrick Murray of Dollary.
David Earl of Northesk.
John Nairn of Greenyards.
Wm. Nisbet of Dirlton.
Robert Norvel, advocate.
James Ogilvy of Boyne.
Charles Oliphant, doctor of medicine.

Robert Paterson.	Rob. Reid, saddler.	James Sibbald, tanner.
John Paton, merchant in Edinburgh.	Alex. Riddoch.	James Smyth of Whitehill.
Gavin Plumer, merchant in Edinburgh.	John Ross, son to the Archbishop of St Andrews.	James Stevenson.
William Lord Ross.	John Ross, writer in Edinburgh.	George Stirling, doctor of medicine.
Sir Andrew Ramsay of Abbots-hall.	Wm. Ross, vintner.	Alex. Sutherland, minister.
Alex. Ramsay, son to the Bishop of Ross.	John Earl of Sutherland.	John Symer, merchant.
John Ramsay, advocate.	Charles Earl of Southesk.	John, Master of Tarbat.
	David Viscount Stormont.	John Earl of Wigton.
	John Scott, younger of Ancrum.	A. Yeoman of Pittencrieff.
	Sir Patrick Scott of Ancrum.	Thos. Young of Rosebank.

1704.

- Mar. 7. James Freebairn.
 " Robt. Pringle.
 " John Cunningham of Woodhall.
 May 20. David Erskine, Lord Dun.
 Sept. 1. Wm. Rigg, writer.
 " James Freebairn.
 " David Crawford, Dumfries.
 " James Abett.
 Sept. 1. David Thomson.

1705.

- July 14. Lord Strathnaver.
 " Lord Blantyre.
 " Lord Elcho.

1708.

- April 19. James Edgar.
 " Wm. Drummond, writer.
 " Wm. Erskine.
 " Archibald Pitcairn.
 " Edward Callender, writer.
 " Adam Coult, advocate.
 May 3. Arch. Burnet of Carleps.
 " Wm. Mercer, writer.
 " Wm. Murray, writer.
 " Alex. Murray, merchant.
 " Jas. Clerk.
 June 11. Earl of Hume.
 July 5. Alexr. Stevenson of Montgrenan.

1709.

- April 10. Lord Wandall.
 11. Wm. Nelson, merchant.
 " Wm. Douglas of Glenbervy.
 " David Scott of Scotstarvet.
 " Thos. Brisbane of Brisbane.
 June 2. Sir Robt. Dalrymple, Bart.
 " John Murray of Toleadam.
 " Lionel Norman, Commissioner of Customs.

1710.

- June 12. Duncan Forbes, advocate.
 " John Vetch of Daick.
 " Duncan Mackenzie.
 " Archd. Ogilvy, advocate.
 " Sir Walter Pringle, advocate.
 " David Hall, merchant.
 " James Lowis, writer.
 " Johu Masterton, merchant.
 " John Lumsdane, writer to the signet.
 Oct. 9. James Skeene of Hallyeards.
 " George Clerk.
 " Wm. Weir, advocate.
 " John Blackwood.
 " David Clerk.
 " George Clerk.
 " George Monro.
 " James Lutfoot, M.D.
 " Hugh Wallace, advocate.
 " Lord Hay.
 " Thomas Hamilton, advocate.
 " John Lowis of Merchiston.
 " Hugh Dalrymple, advocate.
 " Thomas Calderwood.
 " William Carmichael, advocate.
 " Earl of Lauderdale.
 " Lord Charles Ker.
 " Sir James Stewart, advocate.
 " Lord William Johnston, son to the Marquis of Annandale.
 " William Erskine, merchant.
 " Lord Keith.
 " James Keith, son to Earl Marischal.

1712.

- June 16. Wm. Montgomery, advocate.
 " Wm. Scott of Blair, advocate.
 " George Sharp, advocate.
 " Wm. Scott, advocate.
 " James Graham, merchant.
 " Captain Wm. Graham.
 " Wm. Burden, vintner.

- July 26. Thos. Tod, Musselburgh.
 Aug. 5. Wm. Edgar, Musselburgh.
 " Robert Smart, merchant, Musselburgh.
 " Lieutenant Ben. Barton.
 " Edward Joss, Westpans.

1713.

- April 17. Jas. Cockburn, Secretary at War.
 " Alex. Legrand.
 May 11. Patrick Stewart, merchant.
 25. Hugh Hamilton, merchant.
 28. Alex. Band, merchant.
 June 1. John Macfarlane, writer to the signet.
 5. Sir Archibald Primrose of Dunnypace.
 8. Sir Robt. Montgomery of Skermorly.
 " Sir Robt. Montgomery.
 " Captain Robt. Walkinshaw.
 " Jas. Hepburn of Keith.
 " Jas. Hepburn, junior, of Keith.
 " Captain Robert Watkins.
 Aug. 4. Jas. Baird, merchant.
 " Captain Temple Stanyan.
 Sept. 7. Robt. Sinclair, writer.
 Oct. 1. Robt. Hepburn, son to Keith.
 " Alex. Glass, writer to the signet.
 12. David Weems, merchant.

1714.

- Feb. 26. James Lord Drummond.
 Mar. 1. John Stewart, son to the Earl of Traquair.
 " Lord Linton.
 " Lord Nairn.
 2. Wm. Drummond.
 " Alexr. Deans.
 12. Lord Ogilvy.
 April 12. Patrick Barclay, minister.
 " Robt. Keith.
 May 13. L. G. Murray.
 22. John Nisbett of Dean.
 June 7. John Scott of Ancrum.
 9. Jo. Dunbar of Burgie.
 10. Rob. Dickson of Carlorie.
 11. John Craufurd of Jordanhill.
 " James Carstairs.
 12. Maclean.
 " James Campbell.
 " Dun. Campbell of Lochnell.
 " L. Boyle.
 14. R. Wightman.
 " Alexr. Lockhart of Carnwath, younger.
 " Alexr. Fleming.

- June 14. Th. Bruce, son of the Earl of Kincardine.
 21. R. Gordon of Gordonston.
 " Hugh Paterson of Bannockburn.
 " Don. Stirling of Ardoch.
 " George Mackenzie, advocate.
 " G. Kennedy, Girven.
 " Alex. Hope, younger of Kerse.
 " Rob. Bracknau, younger of Pitreavie.
 " Rob. Moray, brother to Abercairney.
 " Alex. Mackenzie, Colonel in the Guards.
 " Alex. Congalton, merchant.
 " George Craufurd, brother to Cartsburne.
 " Robert Lewis, Doctor of Medicine.
 " Alexander Macdonne of Fraserdale.
 " T. Hope of Craighall.
 " Geo. Leslie.
 22. Henry Eccles, merchant.
 " Alexr. Maitland, son to the deceased Earl of Lauderdale.
 " F. Menzies of Culdaures.
 24. Walter Scott of Wall.
 25. William Paterson, writer to the signet.
 " Gilbert Blair, merchant in Edinburgh.
 July 1. Jo. Walkinshaw, son to the Laird of Scotstoun.
 2. Wa. Scott of Wheatfield.
 6. William Scott of Thirlestain.
 " David Smith of Methven.
 " Ch. Areskine, advocate.
 " Elcho.
 " James Wemyss, son to the Earl of Wemyss.
 " John, Master of Gray.
 " Balgony.
 7. Fra. Bruce of Clackmanan.
 14. James Cuming, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Walter Murray, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " George Chain, jeweller.
 16. James Craig, Professor of Law.
 " David Bruce.
 17. Queensberry.
 18. William Brown, writer in Edinburgh.
 24. J. Grame, younger of Balgowan.
 " William Ged, goldsmith.
 28. James Holburne, younger of Menstrie.
 Aug. 10. Arch. Hamilton, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Jo. Walkinshaw of Barrowfield.
 12. Cumberland.

- Aug. 26. John Carnegie, brother to Kinfauns.
 " Lau. Oliphant of Condie.
 " Gilb. Pringle, merchant in Edinburgh.
 28. Willm. Dundas, merchant in Edinburgh.
- Sept. 6. Pat. Bayne of Findall.
 25. Linlithgow.
- Oct. 4. D. Ereskine, Lieutenant in Major-General Wemyss's Regiment.
 " John Hepburn, Captain in Brigadier Douglas's Regiment.
 " Archibald Grant, younger of Cullen.
 15. William Arthur, M.D.
- Dec. 8. William Gordon, Campheir.

1715.

- Feb. 21. Jo. Haldane of Lanrick.
 Mar. 4. Walter Scott of Harden.
- April 13. Jo. Wilson, Professor of Mathematics.
- May 6. Will. Maitland of Cranston.
 11. Pat. Linton of Pandreich.
 16. J. Corsar, writer.
 " Tho. Hunter, advocate.
 " Pat. Ogilvy, son to Balfour.
- May 21. William Murray, younger of Ouchtertyre.
 23. Wil. Dalmahoy of Revelridge.
 24. James Irvine, M.D.
- June 1. John Murray, merchant, Edinburgh.
 3. W. Cramond, Captain in Lieut.-Gen. Hamilton's Regiment.
 6. F. Dalryell, Ensign in Lord Orkney's Regiment, brother to the Earl of Carnwath.
 7. Ja. Pringle of Torwoodlie.
 8. Tho. Sharp of Blance.
 " Alexr. Murray of Stanhope.
 " Mungo Campbell, son to the deceased Mr Robert Campbell, minister of Blair Atholl.
 " David Hope, writer to the signet.
 9. R. Smith, portioner of Inveresk.
 10. John Henderson, coppersmith in Edinburgh.
 Wm. Nairne of Dunsinnan.
 " John Glas of Gottenburg.
 13. Robert Gordon of Cluny, advocate.
 " John Melvill of Cairny.
 16. Tho. Cornwall of Bonhard.
 17. Alexr. Blair of Kinfauns.
 " John Craufurd, junior, merchant in Port-Glasgow.
 24. D. Campbell of Keltirle.
 25. Wil. Lyon, advocate.

- July 1. Ja. Elphinston, writer.
 " Hary Allan, writer.
 " James Dunbar of Hemprigs.
 22. J. Drummond, younger of Culquhalie.

1716.

- Jan. 12. Laur. Oliphant, younger of Gask.
 15. E. Areskine of Alva.
 " Jo. Steuart, brother to Sir George Steuart of Grandtully.
 " Rollo.
 " John Aikman, younger of Brommleiton.
- July 2. Hugh Clerk, shipmaster in Leith.
 " Ro. Fotheringham.
 18. Tho. Tait, writer in Edinburgh.
 " John Hog, collector of cess.
 " William Alves, writer to the signet.
- Aug. 6. John Nairne.
- Dec. 13. Alr. Paterson, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Wa. Hamilton.
 " Hamilton and Brandon.

1717.

- July 17. Sir Robert Baird of Saughtonhall.
 " Geo. Ord, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Ro. Baikie of Tankerness.
- Aug. 6. Mark Carse of Cockpen.
 9. Wm. Drummond of Ballathis.
 " C. Auchmouse.

1718.

- April 23. John Cunningham.
 " Garlies.
 " James Steuart.
 " Basil Hamilton.
 " J. Symington.
 " James Keith, brother to the Earl Marischall.
- Aug. 6. James Fraser of Loanmay.
 " Andrew Ross.

1719.

- May 30. Jo. Oswald.
 " James Murray, brother to Alex. Murray of Stenhope.
 " Thos. Gordon.
- June 4. Thos. Young of Rosebank.
- July 9. Aboyne.
- Aug. 4. George Murray, son to John Murray of Touchadam.

1720.

- May 9. Hercules Scott, writer to the signet.

- May 9. M. Drummond, son to Mr. David Drummond, advocate.
 16. J. Belsches, Sheriff-clerk-depute.
 30. William Cochrane, doctor of medicine.
 " James Robertson, surgeon.
 " John Sheil, vintner.
- June 20. John Bethune of Blebo.
- July 18. Wm. Hutchison, merchant in Edinr.
 25. Sir Thos. Moncreiffe of that Ilk.
 " Francis Congaltone, surgeon.
- Aug. 1. Napier.
 8. Arch. Tod, writer in Edinburgh.
 18. Strathallan.
 " Ed. Drummond, professor of languages.
 " John, Master of Nairne.
 22. Ja. Robertson, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Ro. Wood, engraver in Edinburgh.
 " Alex. Sharp, brother to Sir James Sharp of Stonyhill.
 29. David Anderson, writer in Edinburgh.

1721.

- April 9. Will. Neilson, junior, factor in Bourdeaux.
 May 22. Oxfurd.
 " Wm. St Clair of Roslin.
 June 7. Strathmore.
 " Alex. Mackenzie, one of the principal clerks of Session.
 19. Hen. Bethune, jeweller in Edinburgh.
 20. M. Eccles, doctor of medicine.
 26. Archd. Stodart, merchant in Edinr.
 27. John Gordon, younger of Glenbucket.
- Aug. 7. Pat. Murray of Dewchar.
 " Robert Pattullo of Kinnochtry.

1722.

- Mar. 20. David Craigie, merchant.
 April 30. Alex. Forrester of Carsbonna.
 May 7. David Aikenhead, surgeon.
 10. Kintore.
 " Tho. Drummond, of Logie-Almond.
 14. Jo. Stewart, son to the Earl of Bute.
 " James Forbes, son to Watertown.
 23. Will. Montgomerie, writer in Edinr.
 28. Robert Stiell.
- June 1. John Erskine, son to the Lord Lyon.
 4. Charles Smith, merchant.
 27. Bruce.
 " Alex. Gibsone of Pentland.
 " Alex. Gibsone, writer to the signet.
- July 2. Thos. Allan, merchant in Edinburgh.
 4. Wa. Aikenhead, merchant.
 16. Jo. Lindsay of Mains.

- July 17. Ga. Brown of Bishoptown.
 Aug. 16. Jas. Sharpe of Stoniehill.

1723.

- Jan. 7. James Colquhoun, junior, merchant in Glasgow.
 " Ro. Pringle of Clifton.
 Mar. 4. Ja. Wemyss, younger of Clifton.
 April 4. James Graham, advocate.
 " Robert Biggar.
 May 13. William Lumsden, writer in Edinr.
 June 18. And. Marjoribanks, merchant in Dantzig.
 19. Arch. Brown, writer in Edinburgh.
 July 22. Sir Robert Morton of Gogar.
 Aug. 8. C. Ramsay.
 19. Robert Johnston of Hilton.
 Sept. 16. Da. Blair, *alias* Drummond of Ballythyock.

1724.

- Jan. 6. Cha. Murray, son to Sir Da. Murray of Stanhope.
 April 1. Ro. Marjoribanks, merchant in Edinr.
 " A. Wauchope of Edmonstone.
 " Jas. Marjoribanks, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 13. John Drummond, son to Mr David Drummond, advocate.
 April 13. Pat. Doull, son to John Doull, writer in Edinburgh.
 June 6. John Galloway of Baldiry.
 " Ja. Elphinston of Coutfield.
 15. D. Carmichael, merchant in Edinr.
 18. James Græme of Buchlyvie, younger, advocate.
 29. W. Bennet, junior of Grubet.
 " Andrew Anderson, writer in Edinr.
- July 4. P. Stuart of Limekilns.
 6. Wil. Maxwell of Springkell.
 " David Maxwell, merchant in Edinr.
 " Geo. Stewart of Grandtully.
 13. Allan Ramsay, Bard to the Royal Company.

Apollo ! Patron of the Lyre,
 And of the valiant Archer's Bow,
 Me with such sentiments inspire,
 As may appear from thee to flow ;
 When, by thy special will and dread command,
 I sing the merits of the Royal Band.

- " Richd. Graham, merchant in Glasgow.
 17. John Thomson, merchant in Glasgow.
 18. G. Lindsay, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Sir Arch. Stewart of Castlemilk.

- July 18. W. Murray, brother to the Earl of Dunmore.
30. John Duff, merchant in Inverness.
- Aug. 1. Sir Harie Innes of Innes.
" Cassillis.
" M. Sandilands, son to Captain Alex. Sandilands.
" Geo. Kinnaird.
3. Tarbat.
- 1725.
- Jan. 4. R. Bannerman, son to the deceased Mr R. Bannerman, brother to Sir Alex. Bannerman of Elsick, Bart.
11. Wm. Campbell of Lochdochart.
- Feb. 8. Cha. Irvine, merchant in Rouen.
- Mar. 18. Ro. Hamilton, merchant in Edinr.
- April 12. Jo. Douglas, surgeon.
26. Cha. Colville, Lieutenant of Col. Phil. Anstruther's Regiment of Foot.
" Alex. Mackenzie of Gerloch.
- May 17. Stephen Harsy, dancing-master.
- June 5. Ann. Hamilton, brother to his Grace the Duke of Hamilton.
7. Alex. Tait, merchant.
" James Gordon, senior of Ellon.
14. Fran. Farquhar.
" Geo. Fotheringham, writer.
" Tho. Leslie, brother to the Earl of Rothes.
" Kinnaird.
" Crawford.
17. Ja. Hamilton.
21. Jas. Cuming, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
" William Duff, student in Edinburgh.
" Ro. Douglas of Scotsraig.
" Al. Oliphant, writer in Edinburgh.
26. W. Græme, M.D.
- July 1. Hugh Eccles, merchant in Edinburgh.
17. Thomas Kyd, merchant in Dundee.
19. D. Erskine, writer in Edinburgh.
24. Alex. Lockhart, advocate.
26. James Suttie of Balgone.
" John Boddie, merchant in Edinburgh.
27. William Rutherford, M.D.
- Aug. 23. Alex. Blackwood, merchant in Edinburgh.
30. James Cheape of Rossie.
" Alex. Macdonald of Slate, Baronet.
- Oct. 2. Rob. Brown, merchant in Airth.
4. Wm. Roy, writer in Edinburgh.
- Nov. 1. A. Bannerman, son to Sir Alex. Bannerman of Elsike.
- Dec. 6. Arch. Hope, younger of Rankillor.
" James Hope, merchant in Edinburgh.
- 1726.
- Jan. 3. Jas. Watson of Muirhouse.
" Da. Bruce of Kinnaird.
" Tho. Bowie of Saltcoats.
- Mar. 21. Robert Lumsdaine, writer in Edinr.
28. James Dunlop, merchant in Edinr.
- April 18. D. Kinneir of that Ilk, doct. of med.
25. David Murray, son to Sir David Murray of Stenhope.
- May 2. William Makdougall, merchant in Edinburgh.
16. Tho. Hope of Rankillor, advocate.
" Geo. Cuming, son to Altyr.
18. Jas. Bruce of Blairhall.
21. Al. Bayne of Ryries, advocate.
23. John Crawford, merchant in Edinr.
" Robert Campbell, merchant in Edinr.
" John Coutts, merchant in Edinburgh.
26. Col. Mackenzie, chirurgion-apothecary in Edinburgh.
- June 4. Cha. Allan, chirurgion in Edinburgh.
6. Alex. Haldane, younger of Lanrick.
" Will. Heriot, younger of Ramorny.
" Jas. Guthrie, writer to the signet.
" David Bethune, younger of Kilconquhar.
" Jo. Baillie, merchant in Edinburgh.
" James Cuming, writer in Edinburgh.
13. Will Hunter, merchant in Bo'ness.
" D. Nairne, merchant in Edinburgh.
20. Maurice Trent of Pitcullo.
25. Thomas Forbes, younger of Watertoun.
27. John Scott, younger of Malleny.
" Patrick Murray of Polmont.
" William Gordon, younger of Ellon.
" Archd. Cockburn, younger of Langtoun.
" James Gordon, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
- July 2. Jo. Russell, writer to the signet.
" Alex. Keith, junior, writer in Edinr.
" Al. Grant of Grantfield.
4. Pat. Nisbett, writer in Edinburgh.
" Andrew Spreull, writer in Edinburgh.
" David Inglis, merchant in Edinburgh.
" Robert Sinclair of Scallaway.
" George Home, younger of Kello.
5. Wal. Hamilton, secretary to his Grace the Duke of Gordon.
" Lewis Colquhoun of Luss.

- July 6. Pat. Yeaman, younger of Murie.
 " J. Preston of Prestonhall.
 " Peter Wedderburn, advocate.
 8. John Tod, merchant, Edinburgh.
 " John Erskine, advocate.
 " Ja. Lyon, brother to the Earl of Strathmore.
 " John Forbes of Culloden.
 9. Charles Erskine, younger of Alva.
 " William Duff of Braco.
 11. Thomas Hope, son to collector John Hope.
 14. Arthur Acheson of Markethill, Bart.
 16. Alex. Duncan of Lundie.
 18. Charles Keir, late in Chatto, now in Kelso.
 " B. Crawford, son to Mr Crawford of Allantoun.
 " Andrew Hay of Mugdrum.
 " Alex. Strahan of Hampstead.
 Aug. 6. Will. Grahame, senior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 20. Geo. Skene of that Ilk.

1727.

- Jan. 2. David Beatt, writing-master in Edinr.
 April 29. John Foulis, brother-german to Sir Archibald Primrose of Dunnypace.

1728.

- May 20. Kinnaird.
 July 22. Will. Wilson, junior of Purdysburne.
 Aug. 17. Da. Threipland, eldest son of Sir David Threipland of Fingask.
 19. Rob. Riddell, younger of Glenriddell.
 Sept. 30. Ja. Blair of Ardblair.

1729.

- Jan. 6. Tho. Calderwood, younger of Polton.
 " Thomas Moncreiffe, younger of that Ilk.
 April 19. Patrick Lundin, brother to John Lundin of that Ilk.
 21. John Main, son to George Main, jeweller in Edinburgh.
 29. And. Wauchope of Niddrie.
 May 19. Pat. Ross of Innermethie.
 " Robert Ross, writer in Edinburgh.
 June 2. James Don of Woodside.
 9. Adam Murray, doctor of medicine.
 " James Murray of Teuchadam.
 " James Calder, younger of Muirtown.
 14. William Gordon of Lessmore.
 28. Alex. Cuming, son to James Cuning, merchant in Edinburgh.

- July 12. Hew Craig, son to Mr James Craig, writer to the signet.
 28. Hugh Inglis, writer in Edinburgh.
 Aug. 18. Andrew Rutherford, son to Thomas Rutherford, merchant in Edinburgh.
 Dec. 8. James Kinloch, younger of that Ilk.

1730.

- Jan. 5. Da. Bethune of Balfour.
 June 15. Ja. Balfour, younger of Forreth.
 24. William Gordon of Park.
 29. David Tulloh of Tannachie.
 Dec. 7. Ro. Stewart of Tillicultry.

1731.

- Jan. 25. Arch. Stewart of Stewarthall.
 Feb. 1. John Gibson of Durie.
 Mar. 1. David Fotheringham, merchant.
 " Thomas Fotheringham of Pourie.
 " John Kinloch, M.D., of Clabany.
 June 25. D. Murchison of Bundalloch.
 July 12. Alex. Maitland, merchant in Edinr.
 " Geo. Balderston, chirurg.-apoth. in Edinburgh.
 19. Edward Marjoribanks, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " A. Rollo, Master of Rollo.
 21. Alex. Jardine, younger of Applegirth.
 24. John Rollo, third son to Robert Lord Rollo.
 " Henry Rollo, second son to Robert Lord Rollo.
 26. Hu. Forbes, advocate.
 Aug. 16. John Rattray, son to Thomas Rattray of Craighall.
 30. Art. Forbes of Pittencrieffe.

1732.

- Mar. 27. James Ruthven of Ruthven.
 April 12. Geo. Loch, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " James Steuart, merchant in Edinr.
 " John Cumming, son to John Cumming of Kinninmonth.
 " John Don, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Rob. Scott, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " John Anderson, merchant in Edinr.
 " Will. Graham, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " James Stuart, merchant in Edinburgh.
 15. James Hay, senior, writer in Edinr.
 " Hugh Paterson, younger of Bannockburn.
 17. Robert Græme of Garvock.
 " Richd. Cooper, engraver.

- April 17. John Steuart, merchant.
 " Ja. Justice, younger of Crichton, one of the principal clerks of Session.
 22. Ja. Baikie of Tankerness.
 " John Douglas, architect.
 24. Thos. Scott, examiner of excise.
 " John Grahame, son to John Grahame of Glendoik.
 " Pat. Murray of Ochtertyre.
 " Kenmuir.
 27. Jo. Stewart, brother to Blairhall.
 " James Largo, factor for the Earl of Wemyss.
- May 1. And. Thomson, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 8. William Watson, writer to the signet.
 13. Mic. Anderson of Tushalaw.
 20. Jas. Montgomerie, merchant in Edinr.
 27. Wm. Hendrie, merchant in Edinr.
- June 1. Cranstoun.
 " James Duddingston of Slatefoord.
 3. Ja. Reoch, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Seller, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Ja. Hewitt, Esq., Counsellor of Commerce to her Imperial Majesty of all the Russias.
 5. Henry Tong, Esq., of Bristol.
 " Jo. Rutherford, junior, doctor of medicine.
 " Hen. Balfour of Dunboge.
 9. Ro. Robertson, merchant in Edinr.
 " Archd. Macdonald of Culmknock.
 17. Robert Mirrie of Carruber.
 19. Thomas Wilkie of Bridgeheugh.
 20. James Dick, merchant in Edinburgh.
 24. Tho. Lyon, brother to the Earl of Strathmore.
 26. Alexander Fraser, Master of Saltoun.
 27. Ronald Campbell of Ballernoe.
 " Alex. Menzies of Woodend.
 28. John Jolly, vintner in Edinburgh.
 " Rob. Gordon, writer to the signet.
 29. Will. Carmichael, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Rod. Mackenzie of Redcastle.
- July 1. James Hay, junior, writer in Edinr.
 " John Lauder, late of Fort St George.
 3. Charles Hope, son to the Earl of Hopeton.
 " Alex. Murray.
 " Benedetto Baldassary.
 " Tho. Græme, younger of Balgowan.
 " Will. Hay.
 4. George Cunninghame, son to Mr William Cunninghame of Bandalloch.
- July 4. Ernest Leslie of Balquhain.
 " Andrew Hay, younger of Ranes.
 " Kilmarnock.
 " Robert Ker, director of Chancery.
 5. Rod. Macleod, writer to the signet.
 " Jo. Mitchelson of Middleton.
 6. William Hamilton, brother to the Duke of Hamilton.
 7. Dav. Drummond of Pitkellony.
 " Samuel Tod, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Hugh Pearson of Kippenross.
 " Alex. Cuningham of Craigend.
 8. M. Elphinstone.
 " Da. Scott, junior, of Hundilshope.
 16. Ch. Gilmour of Craigmillar, Bart.
- 1733.
- June 4. Al. Falconer, eldest son to the Lord Haulkerton.
 July 2. Walter Muschet, merchant in Edinr.
- 1734.
- Mar. 4. Donald Macdonnell, younger of Scot-house.
 June 7. William Maxwell of Monrieth, Bart.
 12. Jas. Stirling of Tower Street, London.
 " James Blair, younger of Ardblair.
 14. Jo. Sinclair, writer in Edinburgh.
 " P. Forbes, M.D.
 " Da. Crichton, surgeon.
 17. Robert Hamilton of Sylvertonhill.
 " John Erskine, younger of Dun.
 " Joseph Mackenzie.
 " Alex. Innes, junior of Cathlaw.
 18. William Cuming, son to James Cuming, merchant in Edinburgh.
 " Pat. Lyon, son to Mr William Lyon, advocate.
 20. Boyle.
 " Dundonald.
 " Charles Douglas, merchant in Edinr.
 " Walt. Mitchell, his Majesty's porter of Holyroodhouse.
 21. Mungo Graham, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Patrick Græme, merchant in Philadelphia.
 " Rob. Campbell of Kirnañ.
 25. Da. Littlejohn, shipmaster in Leith.
 26. Hew Dalrymple (signed at Bass).
 " Andrew Bell of Craigfoodie.
 27. John Downie, Esq.
 28. Allan Ramsay, painter.
- July 1. Wm. Douglas, merchant.
 " John Paterson of Kirkton.

- July 3. Dougall Stewart, younger of Appine.
 4. Mungo Græme, younger of Græmshall.
 5. Alex. Tulloh, shipmaster.
 " Rob. Fletcher, younger of Ballinshoe.
 6. Wm. Craufurd, Lieutenant in the Earl
 of Orkney's Regiment.
 8. Charles Elphinstone, son to the Lord
 Elphinstone.
 " James Walkinshaw of Walkinshaw.
 " Ludovick Houstoun of Creagfayock.
 " Rob. Walkinshaw, writer in Edinr.
 Aug. 1. George Smart, clothier in Fisherrow.
 " Smart Tennent, merchant in Mussel-
 burgh.
 29. Wm. Stuart, son to the Earl of Gallo-
 way.

1735.

- April 7. Jo. Mackinnon, younger of that Ilk.
 " John Macdonald of Largie.
 21. Andrew Forbes, merchant in Rotter-
 dam.
 Nov. 10. Thomas Dundas, merchant in Rotter-
 dam.

1736.

- July 29. Jo. Forbes, younger of Culloden.
 Aug. 31. William Donaldson of Kinnardy.

1737.

- June 13. John Brown, merchant in Edinburgh.

1738.

- June 5. John Haliburton, merchant in Edinr.
 " John Blair of Balthayock.
 8. Ro. Fisher of Sandieford.

1739.

- Jan. 5. Alex. Robertson, writer in Edinburgh.

1741.

- June 8. David Bruce, writer in Edinburgh.
 19. Laur. Oliphant, younger of Gask.
 " Martin Lindsay, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Drummond, second son to Lord
 Strathallan.
 Sept. 5. John Mackintosh, merchant.

1742.

- Mar. 2. Joseph Watson, writer in Edinburgh.
 15. Walter Ainslie, merchant in Edinr.
 29. John Boswell, M.D.
 " John Richardson, student of physic.

- April 3. Alex. Macintosh, merchant.
 19. Bernd. Allan, student of physic.
 June 14. Geo. Lockhart, younger of Carnwath.
 28. And. Johnston, druggist.
 July 5. Archibald Hart, merchant in Edinr.
 6. Rob. Hepburn Rickart Congalton,
 younger of Keith.
 9. George Lauder, surgeon.
 12. Elcho.
 " G. C. Kinloch.
 15. Ja. Greenshields, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Macghe, merchant.
 16. Ja. Menzies of Woodend.
 " Colin Campbell of Glenvar.
 " Henry Crawford of Monorgan.
 17. Aboyn.
 " Rob. Norie, painter.
 " Ronald Wemyss of Lathockar.

1743.

- Jan. 21. Patrick Macdouall of Culgrott.
 " John Ramsay of Whythill.
 Aug. 27. Will. Mackewan, writer to the signet.
 " Kenmore.

1745.

- April 9. Hamilton and Brandon.
 July 5. John Stewart of Farnese.

1747.

- July 18. Lockhart Gordon, brother to the Earl
 of Aboyn.
 " George Southcote of Lincolnshire.
 28. Charles Johnston, druggist in Edinr.
 Aug. 22. D. Macdonald, Captain of the Royal
 Scots in the French service.
 30. Thomas Drummond, LL.D.
 Sept. 17. Drumlanrig.
 " March.
 " Fra. Charteris, Amisfield.
 " Dav. Dalrymple, advocate.
 " Robert Clerk, merchant.
 19. William Binning, advocate.

1748.

- Feb. 8. Charles Congalton, surgeon.
 June 11. W. Drummond of Hawthornden.
 July 11. Charles Boyd.
 " John Travell of Swenford.
 23. Ja. Smyth, younger of Balharry, writer
 to the signet.
 " Ja. Guild, writer in Edinburgh.
 " James Hardie, writer in Edinburgh.

- July 29. James Scott, merchant in Edinburgh.
- Aug. 4. Wm. Wemyss, surgeon.
 " James Fullerton, vanner in Edinr.
 " Charles Mitchell of Portobello.
 6. George Dewar of Edinburgh.
 " Wm. Taylor, writer in Edinburgh.
 " John Clarkson, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
31. John Greenfield of Greenburg.
 " Thomas Sharp, younger of Houston.
- 1749.
- Jan. 10. Dundonald.
 " Boyd.
 " Lieutenant Da. Hepburn of Halket's Regiment.
 " David Wedderburn of Wedderburn.
- Feb. 7. Thos. Sharp, merchant in Edinburgh.
 10. Will. Congalton of that ilk.
- Mar. 7. Wm. Jackson, writer in Edinburgh.
- April 24. Will. Lin of Larg.
 " Basil Dunbar of Stewart's Regiment.
 29. J. Finlayson.
- May 20. John Corsar of General Marjoribanks' Regiment.
 27. John Henderson of Newington.
 " John Macpherson, music-master in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Mill of Bonniotown.
- June 1. Hugh Fraser of Lovett.
 3. Ro. Douglas, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Dav. Rae, student of law.
 " Arch. Smart, clothier.
 10. Rob. Smart, clothier in Musselburgh.
 " Rich. Tod, weaver in Musselburgh.
 " Tho. Tod, town-clerk of Musselburgh.
 " Rob. Vernor, brewer in Fisherrow.
 " Will. St Clair, son to Will. St Clair of Roslin.
 " Will. Lockhart, son to Mr Lockhart of Carnwath.
 " Rob. Anderson, younger of Whiteburgh.
12. George Cunningham of Marjoribanks' Regiment.
 " John Cunningham of General Marjoribanks' Regiment.
17. John Cunningham, Lieut. - Colonel to General Marjoribanks' Regiment.
- July 1. Will. Alves, surgeon.
 " Geo. Norvell of Boghall.
 " J. Moray of Abercainey.
 8. Alex. Maxwell, merchant in Edinr.
 " Rob. Rollo, late Lieutenant in General Marjoribanks' Regiment.
- July 8. John Forbes of Affric.
15. James Alsop, writer in Edinburgh.
- Aug. 5. Alex. Cunningham, one of the clerks to His Majesty's Signet.
 12. Lewis Blane, Lieutenant in Major-General Marjoribanks' Regiment.
 " David Græme, advocate.
26. John Trull, bookseller in Edinburgh.
 " Adam Cleghorn, merchant in Edinr.
 " Ebenezer Oliphant, goldsmith in Edinburgh.
- Sept. 2. Archd. Stewart, junior, merchant in Edinburgh.
- Dec. 7. Ronald Macdonald of Borradaile.
- 1750.
- Jan. 6. Wm. Gordon, bookseller.
 10. James Wemyss, third son to the Earl of Wemyss.
 " P. Wentworth.
 13. Wm. Boyd.
 " Patrick Hepburn Murray of Balmanno.
 " Jas. Murray, younger of Broughton.
25. Laur. Oliphant of Condie.
 " James Hay, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 27. Alex. Cameron of Dungallon.
 29. Stuart Threipland.
- Feb. 3. Will. Macdowall of Castlesemple.
 6. Ro. Murray, *alias* Macgregor of Glen-carnock.
 " Ja. Ker of Moristoun.
 9. Jo. Drummond of Colwhillzie.
 13. David Steuart of Ballochallan.
 23. Da. Foulis, M.D. of Edinburgh.
 24. Pittenweem.
- Mar. 3. Alex. Mackenzie, younger of Gerloch.
 10. David Græme of Braco.
 17. Hector Maclean of Torloisk.
 " Jas. Maxwell, Ensign in Colonel Murray's Regiment.
 " John Cuthbert, Lieutenant in the Earl of Drumlanrig's Regiment.
21. John Wedderburn, younger of Gosfoord.
 25. Kellie.
 " John Lumsdaine, writer in Edinburgh.
- April 7. Rob. Hope of General Halket's Regiment.
- May 12. Wm. Baird of Sauchtonhall, Bart.
 26. Nat. Spens, surgeon in Edinburgh.
- June 9. Hugh Seton of Touch.
 10. William Hamilton of Bangour.
 11. James Hamilton.
 23. Thos. Hope.

- June 23. William Carmichael, writer in Edinr.
 July 7. Will. Stirling, younger of Ardoch.
 " And. Alves, clerk to the signet.
 " Hugh Mackenzie, Captain in General
 Marjoribanks' Regiment.
 Oct. 6. Thomas Boswall, writer in Edinr.
 31. Aeneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh.
 Dec. 10. John Sinclair of Freswick.
 " James Mercer of Aldie.

1751.

- Jan. 16. Ro. Dalyell of Binns, Bart.
 18. Wal. Riddell of Newhall.
 " John Cameron of Fossfern.
 21. Alex. Fraser of Lovat.
 24. John Balneavis of Carnbadie.
 25. Geo. Clerk, merchant in Edinburgh.
 Feb. 6. Sir John Home of Renton, Bart.
 " Allan Cameron, Lieutenant in General
 Halket's Regiment.
 8. James Duff, son to Lord Braco.
 12. Andw. Home, wine-merchant.
 13. Arch. Campbell, younger of Knock-
 buy.
 " Geo. Hay of Mountblairy.
 " Ja. Farquharson of Invercauld.
 " Alex. Stuart, son to Lord Blantyre.
 " William Russell, Commissary-clerk-
 depute of Edinburgh.
 Mar. 30. Roger Stevenson, merchant in Edinr.
 May 4. Ja. Campbell, minister of the Gospel.
 July 6. Angus Maclachlan, writer in Edinr.
 8. William Moir of Longmay.
 20. Archd. Hamilton of Dalsersf.
 Aug. 31. George Henderson, merchant, Ja-
 maica.
 Sept. 4. William Douglas, Waggon - master -
 General.
 " Richd. Hudleston of Prospect Planta-
 tion, Jamaica.
 " Richd. Golding, merchant in Liver-
 pool.

1752.

- Jan. 7. James Cunninghame, Captain in
 General Halket's Regiment.
 Feb. 18. James Lockhart, Captain in the Prince
 of Waldeck's Imperial Regiment.
 26. Blantyre.
 June 8. Geo. Morison, younger of Bognie.
 " John Murray, druggist.
 July 4. Geo. Hutcheson, merchant in Edinr.
 13. Geo. Drummond, Provost of Edinr.
 Aug. 1. Alex. Wood, surgeon in Musselburgh.

- Aug. 1. Harie Guthrie, writer in Edinburgh.
 " John Drummond, Aid-de-Camp to the
 King of Prussia.
 " John Brown, merchant at Copen-
 hagen, and agent for the Russia
 Company of London.
 8. David Milne, merchant-tailor, Lon-
 don.
 26. Dav. Clerk, M.D.
 Sept. 16. Lud. Grant, writer in Edinburgh.
 " James Maclenan, merchant in Lon-
 don.

1753.

- Mar. 5. Al. Home of Manderstone.
 May 5. James Rollo, merchant in Dunkirk.
 26. Alex. Stuart, younger of Lesmurdie.
 July 7. John Campbell, student in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Scott, merchant in Edinburgh.
 9. John Murray, writer in Edinburgh.
 Aug. 11. William Brown, merchant in Mussel-
 burgh.
 " John Wright, surgeon in Musselburgh.
 Sept. 8. And. Hamilton, merchant in Edinr.

1754.

- Mar. 7. Elgin.
 " Archd. Menzies, younger of Culdares.
 April 6. James Straton, chemist, London.
 May 11. Garlies.
 16. Al. Lockhart of Cleghorn.
 June 6. James Malcolm, junior of Balbedie.
 15. Alex. Wood, merchant, Edinburgh.
 22. David Orme, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Alex. Falconar, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Jo. Trotter, brewer in Edinburgh.
 July 20. Wm. Douglas, younger of Kelhead.
 Sept. 21. Alex. Buchanan, younger of Auch-
 leskie.

1755.

- Mar. 10. Alex. Agnew, advocate.
 " Jo. Macdouall of Logan.
 " John Elphinstone.
 " William Stewart, younger of Castle-
 Stewart.
 April 19. Galloway.
 " George Stewart, second son to the
 Earl of Galloway.
 May 17. Robert Brown, merchant in Leith.
 June 14. Hew Dalrymple, advocate.
 " James Edgar.
 21. Alex. Orme, clerk to the signet.
 " James Young of Netherfield.

- June 28. Alex. Houston, merchant in Edinr.
 July 5. Alex. Baillie, engraver in Edinburgh.
 14. John Robertson, younger of Straloch.
 " Patrick Robertson, jeweller in Edinr.
 26. Joseph Mackintosh.
 " Ranald Macdonald, younger of Clan-
 ranald.
 " James Burnett, advocate.
 Aug. 30. David Smith, merchant at New Bush.
 Dec. 8. John Stewart, younger of Ballachelish.

1756.

- June 14. David Loch, merchant, Leith.
 18. Chas. Lockhart, son to George Lock-
 hart, Esq. of Carnwath.
 July 3. Charles Freebairn, architect in Edinr.
 David Menzies, Pittfodds.
 Aug. 7. Charles Scott of Bavelaw.

1757.

- July 10. Alex. Duncan of Craigton, advocate.
 11. James Hunter, banker in Edinburgh.
 Oct. 1. John Mansfield, merchant in Edinr.
 " Will. Dallas, wright in Edinburgh.
 " Robert Burnton, merchant, Edinr.
 8. John Home.
 " Ja. Birnie of Westerton.

1758.

- July 22. Don. Ross, writer in Edinburgh.
 29. George Paterson, architect.
 Aug. 5. Thomas Dallas, surgeon in Mussel-
 burgh.
 " Jo. Menzies, late writer in Edinr.
 26. Ol. Coult, son of Mr Adam Coult,
 advocate.
 Sept. 16. Allen Macdonald, younger of Kings-
 brough.
 Oct. 14. Pat. Haldane, physician, of Bath.

1759.

- Feb. 5. Alex. Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart.
 " Ang. Macneill of Ardna.
 " Henry Cunningham, physician in
 Edinburgh.
 April 2. John Hamilton, son to William
 Hamilton of Wishaw.
 " Charles Hamilton of Wishaw.
 " John Aikenhead, younger of Jaco.
 " Dan. Fleming of Jamaica, planter.
 June 9. Jo. Robertson, writer in Edinburgh.
 23. Will. Graham, younger of Gartmore,
 advocate.

1761.

- June 27. John Wallace, writer in Edinburgh.
 July 13. Henry Lindsay, merchant in Edinr.
 " Geo. Lind, Provost of Edinburgh.
 18. Andrew Alison, merchant in Edinr.
 25. Cornforth Gibson, arch-precentor of
 Edinburgh.
 Aug. 8. G. Beauclerk, Lieut. - Gen., Com-
 mander-in-Chief in Scotland.
 " Will. Bainbridge, Captain in 55th
 Regiment of Foot at Musselburgh.
 22. Wm. Macdonald of Renton, writer in
 Edinburgh.
 " Geo. Fraser, D. Auditor of the Excise
 in Scotland.
 29. John Cameron of Lochel.

1762.

- Feb. 27. John Macdonald of Dolness.
 " Wm. Abernethy Drummond.
 June 14. William Mitchell, merchant in Leith.
 July 12. William Hutton.

1763.

- July 11. Alex. Gray, writer to the signet.
 " Sir Geo. Chalmers, limner.

1764.

- Jan. 23. Jo. Sivright of South House.
 June 23. Walter Macfarlan, merchant in Edinr.
 28. Angelo, ecquier, d'Edenbourg.

1766.

- Mar. 31. Cosmas Alexander, limner.
 June 29. Jas. Lumsdaine of Innergellie.
 July 14. Geo. Wood, Warriston.
 " Wm. Hog, junior, merchant.

1767.

- May 4. Jo. Macarthur.
 " James Ker, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Jas. Brown, architect, Edinburgh.
 Aug. 1. Lem. Latham, student of physic from
 St Croix.

1768.

- June 4. F. Stuart, Moray.
 " Jas. Craig, bleacher at Linlithgow.
 July 10. Da. Forrester, Denovan.
 " Robert Wright, of Edinburgh.
 30. Robert Baillie, merchant in Edinr.

1769.

- June 17. Alex. Lauder, merchant in Edinburgh.
 24. T. Macdonell, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 July 10. Jo. Cumming Ramsay, advocate.
 " A Scrimgeour of Birkhill, advocate.
 15. Archd. Douglas of Douglas.
 29. Sylvester Douglas.
 Aug. 26. James Stirling, junior.
 Sept. 7. William Murray, Ochertyre.

1770.

- May 11. Alex. Innes, writer to the signet.
 June 17. John Fordyce of Ayton.
 " John Whitefoord of Whitefoord, Bart.
 30. Alex. Law, younger of Elvingston, advocate.
 July 9. Will. Anderson, writer in Edinburgh.
 " James Geddes, merchant in Edinr.
 21. Will. Urquhart, writer to the signet.
 28. David Smyth of Methven.
 " Chas. Brown, junior of Coalston, advocate.
 Aug. 11. Henry Erskine, advocate.
 " Simon Fraser, writer to the signet.
 18. James Hay, writer in Edinburgh.
 Sept. 1. Andrew Wood, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 15. Alex. Mackenzie, writer to the signet.
 " Alex. Campbell, advocate.
 29. Geo. Mackintosh, Lieutenant 60th, or Royal American Regiment.
 Oct. 13. Alexander Wight, advocate.
 " James Skinner, Captain in E.I.C. service.
 20. Wm. Wardlaw, Lieutenant R.N.
 27. J. Lamont of Lamont.
 Nov. 10. Robert Cullen, advocate.
 Dec. 3. D. Wemyss of Westerlathallan.

1771.

- Mar. 4. Francis Kinloch, younger of Gilmer-ton.
 " Dun. Macmillan of Dunmore.
 April 8. Alex. Ramsay of Burnriggs.
 " Geo. Skene, younger of Skene.
 " John Crawford of Jamaica.
 13. Thomas Williamson, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 May 25. Gilb. Innes, younger of Stow.
 June 8. Alex. Brown, keeper of the Advocates' Library.
 10. Hew Dalrymple of Lincoln's Inn.
 22. James Hamilton, of Bangour.

- June 22. James Cumyng, keeper of the Lyon Records.
 29. Wm. Simpson, merchant in Edinr.
 " A. Baillie, Parbroath.
 July 8. Will. Nisbet, Dirleton.
 " Will. Maxwell, Monreith.
 " Will. Dickson, Kilbucho.
 13. Alex. Fergusson, younger of Craigdarroch, advocate.
 " Andrew Duncan, physician, Edinr.
 20. Alex. Schaw, writer in Edinburgh.

1772.

- May 9. B. Alves, Fort-Major of Edinburgh Castle.
 " George Cooper, writer to the signet.
 16. Richd. Twiss of Norwich.
 " John Shaw Stewart of Greenock.
 June 20. John Leman, Barbadoes.
 July 13. John Touch, minister of Chapel of Ease.
 " John Davidson of Ravelrig.
 " George Hay of Warriston.
 Aug. 15. Charles Robertson, painter.
 29. John Nisbet of Dean.
 Sept. 19. Tho. Elder, merchant in Edinburgh.

1773.

- May 29. Alex. Kinloch, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Charles Gray of Gray.
 June 14. Jno. Dundas, writer to the signet.
 " Benj. Bell, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 " Donald Campbell, younger of Barbreck.
 " David Pitcairn of Rochester.
 " Norman Macleod of Macleod.
 July 12. Thomas Hay, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 " Will. Grant, Esq. of Congalton.
 Aug. 21. Will. Steuart, advocate.

1774.

- Jan. 14. Jas. Johnston, Captain 67th Regt.
 April 23. Alex. Millar, advocate.
 June 13. Wm. Lockhart, Lieut. Royal Navy.
 " David Stuart, Lieut. of the Navy.
 25. Archd. Stuart of Orhill.
 July 11. Edward Inglis, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 Aug. 6. Thos. Macmillan of Shorthope.
 " Tho. Thomson, town-clerk of Musselburgh.
 " Geo. Young, brewer in Fisherrow.
 Sept. 23. John Aitken, surgeon in Edinburgh.

1775.

- April 8. Colin Lauder, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 May 6. Will. Anderson, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 13. Dan. Chisholm, junior of Chisholm.
 27. Alex. Robertson, writer in Edinburgh.
 June 17. Rob. Wellwood, junior of Garvoch.
 " Geo. Webster, merchant in Edinr.
 July 29. Munro Ross of Pitcalny.
 Dec. 6. Queely Shiell, student of physic, Edinr.

1776.

- Feb. 24. Thos. Shairp, younger of Houstoun.
 " Thos. Greenough, younger.
 " John Smeiton.
 " James Arthur, surgeon 89th Regt.
 " Wm. Trotter, merchant in Edinr.
 " Hugo Arnot of Balcormo.
 Mar. 28. Buccleuch.
 " Jas. Stoddart, provost of Edinburgh.
 " Wm. Macdowall, younger of Castle-
 temple.
 April 20. James Edgar, collector of the Customs
 at Leith.
 " Alex. Wallace, banker in Edinburgh.
 27. Alex. Keith, clerk to the signet.
 May 4. John Sinclair of Murkle, Bart.
 " James Keay, writer in Edinburgh.
 11. Dugald Stewart, professor of mathe-
 matics in Edinburgh.
 18. Thos. Adair, writer in Edinburgh.
 June 1. John Wilson, Coultershogle.
 10. Sir John Scott of Ancrum, Bart.
 22. Chas. Sibbald, writer in Edinburgh.
 July 6. David Ross, accountant, Edinburgh.
 8. Ewen Baillie, Captain of Cavalry in
 the E. I. C. Service.
 " Geo. Stewart, younger of Grandtully.
 13. James Miller, writer in Edinburgh.
 20. And. Blane, writer to the signet.
 " Jos. Williamson, writer in Edinburgh.
 Aug. 17. James Hunter, physician, Edinburgh.
 31. John Stuart, younger of Allanbank.
 Dec. 9. John Gloag, merchant, Edinburgh.
 24. Lothian.
 " Archd. Hope, Bart.
 " Alex. Kincaid, Lord Provost of Edinr.
 " Alex. Kincaid, junior.

1777.

- Jan. 7. Andrew Crosbie, advocate.
 " Jas. Cowan, watchmaker.
 " Thos. Scott of Hopsburn.
 " William Stoddart, merchant, Edinr.

- Feb. 24. Will. Campbell, younger of Fairfield.
 " James Beveridge, writer in Edinr.
 April 26. Glencairn.
 " Alex. Don, Bart.
 " William Forbes, Bart.
 " William Honyman, advocate.
 " John Wauchope of Edmonstone.
 " Alex. Arbuthnot of the 61st Regt.
 " Pat. Macdougall, younger of Mac-
 dougall.
 " Thomas Wright, merchant.
 " William Creech, bookseller.
 May 31. Alex. Laing, mason in Edinburgh.
 June 22. Thos. Feild, planter in Virginia.
 July 13. J. Nisbet, younger of Pencaitland.
 " John Ramsay, younger of Banff.
 14. A. Gilmour of Craigmillar, Bart.
 " Henry Dundas, Lord Advocate.
 26. Hamilton and Brandon.
 " Mark Pringle, younger of Clifton.
 " Ro. Christie, Captain 38th Regiment.
 " Ja. Currie Carlyle of Bridekirk.
 " William Jameson, mason, Edinburgh.
 Aug. 2. Robert Young, merchant, Edinburgh.
 16. John Moncreiffe of Sauchopwood.
 " James Brodie of Brodie.
 " Alex. Runciman, painter.
 Sept. 20. Ad. Cockburn, late Captain 11th
 Dragoons.

1778.

- May 4. Gordon.
 9. James Gregory, physician, Edinburgh.
 16. John Henderson of Jamaica.
 30. Ar. Cockburn of Cockpen, Sheriff-
 depute of Edinburgh.
 " Will. Dempster, jeweller in Edinr.
 June 6. Myles Cooper, LL.D., President of
 King's College, New York.
 8. Macdonald.
 " Neil Fergusson, advocate.
 " Jo. Scott of Gala.
 July 11. Jas. Pringle, Lieut.-Col. I. F.
 13. Hopetoun.
 " William Hope Vere, junior of Craigie-
 hall and Blackwood.
 " Ch. Napier, Captain in the Navy,
 George Square.
 13. John Inglis of Cramond, Bart.
 31. David Steuart, merchant in Edinr.
 " Rob. Vans Agnew, younger of
 Sheuchan.
 Aug. 3. Graham.
 " Seaforth.

- Aug. 3. Binning.
 " Ro. Sinclair, advocate.
 " Geo. Brown of Elliston.
 " Hugh Ross of Kerse.
 Oct. 3. Ja. Newbigging, writer in Edinr.
 Nov. 27. C. Hope, Captain of his Majesty's
 Navy.
 Dec. 1. Athole.
 " William Farquharson of Bruxie.
 " John Rutherford of Edgerston.
 23. Rob. Langlands of Langlands, M. D.

1779.

- Jan. 21. Henry Hope, Lieut.-Colonel 44th
 Regiment.
 " C. Watson, Captain 25th Regiment.
 " William Cullen, Lieut. 53d Regiment.
 Mar. 17. Captain John Scott of Malleny.
 27. Francis Anderson, writer to the signet.
 " David Russell, accountant in Edinr.
 April 17. Tho. Scott, clerk to the signet.
 24. Will Lumsdaine, clerk to the signet.
 May 15. Robert Oliphant, Rossie.
 June 14. Haddo.
 " Rob. Baird of Newbyth.
 July 12. W. A. Cunynghame of Livingstone.
 31. Alex. Cuninghame of Craighends.
 Sept. 4. Robert Walker, minister of Cramond.

1780.

- Mar. 4. Henry Robertson, merchant, Edinr.
 22. Kintore.
 " Walter Scott of Harden.
 31. David Martin, painter.
 April 22. Jas. Torry, merchant, Edinburgh.
 " Don. Smith, merchant, Edinburgh.
 May 19. R. Dundas, junior of Arniston.
 " David Carnegie of Southesk.
 Aug. 12. James Gray, senior, writer in Edinr.
 " William Barron, Rhet. & Lo. P. St
 Andrews.

1781.

- Jan. 18. Geo. Leslie, merchant in Edinburgh.
 Feb. 21. Nath. Agnew of Ochiltree.
 April 21. T. Wharton, Commissioner of Excise.
 " Will Grieve, M. D.
 May 19. Chas. Hay, advocate.
 " James Dempster, jeweller in Edinr.
 " Patrick Kerr of Abbotsrule, writer to
 the signet.
 June 11. J. Drummond of Strageath.
 Aug. 26. John Anderson, writer to the signet.

1782.

- April 13. John Elliott of Borthwickbrae.
 27. Robert Robb, Captain 80th Regt.
 " William Fettes, merchant, Edinr.
 " Wm. Ker, officer of the Customs,
 Leith.
 " Edward Bruce, clerk to the signet.
 " Ro. Trotter, writer to the signet.
 May 11. John Henderson, architect.
 25. John Stark of Balindean.
 June 10. David Johnston of Bavelaw.
 " John Stoddart, Lieut. 80th Regiment.
 15. Hugh Logan of Logan.
 " Sam. Anderson, merchant, Edinr.
 " James Mansfield, merchant, Edinr.
 15. Geo. Kinnear, merchant, Edinburgh.
 July 13. John Hay, banker in Edinburgh.
 Aug. 31. John Horner, merchant, Edinburgh.
 Oct. 26. Rob. Dundas Macqueen, younger of
 Braxfield.

1783.

- April 12. P. Brydone, Comptroller-General of
 the Stamp-Office in London.
 May 17. Will. Dunbar, writer to the signet.
 July 14. Geo. Martin, writer, Edinburgh.
 Aug. 2. John Græme, clerk to the signet.
 16. John Harrison of London, student of
 physic.
 Sept. 27. John Balfour, paper-manufacturer,
 Edinburgh.
 Oct. 19. Elphingston Balfour, bookseller.
 Nov. 22. James Fullarton Carnegie of Boisack.

1784.

- Jan. 31. Alex. Murray, Lord Henderland.
 " Alex. Cuninghame, writer, Edinr.
 May 1. Wm. Tytler, writer to the signet.
 June 14. Alex. Trotter, Captain 73d Regiment.
 July 12. Torphichen.
 " John Grieve, Lord Provost of Edinr.
 " Thomas Alexander, merchant, and
 Provost of Peebles.
 " D. Rutherford, M. D., Edinburgh.
 " John Archibald, wine-merchant in
 Leith.
 Sept. 4. Charles Kerr, Lieut. 43d Regiment.
 " James Blaw, M. D., Edinburgh.
 Oct. 16. Chas. Innes, writer to the signet.
 30. Fred. Fotheringham, writer, Edinr.
 Nov. 20. H. Ross, Rossie.
 Dec. 4. John Hepburn, accountant, Excise.

1785.

- April 23. James Campbell of Jamaica.
30. John Buchan, writer to the signet.
July 11. Geo. Hay, late Major 80th Regiment.
" Archd. Tod, writer to the signet.
" Duncan Stewart of Ardsheal.
16. Lewis Cuthbert of Jamaica.
Oct. 13. James Johnston, Major of Engineers
in the East India Co.'s service.
" Vincent Lunardi, citizen of Lucca,
Italy.
Nov. 25. James Bartlett, banker.
Dec. 9. Morton.
" Peter Sandilands, Edinburgh.

1786.

- Jan. 28. Alex. Hamilton, advocate.
Feb. 18. John Stuart, late Captain 49th Regt.
" John Campbell, Lieut. 70th Regt.
April 29. Wa. Williamson of Cardrona.
June 17. Alex. Nairne, accountant, Edinr.
July 10. Will. Little, writer in Peebles.
" Will. Ker of Kerfield.
" Robert Marshall, surgeon, Peebles.
" John Inglis.
15. Joseph Cauvin, writer to the signet.
" Cha. Hope, advocate.
22. Hugh Bell, brewer, Pleasance.
29. Alex. Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks.
Aug. 12. W. Wemyss of Wemyss.
" Andw. Macdowall, Esq., younger of
Logan.
26. Thom. Cranstoun, writer to the signet.
Sept. 9. George Willison.
" John Macdonell, Lochgary, Colonel
76th Regiment Highlanders.
" Thos. Carnegie of Craigo.
16. James Hamilton, physician, Edinr.
Oct. 14. Thos. Dallas, Captain of Cavalry.
Nov. 25. Alex. Falconar, East India Company
service.
" Wm. Scott, banker, Edinburgh.
Dec. 10. George Douglas of Cavers.
11. Francis Charteris, junior of Amisfield.

1787.

- Jan. 27. Elibank.
" John Macmurdo, late of 37th Regt.
" Robert Kerr, surgeon, Edinburgh.
" John Maitland of Eccles, Capt. R.N.
Feb. 17. Alex. Allan, merchant, Edinburgh.
" Wm. Sibbald, merchant, Leith.
April 7. Daer.

- June 2. Henry Cullen, M.D., Edinburgh.
6. Fran. Russell, late Purveyor and In-
specter of his Majesty's Hospitals at
Quebec.
" Jas. Nasmyth, Bart.
" James Reid, surgeon in Peebles.
11. James Home, clerk to the signet.
23. James Hay, Captain Lord Macartney
East Indiaman.
July 9. Pat. Crichton, Captain 57th Regt.
28. Henry Jameson, junior, banker in
Edinburgh.
" John Jameson, junior, merchant, Leith.
Aug. 18. John Bennett, surgeon, Edinburgh.
Sept. 1. David Milne, merchant, Edinburgh.
Oct. 20. John Robertson, printer.
27. Rob. Stirling of Jamaica.
Nov. 24. R. Blane, Lieut.-Col. East India Com-
pany service.

1788.

- Mar. 10. George Hope, Lieut. Royal Navy.
29. Robert Biggar, Edinburgh.
" James Hall, Bart.
May 10. Will. Hope, Lieutenant Royal Navy.
" John Hope of Craighall.
" John Hope, Captain in the 60th Regt.
" Charles Hope of Luffness.
" A. Gordon, Lieut.-Col. Cameronians.
11. Ad. Hope of Waterland.
24. David Macdowall, Lieut. Royal Navy.
31. Martin Lindsay, Lieut. Royal Navy.
June 9. John Campbell.
28. Henry Jardine, writer to the signet.
" Alex. Hope.
July 12. Hyndford, Earl of.
19. Thos. Robertson, Captain of the Bus-
bridge.
" Mark Kerr, Captain 9th Dragoons.
" Thomas Spens, M.D.
26. Aylesford, Earl of.
28. E. Hay of Newhall.
" Ancram.
Aug. 9. Geo. Fergusson, advocate.
" Geo. Gordon, Parliament St., London.
22. Fras. Buchan, merchant, Edinburgh.
" Rob. Anderson, merchant.
30. Dav. Hunter of Blackness.
" John Macintosh, accountant of the
Royal Bank.
Sept. 13. David Ramsay, Lieutenant R.N.
27. David Milne, East India service.
Nov. 28. John Russell, junior, clerk to the
signet.

- Dec. 10. Charles Baillie, Mellerstain.
 " George Baillie, junior of Jarviswood.
 13. William Tait, advocate.

1789.

- Jan. 13. Adam Inglis, younger of Cramond.
 30. Tweeddale.
 " B. Erskine of Mar.
 " Fras. Buchan.
 Feb. 27. James Home, M.D.
 Mar. 28. James Jollie, clerk to the signet.
 " Da. Steuart, clerk to the signet.
 April 4. And. Wauchope of Niddrie.
 11. Wm. Ramsay, junior, banker.
 13. Craufurd.
 Wm. Dallas, writer to the signet.
 May 9. Jas. Anderson of Clerkington.
 16. Rob. Dundas, writer to the signet.
 " Wm. Sands, Major E.I.C. service.
 " Arch. Douglas, Captain 37th Regiment.
 23. T. Hope, Lieutenant of R. W. Fusiliers.
 " Rob. Graham of Fintry.
 " James Wauchope, junior of Edmonstone.
 " K. Mackenzie of Cromarty.
 30. James Ker of Blackshiell.
 June 20. And. Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, W.S.
 " Ad. Gillies, advocate.
 27. Geo. Brodie, Major 52d.
 " Archd. Campbell, younger of Succoth.
 July 4. Dan. Hamilton, younger of Gilkerscleugh.
 " Aeneas Mackay of Scotston, Captain in the Hon. East India Company's service.
 6. John Wilde, advocate.
 25. Colin Maclaurin, younger of Dreg-horn.
 " James Drummond of Perth.
 " James Montgomery, advocate.
 Aug. 1. George Monck Berkeley, LL.B. of Trin. Coll. Dub.
 15. Hon. Aw. Forbes.
 " D. Anderson of St Germain's.
 29. Andw. Gray of Southfield.
 " J. Dewar of Vogrie.
 Sept. 12. Alex. Callander of Crichton.
 19. John Wright, advocate.
 26. Wm. Anderson, writer, Edinburgh.
 " John Syme, writer, Edinburgh.
 " William Robertson, jeweller, Edinr.
 " Tho. Cuninghame, advocate.

- Sept. 26. Wm. Farquharson, surgeon.
 " James Seton, banker, Edinburgh.
 Oct. 10. John Douglas, Captain Marines.
 19. Robert Hay, Lawfield.
 " George Douglas of Springwood Park.
 29. John Ramsay of Kinkell.
 30. John Cox Hippisley, LL.D., Recorder of Sudbury, county of Suffolk.
 31. John Cockburn of Rochester.
 " William Ross of Shandwick.
 Dec. 11. Claud Russell, writer in Edinburgh.
 " Thos. Trotter, writer to the Signet.

1790.

- Jan. 16. J. Wolfe Murray, advocate.
 " James Gibson, clerk to the signet.
 " James Clerk, advocate.
 Feb. 13. Alex. Walker, surgeon, E.I.C. service.
 " Geo. Dunbar, Bart. of Mochrum.
 Mar. 14. J. B. Maitland of Eccles.
 April 10. Tho. Durham of Boaghead.
 " W. Maxwell, Lieut.-Col. late 91st Regiment.
 17. Robert Turing from India, Bart.
 May 29. Elgin.
 " John Thomson, insurance-broker.
 " John Anderson of Winterfield.
 " John Bell, surgeon, Edinburgh.
 June 5. Wm. Blair of Blair.
 " Hugh Scott, younger of Harden.
 14. J. Spens, Captain 73d Regiment.
 19. Jas. Hay of Seggieden.
 July 27. Robert Dundas of Melville.
 Aug. 28. Jas. Buchan, writer to the signet.
 Nov. 27. William Inglis, writer to the signet.

1791.

- Jan. 22. Andrew Mitchell, Captain in the R.N.
 Mar. 5. D. H. Macdowall of Walkinshaw.
 April 2. William Copland of Collistoun.
 9. Henry Raeburn.
 May 14. Cha. Steuart, writer to the signet.
 " A. Mackenzie, Lieutenant 42d Regt.
 June 15. James Tennant.
 July 2. James Stewart Oliphant, junior of Rossie.
 9. Jas. Mansfield, junior.
 16. Lau. Oliphant of Gask.
 " Andrew Inglis, surgeon in Edinburgh.
 18. Huntly.
 30. Geo. Cheape, wine-merchant, Leith.
 Nov. 12. Wm. Ramsay Maule of Panmure.

1792.*

- Jan. 7. John Hagart of Cairnmuir, advocate.
 21. C. Swindell, Captain 55th Regiment.
 " George Lyon, 11th Dragoons.
 Feb. 18. William Graham, late 42d Regiment.
 Mar. 17. Philip Leslie, late 107th Regiment.
 June 23. D. Monro Binning.
 July 21. Pat. Heron of Heron.
 Aug. 4. Charles Bell of Guernsey.
 11. John Campbell, Receiver-General of Customs.
 Sept. 8. Rob. Ferguson, junior of Raith.
 " William Kerr, General Post-Office, Edinburgh.
 " Jas. Wilson, Captain Royal Regiment Artillery.
 29. Cranstoun.
 Oct. 13. Andw. Houstoun, Jordanhill.
 27. John Thomson, junior, son of John Thomson, Esq., Secretary of Excise.
 " S. Mackenzie., Captain R.N.
 Nov. 10. Thos. Farquharson, late surgeon to the 2d Batt. 42d Regiment.
 Dec. 8. Geo. Steuart, writer to the signet.
 15. D. Rae, junior, advocate.
 22. Alex. Forrester Cochrane, Captain R.N.

1793.

- Jan. 5. Honourable Francis Gray.
 " Will. Hagart, wine-merchant, Leith.
 " Nathaniel Spens, in the service of the Honourable East India Company.
 Mar. 16. Thomas Smith.
 " Pat. Duff, Captain R.N.
 38. Jas. M. Adair, M.D.
 May 25. Andw. Erskine.
 July 1. Hay Macdowall, Lieut.-Col. 57th Regiment.
 15. Will. Chisholm of Chisholm.
 Sept. 21. Robert Freer, physician in Edinburgh.
 Dec. 27. Dalkeith.

1794.

- Feb. 21. Colin Mackenzie, writer to the signet.
 Mar. 15. William Scott, solicitor at law.
 29. J. A. Higgins of Neuck, writer to the signet.

- Mar. 29. James Johnston of Donovan.
 June 21. Alex. Smith, banker.

1795.

- April 11. Geo. Robinson, clerk to the signet.
 " Adam Gordon, Kenmore.
 18. Alex. Blair, writer to the signet.
 May 2. T. Hart, Captain E.I.C. service.
 " Lewis Brotherson of St Christopher.
 " Lewis Verschild of St Christopher.
 Dec. 12. Ar. Fotheringham Ogilvy of Powrie.
 26. John Beugo, engraver.

1796.

- Jan. 23. Vans Hathorn, writer to the signet.
 " Dav. Spottiswoode, writer to the signet.
 Mar. 5. Will. Colquhoun, late of the 1st Guards.
 April 7. Matt. Sandilands, writer to the signet.

1797.

- April 1. Doune.
 " R. Scott Moncreiff, merchant.
 " Hry. Scott of Belford, Roxburghshire.
 29. Alex. Stewart, surgeon.
 May 13. Hugh Stuart.

1798.

- May 12. James Carfrae, merchant, Edinburgh.
 July 17. Neil Macvicar, merchant, Edinburgh.
 " Andrew Duncan, junior, physician, Edinburgh.
 " Will. Gordon, Queen Street.

1799.

- Mar. 9. Thos. Milne, merchant, Edinburgh.
 April 13. Wm. Guthrie of Edinburgh.
 27. William Simpson, one of the Ministers of Edinburgh.
 Sept. 7. Thos. Chas. Hope, M.D., Professor of Chemistry.
 " Jas. Hope, writer to the signet.
 Oct. 26. David Monypenny, advocate.
 " Chas. Cunningham, writer to the signet.
 " Hector Macdonald Buchanan, writer to the signet.
 Nov. 30. Rt. Macgregor Murray, Lieut.-Col. Royal Clanalpine Fencibles.
 " Francis Redfearn.

* From the manner in which the books were kept about this period, it is difficult to say whether or not these lists are quite complete. For instance, there is no doubt that Robert Burns, the poet, was admitted a member of the Company in 1792. The diploma still exists; but he does not seem to have signed the roll, which probably accounts for his name not appearing on the list.

1800.

- Feb. 22. Robert Moir, writer to the signet.
 Mar. 22. John Hawthorn of Castlewig.
 June 21. Alex. Oswald, advocate.
 " Wm. Field, coachmaker.
 " Patrick Steuart, writer.
 " Jas. Foulis, Bart.
 July 7. James Miller, advocate.

1801.

- Jan. 10. Ro. Kerr of Chatto.
 24. David Deuchar, seal-engraver.
 July 13. William Fraser Tytler, advocate.
 " Alexander Don, younger of Newton Don.
 " John Russell, writer in Edinburgh.
 17. Hamilton and Brandon.
 20. W. L. Gilmour of Craigmillar.
 Oct. 3. George S. Mackenzie, Bart.
 " Patrick Russell, writer to the signet.
 31. Al. Mackenzie, Colonel Commandant 78th Regiment.
 Nov. 30. A. Mackenzie Grieve of Inchcoulter.
 " John Adams, Master of the Royal Menage.
 " John Campbell, writer to the signet.
 Dec. 19. R. C. Ferguson, Colonel.

1802.

- Jan. 30. James Bruce, merchant.
 Mar. 20. Forester Rose, Olive-bank.
 May 15. George Dunlop, writer.
 " Jo. Stuart of Castleton.
 " J. L. Johnston, Coldstream Guards.
 July 3. Ja. Stevenson Barns, Captain 2d Bat. Royals.
 Sept 18. Tho. Inglis, Lieutenant-Colonel.
 " James Dickson, insurance-broker.
 " Will. Buchanan, writer to the signet.
 " J. D. Thomson, naval officer, Leith.
 Oct. 30. John Hope, Bart. of Craighall.
 " J. R. Mackenzie of Suddie, Colonel 78th Regiment.
 " J. Hope, Major 18th Regiment.
 " Alex. M. Murray, Major 67th Regt.

1803.

- Feb. 19. Alex. Macdonnell, Captain 2d Bat. Royals.
 " George Douglas, advocate.
 June 13. Wm. Scott, Prince of Wales' Island.
 " Ro. Semple, advocate.
 Oct. 26. George Harley Drummond, Stanmore, Middlesex.

- Oct. 29. Dalhousie.
 Nov. 26. James Hare, M.D.

1804.

- June 16. R. Vyse, Lieutenant-General.
 " R. W. Howard Vyse, Captain 15th King's Light Dragoons.
 " John Hart, Captain 6th Dragoons.
 " Jno. Osburn Brown, writer to the signet.
 " F. Walker, writer to the signet.
 July 14. D. Hunter Blair, Bart. of Brownhill.
 " Jas. Hunter Blair of Dunskey.
 " Adam Duff, advocate.
 " John Macdougall, Major 91st Regt.
 " Ja. Ferguson, Major Ayr Militia.
 28. Montgomerie.
 " Arbuthnott.
 " W. Nicolson, Lieutenant-Colonel.
 Oct. 27. Jas. Campbell, Lieutenant-Colonel.
 Dec. 1. Adam Fergusson, advocate.

1805.

- Feb. 9. Wm. Lang, advocate.
 April 6. A. Campbell, M.D.
 " Richard Wharton, comptroller of excise.
 June 1. William Macdonald, advocate.
 July 13. Thomas Erskine of Mar.
 " Samuel Williamson, E.I. Company's service.
 " C. K. Robinson, writer to the signet.

1806.

- June 28. James Leatham, Lieutenant-Colonel.
 " William Wood, surgeon.
 July 12. P. Bruce, Major Hon. E.I.C. service.
 " Patrick Walker, advocate.
 Aug. 2. F. H. Blair, banker.
 23. Alex. Monypenny, writer to the signet.
 Nov. 29. H. Drummond Home, younger of Blair-Drummond.
 " William Brown of Lisbon.

1807.

- April 4. William Cumming Gordon, Bart. of Altyre.
 " Alex. Trotter, Dreghorn.
 June 13. Farquharson Ross, Captain R.N.
 " J. St Clair, Colonel.
 " John Linning, accountant of excise.
 " J. Paterson, merchant.
 " G. Walker, painter.

- 1808.
- Mar. 5. Evan M. Murray, Captain.
 " J. Gordon, 15th Light Dragoons.
- May 21. George Clerk, Bart., Penicuik.
 " James Riddell, Bart., Ardnamurchan.
 " George Wauchope of Niddry.
- June 11. Hay Donaldson, writer to the signet.
 " Thos. Guthrie Wright, writer to the signet.
 " Wm. Aitcheson, St Clement's Wells.
- 1810.
- Mar. 3. John Leven, writer to the signet.
- May 26. George Veitch, writer to the signet.
 " Donald Horne, writer to the signet.
- July 7. John Kennedy, writer to the signet.
 " Robert Allan, surgeon.
- Dec. 1. Æneas Macbean, writer to the signet.
- 1811.
- May 25. John Pitcairn, younger of Pitcairn.
 " George Gardner, Custom-house.
 " John Kincaid Pitcairn, merchant, Leith.
- June 15. Wm. Douglas, Orchardton.
 " John Archd. Campbell, writer to the signet.
 " John Lee, D.D.
 " John Pollock, writer to the signet.
- Oct. 26. J. Scott, Major.
 " J. B. Brodie, writer to the signet.
 " Alex. Sommerville, wine-merchant.
 " John Stirling, younger of Kippendavie.
- 1812.
- April 18. Wm. Macknight Crawford, Ratho.
- June 13. James Mackay, jeweller.
- July 4. Wm. Trotter, upholsterer.
 " Alex. Brodie, merchant, Leith.
 " John Learmonth, Picardy Place.
 25. Wm. Allan of Hillside.
- Oct. 31. George Corsar Cunningham, Custom-house.
 " James Gillespie Davidson, writer to the signet.
 " John Cay, advocate.
- 1813.
- May 1. James Baxter, writer to the signet.
 " James Lang.
- May 1. J. Mansfield, junior.
 " Wm. Burn, architect.
 " Andw. Clason, writer to the signet.
 " Robert Duff, advocate.
 " John Scotland, writer to the signet.
 " R. A. Mackay.
 " Alex. Deans, advocate.
- June 19. Robert Wilson, accountant.
 " Wm. Coates Campbell.
 " Thos. Richardson, writer to the signet.
- July 10. John Watson, historical and portrait painter.
 " James Bridges, writer to the signet.
 " James Brown, accountant.
 " John Dickson, writer to the signet.
- Oct. 30. John Borthwick, junior of Crookston.
 " Math. Macdonald, writer to the signet.
 " Alex. Macduff of Bonhard.
- Dec. 4. Wm. Henry Horsbrugh, Major.
- 1814.
- Jan. 29. James Hotchkis, writer to the signet.
 " Wm. Burnet, merchant, Leith.
- Feb. 26. James Johnston Hope.
- June 25. George Aitcheson, merchant, Leith.
 " Berriedale.
- July 9. Andw. Gray, merchant, Leith.
- 1815.
- Jan. 28. Wm. Clark, writer to the signet.
 " George Robertson, keeper of Records.
 " Wm. Robertson.
- Feb. 25. Robert Bruce, advocate.
 " Thos. Jones, merchant, Leith.
 " Miles Fletcher, advocate.
 " James Sherriff, merchant, Leith.
 " Chas. Hunt, Queen Street.
- June 6. John Pringle, Bart., Stitchell.
 " Wm. Alex. Martin, writer to the signet.
 " Thos. Sivewright of South-House.
 " Henry Sibbald, Leith.
 " Chas. Tawse, writer to the signet.
 " Norman Pringle, Major Royal Scots Fusileers.
- July 3. Alex. Scott.
 " Erskine Douglas Sandford.
 22. John Bonar, junior, Warieston.
 " Andw. Tawse, writer to the signet.
 " Thos. Kinnear, junior, banker.
 " Thos. Allan of Hillside.
- Sept. 11. John Bonar, Gayfield Place.
 16. Alex. Earle Menteith, advocate.

- Oct. 28. James Walker, advocate.
 " William Swinton Maclean, Custom-house.

1816.

- Jan. 27. Quarles Harris, Strand of Bath.
 " Thos. Durham Weir.
 " J. Stothert, Captain Engineers.
 " Thos. Stothert of Blacket.
 Feb. 27. Wilkins Terry, Captain 2d Life Guards.
 " John Stewart, advocate, son of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart.
 July 4. James Bonar, Warieston, merchant in London.
 " Robert Wight, accountant.
 " David Paterson, accountant.

1817.

- Feb. 22. John Elder, writer to the signet.
 June 30. James Allan Maconochie, advocate.
 " John Maxton, banker.
 July 21. James Wilson, writer to the signet.
 " Alexander Thomson, writer to the signet.
 " Chas. Nairne, writer to the signet.
 Nov. 24. Wm. Bonar, Warieston.
 " George Williamson, Lixmount, merchant in Leith.

1818.

- Mar. 3. Wm. Bonar, Edinburgh.
 21. Charles Crossland Hay.
 May 16. Rob. Sym Wilson.
 Aug. 8. Albert Cay, merchant.
 Oct. 24. Robert Hay, Captain R.N.
 " John Marshall, advocate.
 Nov. 23. Thomas Hamilton, Captain.
 " Horatius Cannan, junior.
 28. John Tawse.

1819.

- June 26. John Duncan, Captain Bengal Infantry.
 14. Robert M'Lachlan of M'Lachlan, advocate.
 " Captain John Duncan, H.E.I.C.S.
 " Robert Young Anderson, W.S.
 " James Easton, W.S.
 " Charles Hope Johnstone.
 " George Hope Johnstone.

1820.

- Mar. 8. Lord Kennedy.
 June 30. James Walker.
 July 15. Hon. Lieut.-Gen. Alexander Duff.
 Aug. 21. Major Thomas Dundas of Fingask.

1821.

- June 1. John James Davidson, W.S.
 11. Alexander Hay, W.S.
 " James Ballantyne, advocate.
 16. Adam Gib Ellis, W.S.
 " Arthur Campbell, W.S.
 " Sir Walter Scott, Bart.
 23. James Tod of Deanston.
 " John Colin Wilson, W.S.
 " Alexander Hay of Hardengreen.
 30. William Innes, W.S.
 July 5. William Gray Cunningham, younger of Newholm.
 7. Walter Jollie, W.S.

1822.

- Feb. 9. Captain J. Grant of Kilgraston.
 June 1. James Wemyss, W.S.
 2. John Stewart of Dalguise.
 14. Humphrey Graham, W.S.
 July 6. David Milne.
 Aug. 1. Nasmyth Morrison, W.S.
 " Robert Newbigging.
 " Francis Aitchison.
 " Alexander Robertson, W.S.
 " Charles M'Alister, W.S.
 " William Napier, W.S.
 " John Anderson.
 " Francis Home, younger of Coudenhouse.
 " Dr J. A. Robertson.
 " Charles Campbell of Combie.
 " Geo. Baillie, younger of Mellerstain.
 3. James Hope, jun., W.S.
 " Alexander Gillespie, surgeon.
 " Frederick Graham, Assist. Commissary-General.
 " Robert Alexander Wallace.
 " William Robertson, jun., W.S.
 6. Allan Gilmour, M.D.
 " Andrew Bonar.
 " William Scott, W.S.
 " Charles Stewart.
 " Henry George Watson, accountant.
 " Dr Robert Hamilton.
 " Archibald Hope Cullen, advocate.

- Aug. 6. John M'Donald Buchanan.
 " Henry Cockburn, jun., advocate.
 " James Stormonth Darling, W.S.
 " John Stuart Forbes, younger of Pitsligo.
 " Major John M. Belches.
 " Dr W. P. Alison, professor of physic,
 University of Edinburgh.
 " John Gregory, advocate.
 " Hon. General John Leslie Cumming.
 8. John Wilkie of Foulden.
 " George Kinnear, banker.
 " Alexander Murray of Polmaise.
 " Robert Pitcairn, W.S.
 " Dr Kenneth Mackenzie.
 " Major Macgregor, 93d Regiment.
 " Samuel Sommerville.
 " Walter J. L. Gilmour of Craigmillar.
 " The Right Hon. Lord Glenlyon.
 " David Scott Moncrieff, accountant.
 " Captain Norwich Duff, R.N.
 " Captain Wm. Henderson, 27th Regt.
 Nov. 3. John Grieve, accountant.
 9. Sir Alex. Mallet of Wilbury, Bart.
 " James Hope Vere of Craigiehall.

1823.

- Jan. 23. Patrick Boyle Mure, advocate.
 25. Col. Henry White, H.E.I.C.S.
 " John Wilson, professor of moral phil-
 osophy in the University of Edinr.
 " Major Addison, 80th Regiment.
 Feb. 10. Archibald Calder, merchant.
 " Capt. Edward Walter Gilbert, R.N.
 May 13. Captain William Balfour, R.N.
 " Colonel James Dunsmure.
 " Colonel William Wauchope.
 July 23. John Kinnear, banker.
 " Donald Smith, banker.
 " William Alison of Wellbank.
 " John Ogilvie, younger of Inverquharly.
 " John Campbell Boswell, merchant.
 " Andrew Grieve, W.S.
 Nov. 18. David Hunter of Blackness.
 " Peter Wood, jun.
 " John M'Kean, accountant.
 " Andrew Campbell Duncan, M.D.
 29. The Rt. Hon. Viscount Castlereagh.
 " Sir Chas. Macdonald Lockhart, Bart.

1824.

- Jan. 14. Campbell D. Riddell, advocate.
 " William Robertson, younger of Kin-
 lochmoidart.

- Jan. 14. Thomas Mist.
 Feb. 6. Robert Adam Dundas of Whiterigg.
 " John Macdougall of Donalloch.
 12. Edward Wyndham H. Schenly.
 " Charles Campbell Stewart, W.S.
 Mar. 2. George Dempster of Skibo.
 " James Renton, accountant.
 " Major James Thomson, 6th Regt.
 Apr. 28. Robert Rutherford, W.S.
 " William Downe Gillon of Wallhouse.
 " Peter Ramsay, banker.
 " Charles Macleod, advocate.
 " Capt. William Menzies, H.E.I.C.S.
 Sept. 22. The Honourable Lord Elcho.
 " The Right Hon. Sir George Warren-
 der of Lochend, Bart.
 " Geo. Fullarton Carnegie of Pitmarrow.
 " Colonel Geils of Geilston.
 " James Moncrieff Melville, W.S.
 Nov. 3. The Right Hon. the Earl of Home.
 " Carlyle Bell, W.S.
 " Alexander Cunningham, W.S.
 " George A. Borthwick, M.D.
 " Thomas M'Millan, W.S.
 " Archibald Horne, accountant.
 18. General John Lamont of Lamont.
 " Henry Scott, younger of Harden.
 " James Stewart, W.S.
 " The Marquis of Graham.
 " The Right Hon. Sir William Rae,
 Bart., Lord Advocate of Scotland.

1825.

- Jan. 7. John Hope, Solicitor-General.
 22. The Marquis of Lothian.
 Feb. 4. William Brodie of Brodie.
 " John Brodie, W.S.
 " Fox Maule, younger of Panmure.
 " John Horrocks of Tillyhewan.
 " James Rose, W.S.
 Mar. 16. The Hon. Lord Ramsay.
 " The Hon. Colonel John Ramsay.
 " Archibald Hope, younger of Pinkie.
 " John David Hope, merchant.
 " Thomas Hog, younger of Newliston.
 May 4. Sir J. Scott Douglas of Springwood
 Park, Bart.
 " Robert Cockburn, wine-merchant.
 June 22. Robert Knox Trotter of Ballendean,
 7th Dragoon Guards.
 Sept. 7. James Johnston of Straiton.
 " Robert Dundas of Armiston.
 " Matthew Rennie, engineer.
 James Home Burnett, W.S.

- Sept. 7. Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton of Baryngy and North Berwick, Bart.
 " Duncan Davidson, younger of Tulloch.

1826.

- Jan. 4. The Earl of Hopetoun.
 " John Hall, younger of Dunglass.
 " Charles Fleming Hunter, H.E.I.C.S.
 " The Hon. Robert Dundas.
 " James Swan, W.S.
 " Sir William Scott of Ancrum, Bart.
 " George Stewart of Grandtully.
 " Maitland Young.
 " Robert Stewart, younger of Alderston.
 " James Stein.
 " James Stein, junior.
 Feb. 10. Mark Napier, advocate.
 15. Lieut.-Col. Ferguson, H.E.I.C.S.
 Mar. 15. A. Wellesley Leith, advocate.
 24. Sir Thomas Gibson Carmichael of Castle Craig, Bart.
 May 17. Charles D. Bruce, merchant.
 " George Macdougall, W.S.
 July 18. The Earl of Errol.
 " Thomas Graham, W.S.
 26. David Anderson of St Germain's.
 Dec. 21. Woronzow Greig.

1827.

- Jan. 24. James Henry Callander of Craigforth.
 Feb. 14. Thomas Kinnear.
 " James Taylor Hart of Drumcrosshall.
 " James Meiklam of Cairnbroe.
 Mar. 22. John Hope, W.S.
 " Nathaniel Spens, yr. of Craigsanquhar.
 " Charles Shaw, wine-merchant.
 " Daniel K. Sandford, professor of Greek in the University of Glasgow.
 April 4. Robert Dundas Cay, W.S.
 23. Henry Jardine, advocate.
 " John Thomas Hope, younger of Waughton.
 July 5. Sir James Ramsay of Bamff, Bart.
 " David Smith, W.S.
 " John Reddie, advocate.
 " William Bruce, merchant.
 " Charles Murray Barstow, accountant.
 Aug. 1. Archibald Spens, H.E.I.C.S.
 Nov. 16. Sir David Kinloch of Gilmerton, Bart.
 " Marmaduke Constable Maxwell of Terregles.
 " Robert Constable Maxwell of Nithsdale.

1828.

- Jan. 15. John Sligo of Carmyle.
 " The Duke of Buccleuch.
 " J. W. P. Mackenzie, younger of Delvine.
 Mar. 18. Geo. Wm. Hope, younger of Craighall.
 " Wm. Burn Callander of Preston Hall.
 " David Dundas, younger of Dunira.
 May 7. Sir John Hay, Bart.
 " Colonel James Limont, H.E.I.C.S.
 June 18. Sir David Moncrieffe, Bart.
 " Alexander Munro Binning, younger of Softlaws.
 " David Kinnear, advocate.
 " William Stewart of Glenormiston.
 Oct. 29. John Anderson, younger of Moredun.
 " Alexander H. Macdougall, solicitor.
 " Charles Fergusson, younger of Kilkeran, advocate.
 " James Ogilvie Fairlie.
 " Major Robert Preston, 13th Regt.

1829.

- Feb. 16. James Oliphant of Gask.
 Mar. 7. William Ramsay Ramsay of Barnton.
 10. Thos. Bailey Guthrie of Scotscauder.
 19. William Copland of Blackwood.
 " Thomas Jamieson Torrie, advocate.
 May 12. Capt. Wm. Hope, Royal Fusileers.
 July 3. John Robison.
 " David Whigham of Cornlee, W.S.
 Nov. 17. Archibald Inglis, surgeon.

1830.

- April 7. Sir James Alexander Wright, Bart.
 " Howard Elphinstone.
 " Thomas Balfour, younger of Elwick.
 " James Linning Woodman.
 14. John Richardson of Pitfour.
 " Andrew Houston.
 " Captain Charles Kerr of Homeswood.
 " Stewart Bailey Hare of Calderhall.
 " Robert G. Colquhoun of Fincastle.
 May 13. John Baird, younger of Camelon, W.S.
 " William Kerr of Chatto.
 " Alexander Kinnear, banker.
 " David Cathcart, W.S.
 " John Nairne Forman, W.S.
 " George M'Callum, W.S.
 " John Jopp, W.S.
 " Lord Ramsay.
 Aug. 5. Lawrence Davidson, W.S.
 " George Leith.

- Aug. 5. James Weir.
 " Thomas W. Webster, advocate.
 Nov. 3. Robert Ainslie, junior, W.S.
 " Robert Hagart.
 " Alexander Smollett of Bonhill.

1831.

- Jan. 21. Robert C. Buchanan of Drumpelzier.
 " Lord Dunglas.
 " The Earl of Morton.
 " Lord John Montague Scott.
 " The Hon. Adolphus F. Cathcart.
 " George Baillie Hamilton of Rumbletonlaw.
 " Sir John M. Nasmyth of Posso, Bart.
 Feb. 21. Alexander Duff, W.S.
 " Alexander Campbell.
 May 12. Major Lindsay Bethune of Kilconquhar.
 " Robert Bruce of Kennet.
 " Robert Duff, younger of Fetteresso.
 " Robert Clerk Rattray of Craighall.
 " Thomas Syme, W.S.
 21. Major William Moray Stirling of Ardoch.
 " Francis Scott.
 " James Lindsay, merchant.
 " Francis Webster, W.S.
 " Samuel Hay, merchant.
 " James Moray of Abercainey.
 " Charles Steuart, W.S.
 " James Johnstone of Alva.
 June 2. John Campbell of Strucher.
 " John Campbell of Sadwell.

1832.

- Jan. 10. Thomas Wedderburn Ogilvie of Ruthven.
 " John C. R. Duddingston.
 " John Gibson Lockhart, advocate.
 April 22. Sir John A. Cathcart of Carleton, Bart.
 25. George W. Key, 16th Lancers.
 " William Laurence Colquhoun of Clathic.
 " James Law, W.S.
 " Alexander C. Renton of Mordington.
 " J. G. M'Kirdy of Birkwood.
 " James Montgomery, younger of Stanhope.
 " John White Melville of Mount Melville.
 " William Bowie Campbell, W.S.
 July 13. William A. Cunningham, merchant.

1833.

- Feb. 13. George K. Pitcairn, surgeon.
 " John Primrose Bertram, W.S.
 " William Lyon Campbell of Williamston.
 " Archibald Swinton, advocate.
 " William Dickson, accountant.
 " David Laird of Strathmartin.
 May 24. The Master of Gray.
 " The Right Hon. George A. Murray.
 " Sir Hugh P. Hume Campbell of Marchmont, Bart.
 " John Hall Maxwell, younger of Dargavel.
 " Norman Hilton Macdonald.
 " Francis W. E. Grant, younger of Grant.
 July 3. Alexander M'Allister of Loup.
 " Lord Dalmeny.
 Nov. 30. J. C. Hope Gibson, younger of Pentland.
 " Lord Macdonald.
 " John G. M. Burt, M.D.
 " James Heron of Dalmore.
 " Major Menzies, 42d Regiment.
 " William J. Fraser.
 " Captain Daniel Macpherson of the Royal Veteran Battalion.
 " Lord Elibank.
 " Hon. John Carnegie.
 " The Earl of Cawdor.

1834.

- May 21. The Duke of Roxburghe.
 " Alexander Carmichael, younger of Castlecraig.
 " James Rocheid of Inverleith.
 " John Spottiswoode of Spottiswoode.
 " Lieutenant-Colonel George Spottiswoode of Gladswood.
 " Charles Pearson, accountant.
 " Walter Cowan, merchant.
 " Douglas Stewart.
 " Lord Strathaven.
 Nov. 26. Alexander Gibbon of Johnstone.
 " George Sligo of Seacliff.
 " Robert T. Kennedy of Daljarrock.
 " John Meikleham of Ravenswood.
 " John Montgomerie Bell, advocate.
 " Thomas Macpherson Grant, W.S.
 " Lewis Innes of Ballogie.
 " Sir Ralph Anstruther of Balcaskie, Bart.

- Nov. 26. Thomas G. Scott, W.S.
 " Captain Thomas Maitland, R.N.
 " Thomas Henderson of Ross.
 " Eagle Henderson.
 " William S. Walker of Bowland.
 " William Forbes Mackenzie of Portmore.

1835.

- Jan. 5. Robert Harrington.
 June 1. John Patten, W.S.
 " John Hamilton, W.S.
 " John Hamilton of Bangoin.
 " Edward Horsman, advocate.
 Nov. 24. The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird.
 " Viscount Duncan.
 " John Brown Innes, W.S.
 " Allan Stevenson, C.E.
 " John A. Macrae, W.S.
 " Kenneth Mackenzie, accountant.
 " James A. Cheyne, accountant.
 30. Captain Hope Grant, 9th Lancers.
 " Sir Robert Dick of Tullymet, K.C.B.
 " James Graham of Leitchtoun.
 " James Stuart, S.S.C.
 " George Gillanders of Highfield.
 " Charles S. Buchanan, younger of Cunninghamame.
 " Henry J. Burn, W.S.
 " Wm. Bowie, W.S.

1836.

- Mar. 1. David Rhind, architect.
 " Robert Grant of Kincorth, advocate.
 " James Kinnear, W.S.
 " John Cumming.
 " John Stewart, W.S.
 " The Master of Rollo.
 " Lord Kinnaird.
 " The Hon. G. H. St Vincent de Roos Kinnaird.
 " The Marquis of Tweeddale.
 " James J. R. Mackenzie, younger of Scatwell.
 April 20. David Balfour.
 " William Hunt of Pittencrieff.
 " James Reddie, W.S.
 " Captain Thomas Richardson.
 " J. Mackenzie Grieve of Hatton Hall.
 " Viscount Melgund.
 " John N. Gladstone.
 " Robert Monteith of Carstairs.
 June 8. Alexander Oswald of Auchencruive.
 " Sir G. J. Drummond, Bart.

- June 8. C. S. Buchanan.
 Dec. 13. Lord Haddo.
 " Viscount Emlyn.
 " Lord Claud Hamilton.
 " J. Brown Constable.

1837.

- May 12. John Kinloch of Logie.
 " W. B. D. D. Turnbull, advocate.
 " Henry Stewart of St Fort.
 Nov. 9. John Scott, W.S.
 " William Miller, younger of Glenlee.
 " James Clerk, younger of Penicuik.
 " Captain James Pringle of Stitchell.
 " James Cunningham, W.S.
 " James Meikleham of Cairnbrae.
 Dec. 13. Sir Thomas Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, Bart.
 " James Balfour, younger of Whittingham.
 " Richard Trotter of Mortonhall.
 " James Adam Brown, accountant.
 " John Wauchope of Edmonstone.
 " Richard Denniston, W.S.

1838.

- Jan. 19. Francis Brown Douglas, advocate.
 Mar. 24. David L. Barn.
 " John Cameron of Glenesk.
 " William A. Forrester of Barns.
 " Robert Cowan, W.S.
 " Wm. Gibson-Craig, younger of Riccarton.
 " Richard Hussey Hussey.
 April 10. The Hon. Francis Charteris.
 " The Hon. John Oliphant Murray.
 " Archibald Scott, S.S.C.
 June 20. The Marquis of Abercorn.
 " Sir Thomas B. Hepburn of Smeaton, Bart.
 " John Balfour of Balbirnie.
 " William Forbes of Medwyn, advocate.
 " James Jardine, W.S.
 " R. Wardlaw Ramsay of Whitehill.
 " John Spens, M.D.
 " The Hon. James Bruce.
 " William Stirling, younger of Keir.

1839.

- Feb. 4. George Simpson of Pitcorthie.
 " J. D. Horsman, advocate.
 " Thomas Tod.

- April 10. The Hon. John O. Murray.
 " Archibald Scott, jun., S.S.C.
 June 13. John Spalding of Holm.
 " Kenneth J. Mackenzie, younger of
 Applecross.
 July 3. Alexander Macallister of Loup.
 " James Wolfe Murray of Cringletie.
 " James Whigham of Margreig.
 Dec. 4. Archibald Campbell of Blythwood.
 " The Hon. Charles Hope.
 " John Wright.
 31. The Earl of Gifford.

1840.

- Mar. 4. Captain Carteret G. Scott, younger of
 Malleny.
 " Adam Kerr.
 " Sir John Kirkland of Climpy.
 " Captain Peter Hay of Mugdrum.
 " William Macdonald of Powderhall.
 " Alexander Maitland-Gibson, younger
 of Cliftonhall.
 Aug. 5. Sir Patrick M. Thriepland of Fingask,
 Bart.
 " Thomas C. Hagart of Bantaskine.
 " John C. Renton of Lamberton.
 Nov. 4. James S. Hamilton.

1841.

- Jan. 13. Andrew Robertson of Fovern House.
 " John Morris Stirling of Weir.
 April 21. Alexander Innes of Cowie.
 " Andrew Buchanan of Auchintorlie.
 " William Ramsay, banker.
 " The Hon. George S. Duff.
 " James Duff.
 " Lord William Lennox.
 June 8. James Giles of Kailzie.
 " Thomas D. Graham.
 July 2. H. H. Lindsay.
 " Captain James H. Elphinstone Dal-
 rymple.
 " G. Home Drummond, younger of Blair
 Drummond.
 28. Henry Young of Cleish.
 " George Brown Robertson, W.S.
 Dec. 20. Thomas Thomson, W.S.
 27. Archibald Campbell, younger of Jura.
 " John M. Mowbray of Harewood, W.S.

1842.

- Jan. 17. Andrew Wauchope of Niddry.

- Mar. 11. Arthur Farquhar, W.S.
 " John Mitchell of Glassel.
 May 11. The Hon. John Kennedy.
 " John Gillespie of Biggar Park, W.S.
 Aug. 19. Robert D. Gillon Fergusson of Isle.
 " John Gordon of Aikenhead.
 " Lord William Montague Graham.
 " Thomas Graham Murray, W.S.
 " Charles Craigie Halkett of Lawhill.
 22. Richard Hunter, jun., W.S.
 " Sir Graham Montgomery, Bart. of
 Stobo.
 " Edmond Logan, W.S.
 " Robert Ramsay.
 24. Archibald T. Boyle, advocate.
 " Dr P. J. K. Newbigging.
 " Archd. Broun of Johnstone Burn,
 advocate.
 " William Sprott Boyd.
 " Alexander Mitchell Innes of Ayton
 Castle.
 " Thomas Mitchell Innes of Phantassie.
 Nov. 9. Wm. Macdonald Macdonald of St
 Martin's.

1843.

- April 12. Charles S. Plummer of Middlestead.
 May 17. John Walker, W.S.
 Dec. 6. Alexander Pirie of Waterton.

1844.

- April 10. Joseph Dundas, younger of Carron-
 hall.
 " Douglas MacLagan, M.D.
 May 24. K. W. Stewart Mackenzie, younger of
 Seaforth.
 " William Robertson, M.D.
 June 5. Peter Dundas of Arniston.
 26. The Hon. Bouverie Primrose.
 July 3. Patrick M. Stewart.
 " James Nairne, jun., W.S.
 " Thomas Innes of Raemore, advocate.
 Dec. 4. Joseph Stainton of Biggar Shiels.

1845.

- May 24. Charles Home Drummond.
 Aug. 6. John N. Murray of Philiphaugh.
 Nov. 26. Sir Thomas Erskine of Cambu,
 Bart.
 " John H. Colt of Gartsherrie.
 " William Balfour, jun.
 " John Montgomery of Newton.

1846.

- Jan. 21. James B. Pender.
 " Ronald Stewart Menzies of Culdares.
 " W. Hope Vere of Craigiehall.
 April 15. Donald Campbell, younger of Sonachan.
 " Archibald Hastie of Bankend.
 " Captain William R. Sands, Royal
 Dragoons.
 Nov. 4. Archibald D. Cockburn.
 " John Borthwick of Crookston.

1847.

- Mar. 20. David Jardine, younger of Dykehead.
 May 12. Alexander Robertson of Balgowan.
 Dec. 22. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart of Greenock,
 Bart.

1848.

- Feb. 23. Evan Baillie of Dochfour.
 Mar. 20. J. T. Gordon, Sheriff of the County
 of Edinburgh.
 May 29. James Adam, advocate.
 July 18. Sir John Heron Maxwell of Spring-
 kell, Bart.
 " A. Forbes Irvine, younger of Drum.
 Nov. 30. John Turnbull, younger of Abbey St
 Bathans.

1849.

- Feb. 8. Alexander H. Wylie.
 April 21. J. Vaughan Allan of Inchmartin.
 July 2. The Hon. Captain James Murray.
 14. William Carruthers of Dormont.
 18. John Kirk, W.S.
 Oct. 19. James Wilkie, accountant.
 26. T. W. Murray Allan.
 Nov. 8. John Kennedy, younger of Under-
 wood.
 27. Frederick W. Caldwell of Mishnish.
 Dec. 12. Alexander J. Napier, W.S.
 " Neil Kennedy.
 " John Burn Murdoch, advocate.

1850.

- Jan. 12. David C. Buchanan of Drumpellar.
 " Robert Mackay, W.S.
 Feb. 26. Lord Fergus Kennedy.
 " Anthony Nichol of Glenbreck.
 " Alexander F. Adam, W.S.
 " Lieut.-Col. T. R. Swinburne of Mar-
 cus.

- Mar. 16. Henry Forsyth, W.S.
 April 16. Anthony A. Blaikie.
 May 23. J. Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh.
 " James Powrie of Roswallie.
 June 15. Alexander C. Stewart, yr. of Eagles-
 carnie.
 25. James Jobson Dickson, accountant.
 July 20. James S. Milne, advocate.
 " Alexander Ogilvie Spence, banker.
 Aug. 2. John Marshall, yr. of Curriehill, advo-
 cate.
 " Capt. W. L. Grant, Royal Fusileers.
 6. Archibald Dickson, yr. of Chatto.
 " Arthur Campbell, junr., W.S.
 27. Sir Thomas Munro of Lindertis, Bart.
 " Lord Cochrane.
 Sept. 20. Sir Robert Keith Arbuthnot, Bart.
 Nov. 4. James Moncreiff, Solicitor-General for
 Scotland.
 " Drysdale Carstairs.
 Dec. 23. Thomas G. Dickson, accountant.
 " Lord Nigel Kennedy.
 " William Finlay, accountant.

1851.

- Jan. 7. Thomas M. Riddell, yr. of Ardnamur-
 chan.
 June 4. Sir John Marjoribanks of Lees, Bart.
 " Capt. George Warrender.
 Nov. 7. Sir Coutts Lindsay of Balcarras, Bart.
 " John M. Baillie, accountant.
 " George Steuart, C.A.

1852.

- Jan. 15. James Hart of Drumcross.
 Mar. 19. John Wardrope Tawse, W.S.
 April 23. The Duke of Argyle.
 " Thomas Rankine, S.S.C.
 June 12. John M. Laurie of Maxwelltown
 House.
 " William G. Sandford.
 " John G. C. Skene of Pitlarg.
 Aug. 2. John P. Wade.
 " T. Graham Weir, M.D.
 Sept. 16. The Earl of Dalkeith.
 Oct. 25. Lord Alexander G. Lennox.
 Dec. 7. The Viscount Melville.

1853.

- Jan. 24. The Marquis of Lothian.
 Feb. 11. James W. Baillie, W.S.
 April 1. John A. S. Nicholson of Carnock.
 " The Hon. Thomas Charles Bruce.

- May 16. The Hon. Arthur Gordon.
 26. The Hon. Haliburton G. Campbell.
 June 18. George T. Cranston of Dewar.
 Aug. 24. Hugh Scott of Gala.
 Dec. 21. Archibald C. Colquhoun of Garscaden.
 " John Wardlaw, late Bengal Native Infantry.
 " Sir William A. Fraser of Leadclune, Bart.
- 1854.
- May 8. C. E. Hope Vere of Craigichall.
 29. Alexander Cockburn.
 June 22. Thomas G. Rose Innes of Netherdale.
 " Alexander S. Logan, advocate.
 " John Dick Peddie, architect.
 " David Cowan.
 Aug. 19. Lord Colville.
 Oct. 9. Lord Henry J. M. Douglas Scott.
 " William Scott, yr. of Ancrum.
 Nov. 8. Lord Schomberg Henry Ker.
- 1855.
- Mar. 27. Alexander Dennistoun of Golfhill.
 " Charles Tennant of the Glen.
 " Archibald Campbell of Blythswood.
 April 30. Lord Loughborough.
 May 2. William N. Laurie.
 " Hugh A. J. Munro of Novar.
 June 11. Lord George C. Lennox.
 July 2. The Right Hon. John Melville, W.S.,
 Lord Provost of Edinburgh.
- 1856.
- Mar. 6. Lord Douglas.
 18. Alexander Howe, W.S.
 April 19. Alexander Robertson, advocate.
 May 5. The Hon. W. F. Campbell.
 19. Archibald Campbell.
 Oct. 9. Dudley Coultts Marjoribanks of Guisachan.
 " W. Montague Baillie.
 Nov. 11. The Viscount Stormont.
 " Major John H. Ferguson.
 Dec. 1. Lord Rollo.
- 1857.
- May 29. William T. Thomson.
 July 6. The Viscount Dupplin.
 " Lord Gilbert Kennedy.
 Oct. 21. The Viscount Kirkwall.
- Dec. 21. Thomas H. Montgomery, late 42d Regiment.
 " James Hay Chalmers, W.S.
- 1858.
- Feb. 1. David Baird Wauchope.
 " Alex. Sholto Douglas, W.S.
 " David Scott Moncrieff, W.S.
 " Lieut. Col. C. Dewar.
 May 3. Archibald Campbell Renton of Mordington.
 18. William Marjoribanks.
 Oct. 13. John Inglis of Auchendinny.
 " The Earl of Dunmore.
 " The Earl of Morton.
 " James Tweedie of Quarter.
 22. The Duke of Richmond and Lennox.
 Nov. 5. The Earl of Hopetoun.
 " Sir Angus Campbell of Dunstaffnage, Bart.
 " James Ferguson.
 20. Viscount Dalrymple.
 " Sir James Gardiner Baird, Baronet.
 26. Edward Strathearn Gordon, Sheriff of Perthshire.
 " Claud Hamilton.
 " Thomas Stevenson, C.E.
- Dec. 29. Joseph H. Houldsworth.
 " Archibald Orr Ewing.
 " James Campbell, yr. of Tilliehewan.
 " Alex. Crum Ewing, yr. of Strathleven.
- 1859.
- Mar. 8. Sir James Ferguson of Kilkerran, Bart.
 " William Taylor, W.S.
 " William Houldsworth.
 " Capt. G. A. Walker, yr. of Crawfordton.
 " James Dewar of Vogrie.
 " A. S. Finlay of Castletoward.
 " John Gilchrist Clark of Speddock.
 " James Hunter of Newmains.
 " George Auldjo Jamieson, C.A.
 " Thomas Rannie Swinton, artist.
- May 5. Lord Walter C. Montagu - Douglas Scott.
 19. The Rev. George Smith, D.D.
 " Harry Scott.
 " Robert Smith, S.S.C.
 27. James Muirhead, advocate.
 " Robert Hutchison of Carlowrie.
- June 17. The Master of Herries.
 " John Gordon of Cluny.
- July 15. William Adam, M.P.

- July 15. Richard Wallace.
 " James Dunsmure, M.D.
 22. Viscount Hamilton.

1860.

- Jan. 26. John Orr Ewing of Ratho.
 " William H. Moubray of Otterston.
 Mar. 12. Allan Welwood Maconochie.
 28. James Wardlaw.
 " Hay Erskine Wemyss, M.P.
 May 17. Peter David Handyside, M.D.
 July 18. The Marquis of Bowmont.
 " Ronald Leslie Melville.
 20. Charles Tennant Couper, advocate.
 Sept. 12. John Tennant of St Rollox.
 " William Brownrigg Elliot.
 " Joseph Young of Dunearn.
 Oct. 8. The Master of Polwarth.
 Nov. 28. David Murray.

1861.

- Jan. 17. Lord Charles T. Montagu-Douglas
 Scott.
 " Lord Binning.
 " Lieut.-Col. Learmonth of Dean.
 " Thomas A. Hog of Newliston.
 " George Young, advocate.
 " John Blackwood.
 Feb. 22. George Baird of Strichen and Stitchell.
 Mar. 25. Robert F. Shaw Stewart of Lagaray.
 May 17. The Earl of Cawdor.
 " Viscount Kirkcaldie.
 July 9. David Bryce, architect.
 Sept. 9. George H. Dempster of Dunnichen.
 Dec. 27. Thomas E. Macritchie of Dunark,
 W.S.
 " Samuel Sommerville of Ampherlaw,
 M.D.

1862.

- Jan. 17. Lord David Kennedy.
 " Sir Edward Hunter Blair of Blair-
 quhan, Bart.
 Feb. 18. Alexander Kinloch of Gilmerton.
 July 14. George Robertson, C.E.
 " Charles Lawson, junior.
 Dec. 3. Henry A. Butler Johnstone, younger
 of Corehead.

1863.

- Jan. 9. George Hamilton Dundas.
 20. Lieut.-Col. Logan Hume of Broom
 House.

- Jan. 20. George Cunningham of Newton, C.E.
 " James Hunt, W.S.
 Feb. 2. Lord Elphinstone.
 " H. D. Erskine of Cardross.
 " Thomas E. O. Horne, W.S.
 " William Younger.
 " John Mackenzie, W.S.
 10. John Cook, W.S.
 " Allan B. Macallan, W.S.
 " Andw. Webster of Rutherford, S.S.C.
 Mar. 6. The Hon. James Archibald Home.
 " Henry Trotter, younger of Mortonhall.
 " C. G. H. Kinnear of Drum, C.E.
 " R. Craig MacLagan, M.D.
 " Charles Bruce.
 " William G. P. Henry.
 17. James Hope, junior, W.S.
 April 21. Col. Ch. C. Stewart of Bankend, C.B.
 " James T. Pringle of Torwoodlee.
 " John More Nisbet of Cairnhill.
 " James Graham.
 " David Stevenson, C.E.
 May 21. John Millar, advocate.
 June 29. Lieut.-Colonel Macdougall.
 " Ja. Stewart Robertson of Edradynate.
 " George Cadell Bruce, C.E.
 Sept. 24. George J. Whyte Melville, younger of
 Mount Melville.
 " Robert Hunter.
 " Robert Stewart of Ingliston.
 Oct. 19. William Walter Cargill, M.P.
 Dec. 24. The Earl of Strathmore.
 " Lord Saltoun.

1864.

- Jan. 19. Lieut.-Col. Claud Alexander of Bal-
 lochmyle.
 " Robert Balfour Stewart, younger of
 St Fort.
 Feb. 17. Charles Stuart, junior, W.S.
 " George F. Melville, advocate.
 May 19. Major the Hon. R. Baillie Hamilton.
 July 26. Captain John R. Heron Maxwell,
 younger of Springkell.
 " James Stormonth Darling, W.S.
 Nov. 1. Gordon Pirie of Stoneywood.

1865.

- Jan. 10. William Spittal.
 April 15. Wm. Wauchope, younger of Niddry.
 May 18. William Macalpine Leny, younger of
 Dalswinton.
 " Robert Lee, advocate.

Oct. 17. John Fowler of Glenmaseran.

1866.

- Jan. 5. Henry Hope of Luffness.
 " Wm. N. Fraser of Tornaveen, S.S.C.
 Mar. 5. George W. Campbell.
 April 6. James Hamilton Field, younger of
 Moreland.
 " James Blair.
 " John Walker Drummond.
 " Douglas Dick of Pitkerro.
 " Barrington Douglas Campbell.
 May 24. The Hon. Geo. Waldegrave Leslie.
 " David Pearson, C.A.
 July 7. John Forman, W.S.
 Oct. 17. The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne.
 " Sir Norman Macdonald Lockhart of
 Lee, Bart.
 " The Rev. James Hill Tait.
 " George H. Marshall.
 Dec. 28. Sir George H. Scott Douglas of
 Springwood, Bart.

1867.

- Feb. 2. Major James Horne of Stirkoke.
 " William Watson, advocate.
 April 20. Aeneas R. Macdonell of Morar.
 " Alexander H. Chalmers, W.S.
 May 23. Thomas Cunningham.
 " Daniel Rutherford Haldane, M.D.
 " William Blackwood.
 Oct. 1. Sir Walter Elliot of Wolflee, K.C.S.I.
 " Henry Houldsworth of Cranstonhill.
 " Lieut.-Col. Geo. Ferguson of Pitfour.
 " James Brunton, W.S.

1868.

- Jan. 10. Alexander Pringle of Whytbank.
 " John Blair Balfour, advocate.
 " Robert Burn.
 Feb. 11. John Mackenzie, junior, W.S.
 " Michael J. Jamieson of Arngomery.
 " Stamford R. Lumsden of Lathallan.
 Mar. 10. The Earl of Perth.
 " The Hon. Norman Leslie Melville.
 " W. H. Kennedy Erskine of Dun.
 April 8. The Earl of Rosebery.
 June 17. The Marquis of Bute.
 " Lord Rosehill.
 " James H. Gibson-Craig.
 " Alexander H. Lee, C.E.
 " James Scales.

1869.

- Feb. 23. Alexander Asher, advocate.
 " Robert Nicholson Slight.
 " Wm. Hall Maxwell of Dargavel.
 Mar. 9. James Burness, W.S.
 " James R. Buntine, advocate.
 27. Matthew Montgomerie Bell, W.S.
 May 20. Viscount Dalrymple.
 " John Mitchell, younger of Glassel.
 " William M. Steuart.
 " Frederick Fair.
 " Robert Ryrie.
 " Robert C. Heron Maxwell.

1870.

- Jan. 18. George H. Pattison, Sheriff of Rox-
 burgh.
 " Henry Cook.
 " Charles W. Cowan, younger of Logan-
 house.
 Mar. 15. Sir Henry J. Seaton Steuart of Touch
 and Allanton, Bart.
 " Lord Glenorchy.
 " Thomas Annandale, F.R.C.S.E.
 April 8. George F. W. Callander of Craigforth
 and Ardkinglas.
 " James T. Hutchison.
 " John Cheyne, advocate.
 May 19. Viscount Melgund.
 " Athole J. Hay.
 26. The Earl of Breadalbane.
 " The Earl of Glasgow.

1871.

- Feb. 1. Lieutenant-Colonel Balcarres.
 " D. Wardlaw Ramsay.
 6. James Balfour Paul, advocate.
 Mar. 10. Sir John Forrest, Bart.
 " Hugh C. Bell, C.E.
 April 21. John Pettigrew Wilson of Polquhairn.
 " James W. Greig of Muirshall.
 June 30. Henry Bruce, M.D., Inspector-Gen-
 eral of Hospitals.
 Aug. 7. Major-General Charles Ainslie.
 " Arthur J. Balfour of Whittinghame.
 " Colin Mackenzie, W.S.
 " Alexander D. M. Black, W.S.

1872.

- Mar. 13. The Marquis of Graham.
 " Major Macpherson of Glentruim.
 " James Dunsmore, junior, M.D.

- Mar. 13. Thomas Paterson, W.S.
 July 3. Lord Elibank.
 " Major-General John A. V. Kirkland.
 " John M'Kie.
 Nov. 29. James Nasmyth, younger of Posso.
 " Peter Hay Paterson of Mugdrum.
 " James Watson, younger of Inchyra.

1873.

- Jan. 24. Walter Cowan, 60th Rifles.
 Feb. 7. Hugh Heugh.
 " Thomas J. Mansfield.
 May 1. David Carnegie of Stronvar.
 " James Carnegie, younger of Stronvar.
 " Alexander W. Macdougall of Soraba.
 " Patrick Watson, junior.
 July 29. James Grahame of Auldhouse.
 " Henry A. Schank of Castlerig and Gleniston.
 " Colin A. M'Vean, C.E.
 Nov. 18. Harry Cheyne, W.S.
 Dec. 5. Thomas Brodie, younger of Idvies, W.S.
 " William H. Murray, W.S.
 " James T. Blair, C.E.

- Dec. 5. W. Jardine Maxwell, younger of Munches.
 " B. Hall Blyth, C.E.
 " George H. Thoms, Sheriff of Orkney.
 19. George M'Call of Daldowie.

1874.

- Jan. 21. Gavin Steel of Holmhead.
 Feb. 18. Henry V. Gibson-Craig, W.S.
 " James W. Connell of Auchenchain.
 Mar. 17. The Earl of March.
 " John Fleming of Claywhat.
 April 24. James Murray, younger of Philiphaugh.
 " John Maitland, advocate, M.P.
 May 21. John H. Baxter of Gilston.
 " Alexander Whitelaw, M.P.
 Aug. 5. James Paterson, W.S.
 " Alexander Leith of Freefield and Glenkindie.
 " John H. A. Macdonald, advocate.
 Oct. 16. Graham Menzies.
 Dec. 24. The Hon. Joseph Maxwell Scott, Abbotsford.
 " Frederick Ernest Villiers, Closeburn Hall.
 " George Dunlop, Walkingshaw.

III.

LIST OF THE COUNCIL AND OFFICERS OF THE
ROYAL COMPANY FOR 1875-76.

COUNCIL.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THE VISCOUNT MELVILLE, G.C.B.
BRIGADIER-GENERAL DAVID SMITH.
THE HONOURABLE BOUVERIE F. PRIMROSE.
BRIGADIER-GENERAL JAMES HOPE.
BRIGADIER-GENERAL THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN.
SURGEON-GENERAL DOUGLAS MACLAGAN.
THE HONOURABLE LORD CURRIEHILL.

THE VISCOUNT MELVILLE, <i>President of the</i>	JOHN GILLESPIE, Esq., <i>Secretary.</i>
<i>Council.</i>	JOHN W. TAWSE, Esq., <i>Treasurer.</i>
THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN, <i>Vice-President.</i>	THE REV. JAMES HILL TAIT, <i>Chaplain.</i>

JUDGES.

DR. R. C. MACLAGAN.	GEORGE STEUART, Esq.	DR JAS. DUNSMURE.
J. T. HUTCHISON, Esq.	DR DUNSMURE.	DR HANDYSIDE.
CHARLES STEUART, Esq.	JAMES B. PAUL, Esq.	THOS. PATERSON, Esq.
HENRY COOK, Esq.		

Messrs MARSHALL, *Jewellers and Medallists.*
PURVES & SON, St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, *Clothiers.*
PETER MUIR, *Officer and Bowmaker.*

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL COMPANY.

Captain-General.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY.

Lieutenants-General.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS.
THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE.
THE MARQUIS OF TWEEDDALE.
THE VISCOUNT MELVILLE.

Majors-General.

THE EARL OF HOME.
THE DUKE OF ABERCORN.
SIR W. GIBSON-CRAIG, Bart.
THE EARL OF DALKEITH.

Ensigns-General.

THE EARL OF STAIR.
SIR J. S. RICHARDSON, Bart.
SIR ARCHIBALD HOPE, Bart.
SIR DAVID DUNDAS, Bart.

Brigadiers-General.

SIR JOHN OGILVY, Bart.
HENRY GEORGE WATSON, Esq.
JAMES HOPE, Esq.
SIR JAS. GARDINER BAIRD, Bart.
A. CAMPBELL SWINTON, Esq.

SIR A. C. R. GIBSON-MAITLAND,
Bart.

DAVID SMITH, Esq.
JAMES JOBSON DICKSON, Esq.
THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN.
THE LORD ELCHO.
SIR G. G. MONTGOMERY, Bart.
ARCHIBALD ORR EWING, Esq.
THE EARL OF LAUDERDALE.
THE EARL OF ROSEBERY.
ALEXANDER SMOLLETT, Esq.
J. WOLFE MURRAY, Esq.
JOHN GRANT KINLOCH, Esq.
THE EARL OF ROSSLYN.

Adjutant-General.

Major-General J. A. V. KIRKLAND.

Surgeon-General.

DOUGLAS MACLAGAN, Esq., M.D.

IV.

CURIOUS MATCH BETWEEN A GOLF-BALL
AND AN ARROW.

(See p. 218.)

Since the above was in type, I have received the following letter from the Chaplain of the Royal Company, giving the details of a similar match which he played in 1874 :—

“ According to your request, I send the facts of my round of Luffness Links with bow and arrow, and Tom Morris with club and ball.

“ There are 18 holes, and I made the round in 76 shots, Tom taking 82. I beat him by 5 holes. I am satisfied it might be easily done in much fewer shots. When I went round with Tom there was a considerable breeze, which affected the short shots immensely, and made it much more difficult to ‘hole-out’ than it would otherwise have been. Of course it may be said that the breeze affected the ball also: it did, but not nearly to the extent that it affected the arrow on the putting-green.

“ Further, when I played with Tom I had gone the round with bow and arrow only once before. Notwithstanding these two drawbacks, I was very well pleased with the result.—Yours very truly,

“ J. H. TAIT.

“ THE MANSE, ABERLADY.”

It will be observed that in this match there was no limitation as to the mode in which the arrow was to be shot into the hole.

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ERRATA.

- Page 7, line 5 from foot, *for* "1" *read* "2."
,, 67, line 15 from top, *for* "Baynes" *read* "Bayne."
,, 108, line 19 from top, *for* "Aylesbury" *read* "Aylesford."
,, 126, line 5 from bottom, *for* "fourth Duke" *read* "third Duke."
,, 151, line 6 from top, *for* "1824" *read* "1822."