

## APPENDIX.

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No. I.

### BRIEF HISTORY OF PERTH.

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IN order to connect the reminiscences of the manners of the inhabitants, and occurrences, which have been detailed in the foregoing chapters, the following brief history of the city is appended: For the information contained in this and some of the preceding sketches, we have been greatly indebted to Chamber's excellent Gazetteer of Scotland:—

Perth occupies a low situation on the right bank of the Tay, almost twenty-eight miles above its confluence with the sea, and at the distance of  $43\frac{1}{2}$  miles north from Edinburgh, by the Queenaferry road, 61 from Glasgow, and  $21\frac{1}{2}$  west from Dundee. It is situated near the southern boundary of a very spacious plain, and is surrounded by soft and far-stretching acclivities, whose sides, thickly ornamented by bower-like villas, hedge it in with a splendid cincture of picturesque and beautiful scenery. Boasting of the most remote antiquity, Perth is hallowed by many delightful recollections; and it is almost impossible to say whether, by a visit to it, sight or sentiment is most to be gratified. The origin of Perth is as obscure as the etymology of its name, both being the subject of contest by antiquaries and philologists; and out of the vast mass of disputatious matter it is difficult for the statist to extract any thing distinct or satisfactory. From the notices of early historians, we are led to suppose that the Romans had a settlement in or near the spot where the modern city of Perth now stands. Adamson, in his *Muses' Threnodie*,—or *Metrical History of Perth*, written in the year 1620,—embodies the current tradition of the origin of Perth, of which the following is the purport:—“Cneius Julius Agricola, in the third year after Vespasian had sent him to be governor in Britain, namely, about the year 81 of the Christian era, led a numerous army round by the pass of Stirling into the country on the north side of the Forth. Penetrating northwards, they approached the place on which Perth is now built, and when they first came in sight of the Tay and this beautiful plain, they cried out with one consent, “*Ecce Tiber! Ecce campus Martius.*”—Behold the Tiber! Behold the Field of Mars! comparing what they saw to their own river, and to the extensive plain in the neighbourhood of Rome. Agricola pitched his camp in the middle of that field, on the spot where Perth stands. He proposed to make it a winter camp, and afterwards built what he intended should be a colonial town. He fortified it with walls,

and with a strong castle, and supplied the ditches with water by an aqueduct from the Almond. Also, with much labour to his soldiers, and probably to the poor natives, a large wooden bridge was constructed over the river at Perth."

Whether Perth originated in a settlement of the Romans, or arose from the gradual erection of the aboriginal Picts, it made no figure as a town till the Scoto-Saxon period. To render its early history still more obscure, a story is related by Boece, and other venerable romancers, about a place called Bertha, a Roman town, said to have been situated on the point of land formed by the confluence of the Almond and Tay, a few miles above the present Perth. "This city," we are informed, "was swept away by a flood about the year 1210, after which the modern Bertha or Perth arose under the auspices of William the Lion." Fordun, with an equal claim to credit, tells us that the Tay was for ages called the Tiber by the Italian writers, which he proves by saying, that hence arose the name Tibber-muir, a place in its vicinity; whereas, had he understood Gaelic, he would have known that Tibber-muir, or Tipper-muir, simply signifies "the well in the muir." If we discard Bertha as an etymology, there is none other left; the Highlanders, it is true, always called Perth *Peirt*, or *Pearr*; which by some is construed into "finished labour," or "a complete piece of work;" but this hardly clears up the etymon. Much of the fable and conjecture of the antiquary connected with Perth, has been overthrown by the reverend and learned Mr Scott, author of the Statistical Account, who mentions that "it is certain that the town had the name of Perth, long before the year 1210. There are many hundreds of charters, from the year 1106 to the year 1210, still extant. Any person who will take the trouble of looking into these charters, will find, that whenever there is occasion to mention the town, its name was always written Perth, or Pertht, or by way of contraction, Pert. There was no noble person who gave his name to Perth; but there were some persons who took their surname from the town. It is also certain, that tenements and streets in Perth are described in charters prior to the year 1210, the same as they afterwards were." Until the period of the murder of James I. at Perth, in 1436-7, the place enjoyed in many respects the character of a capital, or seat of government. It having been found that neither Perth nor Stirling, Scone nor Dunfermline, had the power of protecting royalty against the designs of the nobility, Edinburgh and its castle were chosen as the only places of safety for the royal household and functionaries of the Scottish government. Until this event, Perth was deemed the first town of the kingdom, the sovereign residing very frequently in the place, and being crowned at the neighbouring palace of Scone. Perth was, on these accounts, the appropriate place where great national councils were held, from the time of Malcolm IV. until the second of the Jameses, and occasionally till the era of James IV. Perth was likewise the chosen seat of national assemblies of the church, some of which were called or presided over by nuncios of the Pope. It seems that before and after the contests for the crown, by the demise of Alexander III., the town possessed the popular name of St Johnstoun, an appellation derived from the saint to whom the principal church and the bridge over the Tay were dedicated; but though this name appears to have been common enough, and was even used by some historians, the place was never so called in any of the public writs. In allusion to the patron saint of the church and the bridge, if not the town also, the common seal of Perth prior to the year 1600, as appears from impressions appended to charters, represented the decollation of St John the Baptist; Salome standing by with a platter in her hand to receive

the head. On the reverse, it represented the same saint enshrined, and a number of priests or other persons kneeling before him. The legend round both sides—*S. communitatis villæ Sancti Johannis Baptistæ de Perth*, "the seal of the community of the town of St John Baptist of Perth." This "superstitious seal" was laid aside after the Reformation, and that since used refers to the Roman origin of the town, being a double imperial eagle, charged with a Holy Lamb passant, carrying the banner of St Andrew, with the legend, *Pro Rege, Lege, et Grege*. Perth was in early times a place of great trade. Alexander Neckham, an English writer, who was abbot of Exeter in 1215, takes notice of Perth in the following distich, quoted in Camden's *Britannia* :

"Trans ampli Tæ, per rora, per oppida, per Perth :  
Regnum sustentant illius urbis ope."

Which has been thus translated by Bishop Gibson :

Great Tay through Perth, through town, through countries flies,  
Perth the whole kingdom with her wealth supplies.

It seems, an extensive commerce was carried on during many ages between Perth and the Netherlands. The merchants of Perth visited in their own ships the Hans towns. And it is a part of the eulogium conferred on Alexander III., that he devised successful measures for securing these and all other Scottish trading ships from pirates and foreign detention. The German merchants, or Flemings, as they were called, very early frequented the port of Perth; and not a few of these industrious foreigners fixed their abode in the town, and introduced the manufacture of woollen and linen goods. As may be supposed, the intrusion of these peaceful artisans alarmed the natives of the place, and excited the ignorant legislature of the period. David I. laid restrictions on their traffic, and his grandson William the Lion, perhaps to procure the favour of the burghesses, denied them the privilege of entering themselves freemen of the corporations. The Flemings, however, found favour with the more enlightened monarchs of England, who, by encouraging their settlement, laid the foundation of the cloth manufactures of that part of the island. Perth comes prominently into notice in the history of the war of Scottish independence, or struggle for the crown between Bruce and the Edwards. After the unfortunate battle of Falkirk in 1298, Edward I. reduced all the fortresses in Scotland, but fortified Perth, and rebuilt the walls in the strongest manner. It was often the residence of his deputies, and his son Edward lived here some years. On the return of Robert Bruce from his expedition into England, in 1312, he again turned himself to the conquest of his castles, and the expulsion of the English garrisons. Of these places of strength, Perth was found to have the most impregnable fortifications, and the largest garrison. Although repeatedly assailed by the Scottish forces since their first successes in the north, it had still withstood all their efforts, unassisted as these were by the military engines then in use for battering or scaling the walls, and for discharging stones and other missiles. In the end of the year of his first expedition into England, Bruce again invested the town of Perth with the most powerful force that he could muster. For a considerable time he pressed the siege with the utmost vigour, but still ineffectually, because he wanted the necessary engines; and because the garrison, and the rest of the people within the town, were too vigilant to be surprised by stratagem. Again he was reluctantly obliged to withdraw his troops, and to retire, lest famine, and the diseases occasioned by long encampment on low marshy ground, in an inclement season, should cut off the

flower of those brave and faithful followers, by whose aid he had now nearly reconquered Scotland. But no supplies came from England, to relieve or reinforce the garrison of Perth; and Bruce would not desist from his purpose, or suffer this single-walled town to baffle him for ever. Providing himself with scaling ladders, and such other instruments as he could find, he speedily renewed the attack, at a time when those within the town were pleasing themselves with the persuasion, that they were inclosed within impregnable walls, and had no future siege to fear. He chose a dark night, and, in its silence, with a chosen band, conducted them in person, partly wading, partly swimming, across a ditch, deep, broad, and full of water, that surrounded the walls. The rest were animated on this, as on many other occasions, by the example of the daring valour with which the king exposed himself foremost to the danger. The contest among them, was who should first cross the ditch, and, by the scaling ladders which they carried with them mount the walls. This gallant and perilous enterprise succeeded. The king himself was the second to enter the town. The garrison and the townsmen were easily overpowered. In the castle, and in the stores of the merchants was found a supply of those things which the captors wanted most, for the relief of their own necessities. The slaughter of the vanquished was humanely stayed, as the resistance ceased. The houses were burnt, and the walls and fortifications levelled with the ground. By this happy achievement, all Perthshire and Strathern were freed from servitude to the English, and reduced under the authority of King Robert. In the year 1332, Edward Baliol, after his success at the battle of Dupplin, had taken possession of Perth, and was crowned at Scone. Immediately after his coronation he returned southward, to open a communication with the English marches, and a party of loyal adherents to the interests of David Bruce concerted a sudden enterprise against the slender garrison left by the usurper in the town of Perth. Its temporary fortifications were unfit to resist a siege; it was garrisoned by few else besides the family and vassals of the Earl of Fife, who, from being the prisoner had become the partisan of Baliol. By stratagem, however, probably, rather than regular assault, it was quickly taken by the besiegers. Perth was again the scene of some stirring events in 1339. In the beginning of that year, after the death of the Regent, Andrew Murray, the regency was conferred on Robert, the Lord High Stewart, afterwards king, who was but a youth. He resolved to distinguish himself by opening the siege of Perth, which Edward and his engineers had fortified with uncommon skill, and provided with an excellent garrison. The defence they made for three months was so brave, that the High Stewart was about to raise the siege, when Douglas, Lord Liddeedale, arrived from France, whither he was sent on an embassy to David Bruce, bringing with him five (Fordun says two) ships, with a supply of men and provisions. The siege was renewed with vigour. Douglas was wounded in the leg by a shot of a cross-bow, while he was going to the escalade. When the siege had lasted four months, and was likely to have continued much longer, the Earl of Ross, by digging mines, drew away the water, and dried up the fosses and ditches, so that the soldiers, approaching the walls on dry ground, beat off the defenders with arrows and darts shot out of engines made for that purpose. The governor, Sir Thomas Ochtrede, with his garrison, seeing the city untenable, surrendered, having stipulated for the safety of their lives and estates. Some marched off by land, and others were provided with shipping to England. Douglas rewarded the French liberally and sent them back to France well pleased. He caused also to be delivered to Hugh Hambel, their commander, one of the best of his

ships, which was taken by the English during the siege. Hambel had adventured to approach the town with his ships, to give an assault; one of which was taken, and now restored.

A singular combat took place on the North Inch at Perth in the reign of Robert III., which, from the singularity of the circumstances attending it, has furnished the Author of Waverley with a theme in the novel styled "the Fair Maid of Perth." There was a dreadful feud between the clan Kay and the clan Chattan, which both parties at length agreed to decide by a personal combat of thirty picked men, in the presence of the king, at this public place. When the combat was about to commence, it was discovered that one of the clan Chattan had absconded through fear; but the dilemma thus occasioned was obviated by a saddler of Perth, by name Harry Wynde, who offered to take the place of the runaway for half a French gold dollar; terms to which the clan Chattan were obliged to accede, because no individual of the opposite party would retire in order to bring the parties upon an equality. The combat was commenced and carried on with fearful fury on both sides, until twenty-nine of the clan Kay were slain. The remaining single combatant, then wisely judging that he could not resist the impetuosity of Harry Wynde, and the ten of the clan Chattan who were left alive, jumped into the river Tay, swam to the other side, and escaped.

It appears that the reformed doctrines were early embraced by many of the citizens of Perth, and that few places suffered so severely from the vengeance of the Romish church.\* The following extract from the

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\* It would appear from the following passage, in Professor Tullideph's M. S. account of the Reformation at Perth, published in Colonel Murray's splendid work on the National Views of Scotland; that Perth, at this time, must have been nearly overwhelmed by the extent of her saintly blessings. The place seems to have been a perfect nest of monkish establishments. Their numbers are monstrous, when we take into account the limited size of the town at the time:—

"The religious communities with which Perth is surrounded are tearing asunder the bonds which erst united her citizens together, and those gorgeous buildings you now admire, are become the pest houses from which evils innumerable are creeping out upon the land. Yet there are not wanting moderate men amongst them who would willingly allow us liberty of conscience, if the more bigotted would but listen to them. The Warden now of the Franciscan Observantine or Grey Friars' Monastery, that building you see nearest us outside the walls, (the parties are supposed to be looking from the south eastern shoulder of Kinnoul Hill), is well known to be the secret favourer of the new doctrines. There are but eight of them in that huge house—good canty fellows all of them—known too, privately, to keep an excellent table, and willing to let all the world alone so that they are not disturbed at dinner time. But then they are in constant dread of the fire-brands in that princely building you see on the same side of the town further to the west, who can write although their rules forbid them to speak. Austere fellows they are these Carthusians—and pride themselves not a little on this, their only establishment in Scotland, and on the odour they and it are in with the Queen Regent. But for all their austerity, there are queer stories told of them and the nuns in the Convents of St Leonards and the Magdalenes, both of which are a short distance to the southward; they are hid from us just now by these trees on the left. Certain jolly skip-pers, too, from the coast, from whom I sometimes get a keg of Nantz, under cover of a few oysters or haddocks, and who take my gloves and other leather articles of dress to Dundee—wink and glance knowingly towards this 'Monasterium vallis virtutis' as the monks call it, while they hint about the many good and ghostly customers they have in Perth. Then there are these Dominicans, beggars they profess themselves, like the Franciscans, and sturdy ones they are; see how comfortably they have set themselves down in that palace you see, without the walls, on the north side of the town—just over the Castle there. Ah! these Black Friars are your men for the pulpit. If you want a good easy confessor, go to the chapels of St. Paul's or St. Katherine's, you see peering above the trees, on the west side of the town, and there find one of the Carmelites, or White Friars, from Tullilumb, a

Memorabilia of Perth will fully illustrate the conflict of opinion on matters of religion in the town, and the severities practised:—"1544. This was a busie year. Cardinal Bethune, in the last convention, having obtained an act in favour of the bishops and clergy, to persecute and punish heretics to death, came in January this year to Perth, with the Regent Hamilton, Earl of Arran, who was a weak man. Friar Spence accused Robert Lamb and his wife Helen Stark, William Anderson, James Ronald, James Hunter, and James Finlayson. Lamb and his wife were accused of interrupting Spence in a sermon, in which he taught that there was no salvation without intercession and prayers to the saints. They confessed the charge, declaring that it was the duty of every one who knows the truth to bear testimony to it, and not suffer people to be abused with false doctrine as that was. Anderson, Finlayson, and Ronald, were indicted for nailing two ram's horns to St Francis' head, putting a cow's rump to his tail, and eating a goose on All-Hallow eve. Hunter, a butcher, simple and unlearned, was charged with haunting the company of the heretics. Helen Stark was further charged with refusing to pray to the Virgin Mary when in child-birth, and said that she would only pray to God in the name of Jesus Christ. They were all imprisoned in the Spy Tower, being found guilty and condemned. Great intercession was made to the Regent for them, who promised that they should not be hurt. The citizens, who were in a tumult, relying on a promise of Arran, dispersed and went peaceably home. The cardinal, who had the Regent in his power, had taken his measures. Determined to make an example

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monastery still farther to the west, hid from us by the wood; but if you want a discourse that will keep you quaking for a week, go to the church of the Dominicans. And well worthy, let me tell you, it is of a visit, such halls, such aisles, such windows—the gardens too, and the gilden harbour! No wonder our monarchs forsook that old gloomy Palace you see at the end of the bridge, for the sweet arbours and soft beds of the Blackfriars, although James the First of blessed memory found it any thing but secure. But come," added the good humoured old man, "I forget that neither of us have broken our fast this morning yet. Let us be moving onwards, and as we descend the hill, I shall try to make you acquainted with others of these stately edifices, which you will, I hope, take many days to examine and note. There now, where will you find in Scotland, letting alone your Cathedrals, a more graceful fabric than the church of St. John, towering above all the other buildings, in the very centre of the town. It is well worthy of being dedicated to our tutelar Apostle, although, in truth, so many altars have been reared within it to other saints, that our great patron has scarcely been left a niche he can call his own—as if there were not chapels enough in the town beside. There you have the chapel of the Virgin close by the end of the bridge, where no traveller, however wearied, omits in passing to put up his Ave. Our own craft have a chapel dedicated to saint Bartholomew, whose flaying alive, strange enough, finds more sympathy among those who live by flaying than among any other craft. It is hid from us by the Castle walls, and there the bell which warns the inhabitants to go to bed betimes is hung. St. Anne, the mother of the Virgin, is honoured under those pinnacles you observe near the church of St. John. The School-house is just at hand, and in the sanctuary of this patroness of instructors, the little urchins are taught to mumble their paternosters, and receive a weekly lecture from some of the Friars appointed by the patrons. To the west again, besides the chapels of St. Paul and St. Katherine, already pointed out to you, outside the Walls, there is a Chapel of the Cross or Holyrood at the South-west Port—the resort of those who have heavy consciences and light purses. Nearer us, and not far distant from the Chartreux or Charthusian Monastery, you may observe a building with a spire in the form of a crown: that is the chapel of Loretto—like its prototype in Italy, famed for its riches and for having come through the air from the Holy Land, at the intercession of all the Friars in the town; and a capital speculation they have made of it, for who can expect to have an Ora or an Ave put up for him in a place so far travelled—without paying handsomely for it? Some of the populace have long had their eye on the gold and silver which is lying useless there."

of these heretics, he brought them forth next day to the gibbet, January 25th, being St. Paul's day, and feasted his eyes from the windows of the Spy Tower with their execution. The men were hanged, and Helen Stark was drowned. Robert Lamb, at the foot of the ladder, made a pathetic exhortation to the people, beseeching them to fear God, and forsake the leaven of popish abominations. Helen Stark earnestly desired to die with her husband, but her request was refused; however, they permitted her to accompany him to the place of execution. In the way, she exhorted him to constancy in the cause of Christ, and, as she parted with him, said, 'Husband, be glad we have lived together many joyful days, and this the day of our death we ought to esteem the most joyful of them all, for we shall have joy for ever; therefore I will not bid you good-night, for we shall shortly meet in the kingdom of heaven.' As soon as the men were executed, the woman was taken to a pool of water hard by, where, having recommended her children to the charity of her neighbours, her sucking child being taken from her breast, and given to a nurse, she was drowned, and died, with great courage and comfort." This barbarous execution, instead of quenching the ardour of Protestantism, increased it, together with a settled aversion of the priests and their superstitious usages. Matters now came to a crisis. On the 11th of May 1559, John Knox having arrived in Perth, preached a zealous and animated sermon against the follies of the church of Rome. After concluding his sermon, the congregation quietly dispersed; but the people had hardly left the place when a priest, most indiscreetly, proposed to celebrate mass, and began to decorate the altar, for that purpose, whereupon the persons who remained were precipitated into action with tumultuary and irresistible violence; they fell upon the churches, overturned the altars, defaced the pictures, broke in pieces the images, and proceeding next to the monasteries, in a few hours laid these sumptuous fabrics almost level with the ground. This riotous insurrection was not the effect of concert, or any previous deliberation: censured by the reformed preachers, and publicly condemned by the persons of most power and credit with the party, it must be regarded as an accidental eruption of popular rage. The queen having heard with concern the destruction of the religious houses at Perth, the Chartreux monastery especially, as it was a stately pile of building, and a royal palace, and the repository of the remains of the first James, she determined to inflict the severest vengeance on the whole party. She had already drawn the troops in French pay to Stirling; with these, and what Scottish forces she could levy of a sudden, she marched directly to Perth, in hopes of surprising the Protestant leaders, before they could assemble their followers, whom, out of confidence in her disingenuous promises, they had been rashly induced to dismiss. Intelligence of these preparations and menaces was soon conveyed to Perth. The Protestants, animated by zeal for religion, and eager to expose themselves in so good a cause, flocked in such numbers to Perth, that they not only secured the town from danger, but, within a few days, were in a condition to take the field, and to face the queen, who advanced with an army seven thousand strong, commanded by D'Oysel, the French general. Ultimately a treaty betwixt the belligerents was concluded, by which it was stipulated that both armies should be disbanded, and the gates of Perth set open to Mary, the queen-regent, who entered the town on the 29th of May. It seems that no sooner were the Protestant forces dismissed than the queen broke through every article of the treaty, introduced French troops into the town, dismissed the magistracy, and established the old religion. She had, however no sooner left it than the inhabitants again broke out in a ferment, and implored the assistance of the Lords of

the Congregation. Argyle, Lord Ruthven, and others consequently marched to their relief, and on a refusal of the garrison to surrender, prepared to besiege the town in the usual form. In this emergency the queen employed the Earl of Huntly and Lord Erskine to divert them from this enterprise; but her wonted artifices were now of no avail; repeated so often, they could deceive no longer; and, without listening to her offers, they continued the siege. Lord Ruthven attacked it on the west, and Provost Hallyburton, with his people from Dundee, fired with his artillery from the bridge, and obliged the defenders to capitulate, upon the 26th of June 1559. After the reduction of Perth, the populace went to Scone, to destroy the abbey and palace. Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, son of the first Earl of Bothwell of that name, held the abbacy in perpetual commendam, and resided in the palace. He had been a severe scourge to the Reformers, and was obnoxious to them ever since the death of Walter Mylne, who, at his instigation, was burnt at St Andrews; they with assistance from Dundee, attacked the abbey and palace, though guarded by a hundred horsemen. Hallyburton, Provost of Dundee, with his brother, and John Knox, hearing of this tumult, went and entreated the people to spare the edifices, to whom they hearkened, and separated, after they had destroyed the monuments of idolatry; but the next day, a citizen of Dundee was run through the body with a sword, by one of the bishop's sons, while he was looking in at the door of the bishop's granary, which so enraged the people both of Perth and Dundee, that they quickly repaired to Scone, and, notwithstanding the entreaties of Argyle, Ruthven, the Prior, and all the preachers, they pillaged and set fire to these noble edifices, and burnt them to the ground, on the 27th of June. After the loss of Perth, the queen endeavoured to seize on Stirling. On hearing of this movement, Argyle, and other leaders of the congregation, marched out of Perth with three hundred citizens, who, having felt the severe yoke of the French government, resolved to prosecute the Reformation, or perish in the attempt. To shew their zeal and resolution, instead of ribands, they put ropes about their necks, that whoever deserted the colours should certainly be hanged by these ropes; from which circumstance arose the ordinary allusion to "St Johnston's ribbons." A picture of the march of this resolute band out of Perth, is still to be seen in the town-clerk's office. Advancing towards Stirling, they secured that town, and demolishing every monument of the popish worship, as they proceeded, they, in a few days, made themselves masters of the capital.

The dark tragedy of the Gowrie Conspiracy, which is connected with the memorabilia of Perth, need not be here recited, as it is sufficiently known to the readers of history. After this period, the historical memoirs of Perth are not fruitful in interest, though the place was visited by Cromwell, and in more recent times was a temporary rendezvous for the Highland troops of Prince Charles Stewart, on his untoward insurrection of 1745. Passing, therefore, to a description of the town:

In ancient times, Perth, as has been seen, was surrounded by walls for its protection, but these emblems of a turbulent age have now altogether disappeared. The internal structure of the town was also at one time mean. Numbers of the houses were faced with wood, and were so close to each other that the thoroughfares were of the usual breadth of lanes. At the same period, the town generally stood at a lower level, so much so that the streets were continually liable to be inundated by floods of the river. To guard against this evil, the streets have been raised from time to time to their present elevation. In the present day, Perth is the handsomest town of its size in Scotland. More than one bridge of Perth has



given way to the impetuosity of the floods. The great inundation in the thirteenth century, (which Boeoe fabled to have destroyed ancient Bertha), swept away a bridge; and in 1621, a building of ten spacious arches, which stood opposite the east end of the High Street, below the present bridge, was carried off. By far the most pleasing characteristics of Perth are two large expanses of green parks, one on the south and one on the north side of the town. These beautiful pieces of public ground, which are devoted to the recreation of the inhabitants, having been formerly insulated by the waters of the river, on which they now only border, are respectively called the North and South Inch. The latter was in former times the scene of the various athletic sports and games of the citizens, as well as often the active theatre of military movements. Perhaps the community of no city in the kingdom are in possession of a finer or more extensive green than the North Inch, on the west side of which stands the ancient mansion of Balhousie, environed by some fine aged trees. Behind the house, secluded from view, is a flour mill, driven by the notable boot-full of water. The streets of Perth are preserved in a cleanly condition, and have excellent side pavements. The water-works is a beautiful building, having a chimney in the form of a circular column 130 feet in height; it is situated at the eastern extremity of Marshall Place near the river. The water is raised by steam, and the building and machinery were erected at an expense of L.11,000. The town and shops are tastefully lighted with gas. Here and there are public edifices of good and tasteful construction, calculated to attract the notice of strangers. At the extremity of South-street stands King James the VI.'s Hospital, on the site of the Carthusian monastery, a large and handsome structure. The principal and most ancient public building is undoubtedly St John's church, situated in the centre and oldest part of the town. This edifice, the precise origin of which is uncertain, but which seems to have been built at different times, and to have undergone many modifications, now contains three places of worship. It was in this church that the demolitions of the Reformation commenced, and before that period it was the scene of some remarkable events. In 1336, according to Fordun, a remarkable incident occurred within it. Edward III. was standing before the high altar, when his brother, John Earl of Cornwall, a minor, came to inform him that he had travelled through the west of Scotland, marking his journey with devastation and flames; in particular, that he had burnt the church and priory of Lesmahago, besides other churches, with people in them, who had fled thither for refuge. Edward, indignant at his cruel conduct, reproached him bitterly, and the youth replied with a haughty answer, to which the king rejoined with a stroke of his dagger, that laid his younger brother dead at his feet. The English writers say, that this young prince died at Perth in October 1336; but they take no notice of his having received his death in this manner.—St John's church has a conspicuous tower, from which springs a pointed spire, containing some fine bells,—the great bell being the same which called the people to prayers before the change of religion at the Reformation. The spire also contains a set of fine music bells, which play every hour at the half-hours.

Of Gowrie-House, the ancient mansion of the Earls of Gowrie, and the scene of the well-known mysterious incident in Scottish history, most unfortunately for the antiquary, not a vestige now remains; the whole, which stood near the entrance to the town from the south, with its back part to the river, being recently taken away, to afford room for a splendid suit of county buildings and jails, in the Grecian style. The chief of these new erections is a large handsome building looking to the Tay, be-

tween which and it there is a promenade. The structure has an elegant portico with twelve columns in front. Opening from the portico there is a large entrance hall; to the back of which stands a flight of steps leading to the gallery of the Justiciary Hall. The Justiciary Hall occupies the back part of the centre of the building, and is 66 feet by 48½ feet in the upper part. Under the gallery there are jury and witnesses' rooms. Behind the Judges' bench are the Judges' rooms, also witnesses' rooms. From the prisoners' box a flight of steps leads down to a passage communicating with the prisons. The County Hall, which occupies all the south wing, is 68 by 40 feet; in it are portraits of the late Duke of Athole, and Lord Lynedoch, by Sir Thomas Lawrence, and one by Wilkie, of Sir George Murray. To the right of the entrance to the County Hall is a committee room 30 feet square, and above, a tea or card room 44½ by 30 feet. The Sheriff's Court and Clerk's Office, are contained in the north wing. Above the north entrance is an office for the collector of cess. The building cost £23,000. Behind these county buildings is the new city and county jail, enclosed by a high wall. In the north area is situated the felons' jail, and in the south that of the debtors. The felon's jail is in two divisions; the one for males, and the other for females. The division for the men contains ten cells, and one large day-room. The division for the women, three sleeping, and one day-room. Each division has an enclosed airing-ground adjoining. The south, or debtors' jail, is likewise divided into two,—one part for debtors, and the other for misdemeanors. The debtor's department consists of four large sleeping rooms and a day-room. The jail buildings, altogether, cost £10,000, £6000 of which was contributed by the town, and £4000 by the county. The town pays two-thirds, and the county one-third of the current expenses. The remains of the old chapel which stood at the gate of the bridge, dedicated to the Virgin, has been recently converted into a Police Court and Bridewell. Excepting the church of St John, this is the only vestige extant of the numerous ecclesiastical structures of Perth.—The other public buildings are as follows:—A house with a tastefully built front, of a peculiar construction, in George-street, near the end of the bridge, to commemorate the public services of the late Thomas Marshall, Esq. of Gleanmond, Lord Provost of the town: the monument contains halls for the Public Library and Museum of the Perthshire Antiquarian Society. The new Coffee-room, in George-street. The classes of the High School of Perth, a distinguished provincial academy, are provided with ample accommodation, in a large building forming the centre of Rose Terrace, adjoining the North Inch: on the ground floor are the English, drawing, and writing class-rooms, and above are the rooms for the academy, grammar-school, and French classes. A neat Theatre is erected at the junction of Kinnoul-street and Crescent, which has been but little encouraged: it was reared by subscription among the gentlemen of the county and town, in 100 shares of 25 guineas each. On the north-west side of the town is a spacious suit of Barracks, in which a certain number of troops are generally stationed. In the environs on the south, and adjacent to the South Inch, stands a most extensive suit of Government Barracks, or Depot for prisoners of war, still kept in the best state of repair. In the High-street, and facing Methven-street, stands St Paul's church, which is rather a modern and elegant structure of stone, with a steeple surmounted by a spire. Farther east, in King-street, the new Chapel of Ease, or church of St Leonards. A little west from this will shortly be erected an Infirmary for the town and county. Although the project of opening up the excellent line of street from the Shore to the Bridge, appears to have been again abandoned for the present, it is to be

regretted that new buildings have been allowed to be erected on the very breastwork of the line, and so near the Fish-market; as it is probable that the new flat-bottomed iron steamer will be able to land passengers at this upper quay, and thus greatly add to the convenience of the public, and stimulate the trade by bringing it nearly into the centre of the town. Besides various private, Perth possesses several public libraries, some of a general character, others congregational. An institution was established in 1784, under the title of the Antiquarian Society of Perth. The chief design of this association was to promote the investigation of the History of Scotland, and to collect and preserve manuscripts, books, coins, and all other relics illustrative of the antiquities of Scotland, and all other nations. They were also to receive geographical maps and descriptions, whether ancient or modern, and curious natural productions of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms. In 1787, the plan was enlarged: the name adopted was, "The Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth;" and the communications now extend to every subject connected with philosophy, belles-lettres, and the fine arts. The hall of the Society is situated in Marshall's monument. The city is governed by twenty-five popularly elected Magistrates, and the Dean of Guild: this body electing the Lord Provost, four Bailies, and Treasurer, from among their number. The peace of the city is more immediately preserved by a body of police, established by act of parliament. Under this establishment the town is divided into nine wards with commissioners. The executive is under the charge of a superintendant; and the quiet and good order of the city is greatly increased by a clause in that act, authorizing the magistrates to punish summarily by fine and imprisonment, in the case of petty offences. The expense of the police establishment is defrayed from the increased rent derived from the public dung, by the operation of the amended act, without any additional burden being imposed on the community. The town has, besides, a body of high constables. Prior to the passing of the Reform Bill, Perth joined with Dundee and the Fifeshire burghs in returning a Member to Parliament. By considerable exertion, Perth succeeded at that time in establishing her claim to send a member to the legislature, since which time she has been represented by Mr Oliphant of Condie, who has given general satisfaction to his constituents—although, perhaps, more to those who opposed his election, than to the party who supported him. Before the passing of the Burgh Reform Bill, the force of public opinion had succeeded in a great measure in breaking up the close system and beautiful order which previously existed in the municipal affairs of the city. The following gentlemen had the honour of being selected as the first Reform Magistrates of Perth.

ADAM PRINGLE, Esq., Lord Provost.  
 ROBERT BOWER, Esq., Dean of Guild  
 T. R. SANDEMAN, Esq., Bailie.  
 DAVID CLUNIE, Esq., do.  
 JOHN GRAHAM, Esq., do.  
 JAMES M'LEISH, Esq., do.  
 JAMES DEWAR, Esq., Treasurer.

Perth has recently been stigmatised, in one of the leading monthly magazines, as being highly Conservative in its principles. In every community, where freedom of thought and expression of sentiment is tolerated, all views of politics must necessarily exist: but from the period of the declaration of war against France, in the year 1793—a war evidently entered into for the purpose of arresting the spread of the French doctrines in this country—down to the present day, there has not been want

ing a proper expression of public opinion on every occasion demanding it.\* During the struggle for Reform in Parliament—which (like the important measure for uniting England and Scotland, and that appointing the succession of the present family to the British throne;) was carried in one of its stages by a majority of *one*.—Perth was as eager, and struggled as ardently, as any portion of the empire. But these things are still fresh in the memory of our readers, and therefore need not be detailed here.

\* The following protest against this impolitic war was passed at a meeting on the South Inch of Perth, January 1793. The meeting was held in face of a proclamation, which was issued to prevent an expression of popular opinion—

SOLEMN PROTESTATION AGAINST WAR.

The Friends of the People in Perth, and its neighbourhood, solemnly declare to the world, that a sense of duty alone prevented them from joining in the late rage, of resolving and anathematizing republicans and levellers; because we were convinced, that no seditious spirit prevailed in the country, and that the whole furor was the effect of a gross political delusion, cruelly and artfully played off by designing men, with a view to throw the public mind into that state of confusion and incapacity, in which it is best prepared to receive the idea of war with the least possible hazard of its revolting against it. Recent informations justify our suspicions; and an awful crisis is now at hand. The Country is about to be plunged into a War, so wholly unprecedented in our history, that even with success itself, no man can say it will be productive of advantage to the British nation. Let every man, therefore, ask himself, why it is that we are plunged into a War? Is it to defend us against invasion?—none is threatened. Is it to vindicate our National honour?—that is not called in question. Is it to defend our Trade?—there is at present no dread of its being injured. Is it to preserve the faith of treaties?—none which are founded on the unalterable laws of justice have been invaded. We ask, then, why is the country to be plunged into a War, in favour of which none of the ordinary pleas of justification can be set up. To sacrifice the lives of fellow-citizens, to sport with the tenderest anxieties of families, to interrupt trade, and increase the public debts of a people, already over-burdened, without any just reason, is surely the very consummation of national folly. Anxiously would we call upon the monied interest, the landholder, the merchant, the manufacturer, and the tradesman, seriously to weigh in time the dreadful calamities which must be the inevitable consequences of the threatened war; earnestly would we conjure them to think in time, by every consideration which is near and dear to them, were it not that we know our feeble voice would be of small avail. There is one consideration, however, which presses so powerfully upon our minds, that we consider ourselves called upon by the strong obligations we are under to our country, to our king, and to our constitution, to come forward to the world with our solemn protestation against a War with the French. It is this, that besides being convinced that we have every thing to lose, and nothing to gain by such a quarrel, we perceive it possible that the very existence of our Constitution and Civil Government may be endangered. This we deprecate of all things; and in entering this solemn protest, we give the best refutation to these calumnies of our enemies, by which we have been represented as void of loyalty, and secretly aiming at the overthrow of the British System of Government. By this, we evince that true loyalty, and genuine patriotism, which, though too discerning to be imposed upon by delusions, is very prompt to step forward, and avert real dangers. By this declaration, we wash our hands clean of any share in the innocent blood which may be shed, by plunging our country into the most unpropitious war into which it ever entered; and if any dangers accrue from it to our happy Constitution, (which may God, of his infinite goodness, avert) no part of such calamities can be ascribed to us; but must and ought to be charged equally to the account of those who publicly approve of the measure; and those who, by their silence, afford Government a pretence for saying, as was done in the American War, that they have thereby given their acquiescence and consent to it.

Let every Briton seriously ponder these things in his mind.

PATRICK GRANT, *Pross.*  
WALTER MILLER, *Sec.*

At the present time, Perth is not what is usually styled a manufacturing town; although many manufacturing establishments in the country adjacent are connected with it, such as Luncarty, Stanley, Stormont Field, Tulloch, Almond Bank, Huntingtower, Cromwell Park, Ruthven, Pitcairn Green, &c. The distinguished loveliness of the city, its situation, and the excellence of its schools, have conspired to render Perth the residence of a great number of affluent people. Like Edinburgh, it is pre-eminently a *genteel* town, and like it, has its more bustling trading neighbour; for, if Edinburgh has Glasgow, Perth has Dundee, between which places there exists a sort of rivalry from their opposite manners and character. Dundee is usually understood to have injured the trade of Perth, by intercepting its foreign commerce, from being in a more accessible situation for general trade. Although Dundee lies nearer the ocean, and of course is better suited to be a port for large vessels, yet Perth has a more extensive country to supply, and is the magazine or store-house of the centre of Scotland, and better adapted for internal commerce—the roads radiating from it in every direction being both numerous and excellent, and the neighbourhood being so populous, that a circuit of little more than four miles includes about forty thousand souls. Among the proprietors of the Dundee, Perth, and London Shipping Company, are a great proportion of Perth merchants, the chief part of that concern depending on Perth. Their London and Dundee steamers are allowed to be unequalled by any afloat; the *Perth* being distinguished by the proud title of "*The Queen of the Seas.*" Many also hold shares in the whale shipping companies of Dundee, and a number of vessels belonging to other ports are freighted by Perth and unloaded at Newburgh. Moreover many of the vessels coming into Dundee harbour have cargoes partly belonging to Perth. Betwixt Perth and Dundee steam-vessels ply daily, touching at the intermediate port of Newburgh on the Fife side of the Tay. There are a variety of stage-coaches leaving Perth daily, running to and from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, and Aberdeen. In summer the place is visited by a great number of tourists, who never fail to be delighted, as the Romans are said to have been, with the perfect beauty of the scenery around. Penant calls the view from the hill of Moncrieff, where the first sight is got of Perth, in journeying from Edinburgh, "the glory of Scotland; and truly, there could hardly be a more charming prospect. The town is not alone visited for its own sake. It forms the threshold of a series of scenes in the romantic regions of the surrounding shire, which are now the objects of attraction to tourists. The population in 1831 amounted to upwards of 23,000.